

New barista at the New Deal, p.9



Maryland History Day winner, p.11

Budget 2027

Council OKs \$42 Million Budget, Moves DEI Position to HR

by Diane Oberg

The Greenbelt City Council wrapped up its months-long budget review by unanimously adopting the fiscal year FY 2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) budget at its May 26 regular meeting. The final budget calls for total General Fund revenues of \$41,983,895 versus \$41,976,993 in expenditures. Since neither the proposed nor final budget called for a tax increase, the budget was only balanced by using \$2 million in reserves. In addition, one position was funded for half a year to reduce costs, raising a question of how the position will be funded next year. As is its practice, council suspended its rules, allowing the measure to be introduced and adopted at the same meeting.

After council unanimously approved the budget, Mayor Emmett Jordan said he had serious concerns about the financial path ahead. Using reserves from prior years is not a long-term substitute for recurring revenue. In addition, the budget does not address

the future financial impact of expanded collective bargaining. City Manager Josué Salmerón noted that council had set a goal to review tax rates in FY 2027.

Sidenote

Just after the budget was adopted, Jordan moved to extend the meeting by 30 minutes, as required by council's new standing rules. Councilmember Jenni Pompei voted against the extension after pointing out that the proclamations portion of the agenda took 30 minutes. If council is going to make a serious effort to keep its meetings within two hours, she said, "we need to work to increase the brevity of our comments."

Main Issues

First, council had to approve the changes from the proposed budget based upon the final budget worksession (see story in May 28 issue). Many of the changes reflected increases in

See BUDGET, page 6

Decommissioning Begins at BARC; Reportedly to Move by September 30

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On April 23 the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced it would begin "decommissioning" the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), relocating research programs to facilities across the country. The plan was announced last summer (see the July 24, 2025 issue). Yet in July 2025 Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins said BARC would be "vacated over multiple years to avoid disruption of critical USDA research activities." In the fall, Congress allocated \$6 million in the Agriculture Appropriation Act, included in the 2026



A view of BARC on August 30, 2025

PHOTO BY MARK SHERMAN

budget, for renovation and construction at BARC (see the December 11 issue), which bolstered hope by supporters that no move was imminent.

In April 2026, Rollins announced, "This move puts our research institutions outside of the beltway and closer to the land grant universities with talent pipelines who will lead the research and solve the problems facing the future of American agriculture. This is about strengthening our USDA research focus and improving the services the agricultural

economy relies on." BARC is positioned directly adjacent to the University of Maryland College Park, a public land-grant research university.

At the end of April some BARC employees received preliminary notifications of relocation. The form letters informed them their position is identified for relocation out of the National Capital Region (NCR). They would receive a Management Directed Reassignment (MDR) letter containing their relocation

See BARC, page 10

Rotary Club Learns about Produce Sustainability from Greenbelt Grows

by Lesley Kash

At the monthly Greenbelt Rotary Evening Speaker Series on Wednesday, May 27, Danielle McKinney, who serves on Greenbelt City Council, described the hyper-local farmed food-sharing activism of Greenbelt Grows. The audience of about 15, including McKinney's city council colleagues Emmett Jordan and Kristen Weaver, offered many enthusiastic ideas and well-informed suggestions.

Greenbelt Grows, a community-driven initiative, is dedicated to enhancing food security and creating connections that promote healthy and sustainable living in Greenbelt. Its stated mission is to "establish and support community gardens, increase access to fresh produce, and foster ... unity and resilience among residents."

McKinney, inspired and informed by her "fierce gardener" grandmother and her grocery store-managing father, grows vegetables in one of Greenbelt's community garden plots. Growing more than she can use and motivated to share the bounty, she



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

At the May 31 Greenbelt Farmers Market, Danielle McKinney of Greenbelt Grows talked with vendors about Greenbelt Grows' Harvest Hub initiative to collect extra produce for refrigerated storage and distribution to Greenbelters. Here, McKinney (right) speaks with Farmer Jams of Sun Goddess Farms.

joined with like-minded gardeners to form Greenbelt Grows.

McKinney's presentation offered practical advice, including how to maximize production, even in small spaces or for those with mobility challenges. She described her techniques for raised-

container gardening and production of large yields, encouraging listeners to dig in: "Last year, the eggplants were out of control!"

However, gaps exist in Greenbelt. People may have health or financial problems or difficulties

See ROTARY, page 8

Greenbelt Day Celebrates 89 Years of Community, History

by Cam Crossett

Greenbelt Day commemorates the incorporation of Greenbelt, which officially became a municipality on June 1, 1937, when its city charter went into effect.

The city was originally built as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal Program by the Resettlement Administration. Designed according to the principles of the Garden City Movement in England, Greenbelt

was created to provide affordable housing for working families while generating employment during the Great Depression. Its incorporation in 1937 marked another milestone, as Greenbelt became the first city in Maryland to adopt the council-manager form of government.

For longtime resident and News Review Editor Mary Lou Williamson, Greenbelt Day serves as an important reminder of the city's origins. "Greenbelt Day commemorates

the day the governor signed the charter for the city of Greenbelt," she said. "It's a chance to reflect on our origins."

Williamson has attended Greenbelt Day celebrations since its beginning and remembers when the event featured a wide range of activities for residents. "A great variety of things to do,

See GREENBELT, page 16



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Members of Public Works raise the pride flag in June 2024. This year's ceremony will take place on Friday, June 5 at 3 p.m.

What Goes On

- Monday, June 8**
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
- Wednesday, June 10**
7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: Presentation of the Draft Cemetery Masterplan/Budget Process Discussion, Municipal Building

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

Letters to the Editor

Illegal Dumping Down A City Storm Drain

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) hired contractor SageWater to perform the pipe replacement program for the homes. SageWater's website states, "We accept responsibility for our actions, hold ourselves accountable" and "Our Promise: Delivering for the Good of Your Building."

On May 19, SageWater employees dumped drywall materials and other materials down the storm drain in the front yards of 9L and 9M Laurel Hill Road. The amount of construction material dumped by SageWater employees covered the drain and even filled spaces between the slots. The front yard was also covered in construction residue by the drain.

I called the city and left a message to call me and come inspect the property. I did not receive a call back, and an inspection was not performed. I next contacted GHI and Sam Edoror responded to the scene. He ordered SageWater to clean up the illegal dumping. How much material was dumped down the drain is

unknown. Four units were being worked on when the dumping happened.

I believe this was no innocent mistake by SageWater's employees. There is no explanation or excuse for this behavior. It was illegal.

I am calling on GHI's Board of Directors to take legal action against SageWater. They violated the law. At public meetings, SageWater representatives stated that they would leave our properties cleaner than before. I am calling on GHI homeowners to request, better yet, demand, that the Board of Directors take action. SageWater must not be allowed to get away with this illegal behavior.

On May 28, I sent an email to City Manager Josué Salmerón and Mayor Emmett Jordan voicing my displeasure with the city for failing to respond to the illegal dumping down a storm drain. Neither has responded to my email. It is ironic that the city is promoting Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week but ignored the illegal dumping of construction material down a storm drain, which will eventually reach the Chesapeake Bay.

James William Thompson

Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com



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: JUNE 5th - 11th

I Love Boosters (R)
 (CC) (DVS) (2026) (113 mins)
 Film Club Social hour at 6pm
 before Tues. 7pm show -
 discussion to follow movie!
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
 Fri. 7:45 PM
 Sun. 7:00 PM
 Mon. 1:00 PM (OC)
 Wed. 4:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
 Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:40 PM
 Tues. 7:00 PM
 Thurs. 5:45 PM

Pressure (PG-13)
 (CC) (DVS) (2026) (100 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
 Fri. 5:00 PM
 Sat. 7:55 PM
 Mon. 3:45 PM
 Tues. 4:30 PM
 Wed. 7:10 PM
 Thurs. 11:55 AM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
 Fri. 8:00 PM
 Sun. 4:10 PM
 Mon. 12:45 PM

Tuner (R)
 (CC) (DVS) (2025) (109 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
 Sat. 5:15 PM
 Sun. 4:25 PM
 Tues. 7:15 PM
 Thurs. 5:20 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
 Fri. 5:15 PM
 Sun. 6:45 PM
 Mon. 3:20 PM
 Wed. 7:30 PM
 Thurs. 3:00 PM

Disclosure Day (PG-13) (2026) (145 mins)
 Early members-only matinee
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
 Thurs. 2:30 PM



- Andrew Hennessey

Story & Photograph Submissions

We welcome your stories and photographs about all things Greenbelt. While publication is not guaranteed, your submissions help us cover more of what goes on. Stories will be copyedited. Remember to include captions and identify people in photographs. See the information box on this page for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 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.

A perfect rose blooms beside more modest roses on Gardenway.



PHOTO BY KATRINA BOVERMAN

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

I Love Boosters

In this film from director Boots Riley (Sorry to Bother You), professional shoplifters embark on a wild adventure as they target a cutthroat fashion mogul. The ensemble cast includes Keke Palmer, LaKeith Stanfield, Don Cheadle and Demi Moore, among others. Said critic Lapacazo Magrira Sandoval of the Los Angeles Sentinel, "[The film's] tone is loud, and conventional logic is indefinitely suspended. But it is the work of director Boots Riley, whose voice is distinct, uncompromising and fully in command."

Pressure

This film follows General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Captain James Stagg in the tense 72 hours before D-Day, with the fate of the free world hanging in the balance, as they face an impossible choice: launch the largest and most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether.

Tuner

In Academy Award-winning director Daniel Roher's first narrative feature, Leo Woodall stars as Niki, a gifted young piano tuner whose heightened sense of hearing draws the attention of criminals, who see his talents as useful for opening safes as well as for tuning Steinways. With his once-promising musical career over, he works across New York with his mentor Harry Horowitz (Dustin Hoffman), encountering a range of characters, including composition student Ruthie (Havana Rose Liu), with whom he forges an unexpected connection. Niki's safecracking work threatens his budding romance with Ruthie and pulls him into increasingly dangerous territory.

