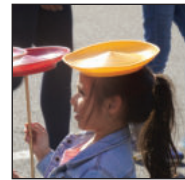




Sunrise Proclamation, p.7



Labor Day Festival photos, p.12

Public Works Employees Seek Charter Change for Unionization

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

At the start of the Monday, September 8 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council, during petitions and requests, Michael Canavan, a 39-year resident of Greenbelt and an employee of Public Works for five-and-a-half years, read a letter from Public Works employees. The letter requests a change to the city charter (section 3, paragraph 22) and city code (Chapter 13 "Labor Code") to allow Public Works employees to collectively bargain, as city police officers are able to do. "We know our voices are stronger together, so we are joining together to form a union with LiUNA, Local 572," states the letter by "We the Undersigned." The letter is signed "Michael Canavan, Nate Rozier, Robbie Tripe, Dajuan Stanback and the majority of Greenbelt Public Works employees."

Trent Leon-Lierman of LiUNA highlighted the 34 years of service to the Public Works department between three employees in attendance at the meeting. "A union will be good for the city,



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

From left: Dajuan Stanback, Trent Leon-Lierman, Michael Canavan and Nate Rozier, who are leading a call for collective bargaining to be extended to the city's Public Works employees, are pictured at the Municipal Building on Monday, September 8.

the residents and especially the workers," said union organizer Leon-Lierman, who is also a resident of Greenbelt.

Frankie Santos Fritz, a resident

See PUBLIC WORKS, page 8

Food Scrap Collection Again Extended, Open for Signups

by Tom Taylor

The City of Greenbelt's curbside food scrap collection program has been extended and new signups are now being accepted. Greenbelt households may register to participate in the program for a monthly fee of \$10.

The program has been operating as a free service for the past 18 months through a pilot program grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that ended August 25. The pilot program was highly successful, and the Greenbelt City Council voted to continue the program through a combination of a city subsidy and a resident fee.

The total monthly cost of the extended program is \$21.09 per household. Council authorized a city subsidy of \$11.09 per month to cover the majority of the cost, while asking participating households to cover the remaining



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

Kristie Blumer, senior director of composting at Compost Crew, holds "almost finished" four-week-old compost.

amount.

Council approval means that curbside food scrap collection will continue uninterrupted. Service will be provided through a contract with Compost Crew, a Rockville-based food scraps recycling business. Compost Crew's standard rate for comparable service to an individual household is in the range of \$30 per month, so

See FOOD SCRAPS, page 7

PGCPS Report Flags Payments To Absent Board Member, More

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Office of Integrity and Compliance (OIC) has released its first report, flagging a handful of significant findings. They include "wasteful" compensation of close to \$10,000 to former school board member David Murray, who stepped down after it was discovered he was living out of state and working full-time for another school district, and the "improper" payment of over \$36,000 in legal fees for former school board member and now County Councilmember Shayla Adams-Stafford.

The OIC was established by Maryland law on July 1, 2023, to combat fraud, waste and abuse, following a bill sponsored by Senator Alonzo Washington. Five significant findings in its first annual report were: compensation to a "missing board member," misuse of substitute coverage pay, improper payment of legal

fees incurred by a board member, workplace accommodation issues, and payment to a contractor and remediation costs for DuVal High School's athletic fields.

Compensation to Absent Board Member

Investigation found even before a formal complaint to the OIC, the Integrity and Compliance Officer "had already advised Board leadership regarding his observed absences of the Board member and provided written recommendations for the Board to

enforce and/or strengthen the attendance policy for Board members." The OIC report does not name the board member, David Murray, who represented PGCPS District 1 and resigned in July 2024 after it was revealed he began a new job as chief academic officer of the Ferguson-Florissant School District in Missouri in early January that year. He was also running for re-election, with his address listed as Laurel, and

See PGCPS, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, September 15
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: Greenbelt Armory Site – Concept Presentation, Municipal Building
Wednesday, September 17
7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: Draft of the Greenbelt Strategic Wayfinding Plan, Municipal Building

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



PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

About 20 people showed up to compete in the Table Tennis Tournament at the Youth Center on August 29. Zhangyan Jiang was the champion. Pictured is Victor, the participant who came in 2nd place, drawing attention from the crowd with a strong swing.

Letters to the Editor

To My Fellow Greenbelters

As I said in my speech when I was recognized as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen for 2025, this is not only my achievement. No achievement is accomplished by an individual, they are all communal and collective.

Greenbelt is our shared space. With a full heart, I wish to thank everyone who has helped make RUAK's programs be impactful, authentic and sustainable. I have been sooo lucky to be swaddled by many kind, empathetic and compassionate souls. We are not done!

Finally, thank you to the Greenbelt News Review dripping with kindness.

*Robert Goldberg-Strassler
Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen
of 2025*

A Grateful Thanks

On behalf of the all-volunteer Greenbelt Labor Day Festival

Committee, I want to share our sincere thanks to everyone who came out for the 71st Annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. We also need to thank those volunteers from years past who established a Greenbelt tradition that brings us together to celebrate our city.

From those first years raising money for the Youth Center to this 71st event, it has been a collaborative effort of a team of volunteers along with other Greenbelt organizations and the City of Greenbelt, especially the Public Works team that hammers, hangs, runs miles of cables and moves mounds of trash, all with a smile and offer to do more.

We are committed to uncovering new ways to increase involvement and extend a warm welcome to all those who take time from their Labor Day Weekend to join us. Take a moment to let us know how we did by

See **LETTERS**, page 11

City Council Election 2025

What Do You Want to Ask The City Council Candidates?

Before each city council election, the News Review poses questions to the candidates and publishes their responses. This year we will ask questions both in the News Review and in a candidate forum we are co-sponsoring with Greenbelt Access Television on Thursday evening, October 9.

So we ask our readers: what do you want to ask the candidates for city council?

The News Review board will review reader submissions, questions submitted at the Labor Day Festival Information Day and our own suggestions and select three questions for the candidates to answer in print and others for the candidates to answer at the candidate forum.

Email your suggested questions to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com by 6 p.m. Monday, September 22, with Candidate Questions in the subject line.



On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale

This cinematic return of the global phenomenon follows the Crawley family and their staff as they enter the 1930s. When Mary finds herself at the center of a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble, the entire household grapples with the threat of social disgrace. The Crawleys must embrace change as the staff prepares for a new chapter with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future.

A Little Prayer

A loving father (David Strathairn) grapples with how to protect his daughter-in-law (Jane Levy) when he discovers that his son is having an affair. A heart-tugging drama about finding kindred spirits in unexpected places, the film is a sensitive and searching portrait of a Southern family. "A movie about a family in deep disarray. But the writer-director, Angus MacLachlan, is not one to exploit turmoil. He understands that people in distress are deserving of our fullest understanding," said critic Peter Rainer of Christian Science Monitor.

A Road to a Village

A road constructed in a village brings development and opportunities, but at some cost.

Between the Mountain and the Sky

In 2005 after graduating high school, Maggie Doyme embarked on a gap year, where she met Tope, a now grown Nepalese orphan, caring for orphaned children. United in purpose, Maggie and Tope pooled resources to establish a children's home, women's empowerment program, and school in Nepal. Years later, their relentless efforts led to being honored as the 2015 CNN Hero of the Year. But days after the award ceremony, Maggie, by then guardian to over 50 Nepalese children, faced the unthinkable when her youngest child was suddenly taken from her, plunging the family into disbelief and despair. After a chance encounter amidst her grief, Maggie allows a filmmaker into her life to document herself and her family. Soon, the filmmaker is also documenting falling in love with Maggie. The film explores resilience, love's impact in loss and a family's enduring strength to find hope in the darkest times.

