

Book Launch,
p.7



ERHS Soccer,
p.11

Election 2025

Incumbents Pompei and Pope Have Filed for City Council

Incumbent Councilmembers Jenni Pompei and Silke Pope have filed for Greenbelt City Council. Their nomination forms have been certified by City Clerk Bonita Anderson. Candidate biographies are prepared by the candidates and published as they are received by the paper.

Jenni Pompei

Jenni Pompei has called Prince George's County home for more than 25 years and has lived in Greenbelt with her husband, Nelson, and their two sons since 2018. After getting involved with Greenbelt Little League and local camps, her family knew Greenbelt was where they wanted to put down roots.

Pompei is the proud parent of Oscar, a Promise Scholar studying music at Prince George's Community College, and Miles, a junior in the International Baccalaureate



Jenni Pompei

PHOTO COURTESY JENNI POMPEI

See **POMPI**, page 4

Silke Pope

Silke Pope's journey in public service began with her involvement in Greenbelt's Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), which paved the way for her election to council in 2009. As chair of the PSAC, she played a pivotal role in enhancing the city's safety by advocating for the installation of security cameras and emergency call boxes in the city. Pope also serves as council liaison to both the PSAC and the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. Her unwavering



Silke Pope

PHOTO COURTESY SILKE POPE

See **POPE**, page 7

Nomination Period for City Council Will Close Monday

Monday, September 22 is the last day to file a nomination petition to run for the Greenbelt City Council. Petitions must be submitted by 5 p.m.

Any qualified voter who is at least 18 years of age may be nominated by filing, at the office of the City Clerk, a nominating petition signed by not fewer than 50 voters and a written acceptance of the nomination. Forms and instructional videos on how to fill them in are available at greenbeltmd.gov/189/Run-For-City-Council. For more information email elections@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-8000.

A drawing will take place at 7 p.m. on Monday to determine the order candidates will be placed on the ballot and on official election signboards.

Council Approves Ballot Questions, Waste Pilot, Composting, Equipment

by Maurice Crawford

The Greenbelt City Council met on September 8 for its first meeting following its August hiatus. During the meeting council decided to implement a Save-As-You-Throw (SAYT) pilot program and approved funds to support household food scrap collection and to purchase new equipment at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center (GAFC). They also discussed questions that will appear on the November ballot and changes to the biennial Commu-

nity Questionnaire.

Save As You Throw

Council unanimously approved a 12-month pilot program for SAYT starting on January 1, 2026. The pilot program will have an annual solid waste base service fee of \$240 for all households. After that households have two choices in how to dispose of their trash: (1) They can buy program trash bags based on size

See **COUNCIL**, page 8

ERHS Graduate Tramell Tillman Wins Emmy Award for Severance

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) graduate Tramell Tillman has won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for his performance as Seth Milchick in the Apple TV+ series *Severance* (for more on Tillman and that role see our May 8 issue). Tillman makes history as the first Black man to win the award. He's also the first openly gay man to be nominated for an Emmy in that category.

Tillman, 40, was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Largo. He was the youngest of six children and his debut theatrical performance was a church musical production at the age of 10. He graduated from ERHS in 2003 and went on to attend Xavier University of Louisiana, then transferred to graduate with a degree in mass communications from Jackson State University. He worked for a nonprofit assisting children impacted by hurricanes, performing on the side. When he decided to pursue a career on stage, his entry to graduate school was delayed by the need to continue working but he eventually went to the University of Tennessee to study acting. He graduated at the top of his class in 2014 at the age of 29, the first Black man to graduate with a master of fine arts degree.

Tillman rose to fame for his

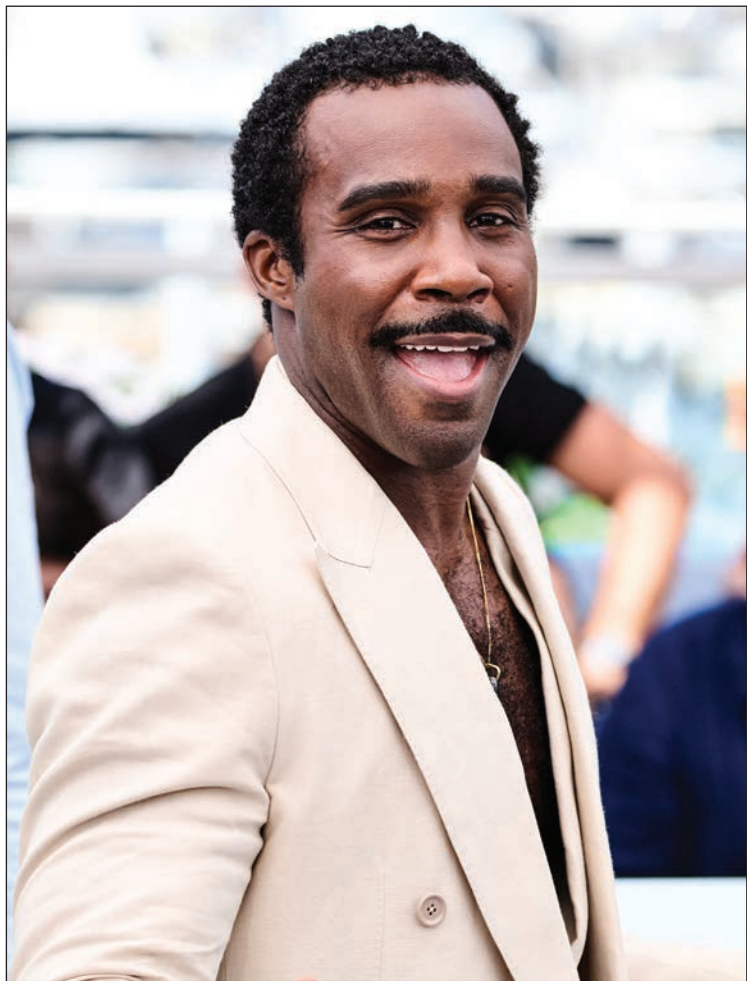


PHOTO BY GABRIEL HUTCHINSON PHOTOGRAPHY, CC BY-SA 4.0, VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Tramell Tillman poses during a photocall for *Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning* at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival.

performance in *Severance* and this year he starred in *Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning*. He is currently filming

Spider-Man: Brand New Day, set to air next year. Tillman now lives in New York.

PGCPS Urgently Seeks 135 Bus Drivers to Cover Routes

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

A week-two update from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) said some bus routes are still experiencing delays, but they are making progress in getting additional drivers on the road. Staff is also working to "optimize" routes to increase efficiency. Initially, calls to the district's transportation hotline were averaging 6,000 a day but the volume has now reduced to 1,600 a day, PGCPS reports.

Transportation challenges are customary with the start of a

school year, said an unsigned email from PGCPS, and the bus driver shortage continues to impact delays. The district also needed to accommodate additional students on buses due to an enrollment surge at the start of the school year and requests for bus stop changes.

"Stabilizing" Ridership

Senior Public Information Specialist Lynn McCawley told the News Review that at the start of every school year, every eligible child is assigned to a bus, unless they opt out. After about a month, ridership stabilizes, said

See **DRIVERS**, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, September 22
Rosh Hashanah, No City Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 24
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

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



PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE

School buses line up at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Letters to the Editor

A Thank You

I want to thank Greenbelt Library staffer Matt Hartman who so diligently assisted me in locating an item in the Library.

He went above and beyond the call of duty, with the greatest of ease and kindness, to help me. I truly appreciated his help. Thank you, Matt!

Barbara Ford



On Saturday night, August 30, Chopteeth gave a rousing performance that brought out the dancing spirit. Dancers of all ages moved to the rhythms of this exciting band.