Disclosure Day

If you found out we weren't alone, if someone showed you, proved it to you, would that frighten you? This summer, the truth belongs to seven billion people. We are coming close to ... Disclosure Day. This sci-fi/mystery film from Stephen Spielberg stars Emily Blunt, Josh O'Connor, Colin Firth and Colman Domingo.

Community Events

At the Library

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

Storytimes

Friday, June 5, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16335541.

Wednesday, June 10, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16335167.

Thursday, June 11, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16335269.

Play and Grow

Wednesday, June 10, 6:30 p.m., ages newborn to 3. Stories, music and activities for children with and without special needs. Presented by the Prince George's County Public Schools Infants and Toddlers Program for early intervention students and up to 12 community families. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is for interest only and not a guarantee of space. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16332906.

Craft and Create

Thursday, June 11, 2 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Anyone can be an artist. Whether for a job, hobby or a passing exercise, sketching is a great gateway into art as a form of creative expression. Come with a sketchbook or use library materials. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome, so no matter the doodle or scribble, they welcome it. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16364318.



English, Spanish Story Time, SHL Rec Center

On Friday, June 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK), with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, will present engaging, lively stories and activities in English and Spanish for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills. This monthly program is an introduction to reading aloud to children as a way to instill the love of literature. After the readings, children can stay and play with balls in the gym. There will be free children's books and free healthy nutritious snacks. Come, and spread the word to friends and family.

Los Niños Leen y Juegan

El viernes 12 de junio a las 10:30 a.m. en el Centro Recreativo de Springhill Lake, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) con el Sistema de Bibliotecas Conmemorativas del Condado de Prince George's presentarán interesantes historias y actividades divertidas en inglés y español para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores, para ayudar a desarrollar las habilidades de alfabetización temprana. Este programa mensual es una introducción a la lectura en voz alta a los niños como forma de inculcar el amor por la literatura. Después de las lecturas, los niños pueden quedarse y jugar con pelotas en el gimnasio. Habrán libros infantiles gratis y aperitivos saludables y nutritivos. Como dijo un padre al irse, "Fue muy bueno!" Unete a nosotros, y corra la voz a amigos y familiares.



Riversdale Summer Concert Series

The Riversdale Summer Concert Series highlights different bands each concert. The next concert is Wednesday, June 10 from 7 to 8 p.m. The concerts are free and suitable for all ages. Register at ParksDirect.mdpgparksweb.mysvccloud.com. Bring a lawn chair and a picnic dinner. Riversdale Historic Site and Museum is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park.

Art Share Sunday

Artists of all experience levels are invited to participate in a free Art Share from 2 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 14 at the Community Center, Room 113. Bring one to three pieces in any medium for discussion at this monthly meetup. This activity is intended for teens and adults. Registration is not required, but participants are encouraged to sign up to receive communications about this series at sugeni.us/eE4I.

CTTT Invites All to Eat And Discuss Friendship

The local affiliate group of Coming To The Table (CTTT) is hosting dinner and discussion at the Community Center, Room 105 on the second Tuesday of every month. The next gathering is on Tuesday, June 9 from 6:15 until 8 p.m. There will be delicious food from Sunrise Caribbean. The topic of discussion is Friendship.

To attend, email Nancy Joy Allchin, njallchin@gmail.com.

The purpose of these gatherings is to provide a supportive environment for facing life's challenges, including those that stem from prejudice, misunderstandings and unresolved racial injustices, and in this way to foster and strengthen the Beloved Community.

Buy Garden Tour Tickets Now

Get advance tickets now before prices increase Friday, June 5 at 6 p.m. The Greenbelt Garden Tour is Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with 12 ornamental and food gardens at homes and community gardens across Greenbelt East, Center and West, with gardeners present for conversation. There's even a vegetable garden maintained by elementary school students. Come see hidden gardens, a year-round garden of 50 vegetable varieties, one that produces hundreds of pounds of produce annually and gardens with ponds, art and spiritual and emotional meaning to their gardeners. The tour is raising funds for Greenbelt Rotary Club community service activities. Learn about those activities and purchase tax-deductible tickets at tinyurl.com/ucyf2n7a or scan the QR code. The rain date is Sunday, June 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The website will provide garden descriptions, addresses, a map and rain date status. Don't forget to vote for your favorite garden at tinyurl.com/2jxjahyy.

Artful Afternoon Offers Tie-dye



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT REC

Colorful tie-dye

Guests of all ages are invited to attend any of three free Artful Afternoon workshops in June: two on Sunday, June 7 from 1 to 2 p.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center and Sunday, June 14 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Just in time for Pride Month, use tie-dye to make fun and colorful designs on provided bandanas, or bring a T-shirt, tote bag or other pre-washed cotton item from home. Guests are encouraged to sign up in advance at sugeni.us/etqV. Walk-ins are welcome as space permits. For information about more Greenbelt Recreation arts programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

GIVES Membership Meeting Sat., June 13

The next Quarterly Membership meeting for GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service) will be on Saturday, June 13 from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Community Center, Room 202. They will be voting for board members for the next two-year term, June 2026 to June 2028. There will be a brief meeting for all office volunteers following the regular membership meeting.

Golden Age Club June Schedule

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

May was Older Americans Month. Mayor Emmett Jordan and the city council presented a proclamation to the Golden Age Club at the council meeting on Tuesday, May 26.

June 10 – Book exchange. Bring books in good condition and magazines from the past year. Bookmarks will be available and perhaps some door prizes.

June 17 – Birthday potluck (bring a dish to share).

June 24 – Bingo.

Chess Club Nights for June

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays June 9, 16, and 23. The meetings will take place at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:50 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Juneteenth Celebration At Safeway, June 14

On Sunday, June 14, the Safeway in Greenway Center is hosting a Juneteenth Celebration from noon to 4 p.m. The event will feature fresh tastings from local minority-owned brands and family favorites, along with live entertainment, face painting, prizes, giveaways, in-store savings and more.

Français, S'il Vous Plaît New Summer Location

The French conversation group that meets every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. must change its meeting location for the summer. For the months of June, July and August, the group will meet in Room 109 (Senior Activity Room) at the Community Center.

All ages and all levels of proficiency are welcome.

Hunger Relief: PORCH

Our shared commitment to community-powered hunger relief will be invaluable as Greenbelt PORCH continues to grow and deepen its impact. Greenbelt PORCH will collect food in the month of June as scheduled below.

Saturday, June 6 – 23 and 24 Courts Ridge.

Sunday, June 14 – by 11 a.m. at 1-8 Courts Ridge Road, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway.

Saturday, June 20 – by 9 a.m. at 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill.

Sunday, June 21 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village.

Sunday, June 21 – by 4 p.m. for 33 Court Ridge.

Saturday, June 27 – by 10 a.m. for Mathew Street to Megan Lane including Brett Place.

Sunday, June 28 – by 4 p.m. for Eastway.

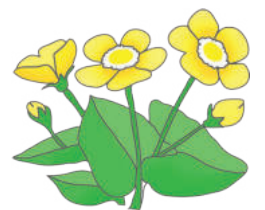
Sunday, June 28 – by 4 p.m. for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors). Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on June 28 at SPREADRUAK@gmail.com. He will come to your porch.

Sunday, June 28 – by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Sunday, June 28 – by 6 p.m. at 11S Ridge, 14 and 16 Courts Ridge and 8 and 10 Courts Southway.

Poetry in the Garden

The public is invited to a poetry reading on Sunday, June 7, in the Schrom Hills Park clubhouse, from 3 to 5 p.m. The group, open to all cultural backgrounds, reads poems by poets from different parts of the world. Readers who prefer can read poems in their native language and provide a short summary in English.



This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

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

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!
*** RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 ***

TH 6/04	FRI 6/05	SAT 6/06	SUN 6/07
Wolf's Blues Show and Sit-In Jam 6:30 - 10pm Big, bodacious boogie blues jam hosted by Wolf Crescenze	Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes 8 - 11pm Chicago, west coast, swing and jump blues peppered with soul	GREENBELT JAZZ FESTIVAL, 1 - 7pm La Unica 8 - 11pm Pan-genre party and with melting pot grooves	NDC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 1 - 3pm MauvIn Graye & The Graye Line *** SPECIAL NIGHT *** 6 - 8pm Celebrating Prince's birthday
MON 6/08	TUES 6/09	WED 6/10	TH 6/11
LIVE BAND KARAOKE w/ Mike Scott & Friends 7 - 9:30pm	NDC Open Mic w/ Tom Gleason 6 - 9:30pm Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p	BIBLIOPHILES BOOK CLUB, 11a-12p Susan Jones Jazz Quartet 7 - 9pm A violin led jazz group	The Half Smokes 7 - 9pm Performing favs from the WHFS playlists - late 70's to early 90's.

*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."
FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

A Review

Union Revolution at Starbucks Featured at May Reel and Meal

by Kurt Stand

Colloquially, the word partners – whether referring to work colleagues, cooperative endeavors or intimate relationships – implies equality among all sides. Yet words can disguise meaning as became evident to the 40 people at the New Deal Café (in person and via Zoom) watching Reel and Meal’s May 18 screening of Partners – How Starbucks Baristas Started a Labor Revolution. The program was sponsored by the Labor Heritage Foundation as part of its annual Labor FilmFest.

Partners tells the story of workers who organized a union at three Starbucks stores in Buffalo in 2021. That victory started a “one-store-at-a-time” approach by Starbucks Workers United, which has led to 691 unionized Starbucks today. Why have they been so eager to organize? Baristas in the film complained about low pay and benefits and the lack of seniority. One barista noted that she worked at her location for over 10 years, yet newly hired employees receive nearly the same pay.

Staffing was another issue – the pressure to do more with less. Speeding up, moreover, makes it harder for baristas to provide customers with the atmosphere that is part of the Starbucks brand. As one Buffalo worker explained, she liked being part of Starbucks and wanted to make it better, which she believed a union would make possible. Chiefly, Starbucks partners wanted respect.

