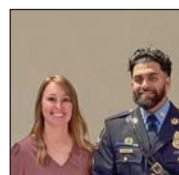




White Christ-
mas Review, p.9



Public Safety
Awards, p.11

U.S. Military Veterans Are Honored For Courage, Dedication, Sacrifice

by Butch Hicks

On November 11, Americans pause to honor the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Veterans Day stands as a solemn reminder of the courage, dedication and sacrifice of those who have defended the nation in times of war and peace. Each year Greenbelt City Council and the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 sponsor the Veterans Day event held in War Memorial Park at Roosevelt Center. This year Governor and Army veteran Wes Moore and First Lady Dawn Moore joined speakers Mayor Emmett Jordan, State Senator Alonzo Washington, Prince George's County Executive Aisha Braveboy, Prince George's County Councilmember



Maryland Governor Wes Moore presents the State of Maryland Veterans Day proclamation to Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan.

Ingrid Watson and Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families Ed Rothstein in sharing appreciation of veterans' service and identifying veterans support programs.

Jordan said in his Veterans Day Proclamation that he called upon all citizens to honor our veterans' legacy of service, recognize their invaluable contributions and support initiatives ensuring their success in civilian life. "We acknowledge the challenges our veterans face and commend efforts to improve their care and well-being," he said.

Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti said the day's ceremonies are in honor of "those who have shown their love of God and country, their devotion to liberty and

See **VETERANS**, page 10

What to Know About the City's Save As You Throw Program

by Erica Johns



SAYT bag samples are available for viewing in the GHI office, shown here with a 12-inch ruler for scale. The samples demonstrate the material, size, and drawstring top of the 33-, 13- and 8-gallon bags. Greenbelt's bags will all be purple.

This article addresses Greenbelters' practical questions about the Save As You Throw (SAYT, "say it") trash program, for which a yearlong pilot begins January 1, 2026, for residents who use the city trash service. Watch greenbeltnmd.gov/sayt and check page 5 of the News Review for updates.

Why?

City Council adopted the mandatory pilot to incentivize all households with city trash service to reduce their trash and align costs with usage (see articles in the May 15, September 18 and October 9 issues). The alterna-

tive was raising everyone's annual fee from the current \$280 to around \$400, regardless of their trash quantity, says Sustainability Coordinator Luisa Robles. The goal according to Robles is to encourage homeowners to reduce their trash and costs through decreasing and diverting waste to recycling, composting and donations and thus reduce landfill fees and use, truck and fuel use, trash crew effort and greenhouse gases. The city has a goal of reducing trash citywide by 44 percent.

Some residents have

See **TRASH**, page 6

A New Voice on Council: How Fritz Hopes to Shape Greenbelt's Future

by Stephen Lotz

For a newcomer, Frankie Fritz became a familiar face quickly. He was attending housing meetings, council meetings and voting-rights efforts within months of moving to Greenbelt. That steady involvement is part of what carried the 30-year-old organizer into his first term on the Greenbelt City Council.

Raised in New Jersey by his grandparents, a postal worker and a teaching assistant, Fritz said his interest in civic life started early. "I was always into history growing up, and I think that linked to being interested in politics," he said. In high school, he joined Youth and Government and said events like Barack Obama's 2008 election helped shape his early interest.



Frankie Fritz leads the chant "Down down with deportation, up up with liberation" during the No Kings Day protest in Greenbelt on October 18.

Books also played a role. Fritz said historian Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* helped shape his understanding of politics as "the story of regular people fighting back against unjust systems."

Fritz earned a bachelor's degree in history with a minor

See **FRITZ**, page 15

GSFC Leaders Deny Lost Capabilities While Union Attempts to Document

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On November 6 we reported that federal workers at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) were being recalled during a government shutdown to clear offices. On November 13 we reported that Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), ranking Democrat on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, sent a letter on Monday, November 10, ordering a halt to the closures, though our sources reported movers took equipment



Work continues on the Nancy Roman Space Telescope inside the clean room in Building 29 at Goddard on Monday, November 17.

from Building 11 throughout the day on Wednesday, November 12. The packing up of labs in that building continued Thursday and Friday, says a News Review source who works there. GSFC leaders have denied lost capabilities but on Tuesday confirmed plans to vacate the buildings west of Goddard Road.

On November 13 Maryland Delegation members – including U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen and Angela Alsobrooks and U.S. Representatives Steny Hoyer, Kweisi Mfume, Jamie Raskin, Glenn Ivey, Sarah Elfreth, April McClain Delaney and Johnny Olszewski (all D-Md.) – joined the call for information about actions underway at Goddard. "We have heard from employees and read reports about activities

taking place on the Greenbelt campus that have raised questions among the workforce about the motivations and timing of building consolidations and such moves may affect institutional research capabilities," the lawmakers wrote. Their letter included a series of questions about GSFC building consolidations, the impact on the Center's technological capabilities, readiness for future scheduled missions, employees tasked with carrying out operational changes during the government shutdown and what the facilities changes have been.

On November 14, a letter from Acting Director of GSFC Cynthia Simmons and Associate

See **GODDARD**, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, November 24
No City Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 26
No Council Meeting
Thursday, November 27
Thanksgiving Day:
City Offices Closed
Friday, November 28
City Offices Closed

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

Letters to the Editor

On Rodney Roberts, Council and More

I do not regret voting for Frankie Santos Fritz, nor Kevin Lockhart. I might regret Frankie's election if it was the sole reason Rodney Roberts, as opposed to any of the other incumbents, lost his reelection, but it seems obvious Rodney's loss can be attributed to a lack of clarity among Greenbelt voters of the dynamic on council for many years.

With some minor differences among them, council, since I first began observing it nearly 22 years ago, has voted as a block in support of the mayor, Judith Davis, Emmett Jordan, less so, but still so, in Colin Byrd's short tenure, and again with Jordan. Over this time Roberts was less the sycophant than the others and actually raised questions. The use of state Open Space funds is one example. He has consistently raised the need for recreation space and ballfields in west Greenbelt. When the Springhill Lake apartments were still the Springhill Lake apartments, and long before the housing developed as Greenbelt Station was built, Roberts pressed this issue. He suggested that Open Space money should be reserved for recreation spaces, such as ballfields for youth where there were

none.

Roberts' professional aptitudes allowed him to knowledgeably ask questions about the city's vehicle fleet and other mechanical equipment. He could be ornery, but asking questions when all others would toe the line is a good and valuable quality.

I do not believe anyone is entitled to a public office, it always should be the people's choice. But I believe it is Greenbelt's loss that we won't benefit from Roberts' questions and his willingness to be a minority of one on council.

I hope that Frankie will be so willing; time will tell. I hope that Kevin will remain engaged with council, and try again next election.

This likely will have been my last attempt. I will be 80 in two years and my body increasingly is losing its function. (My mind, some may think, lost its function years ago.) I will miss my biannual humiliation.

Still, I will be the public jerk in the back of council chamber. Thanks to those who voted yes on question 1 and no on question 2. And thanks to those who intentionally, or mistakenly, voted for me.

Bill Orleans

See LETTERS, page 12

Correction

The photo of Franklin D. Roosevelt visiting Greenbelt in last week's issue was taken November 13, 1936.



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:
NOVEMBER 21st- 27th

Wicked: For Good (PG) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (137 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:15 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 5:00 PM (OC), 8:00 PM
Tues. 7:30 PM
Thurs. 12:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 1:00 PM, 4:00 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM

Wicked and Wicked: For Good Double Feature (PG) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (310 mins)
13-minute Intermission
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 11:00 AM

It Was Just an Accident (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (103 mins)
In Persian with English Subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:30 PM, 7:50 PM
Sat. 5:30 PM, 8:20 PM
Sun. 5:30 PM, 8:20 PM
Tues. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 1:00 PM

Legally Blonde (PG-13) (2001) (96 mins)
Cult Classic, Sponsored by the Law Offices of Johnine Clark
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 1:00 PM

The Bigamist
Film in Focus - Event Pricing
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 7:00 PM



Thanksgiving Week Deadlines
The November 27 issue falls on Thanksgiving. Our printer requires us to print a day early, which means advertising and editorial deadlines will be a day early for the coming issue. Advertisements: Camera-ready display ads, classifieds and any required payments are due by 6 p.m. Monday, November 24. Material needing hands-on attention should come in by Friday, November 21. There will be no office hours on Tuesday, November 25 and no ads will be accepted that day.
Submissions: To be considered for publication, articles over 700 words are due by Sunday, November 23 at 2 p.m. All letters to the editor (300-word limit) are due by Sunday, November 23 at 6 p.m. Articles under 700 words and photographs are due by 2 p.m. on Monday, November 24.
Don't be a turkey! Get your ducks lined up.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Wicked

The untold story of the witches of Oz stars Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba, misunderstood because of her unusual green skin, who has yet to discover her true power, and Ariana Grande as Glinda, a popular young woman, gilded by privilege and ambition, who has yet to discover her true heart. Following an encounter with The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, their friendship reaches a crossroads and their lives take very different paths. Glinda's unflinching desire for popularity sees her seduced by power, while Elphaba's determination to remain true to herself, and to those around her, will have unexpected and shocking consequences on her future.

Wicked: for Good

Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo), now demonized as The Wicked Witch of the West, lives in exile, hidden within the Ozian forest while continuing her fight for the freedom of Oz's silenced animals and desperately trying to expose the truth she knows about The Wizard (Jeff Goldblum). Glinda (Ariana Grande), meanwhile, has become the glamorous symbol of Goodness for all of Oz, living at the palace in Emerald City and reveling in the perks of fame and popularity. Under the instruction of Madame Morrible (Michelle Yeoh), Glinda is deployed to serve as an effervescent comfort to Oz, reassuring the masses that all is well under the rule of The Wizard. As Glinda prepares to marry Prince Fiyero (Olivier Jonathan Bailey), she is haunted by her separation from Elphaba. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, Glinda and Elphaba will need to come together one final time.

It Was Just an Accident

What begins as a minor accident sets in motion a series of escalating consequences. Perhaps the most bluntly political film yet by Iranian director Jafar Panahi, it is a defiant rebuke of authoritarianism that still delivers the entertainment value of a gripping thriller.

Legally Blonde

Elle Woods (Reese Witherspoon) has it all. She wants nothing more than to be Mrs. Warner Huntington III. But there is one thing stopping him (Matthew Davis) from proposing: She is too blonde. Elle rallies all of her resources and gets into Harvard Law School, determined to win him back.