Correction

The correct spelling of the name of the 2025 Boxwood Village Civic Association Scholarship recipient is Lindsey Hutchison.



greenbelt CINEMA

Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!
After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9
Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES: SEPTEMBER 12th - 18th

**Downton Abbey:
The Grand Finale (PG)**
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (123 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:50 PM
Sun. 1:20 PM (OC), 4:15 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 2:15 PM, 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM

A Little Prayer (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (91 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC), 5:15 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM
Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:30 PM
Sun. 1:45 PM, 4:30 PM
Tue. 7:15 PM
Wed. 5:15 PM
Thurs. 7:45 PM

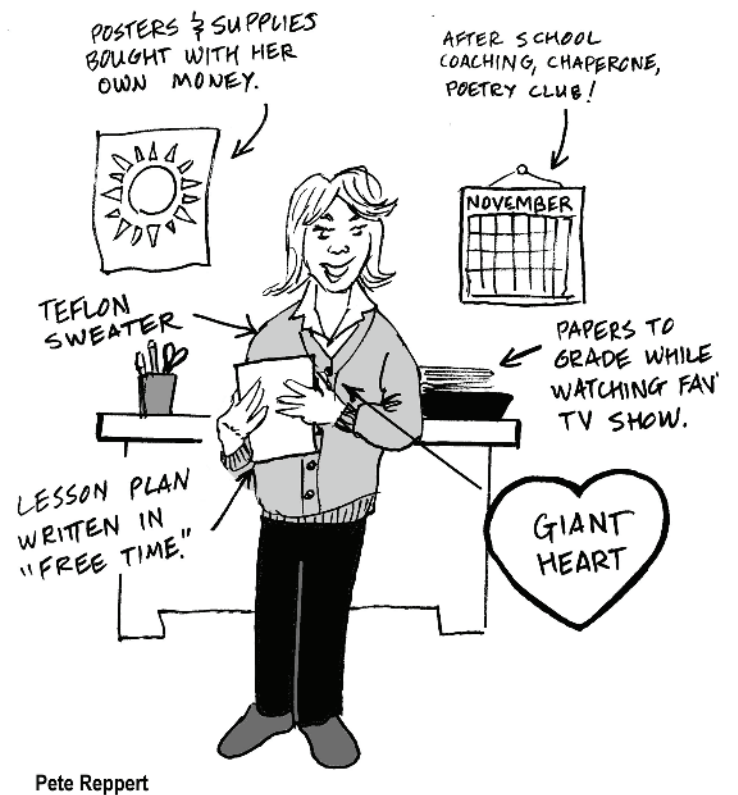
Triumph of the Heart
(NR) (2025) (117 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 11:00 AM

Storytime On Screen - FREE!
Special Storytime featuring author Amy Hansen and special guests Dr. Leonard Garcia and Denna Lambert
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 2:00 PM

A Road to a Village
(NR) (2023) (106 mins)
Nepali Film Series
Nepali with English Subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 7:00 PM

Between the Mountain and the Sky
(NR) (2024) (92 mins)
Nepali Film Series
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 7:00 PM

THE LIFE OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER



Pete Reppert

- News Review, November 15, 2018

Letters Policy During City Elections

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

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 withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.

In an election year, the News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.

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 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- 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.

Community Events

At the Library

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.

Pre-K Story Hour/Hora de Cuentos de Prekinder

Friday, September 12: 10:30 a.m., ages newborn to 5, at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Enjoy the wonderful world of storytelling. Friends and family welcome. Hosted by Greenbelt Library Staff and Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK). Ven y disfruta del maravilloso mundo de contar cuentos. Amigos y familiares son bienvenidos. Organizado por el personal de la biblioteca de Greenbelt y Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK). Register at pgcmls.info/event/14156921.

Storytimes

Friday, September 12, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14157149.

Wednesday, September 17, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14157245.

Thursday, September 18, 10:15 a.m., ages birth to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14157228.

Come join in for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

Storytime on Screen

Saturday, September 13, 2 p.m., ages 4 to 9, at the Greenbelt Cinema. This special star-studded Storytime on Screen features author Amy Hansen and other special guests. Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14441654.

Monday, September 15, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5, at the Greenbelt Cinema. Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with PGCMLS, is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14157097.

STEM Fun

Tuesday, September 16: 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12. This month's theme is Keva Planks. Explore building through interactive challenges that spark curiosity and creativity. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14134356.



Greenbelt Blues Festival September 19 to 20

The 22nd Greenbelt Blues Festival takes place on Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20. Bring a festival chair and a yoga mat and dance at this community-based outdoor/indoor free Blues Festival in Greenbelt's historic Roosevelt Center and New Deal Café. Parking is free and food and beverages are available at the local restaurants and at the Cop Supermarket. Visit the DC Blues Society booth and those of other vendors, too. Tips for each act and Greenbelt Blues Festival donations are encouraged. The schedule includes bands, dancing, drumming, vendors and yoga. To see the Festival page, visit facebook.com/share/1CV3mi68cK. To see the schedule of events, go to GreenbeltBluesFestival.com.



Celebrate World Peace Day September 20

Join Greenbelt Rotary to recognize World Peace Day with reflections, songs, discussion and refreshments on Saturday, September 20 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Buddy Attick Park. Peace building is at the core of Rotary International's humanitarian service mission, in which members take action in their communities to address causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension and unequal access to resources and education. If it rains, instead attend that day's peace-themed indoor community gathering from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Community Center, room 201.

Hey, EV Owners!

For those who own an E-bike, plug-in hybrid or all battery Electric Vehicle (EV) bring it and join in our Fourth Annual EVent on September 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Armory (intersection of Greenbelt Road and Southway). Help inform non-EV owners of the benefits of EV ownership. To attend, email name and make/model of EV to JohnLippert@ecolivingmag@aol.com.

Poetry in the Garden

The community is invited to a poetry reading on Sunday, September 14 from 3 to 5 p.m., in the Schrom Hills Park club house. This group is open to all ages and backgrounds. You can read your own poem or just listen and enjoy the power of poetry.

Reel & Meal to Show Documentary Series

On Monday, September 15, Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café will present the documentary series *Until We're All Home*, a compilation of six short pieces that examine America's homelessness crisis, and ways the underlying systemic issues can be addressed. The series is composed of a range of perspectives across different cities in the United States, from the formerly unoccupied in Fremont County, Colo., to social workers in Minneapolis, Minn. Following the series will be an open discussion of the extent of homelessness in our area, and ways that the underlying causes can be addressed.

The film will be screened in-house at the New Deal Café and on Zoom, starting at 6:30 p.m. People attending online can register to attend at tinyurl.com/RnMSept2025. For more information, email justpeacepg@gmail.com or visit Reel and Meal's Facebook page at facebook.com/reelandmealNDC.



Beat Breast Cancer Rally Sept. 13

Help celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness by joining the Let's Beat Breast Cancer Rally on Saturday, September 13 at 11 a.m. in Roosevelt Center. This unique rally is part of an international campaign and one of three rallies in Maryland. Join neighbors, survivors, medical experts and special guests to learn the four-pronged approach to help prevent breast cancer or a recurrence. Enjoy great music, information, resources and raffles. Rally volunteers needed, survivors most welcome. Email ghadamsrn@gmail.com to learn how you can get involved.



Dena Kohn Scholarship Fund Mini-Golf Event

On Sunday, September 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Dena Kohn Theatre Lab Scholarship Fund will hold a miniature golf event as a fundraiser and celebration of the life of lifelong Greenbelter Dena Kohn, who died just before her 23rd birthday. Each year, her life and spirit of giving are celebrated and commemorated by a fundraiser for the Dena Kohn Memorial Scholarship which provides scholarships each summer to teenagers in financial need to participate in the Theatre Lab's Musical Theatre Institute for teens. The event will be held at Columbia SportsPark, 5453 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia. Attendees can buy baked goods from a Greenbelt baker and original pottery by a Greenbelt potter at the event. Those wishing to sponsor a hole, play a round, make a donation or ask questions can call Niki Kohn at 301-474-8423 or email nikiekohn@gmail.com.

Golden Age Club

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

September 17, Birthday Celebration Luncheon. The Golden Age Birthday Potluck Luncheon Committee is presenting the September birthday luncheon. Bring a dish to share. If a birthday celebrant, be ready to tell your story.

September 24, Bingo

GIVES Quarterly Membership Meeting

The Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) will hold its fall quarterly membership meeting on Saturday, September 13 at 10 a.m. in the Community Center, Room 202. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Don't miss this great opportunity to hear the news of the organization and enjoy fellowship.

Peace Vigil at Mother And Child Statue

On Sunday, September 14, there will be a gathering from noon to 12:30 p.m. to stand for peace, justice, love, unity and democracy. All are welcome to join this public witness in Roosevelt Center near the Mother and Child statue and invited to bring a poster that speaks to peace.

The event is hosted by Patience Robbins and Bobbi Kayser; for any questions, email [Patience at patience.robbins@gmail.com](mailto:Patience.at.patience.robbins@gmail.com).



Nature Photography At Springhill Lake

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites guests of all ages to a free art workshop at Springhill Lake Recreation Center, Sunday, September 14 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Explore the outdoors with Greenbelt's Park Rangers at a nature themed photo scavenger hunt. Participants of all ages will collect pictures and choose their favorite to include in a group collage. Guests are encouraged to sign up in advance at sugeni.us/eZ8v (select the tab September 14 Workshop). Walk-ins are welcome as space permits.

For more information about Greenbelt Arts programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.