Partners also introduces us to a “salt” – someone who takes a job in order to organize a union. Salts, however, are only successful if employees feel the need for a union. Furthermore, a salt would be unnecessary if workers’ rights to organize were not continuously violated. Starbucks exemplifies the challenge. Rather than recognize the union, the company flew 100 executives and managers to Buffalo to try to defeat the organizing drive. Eventually, the company was cited for hundreds of labor law violations.

Following the film, Cassie Pritchard, a former barista and Starbucks Workers United member, answered questions about the documentary. Needing a job, she applied to Starbucks because it was known as a trans friendly employer. Another reason: Pritchard, a democratic socialist, heard about the unionization drive and wanted to help. She worked at two stores in Los Angeles, helping organize each, and served on the bargaining committee until laid off. Pritchard affirmed the veracity of Partners’ depiction of working life at Starbucks, noting that management focuses on numbers not people, always seeking greater control over their workforce by understaffing.

Organizing means convincing baristas that they should receive decent pay and treatment.

And it means convincing people that they have the power to assert their rights when they act collectively. The hurdle, Pritchard explained, is U.S. labor laws that don’t provide needed protections



for workers. Although 11,000 Starbucks workers have voted in favor of a union, not a single contract has been signed. This situation has been made worse since Trump’s election due to his anti-union appointments to the National Labor Relations Board.

Pritchard wrote a New York Times op-ed on November 25, 2025, Why Are My Fellow Baristas Being Used as Props in a Dangerous Culture War (nytimes.com/by/cassie-pritchard), describing right-wing efforts to harass “woke” baristas after Charlie Kirk’s murder and management’s failure to defend its workforce. Her article details the need for and obstacles to unionization. Despite all challenges, the Starbucks Workers United organizing drive continues to grow and gain support.

In response to a question, Pritchard pointed out three ways people can help: 1) No Contract, No Coffee (nocontractnocoffee.org/) – refuse to shop at Starbucks until they are willing to negotiate in good faith with the union; 2) Delete the App (sbworkersunited.org/take-action/) – loading money on a Starbucks app is like giving the corporation an interest-free loan; and 3) Help build the union (sbworkersunited.org/take-action/) – whether a Starbucks employee or looking to be a salt, contact the union.

Partners was produced by Working Films, a North Carolina-based nonprofit that develops and circulates documentary films to advance social justice and environmental protection. For more information, visit workingfilms.org.

The evening’s program was all the more relevant as Greenbelt’s municipal employees are seeking to unionize and engage in collective bargaining.

Crisis Hotline’s Number is 988

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

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
 One Hillside Road
 Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship
 www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org
 Rev. Aubra Love, Senior Pastor

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 • Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
 • Sunday Mass:
 ◦ Sat vigil 5pm*
 ◦ Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
 • Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.
 Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.
 *Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.
CELEBRATE WITH US
 135 Crescent Rd.
 www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Obituaries

Joyce Krieger



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Joyce Krieger

Joyce Ruth Krieger died on May 23, 2026, at the age of 82 after a brief illness.

Joyce was born in Chicago, Ill. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Il-

linois, where she met George, her husband of 60 years. She received a master’s degree from Michigan State University.

In 1969, the Kriegers moved to University Square Apartments and in 1972, to Boxwood Village, where they have lived since then. Joyce was extremely busy in Greenbelt activities and could often be found in Roosevelt Center in her signature bright patterned outfits, always capped off with one of her many hats.

An educator by nature and education, she taught English as a Second Language for 40 years, primarily to adults in Greenbelt through the Prince George’s County Board of Education.

Joyce is survived by her husband George, children Dan (Lisa) and David (Nikki) and grandchildren Evan, Kyle and Alex. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.



Our sympathies to the family, neighbors and many ESL students of longtime educator and Boxwood resident Joyce Krieger, who died after a brief illness. Those who didn’t know her surely noticed her at the many Greenbelt activities she attended over 50 plus years, a stand-out figure in her colorful outfits and fascinating hats.

Congratulations to Greenbelt Police Officer Kendall Graham on earning the rank of Private First Class.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Ryleigh Butler who received the Award for Excellence in White House History at Maryland History Day on May 2.

Congratulations to all the high school students who graduated this week.

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

Focus on Caregivers At Not for Seniors Only

The Greenbelt Senior Citizens Advisory Committee will present its annual Not for Seniors Only event on Saturday, June 6 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 201. This year’s topic is Caregivers: You Are Not Alone, featuring Sharon Johnson, GAIL (Greenbelt Assistance in Living) geriatric case manager and certified dementia care practitioner.

Johnson has worked with the City of Greenbelt for the past 18 years, helping seniors and adult residents with disabilities to identify, locate and acquire the services and supports necessary to safely age in place. She will provide practical advice on issues that challenge caregivers and their loved ones. Attendees are invited to bring questions and concerns about caregiving to find the resources that they will need as their situation changes.

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.

"God grant that the light of unity may envelop the whole earth." – Bahá’u’lláh

Greenbelt Bahá’i Community
 www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
 Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
 Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
 301-474-5410
 Pastor Evelyn Romero
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Let’s party! Celebrations from the Bible.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT
Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!
A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
 OR - Join us on ZOOM!
 For ZOOM link:
[CCG1985+owner@groups.io](https://www.zoom.us/j/CCG1985+owner@groups.io)

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

Mishkan Torah Congregation
 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
 Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Yael Fischman
 A welcoming, inclusive, and friendly synagogue offers something for everyone: young, old, single, married, and both Jewish and interfaith families.
Services at 8:00pm Friday and 9:45am Saturday in person and on Zoom
 For more information, visit MishkanTorah.org or call 301-474-4223
 A Dual-Affiliated Reconstructionist and Conservative congregation
 10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770



City Information & Events

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

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

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



MEETINGS FOR JUNE 8 - 12

Tuesday, June 9 at 5 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS - Zoom, On the Agenda: TBD**

Wednesday, June 10 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT CEMETERY MASTER PLAN / BUDGET PROCESS DISCUSSION**

Thursday, June 11 at 7 pm, **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD - Council Chambers, On the Agenda: TBD**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 8 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
- Petitions and Requests
- Consent Agenda
- * Meetings
- * Committee Reports
- Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

- Presentations
- * Public Hearing
- * LGBTQ+ Pride Month Proclamation
- * Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week Proclamation
- * National Gun Violence Awareness Month Proclamation
- Minutes
- Administrative Reports
- * Cell Phone Towers Update

LEGISLATION

- A Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend §3-22 "Powers" of the City Charter to Authorize the City of Greenbelt to Engage in Collective Bargaining with Certain Eligible Non-Exempt, Non-Managerial, and Non-Confidential City Employees as Provided in Article VIII of Chapter 13 of the City Code.
- 2nd Reading and Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- FY2027 Program Open Space Annual Program
- Update on Indian Creek Park Master Plan
- Authorization for City Manager to Approve Contract Addendum with Dewberry for Greenbelt Station/Wmata Trail Design and Engineering
- Discussion of City Code Amendment to the Labor Code
- Discussion: Establishment of a Council Finance Working Group
- Discussion: Appointment of a Council Liaison to the Greenbelt Cinema
- Council Reports
- Council Activities

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

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

OFFICIAL NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a public hearing to be held during the Regular Meeting of Council **Monday, June 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm**

Concerning the Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend §3-22 "Powers" of the City Charter to Authorize the City of Greenbelt to Engage in Collective Bargaining with Certain Eligible, Non-Exempt, Non-Managerial, and Non-Confidential City Employees as Provided in Article VIII of Chapter 13 of the City Code.

The Public Hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Building and virtually via Zoom. Public attendance and participation are encouraged.

All residents of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the proposed charter amendment.

The proposed charter amendment is enclosed on Regular Council Meeting June 8, 2026, agenda packet posted on the City Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>. For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

COMMUNITY MEETING: HANOVER PARKWAY BICYCLE PROJECT

June 4, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway, #101

The City of Greenbelt is hosting a community meeting to present and receive feedback on the 60% design plans to construct a shared use path for pedestrians and bicyclists along Hanover Parkway from Good Luck Road to Mandan Road.

Learn more at www.greenbeltmd.gov/hanoverproject.

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.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET

FOR THE GENERAL FUND, BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE FUND, CEMETERY FUND, DEBT SERVICE FUND, REPLACEMENT FUND, SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND, GREEN RIDGE HOUSE FUND, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND, AND GREENBELT WEST INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

At its regular meeting of May 26, 2026, the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, adopted the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2027, thereby approving expenditures as follows:

General Fund	\$41,976,992
Building Capital Reserve Fund	3,178,445
Cemetery Fund	0
Debt Service Fund	800,800
Replacement Fund	371,775
Special Projects Fund	784,200
Green Ridge House	15,900
Capital Projects Fund	5,331,800
Community Development Block Grant Fund	231,022
Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund	4,275,000

Copies of the adopted budget document will be available for examination no later than September 2026 at the City Offices at 25 Crescent Road and on the Greenbelt Website (www.greenbeltmd.gov).

GREENBELT DAY WEEKEND

Friday, June 5 - Sunday June 7

GREENBELT PRIDE FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Friday, June 5 at 3 pm

Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Rd



Join the City of Greenbelt for our 4th Annual Pride Flag Raising Ceremony.

CHESAPEAKE BAY AWARENESS WEEK: KAYAK CLEANUP

Saturday, June 6 at 10 am

Buddy Attick Lake Park, 555 Crescent Road

Be a part of the community effort to improve the environment and celebrate the Chesapeake Bay! Volunteers will work with the Greenbelt Park Rangers to remove litter from the lake by kayak at Buddy Attick Park. There are ten kayaks available for use with pre-registration on a first-come first-serve basis (kayaks limited to volunteers aged 16+). Participants are welcome to bring their own watercraft.

Register online via our [Sign-Up Genius](#) page: Questions? Contact Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov.



NOT FOR SENIORS ONLY

Presented by Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

Caregivers: You Are Not Alone

Saturday, June 6 from 1 - 2:30 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201, 15 Crescent Road

Join us for a discussion that will focus on answers to issues that challenge caregivers. Led by Sharon Johnson CMC, CDP, MAGS-C, GAIL Community Case Manager, Certified Dementia Care Practitioner For more information, contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2056.