The Bigamist

San Francisco businessman Harry Graham (Edmond O'Brien) and his wife and business partner, Eve (Joan Fontaine), are in the process of adopting a child. When private investigator Jordan (Edmund Gwenn) uncovers the fact that Graham has another wife, Phyllis (Ida Lupino), and a small child in Los Angeles, he confesses everything. In a flashback, Graham tells of the strains in his marriage with Eve and how he found himself falling for the kind-hearted waitress Phyllis while on a business trip.

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.



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 11/20	FRI 11/21	SAT 11/22	SUN 11/23
Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30pm All skill levels are welcome!	Still Standing w/ Big Boy Little & Linwood Taylor 8 - 11pm Hot Rockin' Blues and American Roots	NDC JAZZ JAM, 2-5pm Friends of Pluto 8 - 11pm One of DC's hottest cover bands with tunes spanning the last five decades & some indie gems	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30 - 12 noon Kim's Grand Rounds: A Songwriters' Circle 6 - 8pm Featured: John Linn, Eryn Michel, Elena La Fulana & Kim Eaton

MON 11/24	TUES 11/25	WED 11/26	TH 11/27	New Deal Cafe
LIVE BAND KARAOKE w/ Mike Scott 6:30 - 9pm Show us what ya got!	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6p Show us your talents!	CAFE CLOSES AT 5pm	THANKSGIVING CAFE CLOSED	DON'T FORGET TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS! That's the only way we pay them and we want them back!

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.

Local Youth, Community Generosity Drive “Scouting for Food” Success

by Amy Carpenter-Driscoll

On Saturday, November 8, Cub Scouts in kindergarten through fifth grade from Greenbelt Pack 202 grabbed pull-along wagons and set out along their volunteer routes to “scout” for donations of non-perishable foods to stock the St. Hugh of Grenoble Church’s food pantry.

This annual food drive is the pack’s largest community service event, with this year’s 37 scouts and their parents collectively contributing a few hundred hours to the effort. Scouting America values citizenship, with age-appropriate activities at each level of scouting that teach children the importance of contributing to communities at every scale.

Cub Scouts visited over 1,800 homes where they had previously distributed fliers notifying residents about the upcoming food drive. Neighbors were generous with donations, often providing food pantry staples and thoughtful ingredients by the bag or boxful. The St. Hugh’s pantry had been running low on food, but was replenished over the course of the morning as scouts collected over 3,000 pounds of food from across the neighborhood. Older scouts coordinated the donation receiving area at the church, examining each donated item for its expiration date and package integrity.

“Cub Scouting offers young people opportunities to develop character, citizenship and leadership skills through hands-on activities and service projects,” says pack leader Stephen Belyea. “By participating in Scouting for Food, our scouts learn the importance of giving back to

Contemplative Prayer Group Meets Tuesdays

A contemplative prayer group meets on Tuesdays at the Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, 1 Hillside Road, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. This gathering is a time to pray in silence for oneself, others and the world. It nurtures inner and outer peace and reinforces the oneness of all people and creation.

The format for this group is an opening introduction, 30 minutes of silence and then some sharing. All are welcome to attend from all denominations and faith traditions. For more information, email Patience Robbins at patience.robbins@gmail.com.

Donate Sneakers For People in Need

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time.



Scouting families sort donations at St. Hugh's church.

their community while making a tangible difference in the lives of neighbors facing food insecurity. This event highlights three of the 12 points of the Scout Law: being trustworthy, helpful and loyal.” At a time when many in our community are facing food insecurity, Pack 202 is grateful to everyone who donated and contributed to this effort, helping provide over 2,000 meals’ worth of food.

Pack 202, chartered with the Greenbelt Community Church, provides opportunities for children to grow, serve, lead and have fun. For more information, contact the pack at greenbeltpack202@gmail.com.

Amy Carpenter-Driscoll is a parent with Greenbelt Pack 202.

Greenbelt Cinema Has Special Events for Wicked: For Good

by Lisa M. Trifone

Greenbelt Cinema opens Wicked: For Good on Friday, November 21 with special events, merchandise and more in store for audiences, including:

Double Feature Sneak Peek

Attend a double feature (two films for the price of one) of 2024’s Wicked immediately followed by the new film Wicked: For Good. Tickets are now on sale for Thursday, November 20 and Sunday, November 23.

Custom Chocolate Treats

Indulge in a sweet treat for the movie with custom-themed

chocolates from local chocolatier and bakery Chouquette.

Oz Photo Opportunities

Wear your green (and pink) Oz best and pose with Greenbelt’s custom Wicked photo backdrop.

Souvenir Mementos

Enjoy concession treats in style with Wicked: For Good keepsake popcorn buckets and fountain drink cups.

Lisa M. Trifone is with the Bright Iris Film Company.



Winning Lottery Ticket Sold Here in Greenbelt

A winning \$10,000 Bonus Bingo X2 2nd Edition ticket was sold at Centerway Mini Mart during the week of November 10 to November 16. Prizes up to \$25,000 can be claimed at the cashier window of any of the six casinos in Maryland. More information is available on the How to Claim page of the Lottery website at mdlottery.com/winners/how-to-claim.

Mahjong Group Meets Weekly on Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Mahjong Group meets Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in the Senior Game Room in the Community Center. Instructional classes are offered periodically. Check the Fall Recreation Guide for details.



Heartfelt thanks and congratulations to those honored at the Greenbelt Public Safety Awards Program: Acting Corporal Rakibur Rahman as the 2025 Officer of the Year, Rachel Tobin as the Greenbelt Police Department’s 2025 Civilian of the Year and Desmond McAlmont as Public Works Employee of the Year.

Congratulations to Amy Hansen on her book, Wanda Hears the Stars, winning a spot on the Texas Bluebonnet List and on Chicago Public Library’s Kid’s Best of the Best List.

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. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

Visually impaired may listen for free Call Metropolitan Washington Ear 301-681-6636

No special equipment needed



“Be ye sincerely kind, not in appearance only.”

– ‘Abdu’l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá’í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

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

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.
Living Generously in a World that Holds Back

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



November 23, 2025, at 3 p.m.

Standing on the Side of Love

LovePlus, PBUUC Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)
with Worship Associate Carol Boston

In the spirit of our November theme (Building Beloved Community) and the Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience, join members of PBUUC’s LovePlus and the Diversity AntiRacism Transformation Team for an exploration of what we are called to do to affirm, protect, and celebrate the lives of our transgender siblings.

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

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+ownergroups.io](https://www.zoom.us/j/98519851985)

The Bible Says...

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School

(66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

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.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

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



City Information & Events

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

MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 24-28

Monday, November 24, **NO MEETING**

Tuesday, November 25 at 3:30pm, **SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, Agenda TBD**

Wednesday, November 26, **NO MEETING**

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.

HOLIDAY FOOD BOX GIVEAWAY WITH INGRID WATSON & GREENBELT CARES

Thursday, November 20, 1-3pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Road

This month's Free Produce Distribution is our annual holiday food box. In partnership with Prince George's County Council Member Ingrid Watson. No reservation required. Food boxes will be distributed on a first come, first served basis and while supplies last.

For more information, contact Bria Archie at BAArchie@co.pg.md.us or (301) 952-3094.

Thanksgiving Turkey & Meal Giveaway

Senator Alonzo T. Washington and District 22 Delegates In partnership with Baldor Specialty Foods and Christian Life Center

THANKSGIVING TURKEY & MEAL GIVEAWAY
Saturday, November 22, 10am-12pm
Christian Life Center, 5600 Taylor Rd, Riverdale, MD

Senator Alonzo T. Washington and District 22 Delegates, in partnership with Baldor Specialty Foods and Christian Life Center, are providing a Thanksgiving Turkey & Meal Giveaway. First come, first serve while supplies last.

Registration Required. Reigster at <https://wkf.ms/3tax144>.

LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE Fall 2025-2026

Week	Location	Holiday
November 17-21	Woodland Hills	
November 24-28	Lakeside	Thanksgiving November 27 & 28
December 1-5	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
December 8-12	Boxwood	
December 15-19	Woodland Hills	
December 22-26	Lakeside	Christmas December 25
December 29 - January 2	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	New Years Day January 1

SIGN UP FOR CURBSIDE COMPOSTING

A new analysis by ReFED estimates that 360 million pounds of food will be wasted this Thanksgiving.

You can reduce the waste in Greenbelt by signing up for curbside composting. The program is open to anyone who lives in the City. You must be able to place your bin outside your yard close to the parking area for collection in a Compost Crew bin, purchased for a one-time fee of \$20. Visit www.compostcrew.com/greenbelt to learn more and sign up for the curbside collection.



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>.

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.

- OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- NAVIGATING DEMENTIA CARE FOR CAREGIVERS** in partnership with the University of Maryland: November 3, 10, and 17 (in-person), November 5, 12, 19 (Virtual)
- 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.

COMMUNITY INPUT FOR INDIAN CREEK PARK PLAN

The City of Greenbelt invites residents to share feedback on the proposed concept plans for Indian Creek Park. The trail will connect Cherrywood Lane and the Greenbelt Station Development north of the park site.

The feedback form will close on December 15, and results will be discussed at a second community meeting in late January.

Review the presentation slides and submit your feedback at www.greenbeltmd.gov/indiancreekpark.



GOBBLE WOBBLE

Thursday, November 27 at 9 am

Buddy Attick Park Lake (Starts at Youth Center, 99 Centerway)

Join us for Greenbelt's Annual Gobble Wobble Family Fun Run & Walk, a Thanksgiving morning community tradition. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. Participants meet at the Greenbelt Youth Center and the course takes them on the Buddy Attick Park lake path. Get some exercise before your Thanksgiving feast! Participants receive a Gobble Wobble shirt. Medals awarded to top finishers and medals for youth.

COST: \$20/person, \$70 family 4-pack. Pick up race packet Wednesday, November 26 from 9am-8pm at the Youth Center. **DAY OF RACE COST:** \$25/person, \$90 family 4-pack.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/gobblewobble25?r=qr>.

CONTACT: Patrick Mullen at pmullen@greenbeltmd.gov or by phone at (240) 542-2188.

SPONSORS: Greenbelt Babe Ruth Baseball, McCarl Dental Group, Greenbelt COOP, Town Center Realty & Associates, Inc. **Thank you, sponsors!**

SCHROM HILLS PARK FIELD OPEN-PLAY HOURS

The Schrom Hills Park Bermuda Field will be open the remainder of November for open-play during the listed hours:

Monday - Friday 3-5m
Saturday & Sunday 1-5pm

Please note that the field will be closed on Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 27) and any days where weather impacts field conditions. Organized, competitive group play (15 or more participants) is not permitted during open-play hours. The field will be closed from December - February each year. For field rental/permit information please contact Greenbelt Recreation at (301) 397-2200.



planned metrorail track work advisory for our community

GREEN LINE TRACK WORK IN DECEMBER

Metro would like to inform riders of [planned track work](#) on the Metrorail system that may affect service in our area for the month of December.