Corrections

Last week’s article about the history of Greenbelt Police Department’s unionization referenced the FOP, which stands for Fraternal Order of Police.

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. Building peace 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. Zoom attendance is available at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83690544374>. If it rains, instead attend that day’s Peace Around the World gathering from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 201.

Blues Festival – September 20



PETE REPPERT

* This year Greenbelt’s outdoor pool remains open until the repairs on the indoor pool are completed.

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.



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 19th - 25th

A Big Bold Beautiful Journey (R) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (108 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 3:30 PM (OC), 6:00 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Sat. 5:15 PM, 8:10 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM, 5:15 PM
Tues. 7:15 PM
Thurs. 7:15 PM

Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale (CC) (DVS) (2025) (123 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:50 PM
Mon. 2:15 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM, 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM

Pooja, Sir (NR) (2024) (118 mins)

Nepali Film Series
Nepali, Maithili, and Hindi
with English Subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 1:00 PM

Monty Python and the Holy Grail (PG) (1975) (90 mins)

Cult Classic
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:00 PM

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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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

A Big Bold Beautiful Journey

Some doors bring you to your past. Some doors lead you to your future. And some doors change everything. Sarah (Margot Robbie) and David (Colin Farrell) are single strangers who meet at a mutual friend’s wedding and soon, through a surprising twist of fate, find themselves on A Big Bold Beautiful Journey – a funny, fantastical, sweeping adventure together where they get to relive important moments from their respective pasts, illuminating how they got to where they are in the present ... and possibly getting a chance to alter their futures.

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.

Pooja, Sir

When two boys are kidnapped in a border town in Nepal, Detective Inspector Pooja is sent from Kathmandu to solve the case. But when she arrives, the brewing political unrest and violent protests throw her off course, and she is forced to seek help from Mamata, a local Madhesi policewoman. By putting aside systemic discrimination and pushing through everyday misogyny, the women solve the case – but at what personal cost? The film was inspired by real events in Southern Nepal during the 2015 race protests.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail

A comedic send-up of the grim circumstances of the Middle Ages as told through the story of King Arthur and framed by a modern-day murder investigation. When the mythical king of the Britons leads his knights on a quest for the Holy Grail, they face a wide array of horrors, including a persistent Black Knight, a three-headed giant, a cadre of shrubbery-challenged knights, the perilous Castle Anthrax, a killer rabbit, a house of virgins and a handful of rude Frenchmen.

Community Events

ArtStudioOpen House, Artful Afternoon, More

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program will host an Art Studio Open House and Sale, an Artful Afternoon, a Dance Lesson and Puppet Shows on Sunday, October 5 at the Community Center. Here's the schedule:

Tours, Exhibits, Sales, 1 to 4 p.m. Tour the studios of the Center's eight artists in residence on the third floor and see their latest creations. Visit the Greenbelt Access Television studio on the second floor and make a stop-motion animation video. See a new exhibit of vibrant hooked rugs, collages and prints by Judith Kornett in the art gallery and enjoy a hands-on activity led by the artist herself. Chat with community artists and Greenbelt Recreation Arts instructors on the first floor. Artists will have both fine art and elevated functional wares available for sale.

Artful Afternoon, 1 to 4 p.m. Participate in a free Artful Afternoon composed of art demonstrations including needle felting, spray painting, wheel throwing, printmaking and more.

Dance Lesson, 1:30 to 2 or 2 to 2:30 p.m. Learn a dance to perform with the flash mob at the Wild Rumpus on Friday, October 24.

Puppet Shows, 1 to 3 p.m. Enjoy short, miniature puppet shows created by Cecilia Cackley celebrating Hispanic Heritage month.

The Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. Find more information at greenbeltnmd.gov/arts. Greenbelt Recreation Arts Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.



Greenbelt Chess Club Meets Next Tuesday

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, September 23 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.

Greenbelt Park Autumn Campfire Programming

Saturday, September 20, 7 p.m., The Wonderful World of Honeybees:

Honeybees are amazing insects, but often misunderstood by many. However, honeybees are important pollinators and are a great insect to introduce people to the importance of pollination. Join Ranger Solomon as he dives into the world of honeybees including their role in pollination, how they make honey and many other cool facts about them.

Saturday, September 27, 7 p.m., The Bonus Army and the Birth of the GI Bill:

World War I was one of the worst conflicts in the history of the world. The servicemembers who fought during this war were promised a bonus pension, yet never received it. Deciding to protest this violation, they encamped on the Anacostia flats and demonstrated on the National Mall. Join Ranger Jim at Greenbelt Park to learn about how these servicemembers exercised their rights and gained what was rightfully theirs.



Peace Camp Video Available

For those who are unfamiliar with Peace Camp, there is now a 16-minute video by Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) that includes not only photos and videos but also an interview with the directors of Little Friends for Peace and Peace Camp 2025, MJ and Jerry Park. There are two ways to view this film: either by entering tinyurl.com/yhncty4t into a web browser to go to the GATe YouTube channel, or watch on Saturday, September 20 either at the Greenbelt Access Television website (greenbeltaccess.tv/org/channel) or on Verizon FIOS Channel 19 or Comcast 77 at 7:04 a.m., 11:04 a.m. or 6:04 p.m.

Update on the New Horizons Mission

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will meet Thursday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. Indy Kochte of Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory will discuss the latest results from New Horizons, a NASA mission to study Pluto, its moons and other objects in the Kuiper Belt. The meeting is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

New Deal Café Special Meeting

The New Deal Café will hold a special meeting via Zoom on an important matter pertaining to the board's operation on Thursday, September 25, 6:30 p.m. The Zoom link will be sent to members via email 24 hours prior to the meeting. Plan on attending this session.

CHEARS to Host Plant-based Dinner

CHEARS Great Food Transition Project is cooking red lentil soup with optional spicy gremolata garnish, green salad, hearty rye and no-bake chocolate brownie bites on Wednesday, September 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. All are welcome to enjoy a delicious entirely plant-based meal at the Community Center dining room.

The Great Food Transition is a program that highlights the tremendous environmental and human health benefits of moving away from animal agriculture and eating healthful plant-based foods. The recipe is a "universal meal" prepared without any of the nine most common allergens.

To help set up or prep, arrive at 5 p.m.

Dinner is free for all, donations to the program are accepted. Space is limited. Contact ghadamsrn@gmail.com to register.

HUG WALK Joins Maryland Walktober

Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK) is again organizing its annual HUG WALK (Help Unite Greenbelt With A Little Kindness) to be held on Sunday, October 5, rain or shine. This year the City of Greenbelt and RUAK are partnering with the State of Maryland's Walktober program, an initiative to encourage walking, pedestrian safety, health and wellness, led by the Recreation/Art Department. The HUG WALK route is as follows:

1 p.m., gather at the Indian Creek Trail bridge at Greenbelt Station (across from the Shell Station on Cherrywood Lane);

1:30 p.m., walk sets off;

2 p.m., walk continues from Springhill Lake Recreation Center;

2:30 p.m., join the walk at Buddy Attick Park;

3 p.m., join the walk at Roosevelt Center;

3:30 p.m., join the walk at Greenbriar Community Center;

4 p.m., join the walk at Windsor Green Community Center;

4:30 p.m., walk concludes at Schrom Hills Park.

The Greenbelt Connection will provide transportation back to the join-in location. Walk all or part of the walk and show love for Greenbelt by wearing green.

For further information, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com, 301-345-8755 or ruak.org.



Golden Age Club

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

On September 24, there will be a presentation by Stephen Sciannella: Retirement: Making Your Money Last. Due to an unforeseen problem, there will be no bingo this month.

Sing for Unity

To celebrate the U.N. International Day of Peace, members of the community will gather to Sing for Unity at Roosevelt Center in front of the Mother and Child statue at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 21. The hope is that through music, people can transcend differences, cross borders and lift their voices to share a global message of joy, peace, unity and community.