Greenbelt Chess Club

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, September 16, at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

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 9/11	FRI 9/12	SAT 9/13	SUN 9/14
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Thretnles 7 - 9pm Beatles tribute band that plays some deep tracks	The Gayle Harrod Band 8 - 11pm Award-winning blues, soul, Motown and original music	BREAST CANCER RALLY IN ROOSEVELT CENTER, 10am-4pm COMMUNITY DRUMMING, 330-5p Fractal Cat 8 - 11pm Six-piece ensemble w/ original songs	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a-12pm Patsy's Honky Tonk Torch & Twang 6 - 8pm With the hall Brothers; Classic country w/ plenty of Patsy Cline
MON 9/15	TUES 9/16	WED 9/17	TH 9/18
REEL AND MEAL A monthly film series featuring social justice issues SEE EVENTS PAGE ON NDC WEBSITE 6:30 - 9pm	NDC Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 6 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6p Show us what ya got!	PUB QUIZ 7 - 9pm Organize a team to beat last month's winner! Join in the fun.	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30p Long running jam
			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. DON'T FORGET TO TIP THE BANDS!

Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television
+ September 2025 +
Verizon FiOS Channel 19 - Comcast Channel 77 - Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

New Productions

- Coverage of Circus Camp's Under the Big Top Performance
- "What's in My Bag?" at the Greenbelt Farmer's Market
- TeaFairy & Friends Storytime Adventures: Summer Episode!
- Coverage of Camp Encore's Summer production of The Odyssey
- More original productions from Creative Kids Camp
- Member Spotlight: Kevin Pearce's new original show, "Sports Scar'd", revisiting emotionally riveting moments in sports from diehard fans.

+ + +

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As

Obituaries

Carol Edwards



PHOTO BY WILLIAM EDWARDS

Carol A. Edwards

Carol Ann (Becker) Edwards died on August 27, 2025. Born in Akron, Ohio, on December 9, 1942, she was the eldest child of Frederick and Ruth Becker. She and her family moved to Brazil for a large portion of her childhood, which perhaps provided inspiration for her lifelong love of languages and travel. Upon returning to America when she was 12, her family resided in a variety of states: Ohio, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Indiana.

Carol attended Albion College and later transferred to Indiana University, where she graduated with a degree in Spanish in 1964. During her college days, Carol enjoyed playing the guitar and dabbled in singing folk music (her future children enjoyed this very much as well). After graduation, she was hired by the NSA (aka No Such Agency) and began her career as an analyst.

Soon after beginning her career, she met her current (and only) husband William (Bill) Edwards on a blind date. After deciding that perhaps they did like each other after all, they married in 1967 and soon settled in Greenbelt with their pair of wire-haired fox terriers.

Later, Carol and Bill moved to Bowie and had two children, Katie and Billy. During the mid to late 1970s, Carol took time away from her career to raise her children and help her husband begin his law practice in Greenbelt. Somehow, in the midst of all the hubbub of raising children, she also found time to earn her pilot's license.

After returning to her career at NSA, Carol worked hard and was honored with numerous awards; eventually, she found herself promoted to the role of supervisor. While Carol was a career-minded woman, she also was extremely devoted to her family. She took an earlier work shift in order to encourage her children's passions and to be present at their sports practices and rehearsals.

Upon retiring, Carol and Bill made a brief, frigid move to upstate New York. After a year of record-breaking snowfall, they reconsidered their retirement dream and relocated to Chestertown, Md. During her retirement, Carol was a frequent visitor to Florida, where she was able to be an active presence in the lives of her three grandchildren.

Extremely active in her community, Carol was a member of KART (Kent Association of Riding Therapy), sang in the Chester River Chorale as well as the 100 Voices Choir and was active in the All Seasons Garden Club. However, one of her most important activities was helping out her local collie rescue. Together, Bill

and Carol were devoted rescuers of four collies and an Australian shepherd, two of which were blind. With one of the collies, she participated in therapy dog visits to local nursing homes.

As in her childhood, travel was always a large part of Carol's life. She traveled to Austria, Switzerland, Cuba, Panama, Peru, Tanzania, Japan, Czechoslovakia, Germany, France, Spain, Portugal and Barbados. But she was perhaps at her happiest when she was skiing in the Rockies or relaxing on the beach in Hatteras, N.C.

Carol is lovingly remembered by her husband of 58 years William Edwards II, her daughter Kathryn Chesler (Richard); son William Edwards III; and her three grandchildren, Dylan, Duncan and Vivian Chesler. In addition, she is deeply cherished by her three siblings, Martha Valen, Margaret Santarelli (Richard) and Frederick Becker (Lisa); and her brother-in-law Greenbelter Stanley Edwards Jr.

A private memorial service will be held later in the fall. Those wishing to honor her life may make donations to Collie Rescue (ww2.savecollies.org) or their local animal shelter.



GCCUCC Bids Farewell To Reverend Clara Young

Karen Yoho

Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ bids farewell with great appreciation to Reverend Clara Young. "Rev. Clara" as she is known at One Hillside has served two interim positions for the Greenbelt congregation, first in 2012-2014 following the retirement of Reverend Dan Hamlin, and her most recent interim service following the April 2022 resignation of interim Reverend Curtiss DeMars-Johnson. On August 24, the church selected candidate Reverend Aubra Love to lead the church as the settled pastor. Rev. Young's "service of release" will take place at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 14, followed by a reception. Rev. Love will begin her work in Greenbelt on September 15.



PHOTO COURTESY CLARA YOUNG

Rev. Young at the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association Easter Sunrise Service 2024



PHOTO BY KATHY REYNOLDS

Rev. Clara Young (center) and members of Greenbelt Community Church met regularly for lunch at Three Brothers in Beltway Plaza.



Our condolences to the family and friends of former Greenbelt resident Carol Edwards. She was involved in many activities, in Greenbelt and beyond.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Alliah Echipare, who was named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist for 2026.

Many thanks and best wishes to Rev. Clara Young of the Greenbelt Community Church and welcome to the church's new pastor, Rev. Aubra Love.

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

Obituaries

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

You write it or we will if you prefer. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT
Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
 OR - Join us on ZOOM!
 For ZOOM link:
[CCG1985+owner@groups.io](https://ccg1985+owner@groups.io)

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
 Find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc) [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
 301-474-5410
 Pastor Evelyn Romero
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Season of Rest

St. John's Episcopal Church
 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
 301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
 One Hillside Road
Join Us Sunday
10:15 AM for Worship
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

We Are an Open and Affirming Church

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.

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

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

"Truth may be likened to the sun. The sun is the luminous body that disperses all shadows, in the same way does truth scatter the shadows of our imagination. As the sun gives life to the body of humanity, so does truth give life to their souls." - 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...
The Ten Commandments
#2-Have No Idols
An idol is anything that takes God's #1 place.
 Exodus 20:4-6

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
 Saturday morning services at 10:00am
 Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
 For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
 Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

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

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

September 14, 2025 at 3 p.m.
Pandora's (Question) Box
 with Worship Associate Carol Boston

In the spirit of our September theme (Return Again), we'll return once again to the UU tradition of the Question Box service. All are invited to write down any meaningful questions about anything (i.e. love, life, relationships, church, spirituality, humanity, history, politics, the universe, current community/world events, getting-to-know-the-minister, etc.) on 3 x 5 index cards - unsigned. Feel free to bring those cards with you to this service and/or submit your questions to the Question Box page before 12pm this Friday 9/12. Our PBUUC minister (Chaplain Anthony Jenkins) will aim to offer his answers to as many of your questions as possible 'on the fly' during this service - without having read them beforehand. Some of your especially thought-provoking questions may even become future sermon topics.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



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.



As we reflect on 9/11, let us embrace unity as we promote a culture of cooperation, celebrating all as we build a brighter future.

MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 15-19

Monday, September 15 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - GREENBELT ARMORY SITE - CONCEPT PRESENTATION**

Tuesday, September 16 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, *On the Agenda: Honoring Reparations Fighters, Approval of Agenda/Minutes, Discussion of Draft Final Report from AARN, Public Comments*

Wednesday, September 17 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - DRAFT OF THE GREENBELT STRATEGIC WAYFINDING PLAN**

Wednesday, September 17 at 5:30 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Wednesday, September 17 at 7 pm, **PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda/Minutes, Council Liaison Update, Project Updates, Administrative Procedures*

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 FALL PREVENTION CAMPAIGN KICK OFF EVENT & PREMIERE OF SAVING CLAIRE

Thursday, September 25, 1-3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East (GFE) 15 Crescent Road

Join us for the Greenbelt Fall Prevention Campaign Kick Off Event and the premiere of Saving Claire. This event will include a film screening and panel discussion with experts in fall prevention and senior care.

Register with Brendy Maddox at (202) 670-6497.

4TH ANNUAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE FAIR

Saturday, September 20, 11 am-3 pm
Armory Building Parking Lot, 7100 Greenbelt Road (Corner of Southway)

Talk with local Electric Vehicle (EV) owners. See both all-battery and plug-in hybrid cars alongside e-bikes. Ask owners about their EV experience, EV costs, driving and charging an EV, types of EV chargers, rebates, and more.

If you're an EV owner and would like to show your vehicle or talk to visitors, email John Lippert at ecolivingmag@aol.com.