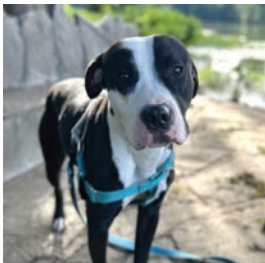
From December 6-7, the Greenbelt and College Park Metro Stations will be closed and free shuttle buses will replace trains between Hyattsville Crossing and Greenbelt.

From December 16-30, no stations will be closed, but the Green Line will single-track through three stations: U Street, Columbia Heights, and Georgia Av-Petworth. This work is part of ongoing efforts to maintain safety and service across the system.

FREE SPAY/NEUTER, RABIES SHOTS FOR PETS

Greenbelt residents are eligible for a free spay/neuter procedure and a rabies shot for their pet, through a Maryland Department of Agriculture grant until December 31. Control pet overpopulation and keep pets healthier at no cost.

To apply, contact Greenbelt Animal Services at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-6124. Don't wait and miss out at the end of the year during the busy holidays – make an appointment now. Let's have no unwanted puppies or kittens born in Greenbelt next year, or any year. There are already cats, kittens and dogs and puppies at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter waiting for good homes (like adoptable Nemo here!).



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, 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.

SENIOR TECH CAFE Sunday, 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.

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.

Winter Registration Opens Soon

Sign up for classes, workshops, and special activities for everyone. See brochure and more information at www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.

Registration for Greenbelt residents starts at 10am on 11/24. Non-resident registration starts at 10am on 12/1. Winter session begins January 5.

Sparkle Mart: Greenbelt's Juried Art and Craft Fair December 6 (10 am - 5 pm), December 7 (10 am - 4 pm) Greenbelt Community Center. Shop for original fine crafts and artwork, direct from about 80 local makers! Enjoy live music both days, 1 - 3 pm. More information at greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Sign up to volunteer at <https://sugeni.us/e5FG>.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- The New Deal Nut: A Greenbelt Nutcracker** Tickets (\$5) on sale now! Call the Greenbelt Community Center business office at (301) 397-2208 to purchase.
- Fused Glass Ornament** 11/30 11am-12:30pm Greenbelt Community Center Registration required; see page 34 of the [activity guide](#) for details.

ACTIVE SCAM ALERT



A fake event called "Jingle and Mingle Market Extravaganza" is being promoted for December 6-7 at 25 Crescent Road (Greenbelt Municipal Building). This event is not affiliated with the City of Greenbelt and is a SCAM. Please stay alert—do not send money or payments through digital apps.

Please beware of scammers; the City of Greenbelt will not solicit payment through digital apps.

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.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE Week of November 24

Monday Route – Refuse and Recycling Regular Schedule
Tuesday Route – Refuse and Recycling Regular Schedule
Wednesday Route – Refuse and Recycling Regular Schedule
Thursday Route – Refuse collected on Wednesday
–**No** Recycling Collection

There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, November 28

TRASH continued from page 1

complained that the new system will not save them money. Our review suggests even those with one small, eight-gallon bag of trash a week will pay slightly more. The “save” element in the pilot program is not a saving on 2025 trash costs but on what a standard increase would be without this option.

Why January?

The GHI Board asked the city to begin in January to avoid changing Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) co-op fees mid-year during the GHI January-December fiscal year.

How Will It Work?

All households will pay a flat annual base fee. They will also pay variable costs for landfill fees according to how much trash they produce, choosing either 1) buying and using as many SAYT bags as desired or 2) buying a Max Trash sticker allowing up to three 33-gallon bags or the equivalent volume (any brand or size) a week. For reference, Greenbelt’s largest blue wheeled recycling bins are 96 gallons. When 99 gallons isn’t enough, Max Trash users must hold a bag for another week, or use SAYT bags.

What Will It Cost?

All households will pay the \$240 base fee. SAYT bag users will also pay for bags, for which the city set prices at \$.80, \$1.25 and \$2 for 8-, 13- and 33-gallon sizes, respectively, which all come in rolls of five. They cost more than other trash bags because they cover landfill fees for a full bag’s estimated weight.

Max Trash users will also pay for a \$70 sticker every six months, plus \$5 shipping, handling and production per sticker, and need to purchase trash bags of their choice.

How to Decide

Households that produce little trash, don’t put trash out every week or want to start reducing trash output and costs, should consider SAYT bags. Households that have more trash, want predictable costs or want to manage trash much like now should consider Max Trash.

Those wondering about affordability can evaluate their current trash stream and calculate costs for the option best for them. Robles suggests reducing trash through recycling, composting, donation and careful purchases. She can help residents with a trash audit to identify possibilities. In one year the city will consider the pilot results. If it fails, the city will likely adopt higher flat fees for all households.

Changing Options

Those wanting to change to or from Max Trash may do so anytime. The sticker price is \$70 no matter when purchased between January-June or July-December, with no credit for unused months, so consider changing to Max Trash early in the six months, or from Max Trash late in the six months.

Buying Bags and Stickers

Currently, the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Beltway Plaza Hardware Store (next to Giant) will begin selling bags around December 7. Other Greenbelt stores are coordinating management permission.

Max Trash stickers will be available by mid-December for online purchase via the city’s

SAYT webpage or for purchase at a city building to be selected.

How to Pay

Residents will pay base fees as they do now, via GHI co-op or HOA fees or to the city. For SAYT bags, residents will pay local stores, from which revenue will pass to the city. Residents will buy and pay for Max Trash stickers online from WasteZero, the company the city contracted to implement SAYT, or by paying the city in person.

What Are Bags Like?

SAYT bags are 1.5mm thick with a drawstring, designed to be sturdy when full. They are unscented plastic, include recycled content and are not biodegradable. There are samples at the GHI office.

Sticker Validity, Registration

Max Trash stickers will go on trash can lids. They are water-resistant, tamper-evident and valid for six months (January-June, July-December), with a new color each six-month period to indicate validity. One is available per address and will be registered to addresses, with barcodes scanned by trash crews. If scans indicate a can is at the wrong address, Public Works will investigate. Multiple cans may be used, as long as one has a sticker and trash doesn’t exceed 99 gallons. The city will help homeowners reporting sticker theft, though theft has been rare in other SAYT towns, said WasteZero. Max Trash users will be able, at no cost, to update sticker addresses if they move within Greenbelt and to replace stickers when replacing trash cans.

Cans, Enclosures, Animals

Several non-SAYT changes will begin concurrently with SAYT.

Public Works will begin requiring GHI residents to move trash cans from trash closets or enclosures on collection day to a visible, accessible location, meeting a long-standing trash crew request to ease their work,

according to Robles. This will also indicate cans are ready for collection, addressing GHI resident questions about how Public Works will know not to take SAYT bags before they’re full. The city is working with GHI to find a solution for trash enclosures whose design doesn’t permit removing trash cans, says Robles.

The city will begin enforcing existing city code and GHI rules for all households to put bags in tight-lidded cans for pickup. The maximum weight allowance for any trash bag is 50 pounds, which Robles says is an OSHA worker safety requirement.

Robles said the city will work with residents constrained by age or disability, who may contact Public Works at 301-474-8004.

For those concerned about animals tearing bags, Robles noted the tight-lidded can requirement and suggested there should be nothing in cans, such as organic materials, that attracts animals. Robles and volunteers from the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and Green Team told the News Review that composting food waste in Compost Crew bins (\$10/month), or free in backyards or Buddy Attick Park receptacles will minimize organic material in trash and trash volume. Some residents freeze meat/fish scraps until the day of trash/compost collection.

But at My House ...

Residents who take trash outside daily may line outdoor cans with a SAYT bag or with a bag of their choice (with a Max Trash sticker), and put indoor trash inside those bags. Residents who want to use bags they already have (or prefer), may put their bags into SAYT bags or use their bags for Max Trash. Bags from household cleanouts may go in a SAYT bag or, within 50-pound limits, be used with a Max Trash sticker. Residents may also schedule special/bulk

trash pickups at 301-474-8004, within bulk trash rules.

Recycling, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste

These won’t change, except single family homeowners will be required to call for bulk trash pickup.

Enforcement and Dumping

Households who use neither SAYT bags nor Max Trash will get a warning letter the first time, a warning letter and no trash pickup the second time, followed by fines and no trash pickup. Public Works will also begin addressing contaminated or inappropriate material in recycling bins.

Robles said the city will monitor for increased dumping, though WasteZero said other SAYT cities have experienced little increase.

During a recent SAYT webinar held by the city, one resident asked what to do if they find another’s trash bag in their can. Robles said to remove it and notify Public Works, which will

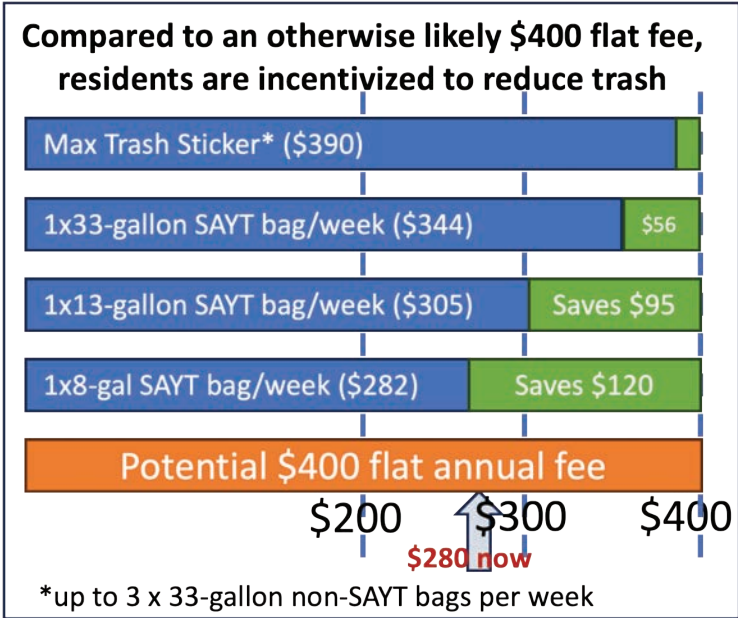
investigate. She said dumping fines begin at \$500.

How to Decrease Trash and Save

Robles recommended residents rethink purchases and packaging where possible. Public Works webpages describe services for curbside recycling, quarterly styrofoam and electronics collections, yard waste, recycling appliances and large plastic items, and bulk trash. Composting and donations are also options.