For more information, email singalongpeaceandjustice@gmail.com.

Spellman Overpass Sign-Waving Fridays

Everyone is invited by Indivisible of the Route 1 Corridor and by other Greenbelters to do the following:

Show up at the Spellman Overpass on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway every Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. (Go east on Gardenway from Ridge Road.)

Assert the importance of U.S. democracy, the rule of law and our belief that NO kings are welcome.

Bring generous goodwill, noisemakers, signs and banners.

Email k2e9u09mj@mozmail.com for questions.



Pink Ribbon Rally

On October 4, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. join the Pink Ribbon Rally at the Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center ER parking lot.

This year there will be walk-up mammograms, DNA screenings in women's health and cancer care for eligible participants, food trucks, music, games, health and wellness sessions, and more.

If you are uninsured, please bring proof of address and income to see if you qualify for a no-cost mammogram.



New Deal Café

30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

9/29-10/5

A week long celebration!

ROOSEVELT CENTER FESTIVAL & MORE!

Monday, September 29 6-9 PM MAUVENESS KARAOKE WITH MIKE BENNETT	Saturday, October 4 Roosevelt Center Festival 12-1 PM KATY GAUGHAN DRUMMING FOR WELLNESS - DRUM CIRCLE 1:15-2 PM GREENBELT HONK SITUATION 2-2:15 PM WITCHES DANCE CAFE FOUNDING FATHERS: COMMENTS & STORIES ABOUT CAFE 2:15-3:45 PM LA UNICA 3:45-4:05 PM BUBBLE BATTLE **BRING YOUR BEST BUBBLE GUN** 4:05-5:15 PM FEZ TONES HAFLA 5:15-6:35 PM 1995 MUSIC BLAST 5:35-7 PM 49 CENT DRESS 8-11 PM ILYAIMY (INSIDE THE CAFE)
Tuesday, September 30 6:30-9:30 PM OPEN MIC WITH MATT SEVERSON	Sunday, October 5 at the New Deal Café 2-2:30 PM PETE REPPERT WELCOMING ALL WITH HIS PIANO JAZZ MUSIC 2:30-4 PM DOCUMENTARY "THE CITY" AND GUIDED DISCUSSION WITH DR. CATHY KNEPPER 4-4:45 PM CAFE FOUNDING FATHERS: COMMENTS & STORIES ABOUT CAFE 4:45-5 PM STAGE DEDICATION TO RICHARD MCMULLIN 5-6 PM NEW DEAL CAFE BIRTHDAY CAKE 6-8 PM KIVA
Wednesday, October 1 7-9 PM CAMPFIRE SESSION HOSTED BY JOEY CAMPFIRE FEATURING GEORGIE JESSUP AND DIRK HAMILTON	
Thursday, October 2 6:30-10 PM WOLF'S THURSDAY BLUES SHOW AND SIT IN JAM	
Friday, October 3 7-8 PM KICK OFF OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WITH NEW DEAL CAFE BOARD PRESIDENT JOHN CAMPANILE AND VIDEO FEATURING CAFE 8-11 PM FAST EDDIE & THE SLOWPOKES	

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF LIVE MUSIC
Program subject to change
In case of rain, all bands will perform inside the cafe
www.newdealcafe.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 9/18	FRI 9/19	SAT 9/20	SUN 9/21	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30p Long running jam	Pepper featuring Jessi Terrell 8 - 11pm Unique blend of upbeat, funky blues	— NO POETRY OPEN MIC — 22nd ANNUAL GREENBELT BLUES FESTIVAL In Roosevelt Center, 10a-7p EIGHT BANDS! Still Standing 8 - 11pm	Scotch and Soda 6 - 8pm Jazz, Latin, and swing with a deep groove. Four-piece band plays old-school instruments	
MON 9/22	TUES 9/23	WED 9/24	TH 9/25	New Deal Cafe
LIVE BAND KARAOKE 7 - 9pm COME ON OVER AND SHOW US WHAAT YA GOT!	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6:30 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6p Show us what ya got!	Kim's Grand Rounds 7 - 9pm FEATURING TEGHAN DEVON, ERYN MICHEL, AND DONNA FROST	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Coyote Trail 7 - 9pm An alt-country, eclectic Americana band	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, 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!

A Season of Renewal Arrives at Mishkan Torah

by Karen Knee



Yael Fischman and assistant Maggie Knee Brown lead Karp Family students in a song to learn the Hebrew alphabet.

This fall is a time of change and renewal for Mishkan Torah, Greenbelt’s friendly neighborhood synagogue. Cantor Phil Greenfield, who has served the congregation for over 40 years, is retiring and will be leading High Holiday services for the last time. Yael Fischman, the director of Mishkan Torah’s Karp Family School, will take over, becoming the synagogue’s first woman cantor.

Under Fischman’s direction, the Karp Family School has revived during the past two years. During and immediately after the pandemic, enrollment had fallen as existing students graduated without new students joining. However, last year a new K-2 class started, and this year its enrollment has increased to 10 students attending weekly classes on Sunday mornings. A similar number of toddlers and preschool-age children attend the Torah for Tots program on the first Sunday of every month. Monthly family-oriented potluck dinners, on the third Friday of each month, have also been popular, with up to 30 people gathering to welcome the Shabbat, or Jewish day of rest.

The Karp Family School’s weekly classes, which emphasize Hebrew language as well as Jewish holidays, prayers, culture and



Yael Fischman bakes round raisin challahs, a traditional Rosh Hashanah treat, with Karp Family School students.

- Photos by Karen Knee

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301-681-6636
No special equipment needed

traditions, run from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Most families are interfaith and the school prides itself on creating a welcoming, inclusive atmosphere where kids develop a positive Jewish identity. Classes for the K-2 group are tuition-free and new students can join throughout the year.

This year, the synagogue is offering regular High Holiday services for adults as well as less formal services for kids and families on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Tuesday, September 23 and Yom Kippur, Thursday, October 2. Special events for other holidays, including Sukkot in mid-October and Hanukkah in December, are also planned. Visit mishkantorah.org to learn more.

POMPI continued from page 1

program at Parkdale High School. Their dog, Rocket, is a beloved neighborhood ambassador.

A proud graduate of the University of Maryland with degrees in journalism and women’s studies, Pompei works as an editor at a nonprofit membership association in Annapolis. In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing board games with her family, hosting neighbors and friends, crocheting and relaxing outdoors on her patio.

Since being elected to council, Pompei has championed policies rooted in equity, inclusion and safety. She was instrumental in advancing all-resident voting, ensuring the Greenbelt Police cannot be used for civil immigration enforcement, and authoring council’s letter and resolution reaffirming Greenbelt’s commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. A 2024 graduate of the Greenbelt Citizen’s Police Academy, she has also prioritized public safety while protecting the rights of all residents.

Pompi is known for her responsiveness and commitment to constituent services. From resolving water main breaks, to advocating for renters in unsafe housing, to improving pedestrian safety with better signage, she has worked to deliver results for Greenbelt residents. Looking ahead, Pompei’s priorities include making Greenbelt more affordable, preserving the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center,

planning for the future of the Armory property, expanding EV infrastructure, improving pedestrian and bicycle safety and ensuring Greenbelt remains a safe, welcoming and prosperous city for all.

Make a Felted Fall Garland

Join instructor Vanessa Zanin for an all-ages Friends and Family Workshop this Friday, September 19 starting at 5:30 p.m. Have fun making a garland or other fall decorations out of wool, felt and yarn. This class is great for artists of all ages, and no experience is necessary. Adults and teens ages 12+ can learn to needle felt in flat or spherical shapes. Children under 12 can cut out wool felt or learn to make pom poms. Small fee.