This Event is sponsored by Greenbelt's Green Team, Green ACES, and the City of Greenbelt.

UPCOMING NATURE EVENTS

Gardening Get Togethers. Every Wednesday through October, 10am-12pm. *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.* Join City Staff and Community Members as we work to maintain the Pollinator Gardens at Buddy Attick Park! Activities will include mulching, weeding, and planting native perennial species. [Sign-up](#) here.

National Public Lands Day. Saturday, September 27, 10am-1pm. *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.* Join the City of Greenbelt's Department of Public Works and Park Rangers as we care for and celebrate the public lands we share! [Sign-up](#) here.

Questions & comments to kdricoll@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2168.

SENIOR TECH CAFE

Sundays - September 28, October 26, November 23 from 1-3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 109, 15 Crescent Road

Whether you're new to computers, iPhone, Android or just need a little guidance, we will do our very best to help! Don't miss this opportunity to have your questions answered. We look forward to helping you get started!

Note: We are not a "Genius Bar" and do not fix devices, but we're more than happy help you learn how to make the most of your technology.

FREE. Drop-in, first come first serve, no registration required, bring a friend!

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov | (240) 542-2056.

SENIOR DAY AT SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER

Friday, September 19 at 11 am
Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Join us as we kick off exciting new senior programs at Springhill Lake Recreation Center with a fun and informative day just for you! Enjoy games of Bingo, discussion on foods that fight cancer, an Ageless Grace exercise session, and more.

All are welcome to attend. Free, light refreshments will be served. Come connect, learn, and have a great time!

For more information, contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at (240) 542-2056 or via email at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov.

OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ALL GREENBELT ADULTS

1st & 3rd Monday of Each Month
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road

Need computer access? Visit our free lab at the Greenbelt Community Center. Every Wednesday & 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required as spots are limited.

Register: bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov | (202) 670-6497.

FREE DIABETES EDUCATION CLASS & SCREENING

Class: Friday, November 7 from 10-11am
Screening: Friday, November 14 from 10am-12pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd

Join Us for a Free Diabetes Education Class & Screening!

This free class, led by Dr. Florence Awosika, will help you understand diabetes, practice self-care, and make informed choices for a healthier life. Take advantage of a free diabetes screening offered the following week!

Register: bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov | (202) 670-6497.

FREE SENIOR PLANET CLASSES - MEDIA & HEALTH

For adults 60+. FREE. In-Person, Mondays, 11am-12:30pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Rd

- September 22. Navigating Medicare Resources
- October 6. Managing Online Privacy

Register: bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov | (202) 670-6497.

CURRENT GAIL PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge. For more information, email Brendy Maddox at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (202) 670-6497.

- FALL PREVENTION CAMPAIGN KICK OFF EVENT.** Th, 9/25, 1-3 pm. Premiere & Film Screening of "Saving Claire" and panel discussion with experts in fall prevention and senior care. Register at <https://forms.gle/BsjhsdWeXo6AKYRo8>.
- OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- FREE MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION.** Greenbelt Residents Only. First time participants must provide proof of residency, state-issued ID, birth certificate (or copy) for each child.
- AGING SOLO.** Sept 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 1-2:30pm on Zoom. Learn to set priorities, build your support network, and put your plans into action.

GREENBELT ELECTION INFORMATION

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION DATES & DEADLINES: 2025 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/18
Last day to file nomination petition (by 5pm)	9/22
Date of drawing for placement on ballot - 7pm	9/22
First Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	9/26
First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/3
Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30pm Upper Marlboro)	10/6
Second Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	10/24
Early Voting begins	11/1-11/2
Training session for Election Judges and Clerks	11/3
Election 7am-8pm	11/4
Mail-in ballots must be received by 6pm	11/4
Final Contributions & Expenditures Report (12pm)	11/7
Charter Meeting for swearing-in at 7:30pm	11/10

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION VOTER REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Great News: Non-Citizen Residents Can Vote in the 2025 Greenbelt City Council Election by Registering with the City Clerk!

Greenbelt residents are reminded that to participate in the 2025 City Council election - whether as a voter, a candidate for City Council, or a signer of a petition for a candidate - you must be registered to vote. U.S. citizens must be qualified and registered to vote in Prince George's County. Non-citizen residents of Greenbelt may also participate by registering to vote with the City Clerk or by accessing the non-citizen voter registration forms available on the City's website.

To register, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America or Non-citizen of Greenbelt
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Be domiciled within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt as of the date of registration
- Have completed any court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, parole, or probation if convicted of a felony
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at (301) 430-8020 or visit www.elections.state.md.us. Forms for voter registration for non-citizens are available on the city website, Voter Registration | Greenbelt, MD.

All registration forms must be submitted by the deadlines: citizen voter forms to the Prince George's County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro by 4:30 pm on Monday, October 6, and non-citizen voter forms to the Greenbelt City Clerk's Office by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, October 15.

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk by phone at (301) 474-8000 or elections@greenbeltmd.gov.

*If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's County but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete an application to have this information changed. **This can also be done online at www.elections.state.md.us.*

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available at 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 18, from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 18 THROUGH MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025.

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

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION ELECTIONS CLERKS NEEDED

The City of Greenbelt Board of Elections is seeking several residents who would be willing to serve as election officials on November 4, 2025, from 6 am until about 9 pm. Clerks must also attend a training session on November 3 from 7 pm until about 9 pm.

This is a rewarding experience for anyone who is interested in the political process and would like to play an active role in the local election. There is a stipend of \$175 plus a training fee of \$25.

There may also be a need for additional clerks to count mail-in and early voting ballots. This job would entail working for three to four hours in the late afternoon/early evening of November 4. No preliminary training is necessary. The pay for mail-in and early voting ballot clerks is \$50.

Application forms are available at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road and on the City website www.greenbeltmd.gov. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2025. For further information, call or e-mail Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or elections@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION DRAWING FOR ORDER OF BALLOT PLACEMENT

A drawing to determine the order of candidates' names on the ballot for the November 4, 2025, election will take place in the City Council Room of the Municipal Building on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 7 pm. Immediately following, a drawing will be held to determine the order for placement of campaign signs on public property for any candidates choosing to participate in that program. For more information, call Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000, or e-mail to banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD 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, Charter Review Task Force, 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.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

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

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

FREE Artful Afternoon. Sunday, September 14, 1:30-2:30pm, *Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane.* Join Greenbelt Recreation Arts and the Greenbelt Park Rangers for a nature themed photo scavenger hunt. More information and sign up at sugeni.us/eZ8v.

Sparkle Mart Vendor Applications Closing. 4pm on Friday 9/12. More information www.greenbeltmd.gov/482/Sparkle-Mart. Sparkle Mart is Greenbelt's juried art and craft fair, and will be held December 6 & 7, 2025.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- Drop-In Makers and Artists** ages 4-15 Wednesdays until 12/3, 4:30-6pm. *Greenbelt Community Center*
- Art Share (meet-up)** Friday, 9/12, 7pm. *Greenbelt Community Center*
- Friends & Family Workshop: Pinch Pot Birds & Beasts** Sunday 9/14, 11am-12pm & 1-2:30pm. *Greenbelt Community Center*

LET'S BEAT BREAST CANCER

9/19, 9/24, 10/1, 10/22 10:30AM-12PM
Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Learn how diet impacts cancer risk through expert guidance on foods that fight cancer, cooking demonstrations of delicious and health-promoting recipes, and handouts with easy and affordable dishes to try at home.

F 9/19 - Intro to How Foods Fight Cancer

W 9/24 - Fueling up on Low-Fat, High-Fiber Foods

W 10/1 - Discovering Dairy & Meat Alts

W 10/22 - Cancer Fighting Compounds & Healthy Weight Control

Contact pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov.

PINK PANTRY

The Pink Pantry provides free menstrual products to Greenbelt residents, including pads, tampons, and wipes from trusted brands like Cora, Always, Rael, HoneyPot, and more!

To receive these products, register by contacting Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

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>.

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.

PGCPS continued from page 1

registered to do so after he'd been hired in Missouri. (For more see page 11 of the July 25, 2025, issue and page 6 of the August 1, 2024, issue.)

The OIC's investigation found "the board leadership failed to promptly address violations to the Board's attendance policy to hold the former Board member accountable ... failed to pursue a timely and actionable remedy to request the Board member's removal from the Board on the basis of willful neglect of duty" and "The Board's omission to take prompt action on this matter created the right set of circumstances for wasteful receipt of PGCPS funds and/or property by an absent Board member in the amount of \$9,792.32."

The News Review reached out to PGCPS to ask if they planned to pursue legal action or otherwise attempt to recover from Murray the compensation he obtained through false pretense but they did not respond by press time.