Results and Implications

Other SAYT jurisdictions have achieved an average 44 percent trash reduction. A year from now, council and staff will evaluate the pilot’s trash reduction and revenue and resident feedback to decide whether to continue SAYT or raise everyone’s fees to around \$400.



Resources

SAYT: greenbeltmd.gov/sayt
Refuse and Recycling: bit.ly/4pcqUnb
City of Greenbelt Public Works: call 301-474-8004
Luisa Robles, sustainability coordinator, City of Greenbelt: call 240-542-2153 or email lrobles@greenbeltmd.gov

GIVE THANKS

Thanksgiving Day Service
with Holy Communion, 10:00 AM

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
4512 College Avenue, College Park

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time
we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6-9.

St. Andrew's is a welcoming and inclusive parish of The Episcopal Church.
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St. Andrew's
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Book Review

A Marriage that Changed the World

by Frank DeBernardo

A Marriage That Changed the World: Lois and Bill Wilson and the Addiction Recovery Movement, a history co-authored by Greenbelter Tom Adams and Joy Jones, sets out to correct the omission of Lois and other women and lesser-known contributors to the founding of a movement that has saved millions of lives around the globe. The book’s ultimate goal is to broaden awareness of the general public to the fact that addictions impact many individuals and their families and that there is a proven path to recovery developed by the Wilsons and others. The book was reviewed in the March 6, 2025, issue of the News Review and is advertised in this issue to support a gratitude sale of the book through December 2.

Although the book sets out to make known Lois’ overlooked contributions to the 12 Step movement, as the book’s title suggests, the main “character” is actually the relationship between Lois and Bill. In effect, the book is a love story, and the authors paint a delightful picture of court-ing and wooing.

Their romance began at a Vermont lake where Lois’ family vacationed, and it blossomed over the course of two years in which love letters kept them in touch with one another from their locations in different cities. Lois had attracted many suitors, and when she turned down a marriage proposal from one of them, it became clear to her that “she wanted to spend any time she had with Bill.” They were married a week earlier than planned because Bill’s military unit was likely to deploy. It all sounds like the script of a Hollywood movie, though as their life developed, it became obvious that their story would be no rom-com. During the first three months of 1918, Bill’s alcohol problem began. Its innocent start, with his first taste of beer at a military gathering, gradually grew, but did so in a quiet way. In August 1918, Bill’s unit was shipped to England. Being at war led Bill to further embrace the relief he found in drinking.

Upon returning to civilian life, Bill’s business career soared quickly. But so did his addiction to alcohol. In fact, they seemed intertwined by the feelings of risk, excitement and unbonded, but misguided, optimism. By this time, Lois recognized that the drinking was excessive, but brushed it off. She herself was dealing with the disappointment and pain of three miscarriages, and the authors point out that she “felt guilty about not being able to give Bill the family they both wanted. Somehow, this recognition helped her become a little more understanding of the guilt Bill felt each time he broke a

vow to not drink.”

Adams and Jones patiently and compassionately trace the exhilarating rise of Bill’s career, accompanied by his increasing dependence on alcohol, his occasional vows to stop drinking, his attempts at being “cured” by medical experts and Lois’s growing worries and shame about it all. Since readers know that a rock bottom is coming, it is heartbreaking to read about the Wilsons’ descent into pain, while trying at the same time to ignore it and cover it up.

This book is not a story about heartbreak, but about two hearts whose love for each other in the midst of the hellish situations and consequences of addiction helped not only each other, but eventually millions of others around the globe.

The development of the 12 Steps, which Bill helped formalize along with other alcoholics and health and religious professionals, offered a spiritual program that succeeded enormously where medical science could only make a dent.

Part Two of the book is the most rewarding section to read. The authors trace the launch of Alcoholics Anonymous, which seemed unlikely to spread since it eschewed most traditional business and public relations principles, and relied entirely on a non-professional remedy and the “expertise” (or lack thereof) of fellow alcoholics who themselves were continually recovering.

The wonderful thing about 12-step recovery is that it offers healing – not just to the addict, but to the entire family. The alcoholic, the spouse, the children, friends and co-workers are all affected by the addiction, and by application of the principles of the program, all can grow spiritually as individuals and in relationship to one another.

The history of the movement acknowledges the many unsung heroes and heroines who helped shape it. Their stories, like Lois’ story, have not received the attention of many historians, and these authors bring to light the network that birthed the 12 Step movement. This section of the book is thrilling to read as, one by one, unknown people enter the story, each one as improbable a savior as Bill W.

The final section recounts one of Lois’ most important accomplishments: the creation of Al-Anon, a 12 Step group for alcoholics’ family members and loved ones. The remainder of the book describes their continued work in the 12 Step movement. Bill died on their 53rd wedding anniversary, but after a period of grief, Lois continued work as a global ambassador for the movement.

County Zoning Update Gives City Some Extra Local Say

by Cathie Meetre

The Greenbelt City Council met in a worksession on October 29 to discuss proposed revisions to the city’s zoning legislation prompted by changes at the county level.

The Maryland Annotated Code authorizes the county to allow municipalities certain powers related to zoning, and a new Prince George’s County ordinance gives municipalities more freedom to legislate on certain subjects, within applicable county statutes. The city still has little control over what is initially permitted to be built within its boundaries, but it will control more aspects of changes to existing locations and buildings.

The city’s additional land use authority can now include: certification, revocation and revision of nonconforming uses; minor changes to approved special exceptions; and alternative compliance from the landscape manual and security exemption plans for fences and walls. Where the city has no specific standards, e.g. disabled access, federal, state or county standards would apply. Installation of EV charging devices is administered separately.

Impact on Residents

The new document being drafted by the city will introduce several new processes, including neighborhood meetings and the involvement of condominium Home Owners’ Associations. Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby stressed that her team’s approach, especially for homeowners trying

to simply add a deck, for example, is to guide the applicant in working toward a compliant submission. With minor decisions enabled at the city level, local small projects should see a measure of streamlining – currently some simple things can take up to a year through the county. In answer to a question from resident Bill Orleans, Hruby noted that the involvement of the county in GHI-based approval requests for additions will remain.

Zoning Revisited

In explaining the pending changes, Hruby described how the State of Maryland originally empowered counties to enforce planning and in 1927 created the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) bi-county commission, which effectively pre-empted a city’s power over zoning. In the late 1990s, however, some additional control was granted to cities.

The city has had authority over variances and departures since 1998 (though since then only 26 variances – most related to large houses on smaller lots in Greenbelt East – and six departures have arisen). Council would continue to get the last word on these local decisions, regardless of whether decided by the city’s planning director or the Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board (APB).

Current Status

Since 1998, additional permis-sions were granted to municipalities but the city did not elect to take them up. Given the recent

additional changes at the county level, in Hruby’s words, now “seems the perfect time” to build both new and untaken capabilities into the city’s zoning processes.

To accommodate this, Hruby’s team is drafting legislation for its own practices that will reflect the changes at the county level. It is based on the City of Bowie’s successful similar legislation approved in July by the county. An initial draft is with the city solicitor. The final document will go to the county in the first few months of 2026.

Existing Powers

Assistant Director of Planning Jaime Fearer explained the difference between nonconforming uses or variances and departures, noting that the city has had control over these since 1998.

“Variances” include modifications to density, bulk or area requirements or adaptations associated with specific physical needs of the property that are the minimum necessary to resolve the problem. Community Planner Ryan Sigworth explained that variances involved with a larger project in review with the county were dealt with by the county and only stand-alone variances come to the city.

“Departures” include review of reductions in requirements related to landscaping, parking

See COUNCIL, page 13



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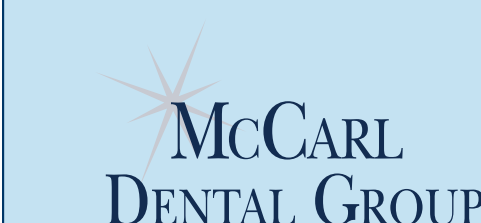
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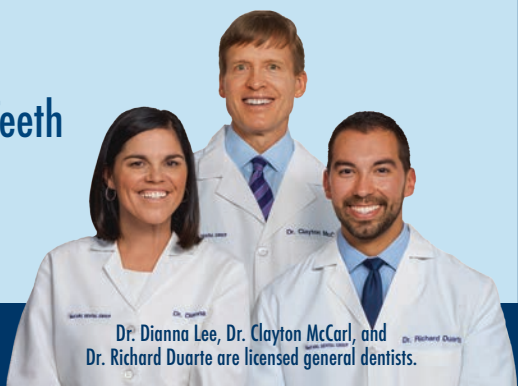
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GODDARD continued from page 1

Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate Nicola Fox responded to Lofgren’s letter and insisted her assertion that Goddard is being dismantled “could not be further from the truth.” Simmons and Fox wrote that operating under continuing resolutions, coupled with rising operations and maintenance costs, have necessitated consolidations and efforts to reduce costs, which have been ongoing for over five years. The work to reduce costs “is being carefully coordinated with the mission project managers of the critical missions currently in development to avoid impacting schedule and/or increasing costs,” their letter said.

On Goddard’s campus, however, multiple sources expressed frustration to the News Review that center leadership is denying capabilities are being lost. In contrast to the assertions of careful coordination, this week several workers in impacted buildings still do not know where they or their equipment are being moved to and described chaotic packing with little notice.

The International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), Goddard Engineers, Scientists and Technicians Association’s (GESTA’s) parent union, has produced a white paper that documents the impact of closures, moves and divestments at GSFC. IFPTE has titled the brief “NASA Goddard is Destroying Strategic Capabilities Needed for NASA Missions by Closing Buildings and Divesting Labs.” In it the union asserts

that GSFC began acting to close 13 buildings on the west side of the campus around September 23, shortly before the shutdown (see the September 24 issue). Those plans included emptying or displacing nearly 100 laboratories and “in many cases, discarding unique and valuable labs, equipment and materials.”

The News Review has independently verified the divestment of some valuable government equipment from GSFC. Entire buildings have been closed in a week, reports IFPTE, with little planning, destinations for items emptied out unknown a week in advance, and government workers and contractors called in to move items and close buildings during the shutdown, some given just 48 hours to pack up offices, they allege. The deadline to empty all 13 buildings is March 2026, says IFPTE, a timeline confirmed in an email from Simmons to GSFC staff on Tuesday afternoon. “The unplanned and destructive speed of these building closures is already resulting in the loss of capabilities that are needed for high-priority current and future missions,”

As the closures advance, the scope of the damage continues to grow,” claims IFPTE, which also cites a “loss of millions of dollars in taxpayer-funded laboratory facilities, including sophisticated

and high value equipment that will be difficult, if not impossible, to replace.” Our sources also expressed concern over potential damage to the equipment that is being moved without the expected oversight or professionalism.