The workshop is hosted by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program at the Community Center. For more information and to register, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Greenbelt Recreation Arts Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.



Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School graduate Tramell Tillman who won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for his performance in the television series Severance.

Congratulations too to the Eleanor Roosevelt High School junior varsity girls soccer team for winning three games in opening week, their first week of playing.

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

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 Saturday, 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 John Lippert at ecolivingmag@aol.com.

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+owneregroups.io

“How many are they who, though rich...are yet the poorest of God’s creatures; for, even as is witnessed, each day their greed for gain increaseth and their avarice waxeth more intense.” – Bahá’u’lláh

Greenbelt Bahá’í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

The Ten Commandments

#3-Don’t Take The Lord’s Name In Vain

Exodus 20:7

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 21, 2025 at 3 p.m.

Meeting the Moment: Our Denominational Connections

Carol Carter Walker, Ebony Peace, Tricia Most

with Worship Associates Lula Beatty and Jim Flaherty

Three Denominational Affairs Committee members offer personal reflections on their experiences with our larger Unitarian Universalist faith.

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

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

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 GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org



City Information & Events

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

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
Petitions and Requests

Consent Agenda

- **Authorization to Procure Ammunition for Police-Issued Firearms**
- **Minutes**
- **Committee Reports**
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
- **National Hispanic Heritage Month**
- **Public Lands Day Proclamation**

Administrative Reports

LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance to Make A Supplemental Appropriation to the General Fund For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026, in the Amount of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) to Cover Survey Costs and Associated Legal Fees Related to the Annexation of Certain Retail Properties; *-1st Reading, Suspension of Rules; -2nd Reading, Adoption*
- Resolution to Repeal and Amend Charter Review Taskforce Resolution 2113

OTHER BUSINESS

- Authorization for City Manager to Execute Automated Stop Sign Enforcement Contract
- Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Charles P. Johnson Contract
- Discussion on Potential Annexation of Beltsville Agriculture and Research Center (BARC) and NASA Properties
- Authorization for City Manager to Execute Memorandum of Understanding – Save As You Throw (SAYT) Program
- Discussion on Temporary Parliamentarian and Robert Rules of Order
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
* Meetings
* Discussion on Proposed Meeting Schedule
* Stakeholders
* Resignation/Appointment to Advisory Board

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

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 22-26

Monday, September 22, **NO MEETING - ROSH HASHANAH**
Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 pm, **REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, September 25 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Pumpkin Walk Preparation, Stewardship Update & Discussion, Proposed BARC Closure, Follow-Up Discussion: Labor Day Information Table, FPAB Webpage Possible Revisions*

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.

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.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

ANY REGISTERED GREENBELT RESIDENT MAY CHOOSE TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN

VOTING BY MAIL: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by MAIL-IN BALLOT.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WILL RECEIVE IN THE MAIL AN APPLICATION TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN BALLOT. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO VOTE BY MAIL, YOU MAY DISREGARD THE APPLICATION. YOU MAY VOTE AT ANY POLLING LOCATION ON ELECTION DAY.

Military service members, their families, and other U.S. citizens abroad who are covered under the **Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act** may also use the Federal Post Card Application (<http://www.fvap.gov>) to request an absentee ballot for City election.

Applications to receive mail-in ballot must be received by noon on Monday, November 3, 2025. We encourage you to return your application (by mail or in-person) as soon as possible.

Return your executed mail-in ballot by

- 1) Sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 3,
- 2) Hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or
- 3) Place it into one of the three drop-box locations. (Police Station, Schrom Hills Park and Springhill Lake Recreation Center)

Questions? Call the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000, or send email to banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT ELECTION INFORMATION

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

DATES & DEADLINES: 2025 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



* 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.

Pet Portrait Painting. Fridays, 9/19 & 9/26, 6-8pm. *Greenbelt Community Center.* Working from a photo, create a colorful painting of your pet or any animal. All levels of experience welcome!
Learn more at greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Shrink Pot Workshop. Saturday, 9/20, 12:30-4:30pm. *Greenbelt Community Center.* Use greenwood skills to create a handmade piece to take home. These pots are suitable for storing dry goods, or with a sealant, for holding cold drinks. Learn more at greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Friends & Family Workshop: Felted Fall Garland**
Friday 9/19, 5:30-7pm
Greenbelt Community Center
- **Fused Glass Jewelry** Sunday, 9/21, 11am-1:30pm *Greenbelt Community Center*
- **Make & Take Critter Magnets**
Fridays, 9/26 & 10/3, 6-8pm.
Greenbelt Community Center

ANNUAL OPEN FORUM

Saturday, September 20, 1-2:30pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201, 15 Crescent Road

What do you like about living in Greenbelt? What are the challenges to living in Greenbelt? Your main comments will be reported to City Council.

Need transportation? Consider the Greenbelt Connection Bus. The City provides transportation within Greenbelt. Service is available to all residents of Greenbelt.

To arrange transportation, please call (301) 474-4100 at least 24 hours in advance. Fares (each way): Senior Citizens \$1, Adults \$2 All are welcome to attend! City Council, the Police Department, and the Public Works Department have all been invited to attend.

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.

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.

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.

DRIVERS continued from page 1

McCawley. Then the district adjusts routes based on ridership. PGCPs asks all parents who don't plan to use the bus to opt out.

However, some parents who complain of long waits or who worry about their children missing instruction due to late arrival at school avoid the bus during the start of the school year, when transportation difficulties are most pronounced; PGCPs, though, asks parents who want to use the bus to do so in the first weeks. "We understand at the start of the school year some families may choose to transport their student(s) by car until the bus arrival time is more consistent," acknowledged PGCPs in an email to families. "Please understand we need your student(s) to ride the bus so that the driver recognizes the stop for the morning and afternoon trips. If no one is consistently at the stop, it's probable the stop will not be serviced and ultimately be removed," the email advised.

Vacant Routes and Delays

"The district has approximately 1,200 routes and currently 942 of those are covered. We need 135 drivers to be fully staffed," PGCPs announced in a September 4 email. Online, the list of "FY 26 Vacant Routes" totaled over 1,200 in vacant routes alone, but McCawley told the News Review that list is really showing individual trips rather than routes. Each route can include as many as six trips, she explained.

On September 10, PGCPs adjusted its list of "Vacant Routes" and of the trips listed there, 460 now have a driver while 759 remain uncovered. Dora Kennedy French Immersion has 14 uncovered trips, a 15th had a driver assigned since the start of the school year. Eleanor Roosevelt High School has had four of their initially vacant trips receive a driver assignment but still has 19 uncovered. Greenbelt Elementary has five uncovered trips, with no improvement in the driver situation. Meanwhile Greenbelt Middle School has seen three trips assigned to drivers on September 5 and has 17 trips listed as uncovered. Springhill Lake Elementary continues to have three uncovered trips. In addition, Magnolia Elementary, whose catchment area includes Greenbelt, continues to have two uncovered trips.

Where trips do not have drivers assigned, they are covered by drivers of another route. Some trips are "doubled," incorporating students from two different trips at once. The PGCPs Public Information Office could not tell us how many routes are doubled, as



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 number is fluid, they say. The district allows for students to sit three to a bench on the bus and a representative from the Transportation Department said students are allowed to stand when necessary. "If bus ridership is over-prescribed, measures are in place to make adjustments as needed," McCawley said. However, without sufficient drivers it seems the difficult choice in some cases is between overcrowding during a trip or longer waits while drivers go back and forth to conduct multiple trips separately.

Bus Tracking

PGCPs is communicating through the SchoolMessenger and StopFinder apps to notify families when buses are running behind schedule, they said, and they're assessing late arrival times.