Improper Payment of Legal Fees

"The OIC's investigation substantiated allegations that legal fees incurred by a former Board member and paid by PGCPS were not for the defense of the member during litigation, as required by state law," states the report, which summarized that "PGCPS improperly paid \$36,111.92 for legal fees incurred by a Board Member."

The fees in question were charged for legal services Adams-Stafford secured between June 2021 and July 2022. Legal counsel advised the board to pay the fees because board members have a right to have legal costs covered to defend themselves from litigation that occurs due to their role on the board. However, the OIC investigation found Adams-Stafford was not the defendant in litigation - she was the subject of an ethics investigation. She initiated a lawsuit against PGCPS for which she would be responsible for her own legal fees, and which was dismissed by Prince George's County Circuit Court in January 2022. Legal fees for an unclear purpose continued for six months afterward, and were billed to PGCPS.

Adams-Stafford stepped down from the school board in December 2024 to run in a special election for the District 5 seat on the Prince George's County Council, which she won in June this year. At her swearing in ceremony in June, Murray, the "absent board member" mentioned in the OIC report, was among three figures listed in the program to give "special tribute" to Adams-Stafford. The other

two people giving tributes were Board of Education Member Phelton Moss (PGCPS District 6) and Executive Director of Progressive Maryland Larry Stafford, who is also her husband. Adams-Stafford did not respond to the News Review's request for comment on the OIC's findings related to the legal fees she billed to PGCPS or on her decision to give Murray a role in her swearing-in ceremony this year.

Misuse of Substitute Coverage Pay

The OIC investigated how a resource teacher received their full salary in addition to substitute pay, while not performing the duties of their regular assignment. "Although no violations of policy/procedures were identified, the employee received significantly more coverage pay than all other staff," found the OIC. Though the teacher couldn't fulfill the duties of both their regular and substitute assignments they were "entitled to compensation for both assignments, per the negotiated agreement between the PGCPS Board and Prince George's County Educators' Association (PGCEA)," found the OIC. The OIC recommends "stronger language within the PGCEA agreement to ensure members fulfill the duties of their regularly assigned position in addition to any coverage assignments in order to receive compensation for both" and to decrease time increments for substitute coverage pay from one hour to half an hour for more accurate time reporting. "Such a change could lead to potential annual savings of up to \$1.3 million across all PGCPS schools," reports the OIC.

Workplace Accommodation

The OIC found an improper denial of reasonable workplace accommodations after workplace accidents, major surgery and failure to follow the process mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Their investigation determined PGCPS response to the employee's medical leave

request was "untimely," "improperly denied the request for workplace accommodations and failed to engage in the interactive process mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)." PGCPS also failed to report the employee's inpatient hospitalization after workplace accidents, as required by the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Program. The OIC recommended enhanced internal controls, practices and procedures related to accident reporting, medical leave requests and reasonable accommodation requests.

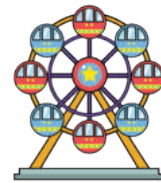
DuVal Athletic Field

The OIC found PGCPS paid a contractor \$10,359 for work on DuVal High School's athletic field. That contractor "used hazardous contaminated soil on the athletic field, resulting in additional expenses for remediation and legal action." The OIC recommended internal controls to ensure inspection and approval of services after they found \$265,059 in costs were absorbed by PGCPS for remediation efforts. PGCPS later sought damages via legal counsel. They also recommended PGCPS "withhold payment from contractors who fail to meet contractual obligations."

FOUNDATION continued from page 1

world-class early music accessible to Greenbelt residents. There will be performances at the Greenbelt Community Church and the New Deal Café, an educational performance visit to Eleanor Roosevelt High School, open rehearsals and more. This 12-piece ensemble performs Baroque music on period instruments and is passionate about bringing early music to small towns worldwide and educating audiences and students about period instruments and performance practice.

The Greenbelt Farmers Market was given \$4,500 for Combating Food Insecurity: SNAP Greenbelt Match at the Market. They will use the funds to support a local match to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). This will assist SNAP recipients in purchasing local produce and other locally made products at the market. The funds will support the market manager, allow for a local \$9 match to SNAP and help the market purchase a new information tent canopy.



Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) was awarded \$4,632 for a Summer Youth Workshop with Greenbelt Cinema and Greenbelt Access Television. In tandem with Greenbelt Cinema, they will host a week-long workshop for 12 youths, ages 9 through 12. The students will learn how to create jointed figures, use stop-motion capturing and master basic editing techniques in order to craft unique animations. On the final day, these animations will premiere at Greenbelt Cinema for students and their families. Students will be given the chance to answer questions.

The Greenbelt News Review will receive \$5,000 for their program of News Review Optimization. They have divided their proposed project into two parts. Part A temporarily underwrites the cost to publish more 16-page newspapers even when advertising revenues support only 12 pages. Part B simultaneously will help build the advertising revenue to sustain a size of 16 pages even after the grant is completed. A 16-page issue costs about 5 percent more to produce than 12 pages. The larger paper will enable them to cover more of the issues affecting Greenbelt.

GCF seeks to support a thriving, engaged community that is socially responsible, environmentally conscious and supports education, the arts and science. GCF does this by helping to fund community projects that build upon the ideals of collaboration, cooperation and engagement through the generous participation of individuals and organizations.

GCF reviews proposals twice each year, although they welcome grant applications at any time. The deadline for the fall 2025 cycle is October 15. For more information or to make a donation, visit their website at greenbeltfoundation.org.

Wayne Williams is chair of the GCF communications committee; Kevin W. Parker is GCF president.



People rummage through massive piles of books, games, puzzles, vinyl albums, CDs and DVDs at the annual PTA fundraiser book sale at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival on Friday night, August 29.

PHOTO BY MATT NEUFELD

Greenbelt Farmers Market

Sundays 10a - 2p
Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

The Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club

Invites you to

A Panel Discussion
The Effect of Trump-Era Policies on Workers and How Labor is Fighting Back

Join us for a timely conversation with labor leaders, organizers, and policy experts on how Trump's policies continue to hurt American workers, and how unions are mobilizing to defend rights, wages, and democracy itself.

- Hear from labor leaders and organizers
- Stand up for workers' rights and solidarity
- Free & open to all | Light refreshments served

Sunday, September 14, 2025
3:00 - 5:00 PM
Greenbriar Terrace Room
7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Stand with labor and fight for a just future together.
www.rooseveltclub.com

PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2025-2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The twelve-week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, and ends on Wednesday, December 3, 2025.

Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension, 8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite 25, Columbia, Md., 21045. The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 14, 2026, and ending Monday, April 13, 2026.

For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu.

Sunrise Proclamation

As a part of the Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of Sunrise Caribbean Restaurant, in Roosevelt Center, Mayor Emmett Jordan read a proclamation commemorating the 63rd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. During the ceremony, Arthur Griffith, Cultural Ambassador for the Republic, brought greetings to the City of Greenbelt from Vanessa Ramhit-Ramroop, the Embassy's Chargé d'Affaires (ad interim). In his own remarks Griffith expressed his personal appreciation to the City of Greenbelt as the first city to recognize the independence of his homeland.



PHOTO BY LOIS ROSADO

From left, Sunrise co-owners Alisa Plaza and Rass Sello Mungo; Arthur Griffith, a representative from the Trinidadian Consulate; and Mayor Emmett Jordan

FOOD SCRAPS continued from page 1

the \$10 household rate offered in the extended program represents a 66 percent discount for Greenbelt residents. Compost Crew's website states its mission is "to eliminate food waste and revitalize the earth's soil."

Signup for the program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents can register on the Compost Crew website at compostcrew.com/greenbelt or by scanning the QR code below.



Residents without access to digital media may sign up by calling Compost Crew Customer Service at 301-202-4450 or Luisa Robles, City of Greenbelt coordinator for the program, at 240-542-2153. Once registration is complete, Compost Crew will contact new participants about scheduling delivery of a food scrap collection bin and the start of pickups. There is a one-time \$20 charge to purchase the bin.

The program is open to all Greenbelt residents. Households may join individually or in combination with neighbors to help fill the seven-gallon bin for weekly pickup. Residents are welcome to share bins to reduce per-household cost and maximize use of individual bins.

Weekly collection service will remain the same. Food scraps from Greenbelt will continue to be processed into compost nearby

at Compost Crew's Compost Outpost facility, located at Trinity Assembly of God Church on Good Luck Road. Finished compost will be available for return to Greenbelt at a discounted rate.

Compost is a nutrient-rich soil additive that can be used to improve soil quality in garden plots and household plants. Compost Crew's finished compost is registered by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and exceeds all acceptable standards. Lab test results show high quantities of valuable nutrients in the finished compost, and it is rated as having reached ideal maturity.

Composting also will reduce food waste going to the landfill, thus reducing the tipping fees and lowering greenhouse gas emissions coming from the landfill. The program decreases food waste in general and returns a valuable resource to the community.