The Impact on Missions
A sampling of the current mis-



Five thermal chambers are visible in this photo from Building 20, all marked as excess, along with racks of support electronics and a lab’s worth of supplies.

sions IFPTE details as impacted by GSFC closures includes Artemis III, America’s crewed mission to the moon, whose Thermal Technology Development and Demonstration Facility was housed in Building 4. Also impacted is the Roman Space Telescope, which was being worked on in Buildings 11 and 20 and some of whose equipment and hardware was being housed in Building 11 when the team was given seven days’ notice of its move-out plans, according to

IFPTE. “The location of some Roman equipment and parts that were housed in Building 19, which has now been locked and closed, is currently unknown,” states IFPTE’s brief.

Also impacted is the Lunar Environment Monitoring Station, a network of seismometers destined for the lunar South Pole on Artemis III, which was utilizing Buildings 4, 20 and 21. Dragonfly, the rotorcraft lander to explore Saturn’s moon, Titan, had hardware development, testing and assembly underway in Building 11 and scheduled testing in labs in Buildings 20 and 4. DAVINCI, an orbiter and atmospheric probe for Venus, is also impacted by the closure of Buildings 11, 4 and 19. The Habitable Worlds Observatory, a large space telescope, had development underway in Building 11 and the Geodetic Reference Instrument Transponder for Small Satellites had equipment and parts that were in Building 19, whose status and location are now unknown.

Impact on Strategic Capabilities
IFPTE outlines seven strategic capabilities impacted by the building closures at Goddard. They are the Goddard Electro-Magnetic Anechoic Chamber in Building 19; the Microwave Electronics Test and Assembly Laboratory in Building 19; the

Digital Communications Laboratory in Building 19; the Power Systems Branch and Solar Array Laboratory in Building 20; the Detector Development Laboratory and Detector Characterization Laboratory in Building 11; the Propulsion Lab and Cleanroom in Building 11; and the Heliophysics Science Division in Building 21.

The closures and moves “will severely reduce America’s ability to be competitive in science and technology in the future,” asserts IFPTE.

Communication About Closures
“There is no official list [of the buildings that have been closed to date or that are planned for closure] since none of this has been planned or communicated in advance,” one GFSC scientist told the News Review Tuesday morning. Such a list is among the requests from the Maryland lawmakers. Goddard employees have been attempting to keep their own log of moves that are upcoming and what has been closed or emptied. On the afternoon of Tuesday, November 18 Simmons confirmed the leadership’s plan is to vacate buildings west of Goddard Road in an email to GSFC employees.

“After first announcing this [campus transformation] effort to you all in late September, the lapse in appropriations prevented us from a series of communications we had planned for October,” wrote Simmons. The email pointed to the GSFC Master Plan, saying it calls for a

See **GODDARD**, page 12



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A Review

White Christmas Shines Light On Berlin’s Holiday Favorites

by Melissa Sites



Judy and Betty Haynes (Aly Bayens and Gaby Dorney) sing Sisters in MAD’s production of White Christmas.

After creatively overcoming the challenges imposed by the government shutdown, Goddard’s Music & Drama Club (MAD) triumphantly presents Irving Berlin’s White Christmas, directed by Eliot Malumuth, at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Laurel. This cheerful and nostalgic song-and-dance extravaganza features a collection of over a dozen great Irving Berlin hits, including Happy Holiday, Blue Skies and of course the iconic White Christmas, which won an Oscar for best original song in 1942, before being made into its own movie in 1954.

The stage adaptation, written in the early 2000s, introduces the two main men, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis, singing at a holiday party during the war to raise the spirits of their unit. The next scene jumps forward into the 1950s to find the men, now famous and successful, appearing on the Ed Sullivan Show and planning to add new performers to their act, when they meet the talented Haynes sisters, Betty and Judy. Loyalty and personal integrity are rewarded in this old-fashioned, feel-good storyline about putting on a show to help out an old friend.

In this show about show biz

professionals, the acting, dancing and musicianship of the MAD group is very strong. The dancers were spectacular with exciting choreography, especially during the energetic tap numbers. The MAD players measured up while singing fun songs and selling the sweet and farcical moments of a romantic comedy. The musical moment when a train full of passengers keep singing Jing Jing Jing is just one terrific highlight.

The production overcomes certain hurdles of community theater: there is no raised stage, and the stage lighting draws so much power that the bathroom hand dryers can’t be used. Still, production standards remain high in this resourcefully acquired venue. While the backdrop is simple black pipe and drapes, a dazzling array of costumes brings life and color to the production. Giant ostrich feather fans are both beautiful and funny in the dance for the song Sisters.

The MAD production is double cast, so check the schedule online if wanting to see a specific performer. White Christmas runs from November 14 through December 7, with box office information available at MADTheater.org.



Travelers sing on the train to Vermont in White Christmas.

- Photos by Eliot Malumuth

NR

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PGCPS Rolls Out Chipmunk Bus App to Greenbelt Families

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) began its phased rollout of the Chipmunk app for tracking buses this fall. It began with special education students and this week expanded to four more bus lots, including Greenbelt’s.

The lots expected to come online with Chipmunk this week are Greenbelt routes 456 to 530, Friendly, Laurel and Mullikin. All other routes will continue to use Stopfinder for bus tracking until further notice but additional lots are expected to be activated through November and early December.

Chipmunk will allow families to track their child’s school bus in real time. So far 5,000 parents and guardians are already using the app, said PGCPS. PGCPS says real-time tracking will become available as a child’s route is connected.

Instructions for downloading the new app are available at pgcps.org/offices/transportation/chipmunk. Parents should turn on notifications. The portal includes a user guide, tutorials and a chatbot for support. Families can also email trs@pgcps.org or call 301-952-6570 for assistance. A PGCPS announcement says parents will be notified when their bus lot is added to the app.

A handful of parents already using the app who responded to our request for comments reported mixed results so far. One parent said they have yet to receive accurate information through it. Another said they liked it overall, as they have experienced the least number of issues with this app compared to others PGCPS has used, although the information for their morning route had been down for almost a week at the time.

The Chipmunk app is part of the BusPlanner system. In June this year the PGCPS Board of Education accepted the Superintendent’s recommendation to engage BusPlanner for one year “to implement a modern student transportation platform,” which included the installation of 1,250

tablets on the fleet of school buses as well as routing, GPS and application software, for a total estimated cost of over \$3.2 million. That cost estimate included \$1,875,000 in hardware, such as tablets, and \$1,363,854 in software for the first year.

On Monday, November 17, PGCPS said their transportation and IT teams are finalizing system connections and “ensuring a dependable experience” as additional lots come online. Work underway includes GPS verification, route accuracy checks and quality review, said a PGCPS message to the school community. PGCPS reports it is resolving “minor programming issues affecting temporary route visibility, conducting nightly route data updates to confirm accurate stop locations, times and assignments and training supervisors and support staff on the next phase.”

The author has two children attending a PGCPS school.



Young Greenbelt chalk artist Jack Bradford, 11, shows off his creation.

PHOTO BY ANNA BRADFORD

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

Kids Discovery Center At Patuxent Refuge

The Discovery Center at the Patuxent Research Refuge offers learning activities and crafts for children ages 3 to 10 with an adult, Wednesdays through Saturdays except on federal holidays or during government shutdowns. Sessions start at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, lasting 35 minutes. The December theme is Otters.

Registration is strongly recommended. Call 301-497-5772. Visit fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/patuxent-visitor-center for more information.

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VETERANS continued from page 1

freedom serving their country.” Veterans’ organizations such as The American Legion have said that while not all veterans see combat, an expressed willingness to sacrifice one’s life is a requirement. It has been part of the commitment for military service since George Washington commanded America’s first troops.

State’s Commitment

Governor Moore reinforced his administration’s commitment to supporting veterans and military families across Maryland. “Leave No One Behind is not a talking point for us, it’s a governing philosophy,” said Moore. “At a time when we’re seeing attacks against our veterans and military families, today is a reminder: In Maryland, ‘thank you for your service’ means something. As long as I am governor of the state, it always will.”

In response to the impacts of the federal layoffs that disproportionately affect veterans, the governor announced \$250,000 in funding to be allocated to four initiatives that provide critical aid for rent, groceries and household stability. The partnerships built through this effort will help strengthen Maryland’s support network for veterans – one in four of whom are federal civilian employees – and their families.

Secretary Rothstein emphasized the governor’s approach to caring for veterans and their families. He said, “When Maryland veterans fall on tough times, they should not have to face it alone. Those who have served



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

From left, Mayor Emmett Jordan, Governor Wes Moore, Councilmembers Silke Pope, Jenni Pompei, Kristen Weaver, Danielle McKinney and Frankie Fritz; more photos on p.16

and sacrificed for our nation deserve our support in return. This funding helps meet the immediate needs of veterans and their families and provides stability during times of financial uncertainty. It is a reminder that in Maryland, our commitment to those who served is more than words – it is action.”

Governor Moore brought special understanding of Veterans Day to his commentary. From 2005 to 2006, Moore deployed to Afghanistan with the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division, leading soldiers in combat. Captain Moore left the Army in 2014. His service medals include the Combat Action Badge and the Bronze Star Medal.

Lee Ealley, Greenbelt resident and veteran who served in Vietnam from 1968-1971 as a Ranger with the Army’s 101st Airborne Division, said, “Having someone who was a combat veteran [as

governor] means they understand how important support programs are for assisting veterans and their families.”

Governor’s Visit

Greenbelt Post 136 Past Commander Mike Moore, who serves as the vice chair of the Maryland Veterans Commission, helped arrange the governor’s visit. Working with Rothstein, Mike Moore invited Governor Moore and First Lady Dawn Moore to the Greenbelt Veterans Day Celebration. Mike Moore said, “The event was an enormous success because the city staff made certain that every detail was perfect. Greenbelt Police, Fire Department and Public Works all pitched in to prepare for the visit. And Mayor Jordan and council were perfect hosts.” Mike Moore complimented the governor’s staff, telling them that “they were very professional and easy to work with.”

Governor Moore and First

Lady Moore honored Maryland’s veterans and military families during the City of Greenbelt’s Veterans Day celebration, where they observed a wreath-laying ceremony at the Greenbelt War Memorial, saluted through the national anthem and during taps, after the rifle team fired its salute. After formal ceremonies at Roosevelt Center, the governor and first lady traveled to American Legion Post 136 and served at Post 136’s annual Veterans Day Luncheon.