"Our current routing system limits our ability to accurately track all bus on-time arrivals. The new Bus Planner routing system, being phased in over the first semester, will greatly enhance our ability to track and improve bus arrival times," said PGCPs in an email to parents. The new system is the Chipmunk app, which began to be piloted with select special education F and L routes in week two. It will be rolled out to all schools to replace StopFinder in the coming months. Meanwhile, parents might be unable to track the buses using StopFinder if the vehicle has more than one trip assigned to it, said a representative. "This is a major factor why we are transitioning to the new parent app because it addresses these concerns," McCawley told the News Review.

More Drivers

Fifteen new drivers are expected to be ready for their routes by the end of September after completing training, stated a PGCPs email. An additional 12 drivers, who already have credentials, will also be ready at the end of the month.

PGCPs says its "aggressive recruitment campaign" for bus drivers includes television and radio ads, job fairs and community outreach efforts.

The next virtual recruitment event for bus drivers is Wednesday, October 8. The starting salary range is between \$21.98 and \$43.23 an hour. More information can be found at pgcps.org/offices/humanresources/careers/drive-with-us.

PGCPs \$50K Mailing Unhelpful, "Wasteful" Say Frustrated Parents

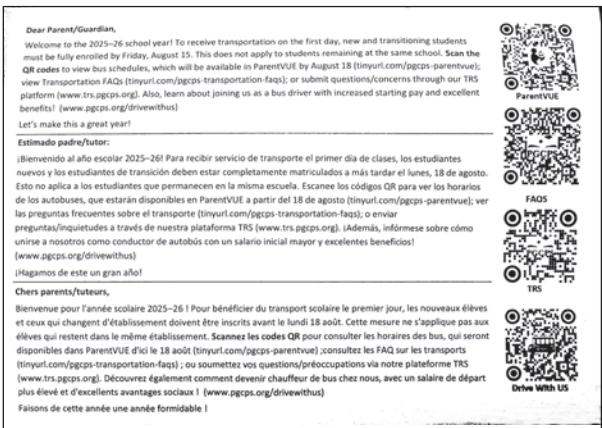
by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Mailings from Prince George's County Public Schools' (PGCPs) Department of Transportation about students' bus routes weren't mailed until after school began and arrived too late to be useful, parents complain. The News Review has learned the postcard mailings cost the district approximately \$51,500. "Mailers are expensive, so if you can't get them in the mail in plenty of time to get there, and instead send them after actionable dates, it's setting money on fire. Your tax money and mine," said Greenbelt parent Brooke Kenny.

Another Greenbelt parent, Chani Adams, told the News Review, "It was frustrating to receive a postcard that was mailed after the relevant dates referred to in the communication, because of the wastefulness." Adams' mailing was postmarked August 28 and it contained information about an action that needed to be done by August 15 and about how to see bus schedules, which parents needed to know before the first day, which was two days before the postcards were mailed.

Another PGCPs parent suggested that money spent sending the postcards after they were useful could better be spent on bus driver bonuses.

The News Review reached out to PGCPs about the cost and asked why information about a mid-August deadline and bus routes for students was mailed after the start of the school year. "The printed postcards were designed to send families to our website where they can receive details with the latest information," Senior Public Information Specialist Lynn McCawley told the News Review. "We ran a targeted digital communications campaign to families throughout the summer on how to set up ParentVUE accounts and access back-to-school information, including bus routes. Our primary communications in digital format included emails/texts, robocalls and our external newsletter, Engage PGCPs. The information was also shared on the PGCPs website and through



This PGCPs mailing to Greenbelt parents about transportation was postmarked August 28.

children enrolled in PGCPs received multiple postcards to the same address.

Kenny notes that in previous years, parents have received individualized information about their children's bus routes via postcard mailings, which were helpful to parents who did not have the knowledge or expertise to navigate ParentVUE. Her own access to the platform this year took multiple emails

and phone calls to achieve. Another Greenbelt family relied on information from neighbors about the bus route because they didn't have access to ParentVUE. Because this year's mailing was a standard message directing parents to ParentVUE to find their bus route information, those who missed the digital communications because of limited technological connections or knowledge would not have found it helpful. However, whether Greenbelt parents connected to PGCPs online systems or not, the mailing arrived after the first week of school, by which time they had had to figure out their children's bus schedules through other channels.

PGCPs says they will be phasing out such mailings going forward. "As we continue to modernize and streamline operations, PGCPs will phase out direct mail in the future. This change will reduce costs, improve efficiency and ensure families receive important information in a timely and reliable manner," they said in a statement to the News Review.

The author has two children enrolled in PGCPs. She received two of the mailings discussed in this article.

PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

MISSING CAT



Name:CHESSIE, 9 years old, large, light- orange tabby
Last Seen at: 5 COURT EASTWAY.

PLEASE CALL - Linda -571-275-0816

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HOUSEKEEPING, MEDICATION REMINDER, WALKING, RESPITE CARE, ESCORT TO
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EXERCISE, MEMORY STIMULATING ACTIVITIES, 24/7 LIVE IN CARE, & MUCH MORE
We Are Local, & We Serve All Counties in Maryland

Book Review

Young Astronomer Loses Her Sight, Discovers Sound

by Melissa Sites

How was a young blind woman from Puerto Rico able to study the stars? A beautiful and inspiring new picture book out this year from an award-winning Greenbelt children’s science writer explains how. Wanda Hears the Stars: A Blind Astronomer Listens to the Universe, written by Amy S. Hansen and Wanda Díaz Merced and illustrated by Rocio Arreola Mendoza, is the true story of how an internship at Goddard Space Flight Center was one important step on a journey of overcoming challenges.

Hansen first met Díaz Merced around 2004, when Díaz Merced was assigned to work with Robert Candey (Hansen’s husband) on sonification – displaying data through sound instead of visually, as Hansen explains, “like a heart monitor, that beeps when your heart beats.” Díaz Merced became interested in astronomy as a child, and studied physics at university, but went blind due to diabetes. The book depicts Díaz Merced’s childhood love of the stars, her college-age struggles to adapt to losing her sight and her triumphant ability to use sonification to continue to study astronomy.

“Wanda is joyous and laughs all the time,” Hansen says of her co-author. “When she’s determined to do something it’s impossible to stop her; she will find a way.”

Hansen had written articles for children about sonification prior to writing the book. Díaz Merced had been living all over the world, so her time at the University of Colorado Boulder was a good opportunity to work on the book together. Due to the pandemic, they began their work using Skype.

Hansen described the book’s artwork to Díaz Merced and also sent it to her family. One Easter egg for Greenbelters is the book’s depiction of the rocket garden at the Goddard Visitor Center; another is a picture of Candey at work as Wanda finds her way to the office. A special door mat and doorbells that Díaz Merced used to find her way are portrayed in the pictures but not in the words.

Bonus tidbits in the back of the book include authors’ notes from both authors, and stories about Díaz Merced’s interactions with Greenbelters Leonard García and Denna Lambert.

Publisher Charlesbridge was a good fit for the book, because they publish science books for children, as well as biographies and multicultural books. Including Spanish in the book was important, and one of their editors is from the same area of Puerto Rico as Díaz Merced. Perkins School for the Blind is near Charlesbridge and also helped check the book for accuracy.

Hansen has published over 35 books, most of which are science books for children, including Bugs and Bugsicles: Insects in the Winter (2010), which won



PHOTO BY KAREN LEGGETT

At the book launch in the Old Parish House in College Park, Amy Hansen stands with Leonard Garcia, who worked at Goddard Wanda Díaz Merced during her time there.

several awards and was included on the John Burroughs List of Outstanding Nature Books for Young Children. Hansen began her writing career as a journalist and worked for the Greenbelt News Review for seven years before leaving to devote more time to her own writing.