The successful pilot program featured a high rate of weekly household participation and excellent resident cooperation in placing the correct items in the compost bins.

Kristie Blumer, composting director for Compost Crew, wrote in an email following one Greenbelt collection: "I have led the composting division since its infancy and this was the cleanest and easiest residential load I have ever received." Eric Raun, coordinator for Henry's Hollow community garden, described the finished compost received as "of excellent quality. All the gardeners who I talked to in Henry's Hollow were very pleased."

Mark Gordon characterized his household's participation in the program as follows: "We have been on board since the initial test program started last year and have been so happy with every aspect of it. We can compost all of our food scraps and have them picked up. The company who is conducting the pickup and the process have been absolutely amazing. ... We have been spreading the word with our neighbors, working on getting them on board composting."

Another participant, Sue Zwicker, noted, "I love the convenience of the curbside composting."

Breast Cancer Prevention Rally Saturday in the Center

In 2025, the American Cancer Society estimates about 316,950 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in this country. About 42,170 women will die from breast cancer. What can one do as Breast Cancer Awareness Month approaches?

This Saturday, September 13 at 11 a.m. in Roosevelt Center, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) along with the City of Greenbelt and CHEARS will hold a special rally to raise awareness about breast cancer prevention. The rally will be inspiring, hopeful and loud. Breast cancer survivors, families and friends of people with breast cancer, health care providers and educators and those interested in better health are welcome.

The rally is a unique gathering – three musical groups will "beat their drums" about the empowering message that lifestyle choices can make a difference.

Participants will hear about the research-based, four-prong approach to preventing breast cancer issued by the American Medi-

cal Association this year. The four prongs resemble a fork and there is one step for each prong. The steps are: (1) Eat plants, (2) Exercise, (3) Limit alcohol and (4) Maintain a healthy weight.

Following the one-hour rally, all are welcome to stay and talk or visit vendor tables. Guests will include: City of Greenbelt Recreation, CHEARS Three Sisters Gardens, Greenbelt Grows, Hope Connections Cancer Support, Food For Life, Let's Beat Breast Cancer Campaign, Luminis Health and Myya for Women.

PCRM is the sponsor for this rally and ongoing research and education about how life-style changes can help prevent breast cancer, diabetes, heart disease and other illnesses. Founded in 1985 by Dr. Neal Barnard, PCRM is a Washington D.C.-based national public health advocacy group that involves 17,000 doctors.

A New Support Group Is Being Formed

A new offshoot of the Greenbelt CORES is now forming with this one devoted to forming a support group for people who are unemployed, underemployed or struggling with financial difficulties in general. Right now we are in the gathering phase to determine when to meet and how (virtual vs. in person). If interested, please fill out a form to express your preferences on what days and times to meet at <https://tinyurl.com/4ytpne96>. All answers will be kept confidential.

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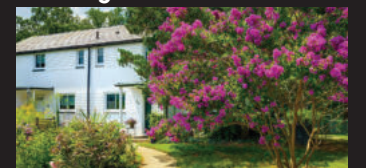
45N Ridge Road—NEW PRICE



2 BD | 2 BA \$340,000

This roomy 2-bedroom brick Greenbelt co-op townhome has been expanded to create a space that could be used as a third bedroom, or a great home office or family room, with a second full bath.

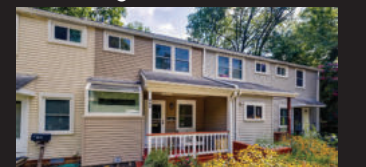
2B Ridge Road



2 BD | 2 BA \$410,000

The charming brick end unit townhome is the kind of home that savvy Greenbelt co-op shoppers can wait literally years for. This gem of a home is one half of a duplex, with a garage on the other end of the row that conveys with the sale.

58C Ridge Road



2 BD | 2 BA \$290,000

This charmer has a very smart addition that includes a second full bath. Plus, a kitchen bump-out brings in more light and extra workspace, and other fun architectural details add flair and practicality to this co-op townhome.

Kim Kash

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PUBLIC WORKS continued from page 1

who has also expressed his intent to run for city council in November, spoke in support of collective bargaining for the employees and wants the city to extend recognition and begin bargaining as soon as possible.

Resident Bill Orleans also spoke in favor of collective bargaining for all Greenbelt employees. Orleans said this is something that has been suggested to council for years. He cited two reports, one from the city's Employee Relations Board (ERB) and one from the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB). "Council sat on those two reports for the last three or maybe four years now," alleged Orleans, a characterization Mayor Emmett Jordan disagreed with.

The ERB submitted a report on collective bargaining in May 2021. That report concluded "the City provides rights to City non-managerial employees to organize into employee organizations, but specifically stops short of providing collective bargaining rights to employees other than police," and stated, "We agree that employees should be able to collectively bargain, if the employees choose to exercise these rights." In 2022, CRAB was tasked with the question "Should a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) be extended to non-police City staff?" CRAB found that Greenbelt employees are not covered by CBAs and "no other comparable municipalities employ CBAs for non-police." CRAB did not provide recommendations to council on the matter after then-councilmember Colin Byrd withdrew his referral.

The signatories to the letter told the News Review there would be many more than the four names and three of them at the meeting if it wasn't for fear of retaliation. "I think we'll have a lot more people who will sign up to support this now that we've gone public," said Canavan. "Especially amongst the Latino workers, a lot of them are just afraid. It's a good idea but they don't want to be associated with it, not in Trump's America."

Seeking Change

Leon-Lierman suggested one of the things Public Works employees who are solid waste workers would like to see change is the hourly-based employment system. A task-based system, which other cities have, says Leon-Lierman, allows employees to finish work after completing tasks rather than have additional tasks assigned.

Rozier said that the work they do as Public Works employees interfaces with other departments and results in the assignment of duties that might properly be part of another department, giving the example of trash service in the parks, which was once under Park Services. Additions to their workload and services don't come with additional compensation and sometimes employees are informed only a week ahead of changes, says Rozier.

Public Works employees also want a voice in the budget, especially when there are potential looming cuts, says Leon-Lierman.

Sick Leave, Merit Pay

A large area of contention is merit pay. In Greenbelt there's a two percent cost of living adjustment for city employees and a three percent merit-based pay, but the latter is subjective, says Leon-Lierman. Canavan says em-

ployees receive 13 days of sick leave but using over five can be held against them in their performance review. "It puts people in a really tough spot. If you're sick and you need to stay home but you're worried about losing one percent of your performance increase because you've used five days," despite the fact they are entitled to 13, says Canavan. "You're taking away half of our benefit." Parents, especially, are put in tough situations, he says, explaining their dilemma as "Do I send my kids to school sick or stay home and risk my performance increase?" Others are in the "awful position" of wondering if they should come to work and potentially get co-workers sick, he says. Canavan believes holding over five sick days against employees is unfair. "If you ask they will kind of get into the weeds of, 'Well it's not an official policy but unofficially we can do this,'" he says of discussions with supervisors. "Fly-by-night policies is what I call them," says Rozier, who has been a Public Works employee for 22 years. Stanback agreed that merit raises were an issue of concern. "No one should be denied merit raises for using sick leave, like has happened in the past," he says. Stanback says he hasn't seen the policy and "it's not really on paper." Canavan believes the policy began with a director three or four directors ago in response to an employee abusing their leave.

City Manager Josué Salmerón told the News Review that during his two-year tenure, a concern about sick leave and merit pay was first raised with him last week, on September 2, when he met with a labor organizer and a Public Works employee. The city's Human Resource Director Dawane Martinez and City Clerk Bonita Anderson, who manage grievances for the ERB, report they have not received any grievances from Public Works em-

ployees regarding sick leave and merit pay.

"If they were taking care of the people, we wouldn't be here, plain and simple," says Canavan. Through this process of coming forward Canavan says he's been asking himself, "If not me, who? If not now, when? Nothing happens until something moves."

Council Action

At the end of the council meeting on Monday, shortly before council went into closed session, Councilmember Jenni Pompei proposed that staff begin working on a charter amendment to allow all nonmanagerial city staff to unionize. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kristen Weaver. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said it was inappropriate to bring up such a motion at a meeting when residents hadn't had notice or a chance to comment. Council always tells people they don't act on petitions at that meeting, said Roberts, and should follow the normal process to be fair to all, he argued. After some discussion, Pompei amended the motion to direct staff to begin gathering information and start the process rather than draft language. Six councilmembers voted aye. None voted nay. Roberts had his hand over his mouth and did not move toward the microphone nor appear to vote either way. There was no call for abstentions.

GIVES Volunteer Appreciation

As part of the celebration of 30 years of GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service) all volunteers are invited to a volunteer appreciation luncheon. It will be held on Saturday, September 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Invitations have been emailed out. Those who are volunteers but did not receive one, contact the GIVES office at givesoffice@gmail.com or 301-507-6580.