GREENBELT JAZZ FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 6 from 1 - 7 pm

Roosevelt Center, Centerway

Enjoy outdoor live music with your friends and neighbors! Experience performances by The Brother Bill Quintet, Marianna & The DC Jumpers, Scotch & Soda, The Rhythm Doctors featuring Valentina Maria, The UpBeats & The Seth Kibel Quartet Featuring Flo Anito.

GREENBELT MUSEUM TOURS

Sunday, June 7 from 1 - 5 pm

Greenbelt Museum, 10B Crescent Rd

In honor of Greenbelt Day and the nation's 250th anniversary, the Museum will open a temporary exhibition, Spirit of '76: Greenbelt at the Bicentennial. Visit the Museum house to explore what's changed (and what hasn't) in the fifty years since 1976.

GREENBELT CONCERT BAND PERFORMANCE

Sunday, June 7 at 3 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Auditorium, 15 Crescent Road

Come celebrate Greenbelt's birthday with music by the Greenbelt Concert Band.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL HISTORY PRESENTATION

Sunday, June 7 at 4 pm

Greenbelt Community Center

Learn about the history of Greenbelt's City Council.

GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS

PINK PANTRY

June 10, 2026, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East

Pink Pantry provides free menstrual and hygiene products to Greenbelt residents who may need assistance accessing these items.

Register online: <https://forms.gle/xmCMfvkVxtSURF3M7>

HOME SAFETY CHECKUPS

Mondays June 15, July 20 and August 17 from 10 am to 2 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East

For more information contact Natalie Garcia: ngarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-244-6010

* 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, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Appeals, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee and make a difference in Greenbelt!

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

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

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

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

Pre-School Art Exploration

NEW this summer! This class is being offered in conjunction with GAIL/CARES Diaper Distribution - see page 10 of the summer activity guide: www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide for more information. Mondays, 10am-12pm; 6/8, 6/22, 7/13, 7/27, 8/24.

Summer Camp Openings

Several of the City of Greenbelt's summer camps still have spaces available! More information about each camp and how to register at www.greenbeltmd.gov/676/Camps. Open sessions: Creative Kids Camp (session 1 only), Circus Camp (sessions 1 & 2) Camp Encore (sessions 1 & 2) as well as Kinder Camp, Camp Pine Tree and Camp YOGO.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

Registration required for the following activities, see www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide for details

- **Youth Pottery on the Wheel**
M-F, 3:45-5:45pm. 6/29-7/10. Greenbelt Community Center (page 17) Additional dates available.
- **Summer Sewing Lab**
Su, 4-6pm. 6/28, 7/12, 7/26 & 8/9. Greenbelt Community Center (page 21)
- **Intro to Painting on Canvas**
M, 6-8pm. 6/29-8/10. Greenbelt Community Center (page 22)

SUMMER ACTIVITY GUIDE 2026

Register for summer programs, classes, and more!

View the Summer Activity Guide and register today: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/ActivityGuide>.

FOREVER FREE AND THE ILLITERACY PLAYBOOK

Sunday, June 21 from 6 - 8:30 pm

Greenbelt Cinema, 129 Centerway

Join us for a powerful film, live discussion, and celebration of impact. Proceeds support literacy initiatives by The Better Place, Inc.

In partnership with the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee.

For more information and for tickets, visit the [EventBrite page](#).

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free." — Frederick Douglass

Council News

BUDGET continued from page 1

the cost of health insurance and prescription drug coverage along with a \$27,000 increase in the prescription subsidy for retirees.

Cinema

The Greenbelt Cinema was the recipient of two of the changes. Under Public Works, council increased the Roosevelt Center budget by \$15,632 to take over the Cinema's utility bills. The cinema had requested increasing its operating subsidy by \$25,000 along with a one-time contribution of \$60,000 for development of an operational plan.

Councilmember Danielle McKinney moved to keep the cinema subsidy at \$75,000 instead of the requested \$100,000. She hoped that the operational plan would allow them to operate within this subsidy but called for revisiting the subsidy a few months after the plan's completion. Her motion passed 5 to 2 with Councilmembers Frankie Santos Fritz and Pompei opposed. Several councilmembers reiterated their support for the theater while noting that the budget increases city support by more than \$75,000.

Other Changes

Funding for the city clerk and Board of Elections was increased by \$6,500 to support preparations for implementing ranked choice voting for the 2027 city election.

The CARES budget was increased by \$134,395 for salary and benefits for the nursing program staff.

The Greenbelt East Recycling Center will be closed, reducing costs by \$50,000. The funds

saved will be used to support the CARES nursing program. Council also reduced its own budget by roughly \$23,520 with cuts to its legislative services and special programs accounts to support the CARES program.

The budget for the Reparations Commission was increased by \$1,500 to \$6,500. The funding for Greenbelt Access Television was increased to \$12,000 (from \$3,300 in FY 2026) to partially offset a reduction in revenue from cable television Public, Educational and Governmental fees.

Allocated "Nonmonetary"

Council then turned to the "nonmonetary changes." These are changes to city positions, the cost of which is reflected in the expenditure lines for each department. The changes include the funding of the CARES Nursing Program and several other changes covered in last week's article. The new position of Public Works operations manager will not be filled until January to reduce costs.

The most controversial of these changes was the elimination of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Officer. Salmerón had proposed to move these responsibilities to the Human Resources Department, which council approved, with Councilmembers Fritz and Silke Pope opposed. However, at the final worksession, council agreed to keep the funding in the budget pending further review of the city's DEI efforts, which began with a June 1 worksession.

Shakespeare in the Parks Features As You Like It

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Shakespeare in the Parks Tour brings a professional, free and family-friendly theatrical experience to parks throughout Prince George's County.

This summer's featured production is *As You Like It*, one of Shakespeare's most delightful comedies. Filled with mistaken identities, witty banter, music, romance and playful adventure, the story follows Rosalind and her companions as they flee to the Forest of Arden, where love is tested, friendships are forged and everyone discovers that life can be sweeter when joy and freedom are embraced.

Performances start at 7 p.m. For outdoor performances, bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating and comfort. Picnic meals are encouraged, and the production is pet-friendly.

Nearby Performances

Sunday, June 14, David C. Driskell Community Park, 3911 Hamilton St, Hyattsville

Tuesday, June 16, Riversdale House Historic Site and Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale

Thursday, June 18, Montpelier Arts Center, 652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel. Sign language interpreter.

Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28, Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Hyattsville. Sign language interpreter; post-show Q&A with cast on Saturday.

Sunday, July 5, Watkins Regional Park, 331 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro. Performance will be in the field in front of Watkins Nature Center.

Community Center Hosts Blood Drive June 5

As summer approaches, the Red Cross is bracing for an annual seasonal shortage of blood, as regular donors go on vacation and miss blood drives. This shortage can affect lifesaving treatment at area hospitals. The Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Community Center on Friday, June 5, with appointments available from 1 to 2:45 p.m.

Donors of all blood types — especially type O — are urged to make an appointment to give now to help meet the needs of patients. Visit redcross.org to make an appointment; walk-ins can probably not be accommodated.

The Greenbelt American Legion Post also hosts a blood drive every other month, with the next one scheduled for Monday, July 6. Appointment times from 1:45 to 5:45 p.m. are available.

The American Red Cross operates a Lanham Blood Donation Center, only three miles from Greenbelt on Annapolis Road. The Center is open Sundays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Mondays and Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

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Greenbelt Station's Central Park to See Improvements

by Diane Oberg

At its May 26 meeting the Greenbelt City Council approved a Greenbelt Station plan for adding planters to its Central Park, sought to expedite road markings at Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway and authorized the city manager to contract for a sidewalk assessment.

Greenbelt Station

Council approved a proposal for installing planters at Greenbelt Station's Central Park after defeating Mayor Emmett Jordan's motion to refer the request to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) for review. The city will cover up to half of the estimated \$4,400 cost. PRAB council liaison Kristen Weaver argued that referring such a minor project to PRAB is not a good use of their time.

Hanover Parkway

Council directed the staff to prepare a letter to the State Highway Administration asking it to prioritize the marking of "Don't Block the Box" striping to the westbound lanes of Greenbelt Road at Hanover Parkway.

Administrative Reports

City Manager Josué Salmerón reported that the city had launched its Façade Improvement Grant that day for merchants in Roosevelt Center. Recipients can obtain up to \$35,000 for façade improvements.

Sidewalks

As part of the consent agenda (without discussion), council authorized the city manager to contract with Citylogix at a cost not to exceed \$15,303 to conduct a sidewalk assessment. The study will assess all 38 miles of sidewalk in the city identifying condition, dimensions, hazards and compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The city will then need to work toward improving its compliance. He expects the work to be completed by early fall.

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Petitions

Former Mayor Judith Davis noted that she has been selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Municipal Official award by the Maryland Municipal League and thanked council and staff for their support.

Resident Mark Sherman urged council to consider electing councilmembers by precinct rather than at large. Resident Bill Orleans supported this idea.

Resident Andy Zmidzinski described his adventures in trying, unsuccessfully, to get a map of the stop sign enforcement zones on paper. He does not use the city's website, visit Facebook or read the News Review, he said, and wants more information to be mailed to residents.

Resident David Whaples urged council to not increase taxes on older residents but instead increase the city's commercial tax base (not the tax rate).

Resident Louise Wiseman spoke against the proposal to move the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) officer's responsibilities to the Human Resources department. Orleans called on council to restore their pay to its pre-election level and use the difference to fund the DEI position.

Proclamations

Jordan presented proclamations declaring:

- May as Older Americans Month to CARES Assistant Director Christal Batey, who noted that the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program is now 25 years old.

- The first week of May as Compost Awareness Week and 2026 as Greenbelt Recycles and

Composts Year, presented to Sustainability Coordinator Luisa Robles.

- May as Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Awareness Month to Recreation Director Greg Varda and Aquatics Coordinator Cynthia Brown.