POPE continued from page 1

commitment to public safety and quality-of-life initiatives continues to make a positive impact on the community. Pope has made significant contributions at the county, state and national levels. She has served on various committees, including the National League of Cities Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee and the NLC Small Cities Council, which she had the honor of chairing in 2016.

Pope earned a prestigious fellowship from the University of Maryland’s Academy for Excellence in Local Governance, which enriched her understanding of municipal functions, governmental policy and ethics. She also completed graduate level courses through the Academy, including Leadership and Economic Development. These experiences have significantly contributed to her expertise and dedication to public service.

Professionally, Pope brings 24 years of experience with Prince George’s County Public Schools, where she works with a diverse student population. While first at Greenbelt Middle School, she now shares her expertise at Springhill Lake Elementary. She is involved in the Achieve Tutoring Program, which emphasizes social skills and emotional wellness. Her earlier background in international business relations, banking, credit card fraud detection and call center operations honed her organizational and bilingual communication skills.

After proudly becoming a U.S. citizen in 2006, Pope immersed herself in community life. She is a member of St. Hugh of Grenoble Church since 2000 and has participated in numerous fundraising efforts. She is known for her authentic German dishes at St. Hugh’s annual Oktober-

fest. Pope also served on Belle Point’s Homeowners Association Board and is currently on the Charlestowne Village Condominium Board. She is also a valued member of the American Legion Post 136 Ladies Auxiliary.

Pope has called Greenbelt home for 27 years, since moving from Germany with her husband, who retired from the United States Army. They initially lived in Franklin Park before finding their home in Belle Point. Pope cherishes time spent with her six grandchildren and continues to be a respected presence in her community.



Rotary
Club of Greenbelt

Greenbelt Rotary Club
Peace Day Event

Join us on Saturday, 20th Sept, between 11 am and 2 pm, at
Buddy Attick Park, for an informative and fun community
event exploring how we can build better community
connections

Learn More about Greenbelt Rotary: www.greenbeltrotary.org

It Will All
Make Sense
In the Morning
by Erica Smith
Directed by Rocky Nunzio

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS OR VISIT GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

September 20
8:00 PM

Staged Reading
followed by
optional
talkback session

Pay What You Will
(min \$5)

GAC

22nd Greenbelt Blues Festival

BANDS * DANCING * DRUMMING * VENDORS * YOGA

SATURDAY 10AM-11PM
SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

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DRUMMING
YOGA
VENDORS

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Tips * GBF Donations

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10am
11:00am
Noon
1:15pm
2:30pm
3:45pm
4:45pm
5:15pm
6:45pm
8:00pm

Got Yoga? Tina's Blues Fun YogaMix
Drum the Blues with Katy Gaughan
Dan Hovey
Erin Harpe Country Blues Duo
with Jim Countryman
Kingpin
Low Rent Quartet
Greenbelt Honk! Situation
Honey Sol
Nella B. & The Noise
Linwood Taylor with Still Standing
at New Deal Cafe

#BluesFestGreenbelt #FONDCA #BluesinMD @TheNewDealCafe

Subject to Change

NEW LISTINGS!

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

Realtor®
m 301.789.6294
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COUNCIL continued from page 1

(Small \$0.80, Medium \$1.25, Large \$2.00) or (2) they may purchase a MaxTrash sticker for \$140 annually (for a total of \$380 annually). The MaxTrash sticker allows the household to throw out a maximum of three large trash bags not to exceed 50 pounds per bag per week.

Discussion of the program ranged widely from those who need to throw away a lot of trash (use the MaxTrash option) to those who throw away very little. For the latter, one could put the trash can out only when it needs to be hauled away.

The next step is an outreach campaign to educate residents about SAYT and to contact retailers about selling the SAYT size-specific trash bags.

Food Scrap Collection

Council approved an ordinance and a contract of \$26,205 to support household collection of food scraps in partnership with Compost Crew. This effort was originally supported by a USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) grant; now council has decided to continue the program. Participating residents pay \$10 per month and there are currently 410 household units using the service; the capacity of the program is 600 households. The cost to the city is approximately \$26,205 after resident co-pays of \$41,000.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts felt that everyone should be able to partake in this effort and Councilmember Silke Pope agreed. However, it was pointed out that there is a limited capacity and that residents have the option of taking compost to the Recycling Center at Buddy Attick Park. There was widespread support among council to expand the program to all residents, but City Manager Josué Salmerón said that there are many challenges to an expansion that need to be surmounted before that can happen.

Council, with the exception of Roberts, voted to support the program.

Selling Compost Equipment

As part of the original USDA CFWR grant, the city purchased shipping containers and other items. Now Compost Crew would like to purchase these materials from the city and apply those funds to reduce the cost of the composting service.

Roberts felt that the city should sell the materials for the price the city originally paid for them (\$24,080) and not include depreciation which would reduce the cost of materials to \$19,264.

The motion carried 6 to 1 to sell the equipment to Compost Crew for \$19,264 with Roberts opposing.



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New Fitness Equipment
Council unanimously approved the purchase of new fitness equipment at a cost of nearly \$47,000 for the GAFC. The equipment will include recumbent cycles, ellipticals and treadmills, which should improve accessibility over what is currently at the facility.

Referendum Questions
Council reviewed the draft referendum question regarding Ranked Choice Voting that will be on the ballot in the city council election in November. Most of the discussion was on whether to provide a long or a short simple description of the question.

Roberts objected to use of the word referendum. Mayor Emmett Jordan responded that the questions are advisory referendum questions and are nonbinding. Council decided to use the short description by a vote of 6 to 1, with Roberts voting no.

The other two questions on the ballot that council had previously approved were changing council terms from two years to four years and, if four years, should councilmembers be subject to voter recall petitions during their term.

Community Questionnaire
Council discussed the report from the Community Relations Advisory Board regarding the Community Questionnaire. There were many issues regarding the upcoming questionnaire, including adding queries on race and gender, the length of the questionnaire, how the data are used, how long it takes to complete and how long it has been in place.

Salmerón felt that the questionnaire "... has been used year after year and hasn't had a thorough review." Jordan felt it would be useful to have someone with community survey expertise take a look at the questions. Council decided to add this topic to the agenda for the next meeting.

A Preview

One Night, One Act: It Will All Make Sense in the Morning

by Greg Young

Rocky Nunzio and Erica Smith team up once again at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) for a one-night performance of *It Will All Make Sense in the Morning*, an original one-act stage reading. The last time this Silver Spring area team entertained GAC audiences was May of 2024 in the play *Fiveplay*. Written by Smith and directed by Nunzio, that show garnered some nice critiques. DC Theater Arts noted, "... playfully directed by Rocky Nunzio gets into the heart and soul of connections between people, no matter who they love ... The show is a fun, multifaceted way to consider: what do love and care look and feel like?"

Since then neither Nunzio nor Smith have sat on their, well, laurels. Nunzio actually directed this play just last month in New York for the Matthew Corozine Studio. Smith submitted an imaginative, thought-provoking one-act drama, *A Very Different Kind of Truth*, to the Silver Spring Stage One-Act Festival where it tied for audience favorite. So, no resting for either of these multitalented thoroughly immersive theatrical artists.

For the current show, Nunzio has brought together another fine cast of local experienced thespians to perform from behind a music stand. For those who have not previously enjoyed a stage reading, the actors are (mostly) sitting on a stool and projecting their character with the script in front of them on music stands. Think of old-time radio shows where actors gave strong performances, but did more with their voices, subtle intonations or sorrowful enunciations and excitable exclamations.