The History of Greenbelt Police Unionization Twenty Years Ago

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

In recent years, both the Employee Relations Board and the Community Relations Advisory Board have submitted reports to the Greenbelt City Council on collective bargaining for all city employees (2021 and 2023, respectively) but so far only the city's police officers are unionized. A question on the city ballot 20 years ago was key to that development.

The amendment to the city's charter that enabled police officers to collectively bargain came after a request from the Federal Order of Police in May 2005. That spurred council to place a referendum on the ballot that November. It was a right sought by police for many years prior to that (see the November 3, 2005, issue).

At the time, council was divided on the matter. The only councilmember still serving today is Rodney Roberts. Roberts was ultimately in support of collective bargaining for police, but in October 2005 he expressed a preference for a meet and confer process. He is quoted in the October 27, 2005, News Review as saying, "I can support collective bargaining but I can't support binding arbitration." Roberts explained his stance as not wanting to detract from council's ability to manage the city's operations and budget with binding arbitration. At the time of the November election that year only two candidates were in support of the question – incumbent Roberts and challenger Kelly P. Ivy Sr. Then-councilmember Konrad Herling opposed the measure only be-



November 3, 2005 issue

cause he believed it should apply to all city employees. Judith Davis, Edward Putens and Leta Mach were in opposition (see the November 3, 2005, issue for more on the councilmembers' positions). Despite that opposition from the majority of council, councilmembers determined to treat the referendum question as bind-

ing and act according to the will of the majority of voters.

The police referendum won the popular vote easily. Of those who voted on the question, 58 percent were in favor and approximately 42 percent opposed. Ten percent of voters did not answer that question on the ballot.

The News Review reported that Roberts' sole support of collective bargaining for the police may have helped him in that election because he received a 6 percent increase in support over his 2003 election and was the second highest vote getter, with 76.6 percent support among those voting, exceeded only by Davis' 78.9 percent (for more on the 2005 council election see the November 10, 2005, issue). However, the News Review found the question did not seem to impact voter turnout in general.

At the December 12, 2005, council meeting council adopted a resolution to add a paragraph to the city charter allowing collective bargaining of nonmanagerial sworn officers of the Greenbelt Police Department. It became effective January 21, 2006, after the resolution had been posted for a period of 40 days, as required by state law.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred September 1-7, 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 one death, one case of child abuse, three domestic incidents and two mental health diversions, one involving attempted suicide.

On September 3 at 9:31 a.m. near 8955 Edmonston Road, a 12-year-old left the area in an unknown direction.

Robbery

On September 1 at 3:58 p.m. near 6208 Breezewood Court, a boy in a vehicle was assaulted by three suspects he knew from school.

On September 6 at 2:15 a.m. near 147 Westway, a man was meeting a woman when he was approached by two men who stole his driver's license; one appeared to have a gun.

Burglary

On September 1 at 11:47 a.m. near 7917 Greenbury Drive, someone kicked in the back door and entered a woman's residence. Upon seeing the woman, the suspect fled in a gray vehicle.

Indecent Exposure Arrest

On September 7 at 4:49 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man showed his private parts to at least three people, and was arrested. The store's video was requested.

DUI Arrest

On September 1 at 12:39 a.m. near 9162 Edmonston Road, a woman under the influence struck another vehicle. Due to her injuries, she was transported for medical attention.

Fraud

On September 4 near 6932 Hanover Parkway, a man's identity was compromised and someone stole money from his account.

On September 7 near 406 Ridge Road, someone was defrauded of money by a telephone scam; their bank is conducting an independent review.

Theft and Shoplifting

Packages were stolen from the doorstep on September 1 near 7915 Mandan Road, and on September 3 near 7419 Morrison Drive.

On September 1 at 11:36 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman stole merchandise. She was detained and had an active warrant so she was taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

On September 1 at 9:49 a.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man stole items and fled on foot.

On September 2 at 3:09 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man was seen placing items into a duffel bag. When he was told to stop, he fled. The items were found and returned.

On September 2 at 11:51 a.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a shoplifter left the store on foot with stolen items. Officers stopped him and retrieved the items, and he was banned.

On September 4 at 6:26 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a boy entered the store on a bike, and stole several items. He tried to leave, but officers arrested him.

On September 4 at 3:16 p.m. near 20 Southway, a man reached behind the divider, grabbed an item and left; at 3:56 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man and woman took items and left prior to officers' arrival.

On September 5 at 9:27 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a repeat offender was arrested and taken to the Department of Corrections; at 1:18 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man took several items without paying.

On September 6 at 4:04 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a suspect entered a shoe store and stole several items while the employee was in the back of the store.

Vandalism

On September 2 at 12:13 p.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, a patient became irate and began to damage items in the office; near 6220 Springhill Drive, a vending machine was vandalized, and several items were taken from it.

On September 4 near 6114 Breezewood Drive, a bedroom window was broken.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Five cars were stolen: on September 1 near 6110 Breezewood Drive, a gray 2017 Honda Civic (Md. 6EN7135); near 5809 Cherrywood Lane, a gray 2016 Nissan Altima (Md. 4EE44400); and near 7509 Mandan Road, a gray Toyota Camry (Md. 2EY2145); on September 3 near 6926 Hanover Parkway, a white 2015 Volkswagen Passat (Md. 2DAD09); and on September 5 near 7300 Hanover Drive, a Jeep Cherokee (Md. 2EA5430). On September 7 near 9003 Edmonston Road, someone stole two dirt bikes from a truck.

Stolen Vehicles Recovered

On September 1 near 12 Crescent Road, someone recovered their stolen scooter.

On September 3 near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, the Anne Arundel County Police Department recovered a stolen Acura TLX by tracking it to a Greenbelt location.

Suspicious Vehicle

On September 6 at 12:19 a.m. near 7800 Cloister Place, officers stopped an unmarked tow truck fitting the description of a truck that had been stealing vehicles in the area. The occupants were identified, and the detectives will be taking over the investigation.

Theft from Auto

On September 3 near 7732 Hanover Parkway, the wheels were stolen from a 2025 Toyota Camry; near 8150 Lakecrest Drive, a disability placard was stolen from a vehicle; near 7726 Hanover Parkway, someone stole the mirror from a vehicle.

On September 7 near 6026 Springhill Drive, a 2012 Hyundai Veloster had a window broken, and clothing items were missing.

Vandalism to Auto

On September 1 near 555 Crescent Road, a 2017 Lex-

us RX350 Sport was keyed/scratched.

On September 7 near 7710 Hanover Parkway, a door handle and window were broken on an Acura RDX.

On September 7 near 9197 Springhill Lane, a 2023 Honda Civic's window was broken, but nothing was taken.



Candidate Forum To Be Held October 9

Save the date for a city council candidate forum ahead of this year's city election.

In conjunction with GATe, the News Review will host a candidate forum on the evening of Thursday, October 9 at the Firehouse.

Cookies on the Bridge Seeks More Volunteers

It's time for some sweetness for the students. This is a call for volunteers who are looking for something fun and worthwhile to do: consider joining Cookies on the Bridge. On weekdays from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m., volunteers meet at the Spellman Overpass to offer cookies (and carrots) to students coming home from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The goal is to ensure the safety of the students as they make their way home.

Those interested, particularly those who can volunteer on Mondays or who have questions should contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler, RUAk (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness), at spreadruak@gmail.com or 301-345-8755 and leave a message.

Crisis Hotline's Number is 988

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

CALL for POETS and VISUAL ARTISTS: Ekphrastic Fantastic Art Show

FONDCA (Friends of New Deal Café Arts) is seeking submissions for the show Ekphrastic Fantastic, which is scheduled to be displayed from November 2, 2025, to January 4, 2026, at New Deal Café!

Have you written a poem that lends itself to interpretation in a painting or drawing? Have you created a painting or drawing that would inspire a poet to write a companion piece? This might be the show for you!

We are seeking 15 artists and 15 poets to create pieces for this show.

Here's how it works: poets and artists interested in participating submit a poem or a drawing, painting, photograph, or collage. We'll select 15 poems and 15 pieces of visual art from the submissions. Each poem will be assigned to an artist and each piece of visual art will be assigned to a poet for the creation of a new piece in response. Identities of the poets and artists will be secret until the show is hung.

Please send submissions to julieawinters@verizon.net by Sunday, September 21. Poems should be sent as Word documents or Google documents if possible. For visual art, please send a good-quality photograph of the piece, along with title, dimensions, and description (mixed media, watercolor, pencil, etc.). Participants will receive confirmation of selection and assignment of pieces for creation of response art/poetry by September 30; the deadline for the new pieces is October 30.