City Notes

Constituent Services attended the Memorial Day ceremony at the American Legion and a meeting of the Greenbelt Business Alliance and coordinated a restaurant ribbon-cutting in Beltway Plaza attended by Public Safety/Community and Economic Development. Information Technology worked on equipment and network connection issues for a new electric police cruiser.

Code Enforcement inspected eight commercial properties and 27 rentals and issued a building permit. After two adoptions, Animal Shelter residents are six cats, nine kittens and five dogs.

Streets identified and repaired a waterline leak behind the Youth Center. Facilities completed the rooftop chiller project at the Community Center and Horticulture installed a memorial tree and plaque. Environmental held a Forest Preserve Advisory Board meeting and welcomed 12 employees of a local business to pick up litter at the lake.

Therapeutic Recreation began Summer Sage classes and hosted a senior Tech Café.

CARES hosted the 2026 Greenbelt Job Fair, helping 138 job seekers connect with local job opportunities.

Greenbriar Summer Yard Sale

June 6, 2026

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Greenbriar Condominiums

7600 Hanover Parkway,

Greenbelt, MD 20770

Discover great bargains, hidden treasures, and unique finds for the whole family! Come Shop Till You Drop



JUNE 5 - 20, 2026 | FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 8PM | SUNDAYS AT 2PM*

AS PRODUCED BY STARKID PRODUCTIONS

THE GUY WHO DIDN'T LIKE MUSICALS

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JEFF BLIM
BOOK BY NICK & MATT LANG

GAC
GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

*AUDIENCE MASKS REQUIRED FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 14 MATINEE PERFORMANCE.

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS OR VISIT GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

Weather Hits Food Distribution Amid Rising Need for Volunteers

by Cam Crossett

The City of Greenbelt's monthly food distribution program, hosted on the third Thursday of each month at the Community Center, was cancelled on May 21 due to inclement weather. According to city officials, the cancellation followed an established safety policy and was not tied to funding cuts or operational changes.

"The order was cancelled and never delivered," said Christal Batey, assistant director of Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL). Thus, the city was not left with produce it couldn't distribute as a result of the cancellation. The city confirmed the monthly distribution will resume June 18.

The program provides Greenbelt residents with shelf-stable groceries and, when available, fresh meat, fresh fruits and vegetables.

The Need

According to National Public Radio Chief Economics Correspondent Scott Horsley, roughly 10 percent of families nationwide report missing meals in 2026 because they could not afford enough food. Despite increasing food insecurity nationally, Batey said Greenbelt has not yet experienced a major increase in demand.

The cancellation still came at a difficult time for many households already struggling with rising grocery prices and unstable federal food assistance programs.

Since 2025, food bank and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients have faced mounting pressure from inflation, rising living costs and periodic federal funding disruptions. According to the Capital Area Food Bank's 2025 annual report, more than one in three residents in the Greater Washington region experience food insecurity, while 41 percent of households impacted by federal cuts reported food insecurity. Transportation costs, climate-related crop disruptions and labor shortages have all contributed to rising food prices nationwide.

The impact has been particularly severe for seniors, families with children, people with disabilities and working households whose wages have not kept pace with inflation.

"Food pricing has definitely been volatile for the past year," says Dan Gillotte, general manager of the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy. "We're seeing some cost increases that are tariff-related over the past several months and expecting to see much more related to fuel costs increasing," he told the News Review. "Grocery stores have extremely tight margins and so these costs generally get passed along to the consumer," explained Gillotte.

In Greenbelt, organizers emphasized that May's cancellation was primarily about protecting the many elderly volunteers who help operate the distribution each month.

"It's not an intention to cancel food distributions," said Katherine Farzin, bilingual community outreach coordinator for GAIL. "Since it's volunteer-driven and they've been coming for a while, they're now in their mid to late 80s and we want to ensure their safety, to make sure they don't get sick because of the rain and



The line for the monthly food distribution stretched along Crescent Road on October 16, 2025.

PHOTO BY FLORY LIETZ



A selection of nonperishable food items for distribution at St. Hugh's

PHOTO BY CAM CROSSETT

perhaps falling due to the wet pavement. Sometimes it's best to cancel."

A Need for Volunteers

Farzin said GAIL recently updated signage around the Community Center to include "weather permitting" notices. She added that the organization hopes younger residents will step forward to volunteer and help sustain the program long-term. She added, "GAIL would love to see younger people volunteering. People who may have participated in it, giving up their time once a month for a few hours."

Participating Residents

Residents participating in the program complete an application that helps organizers understand how many Greenbelt residents are being served. Participants receive a distribution card used during monthly pickups.

Farzin said accommodations are available for residents who may have transportation difficulties or struggle to complete paperwork.

"If residents have difficulty filling out the application, or don't have transportation to come to the Community Center, they can just come to the distribution, get a card and be served," she said.

Other Food Assistance

During the cancellation, the city directed residents to alternative food assistance providers throughout Greenbelt. St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church operates a pantry Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Greenbelt Community Church supports the Help by Phone food pantry at Berwyn Presbyterian Church on Greenbelt Road.

Community food assistance efforts like St. Hugh's pantry play a valuable role in supplementing the city's distribution through additional nonperishable offerings and fresh produce when available.

This month St. Hugh's pantry was also affected by the distribution cancellation because it receives fresh produce, as available from the Capital Area Food Bank, in conjunction with the city's distribution. Also, they saw an increase in residents seeking food from their pantry this month, though some specifically seeking fresh produce chose not to visit after learning only nonperishable items were available.

"The pantry has been in existence for about 25 years," said Mary Ann Tretler, president of St. Hugh's Ladies of Charity, which coordinates the church's pantry serving approximately 60 families each week. It relies heavily on community partnerships and volunteers. Donations come from parishioners, area churches and local businesses including the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, which coordinates weekly pantry donations through its buy a bag of groceries program. "Co-op shoppers buy a bag of groceries at a discounted rate that then goes to the food pantry at St Hugh's," explains Gillotte. "We're pleased to participate in a program for neighbors in need," he said.

"Truly it's a communitywide effort," Tretler said. "This wouldn't happen if everyone didn't participate."

As federal food assistance programs continue facing uncertainty, local organizers say community support remains critical to keep emergency food programs operating.

"Volunteering is free," Farzin said. "If you've been thinking about volunteering, you should give back to the community while the government is still finding a way to boost funding."

Cam Crossett is a graduate student at the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

Film on Literacy Premieres Here on Juneteenth Weekend

by Lois Rosado

The Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee invites residents of Greenbelt and beyond to the premiere showing of *Forever Free* and the *Illiteracy Playbook* on Sunday, June 21 at 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Cinema. As many are aware, literacy is still one of the nation's biggest challenges. Children continue to have low reading scores.

The film's director Dion Johnson, offers a summary of the film. "Millions of Americans, especially in marginalized communities, struggle with basic literacy, a crisis rooted in generations of educational inequity," he said. "This documentary confronts that deliberate reality head-on, weaving archival footage, expert insights and deeply personal stories into a powerful narrative about literacy as a gateway to civic participation, economic mobility and personal dignity. The film traces the enduring tactics of America's 'illiteracy playbook' — terror, political suppression and systemic neglect — while highlighting the individuals and communities who fought back. From Reconstruction Era classrooms built in defiance of oppression to today's family literacy programs, it uncovers a legacy of resilience and innovation that continues to shape the struggle for educational justice. By connecting past heroism with present day

urgency, the film offers not just a historical reckoning but a forward-looking blueprint for educators, advocates and policymakers committed to expanding access to the transformative power of reading."

Film co-executive producer Cortland Jones retired as an instructor from Greenbelt Middle School. While teaching at the school, Jones won a grant from the Greenbelt Community Foundation to create a literacy program. He continues working on his literacy program, even in retirement. Like Johnson, Jones and co-executive producer Shaun King are committed fighters promoting literacy in our city, state and country.

According to Jones, "the vision of the Art, Literature, Leadership Initiative was to engage Greenbelt Middle School students and the community of Greenbelt in actions and activities that promoted art, principles of leadership and the celebration of literacy. My mission was to garner as much support from the community as possible to help me execute the initiative." Through this grant, he was able to organize student and community book clubs, design a creative writing afterschool program, a literature-to-theater writing and graphic design program, and help students design their own newsletter. He gained support from Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Education as well as CARES. Book club students and interested community teens often met at the Greenbelt Library on Saturdays to discuss a book and plan for future readings. Jones hopes to restart some of those activities for youth in Greenbelt this fall.

The film premiere is hosted by the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee and RUAK.

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

Relics Concert June 7 Supports Food Bank

Local oldies rock band, The Relics, will hold a concert on Sunday, June 7 at 1 p.m. on the Greenbelt Community Church lawn. Bring a lawn chair. In the event of bad weather, the concert will be moved to the sanctuary.

Donations in the form of canned and dry food goods, cash, check and cash apps will all be accepted to support Help By Phone, a local food pantry. The church is located at 1 Hillside Road.

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Jeana Jacobs's deep knowledge of county government, record of public service, and commitment to constituents will benefit all Prince George's residents. As an At-Large member of the council, she will hit the ground running.

★ VOTE JUNE 23, 2026 ★

EARLY VOTING: JUNE 11-18

Friends of Verjeana McCotter-Jacobs, M.M. (Peggy) Higgins, Treasurer.

ROTARY continued from page 1

getting to where they can obtain vegetables, McKinney said. She has become passionate about addressing some of the gaps. A map showing her own research on the availability of established garden plots, including the community plots and the three Three Sisters Gardens showed uneven distribution, but also possibilities for where small pieces of land might be converted to garden use for wider access.

On the other hand, she said, "We are operating better than a lot of cities. We have a garden club, we have CHEARS, Rotary, a beautiful Farmers Market, a beautiful Co-op." The problem she identified is a tendency to operate in silos, so Greenbelt Grows hopes to address that issue by bringing all the groups with different resources together in a system that can communicate and work together.

McKinney presented her research on three different municipalities that are having success building this kind of interconnected system. Several audience members added stories about other cities and areas making innovative efforts to enable and expand urban food gardening and sharing.