Smith has been writing for



Playwright Erica Smith



Director Rocky Nunzio

PHOTO BY DANIEL J. COREY

PHOTO BY RACHEL ZIRKIN DUDA

suffering from terrible nightmares who befriends a boy who can remove dreams. Unfortunately, her nightmares are so vivid that removing them causes him physical pain. Reuniting as adults the two must reconcile the care they have for one another as well as asking the question, "What do you do when you can't help but harm the one person who can help you?"

It is a surreal and emotionally layered play that follows Sparrow, a person plagued by nightmares, who forms a bond with Alastair, someone capable of capturing dreams. Through dreamlike sequences and grounded personal struggles – including romantic conflict and protective family ties – the play explores the complex, often messy dynamics of asking for help and seeking connections. The story blends haunting imagery and heartfelt humor to examine how pain and care intertwine.

The show is one night only, on Saturday, September 20 at 8 p.m. After the performance Smith and Nunzio will host a "talkback" segment where audience members will have an opportunity to question and comment directly to the writer and director. Tickets are available from greenbeltartscenter.org.

Greg Young is a volunteer with the publicity and marketing committee at Greenbelt Arts Center.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred September 8-14, 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@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary
Greenbelt Police reported one death; one sexual assault; four domestic incidents, two resulting in arrest; and two mental health diversions, one involving attempted suicide.

Shooting
On September 12 at 9:24 p.m. near 6150 Springhill Terrace, officers in the area heard three or four shots being fired. They ran toward the sound of gunfire and found a man with multiple gunshot wounds. Greenbelt Police conducted a search of the area, assisted by a U.S. Park Police helicopter. The victim is currently listed in critical condition.

Assault
On September 10 at 6:07 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, someone was assaulted and punched in the back of the head by an unknown person.

On September 11 at 9:08 p.m. near 7900 Good Luck Road, a man left the scene of a vehicle accident outside Greenbelt, and another man wearing a white shirt and dark colored pants got out of a black vehicle and punched him in the face.

On September 12 at 1:02 p.m. near 8099 Mandan Road, a man walking on Mandan Road was approached by two men. After a verbal altercation, one of the men brandished a black handgun, and the other man assaulted him. The first man began walking away, and the other two men left the area.

On September 12 at 8:30 p.m. near 9164 Edmonston Road, a woman was with a large group of people smoking controlled dangerous substances. The group started to assault her, and she fled on foot. She was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

On September 13 at midnight, near 5900 Cherrywood Terrace, an intoxicated woman initially claimed that she was, and later that she was not, assaulted; she declined medical assistance and was taken back to her residence.

On September 14 at 6:53 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, two women got into a fight; minor injuries were sustained, and warrants were advised.

Break-in
On September 12 at 4:16 a.m. near 7724 Hanover Parkway, a woman noticed a man sitting in the dark. As he approached her from behind, she felt alarmed and ran to her unit. When she entered, the suspect kicked her door and forcefully attempted to break in. Once he gained entry, he approached her and stole her purse. Greenbelt Police increased their presence in the area and encourage the public to report any suspicious individuals hiding in the dark.

DUI Arrest
On September 8 at 5:02 p.m. near Walker Drive and Capitol Drive, a driver under the influence had an accident that disabled the car, which was impounded.

Disorderly
On September 9 at 4:46 p.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, a patient, an elderly man in a wheelchair, inappropriately touched an employee, who declined to prosecute.

Fraud
On September 13 near 8017 Mandan Road, someone filed taxes using a man's name, and the IRS sent him a bill.

Theft and Shoplifting
On September 8 at 2:57 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, three girls tried to steal items; they were released to their parents and banned from the property.

On September 9 at 9:56 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a store loss-prevention manager stopped a man who was shoplifting and recovered the merchandise.

On September 10 at 12:47 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man tried to leave with unpaid merchandise but was stopped, and then fled; at 2:09 p.m. near 7551 Greenbelt Road, several pairs of glasses frames were stolen from a store at Greenway Center; at 3:10 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man wearing a white shirt and black pants stole items and fled in a vehicle; at 3:55 p.m.

near 5906 Cherrywood Terrace, a package was stolen; at 7:18 p.m. near 121 Centerway, a man stole an item; officers found him, and he was released with a criminal citation.

On September 11 at 2:00 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, after a man stole merchandise multiple times over several days, he was arrested and taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections; at 6:38 p.m. near 7583 Greenbelt Road, two people stole candles and fled.

On September 12 at 2:29 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a girl was caught stealing cosmetic items; she was banned and released to her father.

On September 13 at 12:47 p.m. near 7501 Greenbelt Road, a suspect stole several pairs of eyewear and fled on foot.

**Vehicle Crimes
Stolen Vehicles**
On September 9 near 416 Ridge Road, a 2017 Chevy Silverado (Md. 6GR7168), and on September 14 near 6001 Springhill Drive, a gold 2011 Hyundai Sonata (Md. 7ET3354), were stolen.

Theft from Auto
On September 12, the wheels were stolen from three Hondas and a Toyota: a 2024 Civic near 7927 Mandan Road, a 2023 Accord near 6400 Ivy Lane, a Civic near 6202 Springhill Drive, and a Corolla near 6144 Springhill Terrace.

On September 11 at 11:37 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, two vehicles parked in front of a retail store location were broken into and had items taken.

Vandalism to Auto
On September 9 near 7509 Mandan Road, a vehicle's tires were slashed.

On Thursday, September 11, Prince George's County Police responded to 71 Court Ridge Road. There was no active threat to the public and no further information can be shared at this time.

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Notice of the Annual
Membership Meeting

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative
Saturday, October 18, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.
Greenbelt Community Center Gym
15 Crescent Rd. Greenbelt, MD 20770

According to the Co-op's bylaws,
25 members constitute a quorum.

In the absence of a quorum, those present
can schedule another meeting, which can
proceed even in the absence of a quorum.

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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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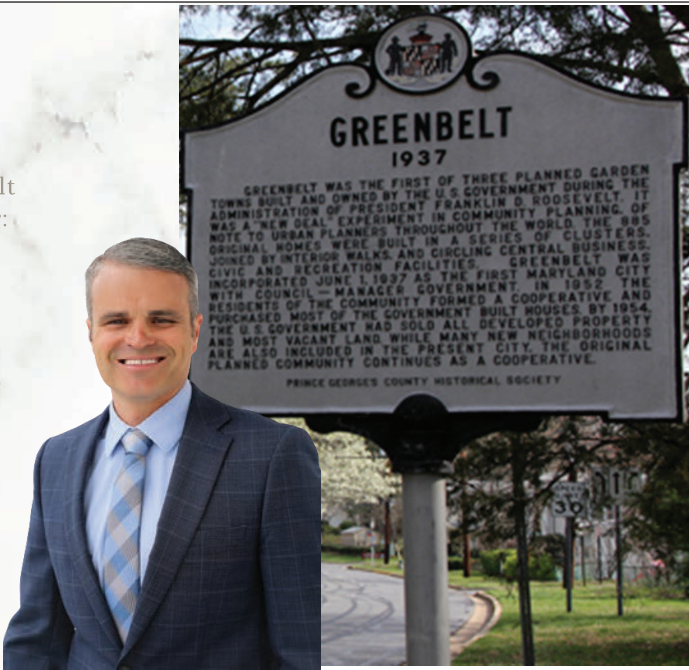
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Sports

ERHS JV Girls Soccer Team Triple Triumphs in Week One

by Patrick Gleason

Three games in and three victories. The Eleanor Roosevelt junior varsity girls soccer team wasted no time in commencing a strong season. Facing a gauntlet of challenges in their first week, the Raiders emerged triumphant three times over – first besting archrival Bowie Bulldogs, then overcoming the Elizabeth Seton Roadrunners before grinding out a victory over Baltimore Polytechnic. With a strong freshmen class supporting a returning cast of contributors, Coach AJ Sessay’s team provided three unique victories, each creating palpable excitement.