Public Works Appreciation

Jordan provided the last appreciation for the day’s successful event. The day started at 36 breezy degrees. City Public Works crews arrived to establish the podium, flags, sound systems and all associated parts and pieces. “Everyone was covered trying to keep warm,” Jordan said. “They continued standing flags that wanted to blow over, arranging audience chairs that wanted to move around and finishing installation of various other elements to ensure flawless Veterans Day ceremonies. When the event began, speakers delivered comments on the perfect sound system, guests sat in aligned seats, flags stayed anchored to the ground without blowing over. I was relieved and felt deep appreciation for the Greenbelt Public Works crew. They pulled their gloves and jackets close, ignored the cold and prepared the Veterans Day area for the community and guest speakers including Governor Wes Moore and First Lady Dawn Moore.”

City Notes

Public Safety and Constituent Services attended a Community Safety Town Hall hosted by Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Several city departments facilitated the Veterans Day ceremony.

Economic Development visited five businesses and hosted 14 hotel leaders for a roundtable breakfast. Planning/Community Development issued two permits and inspected 19 rentals.

After four adoptions, Animal Shelter residents are seven cats, four kittens and four dogs. Increased in-kind donations are helping subsidize shelter expenses.

Environmental/Sustainability hosted councilmembers for a tour of the Public Works greenhouse and presented on invasive species at an event hosted by the Greenbelt Rotary Club. Facilities Maintenance installed EV charging stations at the Municipal Building and contractors began construction of covered dugouts on Braden Field.

Arts hosted Artful Afternoons at the Community Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Park Rangers, now numbering eight, facilitated numerous events.

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living program hosted 45 caregivers for an appreciation event, met with Green Ridge House residents about various concerns and received a \$9,300 grant for the food pantry.



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Greenbelt Artists Are Featured At this Year’s Sparkle Mart

by Anne Gardner

Greenbelt’s annual juried art and craft fair, Sparkle Mart, will take place in the Community Center on Saturday, December 6 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday, December 7 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Several Greenbelt-affiliated artists will be featured among almost 80 regional vendors in the fair. The show offers a great opportu-



Necklace by Lucy Dirksen

nity for community members to see the work of many artists in residence and others who teach at the Community Center.

Gina Mai Denn and Mary Gawlik, popular ceramics instructors, are favorites at the show with their beautiful functional pottery and ceramic tiles. Painting teachers Racquel Keller and Amanda Spaid will be participating as well – Keller with her mixed media collages, Spaid with prints and greeting cards showing her colorful paintings of birds and more. Creative Kids Camp “STEAM” instructor Amanda Swift will offer an eclectic mix of jewelry, mugs, bags and more, featuring her original art. Fused glass instructor Tina Van Pelt will have an array of jewelry and ornaments crafted in this medium.

Downstairs in the Ground Floor East area of the Community Center, instructor Damien Ossi will be offering his hand-carved

spoons, alongside the work of affiliated woodworkers. Art and ukulele instructor Rachel Cross will also be in her usual spot with her joyful earth-conscious wall art, brooches, ornaments, magnets and more, incorporating repurposed broken jewelry and found objects into colorful mosaics.

Additional participating Greenbelt residents include jewelers Lucy Dirksen with silver and gold jewelry using semi-precious and precious gemstones and Sherill Gross with her eye-catching earrings made from polymer clay. Pragati Godbole paints bottles and plant pots with lively designs, and Lauren Rankel sews beautiful baby clothing and blankets. Children’s books will be available from author Amy Hansen, including her award-winning new book, Wanda Hears the Stars.

Several Greenbelt ceramics students and open studio artists will have their pottery for sale as part of the Friday Night Potters



Mosaics by Rachel Cross

in the Community Center gym, and the Greenbelt Pottery Group both downstairs in Ground Floor East and upstairs in the ceramics studio.

Sparkle Mart is produced by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program. The Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. For more information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.



CARES Needs Fund Donations

The Greenbelt Emergency Assistance Fund continues to be a safety net for Greenbelters in a financial crisis whatever the reason. Those who are able can help by donating to the fund.

Make checks out to Greenbelt CARES, write Emergency Assistance Fund in the memo space and mail to Greenbelt CARES, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 (or place in the secure drop box at that address). Or, go to GreenbeltMD.gov, click Pay Online at the top of the page and choose Charitable Donations. Complete the form, indicating the donation is for the Emergency Assistance Fund, and click submit; the payment page then will come up with a form to enter credit card or PayPal information.

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Public Safety Awards Honor Rahman, Tobin, McAlmont, Others

by Butch Hicks

On October 18, Greenbelt Police and Public Works employees were honored at the 37th Annual Public Safety Awards Program held at American Legion Post 136.

About 100 family members, friends, and Post members gave standing ovations to the honorees as organizational leaders described their professionalism and achievements.

Police Awards

Greenbelt City Councilmembers and State Senator Alonzo T. Washington joined Post members and guests for the dinner and awards program that recognized the exceptional efforts contributing to the safety of the local community. Addressing the police awards, Washington said that he had done ride-alongs with both Greenbelt and Berwyn Heights police departments. Both do a fantastic job, he said.

Officer of the Year

Acting Corporal Rakibur Rahman was selected as the 2025 Officer of the Year. Rahman’s recognition reflects his exceptional dedication, professionalism and commitment to serving the community and organization, said Police Chief Richard Bowers. Rahman consistently goes above and beyond in the performance of his duties, setting an outstanding example for others to follow, Bowers said.

Rahman is on the Community Action Team that works with the schools every year, doing a week-long summer youth program for elementary and middle school students. The team takes them to amusement parks, to play sports and to water parks, all with the aim of having fun. The team also does an annual Shop with a Cop event that they are currently organizing. Money is being raised through the committee to take children Christmas shopping. These activities build trust with the community and help solve some crime cases, Rahman said.

Civilian of the Year

Bowers announced the selection of Rachel Tobin as the



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT

From left: Deputy Chief Tim White, Captain Jermaine Gullede, Civilian of the Year Rachel Tobin, Officer of the Year Acting Corporal Rakibur Rahman, Chief Richard Bowers, Lieutenant Michael Parsley and Lieutenant Irelisse Ferandez

Greenbelt Police Department’s 2025 Civilian of the Year. “This honor recognizes her exceptional dedication, professionalism and unwavering commitment to serving both our department and the Greenbelt community. Tobin consistently goes above and beyond in the performance of her duties, setting a standard of excellence and service that reflects great credit upon herself and the organization,” said Bowers.

Tobin is a social worker with the police department and works with the department’s Crisis Intervention Team. She said her job is to respond to calls that are deemed crises, such as mental health, drug abuse death of a family member – issues where her training and experience would be appropriate but police officers would not have the response skills. “I have been doing this job for 10 years and I love it,” she said. “We need more people in this role to work with law enforcement and the community.”

Public Works Employee of the Year

Director of Public Works Brian Kim announced Facilities Maintenance Manager Desmond McAlmont as Public Works Employee of the Year. McAlmont has served the city for eight years, bringing extensive technical expertise and leadership to his

role. A licensed Master Electrician with a strong background in HVAC systems, McAlmont joined the City following his tenure with GHI. McAlmont said he appreciated being named employee of the year and described himself as a dedicated worker. His responsibilities include overseeing Public Works equipment and the maintenance and repair of city buildings, including electrical, air conditioning and all internal support requirements. He is responsible for ensuring the operational readiness and reliability of all city facilities, supporting the execution of capital improvement projects and overseeing maintenance operations that promote efficiency, safety, and sustainability. Some of the most recent work McAlmont has done included installing and supporting EV charging stations and caring for the outdoor and indoor pools. McAlmont described the Public Works Department as a very good place to work.

Post Commander Greg Gigliotti said, “Post 136 is proud to sponsor the awards program to recognize the safety professionals’ selfless contributions to their communities.”



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PGCPS Partnership with PGCC Expands College Course Access

On Wednesday, November 19, Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS), Prince George’s Community College (PGCC) and county leaders announced a major expansion of tuition-free college courses for high school students, growing the program from five to nearly 25 high schools by the next school year. The initiative will increase equitable access to college credit, save families tuition costs and strengthen one of the region’s strongest K-12 and higher education partnerships, said PGCPS.

Dual enrollment students can receive dual credit, which will appear on both the student’s high school and college transcripts. Dual enrollment shortens the path to a degree, lowers overall college expenses, boosts college matriculation and brings more

rigorous coursework into the high school experience, said a statement from PGCPS.

Students typically need to maintain a 2.6 GPA, achieve qualifying scores on placement tests and obtain recommendations from school counselors in order to be eligible to participate in dual enrollment. The expanded Dual in the Schools program is slated to bring college-level courses directly into every PGCPS high school by the 2026-27 school year, taught by district educators who are also credentialed PGCC professors, giving more students access to tuition-free college credit.

Information for this article came from a PGCPS press release.



GODDARD continued from page 8

25.1 percent reduction in square footage by 2037. Goddard is a center of approximately 6,600 people, down from 10,000 at its peak, explained Simmons, citing a “steady decline” in contractor workforce followed by “significant civil servant departures” this year due to the Deferred Resignation Program.

“It best serves our interest to prioritize investment,” wrote Simmons. “In general, at Greenbelt we are looking to vacate the buildings west of Goddard Road, and consolidate our presence east of Goddard Road. The buildings on the west side of campus will either be made available for lease to other government agencies or partners, or demolished if they have outlived their useful life. Those are ultimately Agency-level decisions,” Simmons wrote in her email.

The moves are now planned to be completed by March 2026, she confirmed and said they will reduce annual operating costs by approximately \$10 million.

Lawmakers’ Concerns

“Unfortunately, actions taken during the last nine months threaten the workers at Goddard and their ability to lead the world in this science and exploration. Between unnecessary voluntary separations, deferred resignations, reductions in force, and other pressure, thousands of civil

servants and contractors are no longer working at GSFC,” noted Maryland Delegation members in their November 13 letter to NASA’s Acting Administrator, Sean Duffy.

“Other countries with space programs from our political allies to our adversaries have been recruiting our top scientists and researchers with massive salaries, research budgets, and the promise of stability. Where the U.S. has considered stepping back, China has made clear they are eager to step in,” asserted the Maryland lawmakers.

“We can and must re-invest in the people and centers that make America the global space leader and that starts with Goddard.”

A GSFC employee briefing with Fox and Simmons was planned for Wednesday, November 19.