McKinney introduced a strategy she called the "harvest hub" to get food from gardeners to consumers. To help with logistics, a grant-funded city purchase of a mobile refrigerated trailer will allow greater time and distance between harvest and distribution. McKinney provided information

to shoppers and vendors while tabling at the Farmers Market, where the trailer will debut in coming weeks. On-the-spot vendor donations will include weekly batches of fresh produce. Greenbelt Public Works personnel will move the trailer and take the food to Springhill Lake Elementary School regularly, where it will be picked up by families pre-selected by the school.

McKinney and Greenbelt Rotary President and fellow Greenbelt Grows food activist Jennifer Dudley discussed a gradual, realistic scaling-up process, envisioned as including donations from the Co-op and community gardeners. It will require more volunteers and composting logistics. Down the road are possibilities and locations to process foods for shelf stability and meal readiness.

Greenbelt Grows was built on a foundation of gardeners who want to help. To illustrate the mutual helpfulness of Greenbelt's community gardeners, McKinney appreciated her gardening plot neighbor, Shaymar Higgs of The SPACE. Two audience members immediately praised Higgs' artistic garden ornamentation and McKinney chuckled, "I mean, it's a whole thing!"

Dudley chimed in that Higgs' garden is among the gardens selected for the Rotary's upcoming fundraising tour on Saturday, June 6. Rotarian Erica Johns previewed highlights of that tour of gardens all over Greenbelt, a veritable scavenger hunt to satisfy every gardening interest. From rare and

delicate plants to quirky garden decor to nutrition education to spiritual retreats to high-yield food production, this is not your average garden tour.

For more information on Greenbelt Grows, including volunteer opportunities, visit greenbeltgrows.org. For information on the upcoming garden tour and convenient purchase of tax-deductible tickets, the Rotary Club website is greenbeltrotary.org.



At the May 31 Greenbelt Farmers Market, Danielle McKinney, right, speaks with Jorge Pleitez of Fajardo's Produce Farm.

- Photos by Erica Johns



Danielle McKinney discusses food gardening and produce sources in Greenbelt (gardens, Farmers Market and Co-op).

An attentive audience learns about the gaps between plate and population limiting access to fresh produce. Greenbelt Grows intends to help address those gaps by connecting separate food security efforts.



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EARLY VOTE
JUNE 11-18



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Watch Out, Starbucks! New Deal Café Barista Stan Has Arrived

by Michael Hartman

"I know that the coffee [at the Café] has sucked for a while, because I wasn't too familiar with coffee," admits New Deal Café food and beverage vendor Kenny Hilliard.

New Deal's new barista-in-residence, Stanley Banks Jr., seeks to elevate the beverage at the Café. "Coffee is probably the second love of my life besides music," he says.

Ironically, one of the primary purposes of the Café was to get "a decent cup of coffee." Hilliard, though, is aiming higher than "decent."

Hilliard has known Banks for over 20 years and knows how passionate he is about everything he does. Banks has opened coffee shops and is also a musician so he seemed an ideal fit for a music venue trying to build its coffee program, said Hilliard. Banks also brings management, structure and energy to the endeavor, "as well as building partnerships and relationships with coffee companies," while also conducting barista training for other employees. Banks began working at the Café during the very busy Green Man Festival weekend, experiencing the proverbial baptism by fire.

About Stan Banks

Banks, 36, born and raised in Washington, D.C., now lives in College Park. He has been playing percussion instruments since he was 2 years old and has toured the U.S. as a musician.

He became a barista in a roundabout way. As a working musician he had always supplemented his income with other work. One day a friend suggested working in a coffee shop. At the time, Banks didn't even like the taste of coffee, but his friend convinced him and got him a job in a D.C. coffee shop. After a



Stanley Banks Jr., a new barista at the New Deal Café, creates a design on a coffee.

couple of weeks, Banks gave up his night shift at a hotel to work at the coffee shop, even though it paid a bit less. It meant he had a lot more time to pursue his first love: making music. For the first year he greeted people, worked the register and never went near an espresso machine.

Latte Art

When he finally made his first latte and began on-the-job training in making drinks, he loved the added challenge of adding art. Banks is honing his skills in two latte art designs, hearts and flowers, which are created by "stacks" inside each drink. For now, Banks makes two or three stacks, but he once did 11 on a cappuccino. He said it was one of those times where he just kept pouring until he ran out of milk and finally got the heart he desired.

Banks explains that latte art is done using steamed milk to create a textured mix in the controller pitcher that then is used as the design instrument. The higher viscosity of the steamed milk, at

120 to 140 degrees Fahrenheit, allows a design to take and keep the shape in the cup. Banks says of learning the barista craft, "I was just blessed enough to know and be connected to some of the best baristas in D.C., and I was able to learn from them."

"At the end of the day, you have got to put your 10,000 hours into practice." When he came to work early bringing his own milk, everyone knew he would be standing in front of the espresso machines practicing steaming milk and making designs. It is something he still does, even though he will have been doing it for 14 years in January.

Coffee at the Café

Though new to the Café, Banks is no stranger to Greenbelt. When he came to the New Deal for the first time, he was excited to see the Greenbelt Cinema, where he saw The Lion King in 1994 when he was 4 years old. He then called his aunt, who used to live in Franklin Park, to tell her it was still there. His family used to come to Greenbelt to escape a congested and overcrowded Washington, D.C.

Banks' message to Café guests is simple: "If you are going to wake up, put on clothes and leave the comfort of your house, whether you are driving or you're walking, and come to the New

See **BARISTA**, page 15

Voices of Fairwood Music Series Begins June 7

The Voices of Fairwood summer concert series will begin on Sunday, June 7 from 4 to 6 p.m. This year the series will include the Celebrate Africa Festival with R&B, soul, jazz, funk, blues and more, embracing the multicultural nature of our county. Each concert is themed to celebrate the cultural impact of African American music on our community. Performances are free and suitable for all ages.

Concerts are held at Fairwood Community Park, 12390 Fairwood Parkway, Bowie. Depending on the weather, concert dates are subject to change. For updates check Facebook and Instagram @ ArtsPGParks or sign up for updates through PG Parks Alerts at pgparks.com/news/news-releases/pgparks-alerts.

This summer tradition, established in 2013 as the Fairwood Arts Festival by the Arts & Cultural Heritage Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation of Prince George's County, has grown into one of the most anticipated performing arts events in Prince George's County.

Juneteenth Festival At Watkins Park

Bring the whole family to Watkins Regional Park for live music, local artists and vendors, history exhibits, kids' activities, food trucks and more on Saturday, June 13 from noon to 5 p.m. Celebrate freedom, heritage, and community through music, culture and fun with performances from Rare Essence, Proverbs Reggae Band, Soul in Motion and Got My Own Sound Band.

The event is free and suitable for all ages. Watkins Regional Park is located at 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro.

Bike Ride Celebrates Patuxent's 90 Years

As part of the 90th Anniversary Celebration, the Friends of Patuxent will host a bike ride on the North Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge on Sunday, June 7, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Participants will enjoy a scenic ride through the North Tract, the largest area of the Refuge. Along the route, the Friends of Patuxent will highlight key milestones from the Refuge's legacy, from groundbreaking wildlife research to the protection of native species and ecosystems that continues today.

This family-friendly event will have a relaxed pace and is designed for riders of all experience levels. There will be opportunities to stop and enjoy wildlife or ask questions. The ride length will be 10 miles (five miles out and five miles back). Participants will meet at the North Tract Visitor Center at 230 Bald Eagle Dr., Laurel. No registration required.



Drive-in Movie Nights

Enjoy free drive-in movies at Prince George's Stadium on June 18, July 10, August 28 and October 16 with free snacks, food trucks, games and more. This year's lineup features Black Panther, Hoopers, Respect and Coco.

For a full schedule of dates, times and locations, visit pgparks.com. Performances are subject to cancellation due to weather emergencies. Only one vehicle can register per household per viewing. Individuals who have been suspended by Park Police will be ineligible for registration. Registration will not be permitted for accounts that have unpaid debt balances. Gates open at 7 p.m. and showtime is 8 p.m. Prince George's Stadium is located at 1101 Crain Highway, Bowie.

FONDCA PRESENTS

The 2026 Greenbelt Jazz Festival

JUNE 6 / 1-7 PM

- 1P The Brother Bill Quintet
- 2P Marianna & The DC Jumpers
- 3P Scotch & Soda
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- 5P The UpBeets
- 6P Seth Kibel Quartet feat Flo Anito
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(Moved indoors to New Deal Cafe stage in the event of rain)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors
on June 11, 2026

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

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on May 7, 2026
- b) Legal Matters
- c) Contract Matters
- d) Member Matters

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

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on May 7, 2026
- b) GHI Special Meeting Date
- c) Meeting with City of Greenbelt Management to Discuss Street Light Billing Responsibility
- d) Lighting at 11-13 Ridge Road
- e) Woodlands Committee Request to Review GHI's Herbicide Policy
- f) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on July 16, 2026

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

- a) Approve Minutes of the GDC Open Meeting Held on June 12, 2025
- b) Election of GDC Officers
- c) Review of 2026 1st Quarter Financial Statements

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

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtd-uuqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33gbi9r

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

BARC continued from page 1

destination, pay based on new locality, timeline to accept or reject the reassignment, report date, relocation benefits and options if they decline, said the preliminary letters, one of which was reviewed by the Greenbelt News Review.

A BARC employee who spoke with the News Review said people there are still waiting for their reassignment letters but they've been told to expect them very soon and to be ready to move by the end of the fiscal year, which is September 30. Multiple sources report that the plan is now to vacate BARC by that date, one saying that was communicated at an all-hands meeting by Acting Area Director Joe Rich. One employee told the News Review that Rich is creating a nationwide panel to decide where the Beltsville labs should be moved to and hopes to determine that this month. Two current employees who spoke to the News Review said they believed the new timeline was politically motivated, with the aim to accomplish the move before midterm elections.