The season started with a start-to-finish victory over Bowie on September 8. The Raiders scored in the first half thanks to goals from Treasure Wogu and Mia Moore, while goalkeeper Adama Kargbo did not face much pressure throughout the evening. Waves of Raider attacks, thanks to Mia Moore and Ayanna Steele, wore down the Bulldog defense as the Raiders exhibited raw nerve, despite it being the season’s first contest.

While the rivalry triumph produced Raider enthusiasm, the sequence of events on September 11 elevated Roosevelt’s energy to a climax. After a back-and-forth first half, the Raiders still had not found the back of the net, despite Moore’s continual forays past the Roadrunner backline. However, Roosevelt conceded a goal first and needed a response. Enter Steele, who relieved Moore for a spell, and promptly shifted through and around the Seton backline before releasing a slotted shot, eliciting an eruption from the Raider bench. With the game now tied, sophomore Elisabeth Beckmann wasted no time to supply the Raiders with a never-again-relinquished lead. Nearing midfield, Beckmann sprinted down a pass, beating her defender and taking a touch toward the goal. With blazing speed, Beckmann outpaced her opponent, but then needed to beat the goalkeeper to the ball. They arrived at the same time, but Beckmann’s pressure helped the ball to its inevitable home calmly nestled in the back of the net. Beckmann’s teammates juxtaposed the ball’s serenity with their raucous celebration, on and off the field. As the clock waned, the Raiders didn’t relent, adding a goal after



Stephanie Aguilar Agustin, Beatrice Marx, and Elisabeth Beckmann celebrate with goal scorer Ayanna Steele after the Raiders tied their game with Elizabeth Seton.

a cross from Wogu that deflected off a Seton defender before redirecting into the net.

With little time to celebrate their successes, the Raiders continued their unforgiving schedule the following afternoon, facing off with Baltimore Polytechnic, despite having several teammates nursing injuries after their first two contests. The teams traded threats throughout the first half, but it looked as though they would enter halftime in a scoreless draw. Gabrielle Singh and Mia Moore thought otherwise. After a horde of defenders appeared to have corralled the Raider attack, Singh found Moore in the center of the box. Instead of forcing a shot, Moore remained patient and worked around multiple defenders before finding

an open angle and passing the ball into the net backdropped by a sky as gently blue as a September Friday should be.

This goal proved to be enough for an undefeated opening week. Kargbo’s defense remained resolute despite fatigued legs after a busy set of games. Nora Marx commanded centerback with the assistance of freshmen Devin Allard, Gemma Owe and Joyce Kengne, while sister Beatrice Marx helped solidify the Raider midfield alongside Stephanie Aguilar Agustin, Sofia Holzer and Kennedy Frechtel. Next

week the Raiders will host Parkdale on September 22 before traveling to Bladensburg on September 25 where they will look to continue a season as successful as September is beautiful.



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 Co-op 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, see the ad on page 7 or go to GreenbeltBluesFestival.com.



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

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

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Greenbelt home with fireplace and 3 1/2 baths.

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Retro Town Fair 2025 Winners

The Retro Town Fair, a Labor Day Festival favorite on the grounds of the Museum house at 10-B Crescent Road, recreates the Town Fairs of early Greenbelt, says the Museum’s web-site. The Retro version was introduced by the Greenbelt Museum and Friends of the Greenbelt Museum at 2012’s Labor Day Festival.

The first Town Fair was held in 1939, after a request for a flower competition from the Garden Club to the Town Council. Council expanded the plan to include canned goods, baked goods and needlework. The early Fairs also included concerts, puppet shows, athletic contests and more, many of which have been incorporated into our modern Labor Day Festival. But the “County Fair” style judging for the Museum’s Town Fair event pays homage to the early celebrations created by Greenbelt pioneers.

Display tables featuring home-making products, grouped by theme, encourage a pumpkin-to-quilt stroll through the Museum Garden. Garden-grown and home-processed foods and flowers were on display, as artisans offered demonstrations of needlework,



Petra Sanchez, winner of the Grand Prize for garden produce, along with some of her produce

fabric and fiber crafts. For example, several different techniques to produce woollens were demonstrated by crafters, including dyeing yarn in different colors and spinning clumps of wool into thin strands of yarn using foot-pedal and hand-operated spinning wheels.

Ribbons are awarded for the best entries in a number of categories, including flowers, vegetables, baked goods, canned goods, crafts and needlework/ sewing.



Double blue-ribbon winner Katrina Boverman

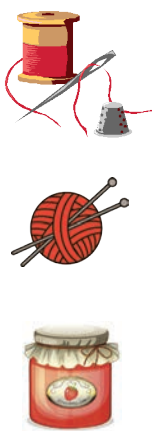


Proof that the judges do taste the baked goods



Anthony Holmes’ doll won the craft blue ribbon.

- Photos Courtesy Greenbelt Museum



Needlework judging by Maggie and Bridget Cornett

Purple Ribbon Grand Champions
Baked goods: Whitney Sink and Alec Armstrong
Needlework: Pat Scully, Heather Mortimer and Cathy Jones
Crafts: Tara Wilcox
Floral arrangements: Elizabeth Walker
Produce/vegetables: Petra Sanchez

Blue, Red and White Ribbons
Blue, red and white ribbons rewarded the efforts of many more creative entrants.

Baked Goods
Blue, 1st Place: Donna Peterson, Joellen Sarff and Maurice Crawford
Red, 2nd Place: Rory Lehman, Judy Parker, Julia Kender, Eleanor Rinehart, Maggie Brown/Karen Knee, Rita Sayer and Christine Doran
White, 3rd Place: Vijay Parameshwaran

Needlework
Blue, 1st Place: Penny Martin, Shannon Neal, Nicole Shyong, Kathy Kent, Corrina Jordan, Greg Perrine, Cathy Jones, Marni Siegel, Lisa Stand, Tara Wilcox, Alaska Heintzelman, Madeline Henderson and Joan Conway
Red, 2nd Place: Nicole Shyong, Marni Siegel, Mimi Fields, Joan Conway and Heather Mortimer
White, 3rd Place: Whitney Sink, Jessica Shen, Ashley Sink, Penny Martin, Kimberley Keyes and Joan Conway

Crafts
Blue, 1st Place: Leann Irwin and Anthony Holmes
Red, 2nd Place: Margaret Duran
Other ribbons for floral arrangements:
Blue, 1st Place: Katrina Boverman/Sharon Schneider

Canned Goods
Blue, 1st Place: Marni Siegel and Ian Rogers
Red, 2nd Place: Michael Miller, Cary Coppock and Charlotte Hoffman
White, 3rd Place: Harry Schomberg and Neshama Solomon

Produce/Vegetables
Blue, 1st Place: Bonnie Schrack, Julia Shapiro, Katrina Boverman and Grace and Connie Fisher
Red, 2nd Place: Marcie Walder, Beth Chandler and Sharon Schneider
White, 3rd Place: Marni Siegel and Mark Via

Congratulations to all the winners, whose efforts honor Greenbelt’s history of healthy, thrifty and beautiful home-making.

More Festival Fun



Dozens of bingo players crowd the array of picnic tables on the front lawn of the Greenbelt Community Center on Friday night, August 29, 2025, at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. Due to the large crowds, lucky bingo game winners hauled in some generous cash prizes. The proceeds benefit Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League. Most games cost fifty cents for one card, and a dollar for three.



Hi ho, Silver!



Again this year, beans grow where bingo was played during the Labor Day Festival, outside the Community Center. Beans are used to mark numbers on bingo cards – hundreds of them fall to the ground.



The Ferris wheel towers above the midway and dazzles the eye with its colorful night lights at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival.