Donate Books To Novel Endings

Novel Endings bookstore at the Greenbelt Library gladly accepts donations of gently used books. The bookstore particularly welcomes donations of popular adult fiction, children’s books, sci-fi, fantasy, mystery, classics, non-diet cookbooks, science topics geared to the general public and vintage books.

Popular magazines and hobby magazines, especially those published within the past two years, are accepted. Vintage magazines are also welcome.

Books must be clean and pages not browned with age, torn or heavily marked or underlined with comments. Do not bring books that are moldy, sticky, smelly or missing pages or covers. Missing dust-jackets are not a problem.

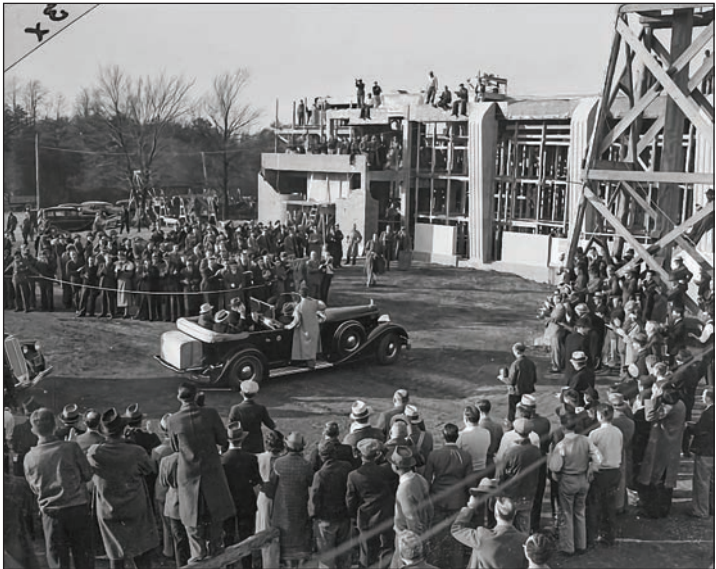
The bookstore cannot use books or magazines that are diet-themed, encyclopedias, technical, academic or professional. Audio CDs are not accepted.

To donate books, email friendsofgreenbeltlibrary@gmail.com. Please do not bring book donations to either the circulation front desk or Novel Endings. Cash and check donations are accepted in the blue box next to the Library’s front desk. Come see what Novel Endings has to offer and support the Greenbelt Library at the same time.

Free Tech Support

Marylanders Online is currently offering free one-on-one tech support in English and Spanish for Maryland residents. Technicians can help with devices, including software and hardware, internet service and digital skill classes. Anyone can sign up for an online or in-person session online at marylandersonline.umd.edu/get-help/schedule-appointment or call 301-405-9810 or toll-free 1-866-206-9467. In-person meetings are held at 8400 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 104, College Park. Online appointments are held on Google Meet.

Greenbelt History



On November 13, 1936, President Franklin Roosevelt paid a visit to Greenbelt. Our town build was well under way. Passengers included Rex Tugwell, Dr. W. Alexander, and Wallace Richards, of the Resettlement Administration. This image shows the Presidential Packard approaching what is now the Community Center. Note Greenbelt’s first water tower on the right.

Letters, from p.2

Update from Ukraine

The News Review last week ran a story I wrote about the work former Greenbelt resident Tetiana Orlova is doing back in her war-torn country, Ukraine.

A few days ago I asked her how she and her family are doing and the following is what she wrote in answer. “Difficult. Power outages on a 20-hour schedule daily. Air alarms several times every day and night. Everyone is alive and well, thank God. In Mykolaiv, in my mother’s area and at Kateryna’s, lights are almost never turned off, only in emergency situations, [like] after the arrival of a shaheed drone or missile. I have scheduled shutdowns [in Odessa] every day.

Today the electricity will be turned on only for a few hours at night and a few hours tomorrow,

when I am at work. The residential complex where I work has a generator. Kateryna also has a schedule of power outages.”

Tetiana could have stayed here. She had learned English well, made friends and had a good job she could walk to. Her humanitarian parole would have been extended for another two years.

She chose to return knowing the hardships and danger she originally had fled from but felt she “could be more help there than here,” she said.

I admire her dedication, courage and especially her patriotism. These are qualities we all need here and now in our own present predicament.

*Frank Gervasi
President, Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee (GRACE)*

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WHAT’S IN MY CO-OP BAG

THIS WEEK’S CO-OP BAG BELONGS TO...

Rosie! A quick trip over to Co-op for some Thanksgiving must-haves include Equal Exchange bulk coffee, Tofurky, Bob’s Red Mill flour, and Field Day baking essentials! All Field Day items are on sale right now, so she stocked up on favorites!

What’s in your Co-op bag this week? Find fresh, local, and unique finds at your community-owned store.

Tag us on your next Co-op run!
[@greenbeltcoop](https://www.instagram.com/greenbeltcoop)
[Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket & Pharmacy](https://www.facebook.com/greenbeltcoop)

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred November 10-16, 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 two mental health diversions and two domestic incidents, one leading to arrest. A resident turned in an old revolver to remove it from the home.

Armed Robbery
On November 10 at 3:29 a.m. near 6600 Capitol Drive, a man walked into the Royal Farms and implied that he had a weapon. He demanded all the money from the cash register and left on foot.

Assault
On November 14 at 3:09 p.m. near 5510 Cherrywood Lane, a man was struck in the head by someone; he was taken to the hospital.

On November 14 at 5:46 p.m. near 5821 Cherrywood Lane, a road rage incident started in a parking lot. A person became upset, threatened a Franklin Park maintenance employee, pulled out a handgun, and then fled in a white Mazda.

Parking Lot Arrest
On November 14 at 6:26 p.m. near 436 Ridge Road, in a parking lot dispute between two drivers, one person intentionally damaged the other's vehicle and was arrested on an open warrant. The person was taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Disorderly
On November 11 at 3:40 p.m. near 6023 Springhill Drive, a former employee wanted to fight a man and threatened him with a weapon.

Fraud
On November 10 near 1 Greentree Place, a man's identity was used to withdraw funds from his bank account.

On November 14 near 6320 Golden Triangle Drive, a person was scammed out of a large amount of money in an alleged business venture.

On November 15 near 5510 Cherrywood Lane, a woman was contacted by someone who threatened her and her family if she didn't pay them. She was told to get gift cards and send the information. Afraid for her safety, she complied.

Shoplifting and Theft
On November 11 at 10:49 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, store loss prevention staff stopped a man for shoplifting and requested that he be banned from the premises.

On November 15 at 5:34 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman shoplifted; officers located and arrested her, and she was

released on a criminal citation.

On November 15 at 5:04 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, two women shoplifted and fled in a vehicle; at 5:47 p.m. near 7573 Greenbelt Road, a group of adults stole multiple items, fleeing in an unknown vehicle.

Vandalism
On November 11 at 11:44 a.m. near 7480 Greenway Center Drive, a witness reported that a shirtless man broke a vending machine. An officer found him by the dumpsters; he was banned from the location and sent away.

On November 13 near 32 Crescent Road, flowerbeds and flood lights were damaged.

Vehicle Crimes
Stolen Vehicles
On November 12 near 9111 Edmonston Road, an International box truck (Md. 8GL0047) was stolen.

On November 14 near 6404 Ivy Lane, after a traffic accident, a woman parked her 2017 Lincoln MKZ (Va. TEL3464); when she returned with a tow truck, it was gone.

Attempted Theft of Autos
On November 10 near 143 Westway, someone broke into a Hyundai Elantra and attempted to steal it by breaking the ignition; at 6:01 p.m. near 5813 Cherrywood Lane, a man was

seen inside a Greenbelt Road Shell tow truck trying to steal it. When the owner confronted him and demanded he get out of the truck, he ran.

Stolen Vehicles Located
On November 12 near 5821 Cherrywood Lane, a woman found her vehicle after she had reported it stolen.

On November 16 near Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway, officers located a motorcycle reported stolen by Prince George's Police.

Theft from Auto
Tags were stolen: a rear tag, November 11 near 6213 Springhill Court; a rear tag (Md. 1919CL) November 14 near 211 Lakeside Drive; and a front tag (Md. 3FF7337) November 15 near 7878 Lakecrest Drive.

On November 11 near 5 Parkway, a tire was stolen from a 2017 Buick Lacrosse.

On November 13 near 5909 Cherrywood Lane, someone entered a vehicle and rummaged through items.

Vandalism to Auto
Windows were broken on two Toyotas: a pickup truck November 11 near 6220 Breezewood Drive, and a 2023 Tacoma November 12 near 5913 Cherrywood Terrace.

COUNCIL continued from page 7

and signage currently reviewed by the APB but the new county ordinance has defined major and minor variants of these, with minor items resolved by the city's planning director and major items by the APB.

New Powers
Under the new rules, as Sigworth explained, the city will have additional powers that include certification of nonconforming properties (essentially grandfathering in, as conforming to zoning, properties that were built legally when rules were less stringent). New requests for major special exceptions to zoning would go to the county but minor changes will remain with either the city's planning director or the APB based on a tabulation provided by the county. The city would have only advisory input to decisions made at the county

level.
The city would also get additional authority over county Landscaping Manual compliance which allows the city to negotiate variances – mostly for commercial properties – plus control over exemptions for fences and walls – mostly in terms of increased security.

Preparing to Act
Hruby's team is aligning the city's manual with the new county code, reflecting the new powers delegated to the city. As part of this, Hruby also plans to request to transfer authority to hear/decide variances from both council and the city Board of Appeals to the APB. Multiple action steps need to be accomplished, including council approval, county approval, fee schedules, process manuals and APB training.

Greenbelt City Election Certified Results 2025	
Candidate	Total Votes
Emmett Jordan	2,408
Kristen Weaver	2,229
Jenni Pompi	2,146
Danielle McKinney	2,124
Frankie Fritz	2,052
Amy Knesel	1,938
Silke Pope	1,812
Rodney Roberts	1,450
Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart	1,434
Bill Orleans	459



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

There are new EV charging stations outside the Municipal Building. A ChargePoint account is required to use them.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

A great blue heron at the Lake

Greenbelt Farmers Market

Stock Up on Farm-Fresh Ingredients for Thanksgiving!