Impact on Employees

"Everyone is so deflated," said one longtime BARC employee who spoke with us. This is especially true for those in research and "in charge of getting papers out." They've not been allowed to cooperate with anyone or communicate with the scientific world about what is going on, he told the News Review. Now no one is coming to their defense, saying, "Hey, we need our colleagues in Beltsville," he said.

"We are in a weird limbo waiting for that MDR letter," another employee told the News Review. "Some research is moving ahead where other research is stalled. Motivation is hard to come by. Many staff know they would not want to move and have begun searching for a new job. Others are exploring retirement options."

BARC has already lost a lot of staff over the last 18 months. There've been retirements and resignations and a lot of good people took "the forks," said one BARC worker, referring to the controversial deferred resignation option offered federal workers, which was a major initiative by the Department of Government Efficiency that was created under President Donald Trump.

AFGE Local 3403, the union representing BARC workers, reports that 76 percent of its members have indicated they are not planning to relocate, as reported by Federal News Network.

One of the employees we spoke to said whether or not he'd move with his lab when it's relocated depends on where that move is to.

In the USDA Organizational Restructuring Plan announced on April 23, the potential sites slated for BARC research projects to be relocated to are: Fayetteville, Ark.; Albany, Calif.; Ft. Collins, Colo.;

Ft. Pierce, Fla.; Miami, Fla.; Athens, Ga.; Tifton, Ga.; Ames, Iowa; Aberdeen, Idaho; West Lafayette, Ind.; St. Paul, Minn; Columbia, Mo.; Starkville, Miss.; Stoneville, Miss.; Raleigh, N.C.; Fargo, N.D.; Grand Forks, N.D.; Clay Center, Neb.; Chatsworth, N.J.; University Park, Pa.; Wyndmoor, Pa.; Charleston, S.C.; Kerrville, Texas; Logan, Utah; Wenatchee, Wash.; Madison, Wis.; and Kearneysville, W.Va.

Impact on Research

The September 30 timeline has significant implications for research projects at BARC as well as their personnel. A longtime employee we spoke with shared the difficulties for groups that work with perennial plants, who, for example, need to plant this summer the plants they will examine next year. "The breeding programs are time sensitive," he said. Work at BARC includes germplasm research studying pathogens with implications for crops and food security, and a post-harvest group that tests chemicals on fruit for safety, preservation and presentation. There have been some collaborations with NASA to grow food for that agency's space missions' needs, too, the employee told the News Review.

That Greenbelt employee also expressed concern about the difficulties in transporting the contents of labs to other locations, saying a permit is needed to transport plants, plant products, plant pests and soil from state to state. Requirements vary by state and the planned destinations for each lab are yet unknown. "We have plants with viruses," noted our source.

There's also genetic material that needs to be stored at super cold temperatures, said the BARC employee. While standard freezers in homes keep food between -5 and 5 degrees, some BARC scientists are working with material they need to keep in "the minus-80s." Some samples are decades old and he's unsure what will be kept or needed. They've been informed there will be specialized trucks suitable to transport the minus-80s materials anywhere in the country.

Funded Renovations

BARC consists of approximately 6,500 acres and more than 400 buildings. In May, USDA Deputy Secretary Stephen Vader called BARC an "ancient, underfunded, decrepit facility." Meanwhile, Maryland delegation members, including U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen, have argued that "since 2016, USDA has invested at least \$174 million in BARC facility upgrades and repairs."

This fiscal year appropriations were allocated to support BARC, including renovations. Yet, one BARC employee from Greenbelt told us much of the remodeling work and repairs have now ground to a halt. This includes necessary steam line work, he

If you are a BARC employee who is able to share what is happening where you work, please send us an email at meditor@greenbeltnewsreview.com or reach out on Signal to [Signal](https://www.signal.com) to AnnaBedfordDillow.01.

said, which is leaving lines leaking and corroded. He said, though it is unconfirmed, some believe contractors have stopped working on approved projects in some cases because they aren't getting paid. "The funding is there," our source alleges, "but getting access to the funding is a completely different story." That money is not coming down to the projects now, he says. "Everyone knows there's money, but somehow they have it all tied up," he says of the congressionally appropriated funds contained in the 2026 budget package.

Conversely, another BARC employee told us "there is significant maintenance work still being done, albeit slowly."

As previously reported, the Agriculture appropriations stipulated support for the continued operation of BARC and included \$6 million in funding to spend on construction and facilities improvements and building and infrastructure updates.

Waiting for Congress?

"No one is sticking up for their rights," said a Greenbelt BARC employee we spoke with. "No one is waiting for the congressional legislation and to make sure that this is what the American people want." The lack of upset over the process, the lack of checks and balances, and bypassing Congress is what upsets him most. American citizens should be upset, he said. "Rich people are trying to bypass the government. They're not doing America any favors." He believes the current administration and Republican majority are trying to close as many government programs as possible and don't care which ones. He believes the media is failing to report all the rule-breaking and bypassing of laws established by Congress and also inflaming divisions. He has been asked by a Republican relative why he doesn't quit, since nobody wants him. "Somehow we got vilified," he says of federal workers.

He'd like to continue working

for a few more years. His "best hope" is that BARC's decommissioning can be dragged out long enough that "we'll still be here

when the dust settles and a new administration begins."

However, "It's easy to see why people are just leaving," he says.



View of BARC on August 30, 2025

PHOTO BY MARK SHERMAN



Walk this way. The Goose family enjoys a cool morning.

PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Registration Open For Recreation Classes

Registration is now open for Greenbelt residents as well as nonresidents for Greenbelt Recreation classes and activities. Classes begin during or after the week of June 15. Visit greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide to see the Greenbelt Recreation Summer Activity Guide. Class registration remains open until the week before the scheduled start date, but many fill quickly, so sign up quickly to reserve your seat.



Greenbelt Farmers Market

Sundays 10a - 2p
Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

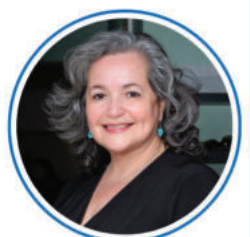
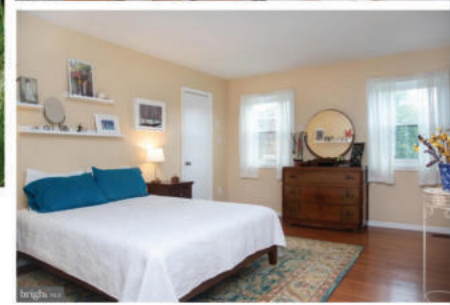
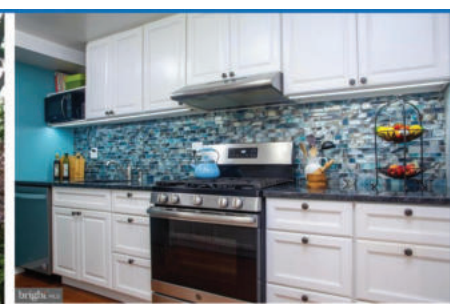


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Greenbelt Garden Tour
Saturday, June 6 10am - 2pm
12 food and ornamental gardens
Benefits Greenbelt Rotary Club community service activities

Purchase tickets
Learn about Rotary

School News

ERHS Student Wins Award At Maryland History Day

by Joan Estenson

Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Ryleigh Butler received the Award for Excellence in White House History for her Senior Individual Performance, When the Loudest Voice Was Silent, given at Maryland History Day on May 2.

The performance is about the Negro Silent Protest Parade, commonly known as the Silent Parade, a political protest in New York City on July 28, 1917. The primary objective of the march was to draw national attention to the widespread racial violence and entrenched systemic discrimination endured by African Americans.

This award, one of several special awards given at Maryland History Day, is sponsored by the



Ryleigh Butler displays her plaque at Maryland History Day.

White House Historical Association.

PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND HISTORY DAY

ERHS Senior to Serve as President Of SADD's Student Leadership

by Cassidy Oechslin

Prisha Shah from Eleanor Roosevelt High School has been selected by Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) to serve as president of the 2026-2027 national Student Leadership Council (SLC). SLC is a group of 18+ outstanding student leaders representing communities across the United States who were selected for their passion, leadership and commitment to helping young people make safe and healthy decisions.

Shah is a rising senior and has been involved in her school's SADD chapter since her freshman year. This is her second year on the national council. Her favorite SADD power word is change. "I strongly believe it embodies the

ability to create a profound and long-lasting impact on society," she said.

The SLC empowers students to serve as peer leaders and advocates on issues impacting youth, including traffic safety, mental health, substance misuse prevention, positive peer influence and personal responsibility. Throughout the year, SLC members work with SADD staff, national partners and fellow student leaders to help shape campaigns, elevate youth voices and promote safer choices through peer-to-peer engagement, advocacy and digital outreach on topics such as speeding prevention, impaired driving, distracted driving, passenger safety and overall mobility safety.

"Student leadership is at the heart of everything we do at SADD," said Dr. Cara Schrack, executive director. "These young leaders are helping shape safer communities nationwide by using their voices, experiences and influence to inspire positive decision-making among their peers."

The 2026-2027 council will officially begin its work this summer during the 100 Safest Days of Summer campaign, a nationwide initiative from the National Road Safety Foundation focused on promoting safe driving behaviors during the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day, historically one of the most dangerous times of year for teen drivers.

To learn more about SADD and the Student Leadership Council, visit sadd.org.

Cassidy Oechslin is the communications and marketing manager for SADD.



Eleanor Roosevelt High School graduation took place on Tuesday, June 2 at the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro. Congratulations to all the graduates!

PHOTO COURTESY PGCPS

Braveboy Appoints Shawn Joseph As Superintendent of PGCPS

Prince George's County Executive Aisha Braveboy has appointed Dr. Shawn Joseph as superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS). Joseph has served as interim superintendent since July 2025, leading the state's second-largest school system. His first year was "marked by budget stabilization, staffing improvements and expanded student opportunities," according to a PGCPS press release.

"This is the right leadership team at the right time to usher in a new era of excellence, and I am pleased to continue partnering with Dr. Joseph and the Board of Education to chart a positive path forward," Braveboy said.