PRELIMINARY AGENDA Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on September 18, 2025

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

- Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on August 14, 2025
- Member Matters
- Contract Matters
- Personnel Matters

GHI Open Meeting – starts after GHI Closed Meeting - open to members and visitors

- Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on August 14, 2025
- Statements of Closed Meetings Held on August 14, 2025 & September 18, 2025
- Senator Alonzo Washington, Invited Guest
- Board Vacancy
- Recommendation of Surplus/Deficit by Home Type
- Recommendation for Revised Take Back Fee Structure
- Board Policies and Governance Manual
- Yardi Taskforce/Member Handbook and Board Policy Standardization Taskforce Joint In-Person Meeting Request
- 2025-2026 Strategic Plan Report
- Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on October 2, 2025

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91234567890>

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

Kick Gas Go Electric



What: Greenbelt's 4th annual Electric Vehicle EVent
Free Admission

When: Sat., 9/20 (rain date: 9/27)
11am-3pm

Where: In the Armory parking lot (intersection of Southway and Greenbelt Road)

Talk with local Electric Vehicle (EV) owners*

See both all-battery and plug-in hybrid cars, and e-bikes, and ask owners about their EV experiences, EV costs, driving and charging an EV, types of EV chargers, rebates, etc.

*If you are an EV owner and would like to show your vehicle or talk to visitors, email John Lippert at ecolivingmag@aol.com

This Event is sponsored by Greenbelt's Green Team, Green ACES, & the City of Greenbelt.



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DANCE! DANCE! – Mediterranean and Beyond, an international folk-dance group meets on three Sundays a month from 2 to 4 p.m. in the dance studio of the Greenbelt community center. The cost is \$8 (free the first time). Beginners welcome; instruction is provided. We would love to see you there. Contact Bobbi, bobbikayser12@gmail.com.

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 BOXED: \$11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.
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Letters cont'd from p.2

responding to this online survey bit.ly/gldf2025

Karen Yoho
President, Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee

Bus Stop Benches For Teens

Driving past the intersection of Southway and Crescent this morning, I saw half a dozen high schoolers sitting on the curb or standing in the street waiting for the bus. There was nowhere else to wait except the sidewalk and a steep grass hill between the apartments and the bus stop. I'm asking whoever in Greenbelt city leadership with the resources can fix this, to add some seating or a designated area so it's safer and more comfortable for teens waiting to catch the bus.

Hannah Hethmon

Make It Happen

Thanks to Cathie Meetre for the article about the Greenbelt Farmers Market in last week's issue. Thanks, too, to Juan Ramos for his inspirational letter.

As co-founders of the Greenbelt Farmers Market, Kim Rush Lynch and Kim Kash were 30-somethings who didn't know what we were doing. Sometimes that's the best way!

Rush Lynch's career was (and is) about supporting local agriculture and promoting healthy eating habits. Kash was (and is) a business owner in Roosevelt Center. Both of us love farmers markets and wanted one here.

The city supported us from the start, with use of the parking lot and plenty of logistical help. Our original board included Joe Gareri, Cary Coppock and Lynne Tucker Chandler. Each brought relevant expertise from different fields, but none had ever created a farmers market from scratch.

We were young and willing to devote evening and weekend hours to build the market. Right away, we knew we didn't want to create an organization that was stagnant or would be a volunteer burden stretching on for years. Kash and Rush Lynch both stepped away within the first few years. We've watched happily as the market has grown in size and scope, under the leadership of many successive boards and three market managers. It all works thanks to Greenbelters supporting the market, through shopping and volunteering.

Greenbelt has always been a place where people come together and build things they believe in, without a bunch of money or oversight or particular expertise. If you have an actionable idea, we hope you throw your weight behind it because you can make it happen. As Ramos said in his letter, "Joy and purpose are not separate from civic life." It takes a village to get most ideas off the ground, and you've got your village right here.

Kim Kash and Kim Rush Lynch, Co-founders, Greenbelt Farmers Market

Slow Down When Driving

On Tuesday, August 26 coming from Laurel Hospital en route home to Greenbelt, I stopped at an intersection and to my surprise there were two or three deer who were not in good shape. In fact, they were all trying to survive from a hit-and-run accident. The car or cars had vanished and those poor animals were trying to survive.

My hope to all of you is be careful around woods or forest. Those animals were there first.

I hope those deer were rescued but please slow down when you are driving.

Joyce M. Yarwood



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GAC Presents Hot L Baltimore

The Hot L Baltimore by Lanford Wilson will be playing at the Greenbelt Arts Center from October 3 to 18. Directed by Seth Ghitelman, Lanford Wilson's The Hot L Baltimore introduces a memorable cast of characters residing in a crumbling Baltimore hotel, their lives as frayed as the lobby's worn carpet. A young prostitute named "the Girl" plies her trade, while Mr. Morse, a bewildered old man, years for a visit from his estranged daughter. With the hotel's demolition looming, they and the other residents grapple with an uncertain future. Wilson masterfully blends humor and pathos, as seen in the scene where the residents, facing eviction, share a makeshift meal, finding solace and fleeting joy in their shared predicament. This play feels especially relevant today, as America seems increasingly unwilling to address the needs of its most vulnerable citizens. The struggles of the residents of the Hot L Baltimore serve as a mirror to contemporary issues like homelessness, poverty and the growing gap between the haves and have-nots.

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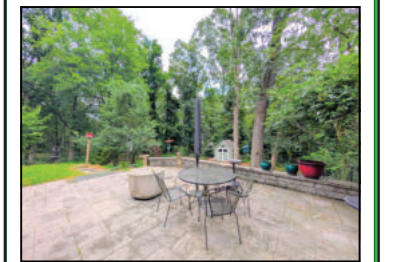
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BEST WASHINGTONIAN 2025

Fun and Games at the 2025 Labor Day Festival

Parents and children gathered on Braden Field behind the Youth Center at 10 a.m. on Saturday for a series of games and challenges. There was a Diaper Derby, a Balloon Waddle Race, a Water Balloon Toss and the Pie Eating Contest. The winners were given ribbons and prizes to choose from. During the Pie Eating Contest, participants were asked to eat a slice of blueberry pie as quickly as possible using only their mouths, and with both hands held behind their back. The 12 and under category was particularly messy, with mushy blueberries all over the table, plates and faces. The winner for this category was Isaac. In the 13-and-over category, the winner was less clear, and generated some light-hearted controversy. Officially, Michael Canavan came in 1st, Jonathan came in 2nd and Josh Kiner came in 3rd. However, Canavan reported that he lost to Michael Campbell, who finished swallowing first. There was also dispute over whether Josh beat Jonathan. "If I beat Michael Campbell and Josh Kiner, I want it to be fair and square," joked Canavan. He attempted to give his first-place ribbon to Campbell, who did not accept the ribbon.



Mabel eyes competition during the 12-and-under Pie Eating Contest.



From left, Josh Kiner, Michael Campbell and Michael Canavan pose with their finished plates.

- Photos on left side of page by Nick Hall NH



Participants of all ages enjoy the water balloon toss.

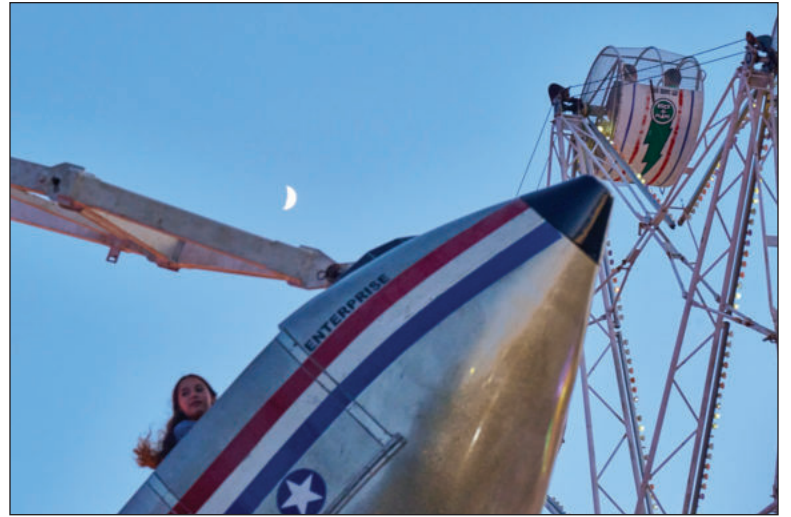


Circus Camp's Greg May delights children and adults with giant bubbles.

PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW



A festival-goer looks down from the big wheel.



The Space Shuttle heads to the moon from the Labor Day Festival on Friday, August 29.

- Photos on right side of page by Jeffrey Allen Jones



A young fairgoer tries plate spinning, coached by Greg May.



From left, winners of the ping pong tournament: champion Zhangyan Jiang and second place winner Victor



Dancers enjoy music from the stage, Sunday afternoon, August 31.