Sundays 10a - 2p

Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

Greenbelt Unit #136

American Legion Auxiliary Presents

Our Annual Craft Bazaar

Hand Made Items

Raffles

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Bake Sale

Saturday, November 29, 2025

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

6900 Greenbelt Road

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For info: Rusty Beeg @ 301-602-7214

or email: rbeeg5908@gmail.com

JOIN US

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Foundation For

Mental Awareness

Fundraiser

Prince George's County Elk's Lodge 6700 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale

23 NOVEMBER 4-7:30 PM

Live Band "The Relics," Silent Auction, catering by Maryland Country Caterers, Bake Sale, the Face Painting Lady, and Cash Bar

\$25/Person In Advance

\$30/Person at The Door

Purchase Tickets (include name and number of tickets)

• Call/Text 240-620-9514 or

• Email Tamaxwell65@Gmail.Com (Teresa Maxwell) or

• Venmo [Michaeldmaxwelljr-Foundation-1](https://www.venmo.com/Michaeldmaxwelljr-Foundation-1)

Michael D. Maxwell, Jr. Foundation for Mental Awareness, Inc.

A 501(C)(3) organization
Mission Statement: To assist individuals suffering from mental illness in obtaining treatment.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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HAIRSTYLIST – Tired of paying rent, your own supplies, taxes, business licenses? Come back to a commission shop! I supply all color, most supplies except for your own personal supplies. Call Dominick at 301-980-9200. Greenbelt area hiring. Have three spaces open.

SERVICES
HOUSECLEANING – Over 20 years in Greenbelt area. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one-time cleaning offered. Local references and free estimates available. Debbie, 301-523-9884.

COMPUTERS, WIFI, PRINTERS – Installing, Repairing, Troubleshooting; Documents Printing, Pickup, Dropoff, Training. JBS, 240-601-4163.

FREE EXERCISE! – Women and men welcome casual pickup ultimate frisbee 3pm Sundays at Northway Fields, weather permitting. Run and have fun! See www.spril.com/disc.

CUSTOM FLOORING, LLC – Installing all flooring products. Specializing in refinishing hardwood. Starting \$3.50 per sq. ft. Call Now 301-844-8897, www.customflooringllc.net.

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CARING KIM'S PET CARE – Drop-in visits, boarding and walks. Mornings, Noon, Evenings and Nights, seven days a week. By a lifetime animal lover and caregiver. Offered for dogs, cats, and other small animals. Call Kim at 301-520-6708 for appointment or with any questions.

HOUSE CLEANING – Melody Dodson. Greenbelt references. 301-256-6937.

SOLO ELECTRICAL SERVICES, LLC and HANDYMAN – Service calls, EV chargers, Heavy ups and other electrical needs. Call 240-704-4993.

FRANK'S VIDEO CONVERSION – Convert VHS tapes/8mm movies, slides to DVD. LP records to CD. DAT tapes to CD. Home 240-295-3994, Cell 703-216-7293. franksvideoconversion@gmail.com.

HEATING AND COOLING – We specialize in installing Mitsubishi ductless heat pump systems in Greenbelt Homes. Call Mike at H & C Heating & Cooling, 301-953-2113. Licensed and insured since 1969.

ANGELA'S HOUSE CLEANING AND PAINTING – Cleaning your home like my own, at reasonable prices. Painting inside and out. References available in Greenbelt. Ten years' professional experience. AngelaLazol@hotmail.com; 240-645-5140.

KELLAHER MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING, LLC – Junk removal, electrical, painting, drywall, leaf removal, landscape design, mulching flower beds, bucket truck services, stump grinding, pruning trees & removal, pole lighting, power washing siding & decks. Mulch & top soil delivery. Dkellaher@hotmail.com, 301-318-5472. Insured. Visa, MasterCard, Discover. www.Kellahermaintenance.com.

GREENBELT MASTER ELECTRICIAN – with over 20 years of experience. New installation and repair work. Call D&M Electrical Services 301-346-5335.

SHAMROCK JUNK REMOVAL – Call 301-318-5472.

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PIANO TUNING – Greenbelt local. Comprehensive piano tuning, service, and restoration. 831-247-0043, www.WhitehousePiano.com.

YARD WORK – Mowing, weeding, mulching, leaf pick-up, etc. Call John, 410-940-9945.

YARD/MOVING SALES
INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE – November 22, 2025, 9am - 1 pm @ GVFD, 125 Crescent Road. Table reservations: One \$15, Two \$25. For further information, please call Kathy @ 301-351-7496 (cell #). Food and beverage available for purchase.
LARGE ESTATE SALE – This weekend! 50 years in the same home means hundreds of treasures to find! Fri/Sat/Sun 10-4 on Lakeside Dr. More info and pictures at <https://www.estatesales.net/MD/Greenbelt/20770/4702287>.



Thanksgiving Deadlines

The November 27 issue falls on Thanksgiving. Advertising and editorial deadlines will be a day early. Advertisements: Camera-ready display ads, classifieds and any required payments are due by 6 p.m. Monday, November 24. Material needing hands-on attention should come in by Friday, November 21. There will be no office hours on Tuesday, November 25 and no ads will be accepted that day.

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RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$4.00 minimum for 15 words. \$1 for each 1-5 additional words. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

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.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



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FRITZ continued from page 1

in sustainability from George Washington University. After moving to Silver Spring in 2017, he became involved in housing organizing, including efforts focused on rent control. That work eventually led him to Greenbelt.

Move to Greenbelt

Fritz first learned about the city in 2019 while researching housing cooperatives. “I learned that the largest and oldest housing cooperative in Maryland was right at the end of the Green Line,” he said. “I was captivated by it.” He visited the Greenbelt Museum, studied the city’s New Deal-era history and found himself drawn to the community’s cooperative foundations.

He moved to Greenbelt in December 2023. “I was renting until I moved to Greenbelt, and I was tired of it,” he said. “I didn’t think I could afford anywhere in the DMV. Then I looked at Greenbelt, specifically GHI homes, and it was one of the few places I could afford to live in a values-aligned way.”

Shortly after arriving, Fritz became involved in the effort to expand all-resident voting rights, which would allow noncitizens to vote in city elections. It was one of the first issues that made him feel connected to civic life here. “In light of the national political climate, being in solidarity with and building power for our immigrant neighbors is really important,” he said.

Running for Office

Deciding to run for office came gradually. Fritz described the 2024 presidential election as a turning point that convinced him local organizing needed to deepen. “We really need to start organizing everywhere in this country, especially locally,” he said. “The city is a vehicle to do that.”

Although this was his first time running for office, Fritz had been active in Maryland politics for years. He served as field director for Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich’s 2018 campaign and worked on ballot initiatives related to abortion rights and tax reform. “I’d asked so many of my friends to run. At some point, I realized that I had to step up and do it myself.”

Key Council Issues

Now on council, Fritz said he wants to make city government easier for people to engage with. He said many residents feel disconnected from city decision-making and hopes to meet people where they are through outreach, town halls and closer collabora-



Frankie Santos Fritz speaks at the Candidate Forum that was hosted by the News Review and GATE in October.

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

tion with community organizations. “We can’t just be in the city council building and expect that we’re going to have the best-informed decisions by waiting for people to come to us.”

Housing is one area where he said the city can take a more active role. He has criticized the county’s 6 percent rent increase cap, arguing that it does not reflect what families can realistically afford. “It’s an unsustainable expectation,” he said. “We need to do more to tie increases to the cost of living, because our minimum wage doesn’t go up by 6 percent every year ... The city can do more to protect people as we work to build more housing and improve what we have.”

He said the same principle applies to workers. Fritz supports creating a path for municipal employees to unionize if they choose, saying the city should make sure “our workers know they are supported.”

Transit is another issue he hopes to address, pointing to challenges residents face moving between neighborhoods without a car. He wants the city to push for projects such as installing Capital BikeShare at the Greenbelt Metro Station and believes Greenbelt will benefit from shifting future development toward more walkable, transit-oriented connections. “If we re-orient our development away from the suburban highway model toward a transit-oriented model, [Greenbelt] could easily become the envy of the region.”

Fritz also wants to build on the momentum from the city’s recent election, which saw a notably higher turnout. He supports exploring universal vote-by-mail and other reforms that make it easier for residents to participate.

He describes his guiding philosophy as building “a Greenbelt for All,” which he said means affordability, inclusivity and giving residents a stronger voice in how the city sets priorities. One idea he hopes the city considers is participatory budgeting, where residents directly propose and

vote on how portions of the budget are spent.

His campaign drew support from several county leaders and progressive organizations. “When Greenbelt does better, Prince George’s County does better and vice versa,” he said. He hopes to strengthen the city’s partnership with the county on housing, transit and economic development.

Looking ahead, Fritz said success in his first term would mean making visible improvements on the core issues he campaigned on. “People need to see progress,” he said. “Greenbelt is one of the best communities in the country to live in and I want to make it even better.”

Stephen Lotz is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review.

Patuxent Refuge 2026 Calendar on Sale

Patuxent Research Refuge 2026 calendars feature 12 months of stunning nature photography featuring animals and plants seen at the refuge, as well as a look back through time at the Refuge’s 90 years of wildlife conservation.

Award-winning photographers donated use of their photos to support this fundraiser on behalf of Friends of Patuxent’s work. All profits help support the Refuge and the USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center.

Calendars can be purchased at the Wildlife Images Bookstore and Nature Shop or online at friendsofpatuxent.org/shop.

Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share? We welcome your photos and stories at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



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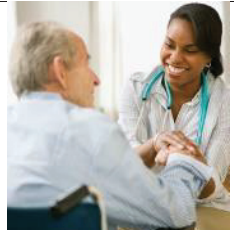
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Veterans Day in Greenbelt



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

From left: Edward Rothstein, Secretary, Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families; Alonzo Washington, Maryland State Senator; Maryland Governor Wes Moore; Greg Gigliotti, Commander, Greenbelt American Legion Post 136; Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan; and Prince George's County Council Member Ingrid Watson



PHOTO BY BUTCH HICKS

Maryland Governor Wes Moore, First Lady Dawn Moore and County Executive Aisha Braveboy serve food to the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136 member Brian Fletcher. Veterans Day ceremony participants, veterans and families joined event speakers and community guests at the Post 136 buffet.



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

Edward Rothstein, Secretary, Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families, speaks at the Veterans Day event.



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

Veteran John Henry Jones (seated) and others pose for a photo.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

Governor Moore meets 97-year old Greenbelt Veteran John Henry Jones, whom he mentioned in his remarks.



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

Maryland Governor Wes Moore points to the flag.



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

Maryland Governor Wes Moore greets people at the Veterans Day event. Pictured behind him are Michael Hartman, left, and Mayor Emmett Jordan.



PHOTO BY JAMES WISNIEWSKI

Greg Gigliotti, Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 commander, speaks at the Veterans Day event.



PHOTO BY KAREN SEATON

The Greenbelt Concert Band celebrates Veterans Day with a heartfelt performance, Honoring our Heroes, at the Greenbelt American Legion on November 11, delighting the community with patriotic favorites and honoring local veterans' service.