Joseph entered the interim role ahead of the 2025-26 school year, following the sudden separation of former Superintendent Millard House II. Joseph was named to the temporary position by Braveboy shortly ahead of her own swearing in.

Under Maryland Code, Education § 4-201.1, the superintendent candidate selected by the county executive is then "appointed" by the county Board of Education "after agreement on contract terms negotiated by the chair of the county board." The Board of Education is scheduled to vote on Joseph's appointment this month and it will also require final written approval by the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools.



Greenway Learning Childcare Center SEEKS ITS NEXT DIRECTOR COULD IT BE YOU?

Greenway Learning Center, a parent-led child care center, located in Greenbelt, Maryland, is looking for a passionate leader. The Director will provide collaborative leadership for high-quality early childhood programming in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment; build strong partnerships with families, staff, and the community; comply with Maryland child-care licensing regulations; lead and support staff growth; cultivate a positive and respectful workplace culture; and work closely with the Board on budget and long-term strategic planning.

Application Closing Date: June 15, 2026 **Start Date:** Summer / Fall 2026 **Benefits & Compensation:** \$60,000 - \$85,000 commensurate with education, experience, and licensing qualifications; paid vacation and sick leave; and health insurance and education subsidies.

Learn More: greenwaylearningcenter.com

Apply: Submit cover letter, salary requirements, resume, and three professional references to GreenwayBOD@gmail.com

Local Lottery Win

A Mega Bucks ticket that brought \$10,000 was sold at a business on the ground floor of Beltway Plaza.



Greenbelt Listings

2C Gardenway



3-Bed | 1-Bath | \$275,000
Watch the Labor Day Parade from your porch! This brick townhome is right in the center of town. Hardwood floors, mini-splits and an updated bathroom with a large shower stall and surround.

45 Ridge Road



3-Bed | 2-Bath | \$340,000
A great "move-up" home in the GHI community, this brick townhome has an addition with a half bath, laundry, and a large room that could be a bedroom, family room, office, craft room, anything!

19C Hillside



2-Bed | 2-Bath | \$235,000
A rare main-level full bath and an updated kitchen, this bargain-priced unit backs to the woods overlooking the Firefly Sanctuary. Sweet front porch, private back yard, and mini-splits to keep it cool inside.

Kim Kash & Andrew Nugent

kim.kash@compass.com
m: 301.789.6294
andrew.nugent@compass.com
m: (301) 814-8010

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PHOTO BY CHRIS ENDOZO

Rio Endozo, left, and Takeo Endozo pose at the Ferrari dealership in Miami, Fla., on April 3, 2026.



PHOTO BY GLORIA SAEZ

Hannah Gould enjoys the News Review on the beach in Palm Beach Shores Resort in Florida, observing Memorial Day.



PHOTO COURTESY KIM SCHMIDT

Herb Reed, Kimberly Schmidt and Vera Reed read the News Review while watching gondolas pass under the Bridge of Sighs in Venice.



PHOTO BY JERRY BONNELL

From left, Jerry Bonnell, Rick Meetre, Letty Bonnell and Cathie Meetre pose at a beach in Crackington, Cornwall. Photographer Jerry Bonnell scampered round to be in the picture in the 10 seconds provided by the timed exposure.

On a two-week bike tour of Devon and Cornwall this May, this indefatigable team cycled (on e-bikes) around segments of the Devon and Cornwall coastline, ending up in Minehead, Somerset (where Cathie had a ludicrous summer job in 1968). The Meetres then continued south via Exmoor and Dartmoor to Plymouth while the Bonnells traded bikes for trains as they explored Salisbury and Bath.

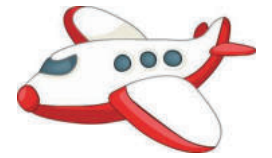

Most of the trip was on either traffic-free paths or tiny roads, and a typical day included approximately 1,500 to 2,000 feet of climbing from beach to cliff. Thank goodness for the invention of electricity.

Due to careful planning and good luck, the team only ran out of watts, volts and amps once. Fortuitously, it happened at a pub on the seafont, with plugs handy to charge their batteries and Cornish Cream Teas for their tummies. Really?



PHOTO COURTESY GLORIA WALTERS-FLOWERS

Linda and David Seeley and Gloria Walters-Flowers pose with a copy of the paper in France while on vacation.

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SIP, SNACK & CHILL



Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred May 25-31, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported one death, a sexual assault, two domestic incidents and two mental health diversions, one involving suicide. Two missing juvenile cases were resolved.

Two firearms and ammunition in a backpack, found by a maintenance worker, were accidentally left by someone moving out of an apartment.

Assault, Fighting

On May 26 at 11:25 a.m. near 5500 Cherrywood Lane, an officer saw two men fighting, and one was pointing a knife directly at the other's neck. The officer ordered the knife-wielder to the ground and placed him in custody. No one was harmed.

On May 27 at 4:39 a.m. near 6305 Ivy Lane, a woman said her male co-worker assaulted her, and he said that he pushed her away after she got in his face. The woman wanted to press charges and was advised of her options.

On May 27 at 4:44 p.m. near 6000 Breewood Drive, officers saw a large group of juveniles, the same group from an earlier fight near Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The ERHS school resource officer was notified for follow-up.

DUI Arrest

On May 25 at 8:03 a.m. near 7700 Hanover Parkway, officers found the driver of a disabled vehicle under the influence of alcohol. He failed field sobriety testing and was arrested for DUI and taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Disorderly Arrest

On May 26 at 7:54 p.m. near 6224 Greenbelt Road, a man was drunkenly yelling at customers and having difficulty standing up. He was arrested and taken to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Theft and Shoplifting

On May 27 at 1:58 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, Loss Prevention stopped a man for shoplifting, issued a criminal citation for theft and banned him from the location.

On May 25 at 11:41 p.m. near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, a package theft was reported.

On May 26 at 4:49 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, an employee asked for a shoplifter to be banned.

On May 26 at 7:44 p.m. near 227 Lakeside Drive, a girl stole a package and fled.

On May 29 at 10:02 a.m. near 8001 Lakecrest Drive, a woman observed three suspects steal her package on camera. A neighbor also reported a package theft.

On May 29 at 10:21 p.m. near 8001 Lakecrest Drive, a resident had video footage of a juvenile stealing her neighbor's package.

Woman Found Dead In Car, Cherrywood Terr.

On Sunday, May 31 at approximately 8:30 p.m., a woman who had been reported missing was found dead inside her vehicle in the 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace. Detectives are currently investigating the case and awaiting the medical examiner's results to determine the circumstances involved.

On May 29 at 11:33 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was stopped for shoplifting and banned, and an open warrant for her was found.

On May 29 at 5:36 p.m. near 151 Westway, a package theft suspect was recorded by a Ring camera.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicles

On May 28 at 2:46 p.m. near 6192 Greenbelt Road, a caller said someone took his friend's car keys, fled with the white 2016 Honda CRV (Md. 9GI4927) and allegedly struck a parked vehicle before fleeing toward Breewood Drive and Cherrywood Lane.

On May 29 near 9049 Kenilworth Avenue, a trailer was stolen.

On May 30 near 7810 Walker Drive, a black 2018 Volkswagen Jetta (Md. 2DH9387) was stolen.

Attempted Theft of Vehicle

On May 28 near 9009 Breewood Terrace, a white 2010 Kia Forte was broken into and had ignition damage.

Theft from Auto

On May 26 airbags were stolen from three Hondas: near 7240 Mandan Road, near 8307 Canning Terrace from a 2016 Civic and near 8209 Mandan Court from a 2019 Civic.

On May 26 near 5911 Cherrywood Lane, a rear tag (Md. 1HB5647) was stolen.

Vandalism to Auto

On May 25 near 7825 Mandan Road, an Infiniti had a window broken.

On May 30 near 7595 Greenbelt Road, the glass on a driver's-side mirror was missing.

Critical Missing Adult Alert



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Uchechi Chijindum Nkemdirim has been missing since May 29.

Uchechi Chijindum Nkemdirim, 26, has been reported missing. Nkemdirim is a Black woman, 5 feet 6 inches tall, approximately 120 pounds, with brown eyes and black hair styled in braided twists.

Nkemdirim was last seen on May 29, at approximately 7:17 p.m. at Beltway Plaza. At that time she was wearing a gray zip-up hoodie and black sweatpants. Nkemdirim has a history of mental health disorders, including bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

Anyone with information regarding Nkemdirim's whereabouts should contact Detective Skibicki, by phone, 240-542-2117, or email, Pskibicki@greenbeltmd.gov.

Greenbelt Police Department Sponsors Mental Health Walk

by Butch Hicks

The Greenbelt Police Department coordinated its Wellness Walk on May 30 with approximately 60 participants, comprising community families and friends, enjoying a sunny day walking around Greenbelt Lake.

Police Chief Richard Bowers said the Police Department's third annual Wellness Walk highlighted the importance of mental health awareness and community connection. The Wellness Walk joins other city programs, including Greenbelt CARES and the Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team, that are available to people experiencing mental health issues. Bowers said the Wellness Walk helps raise awareness, which can help reduce stigma around mental health issues. The available resources and awareness "lead to a stronger, more resilient community where people feel comfortable discussing their mental health and seeking help when needed," said Bowers.

Mayor Emmett Jordan greeted Wellness Walkers and observed the well-organized police team coordinating the walk and answering participants' questions. Jordan said Greenbelt's annual Wellness Walk reflected Maryland Governor Wes Moore's proclamation declaring May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month. In that proclamation, Moore urged resi-



PHOTO BY BUTCH HICKS

Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers (rear) poses with Crisis Intervention Team members, Coordinator Rachel Tobin (right) and Counselor Natalie Garcia, who supported the Police Department booth for the Wellness Walk by providing mental health issue resource guidance and distributing Mental Health Wellness T-shirts. In front of the booth is the ever-popular Ollie, the department's facility dog who supports community outreach efforts by fostering trust, approachability and positive engagement with residents.

dents to raise awareness, reduce stigma and support access to mental health resources. Moore also highlighted that the state has

invested over \$1.4 billion to expand behavioral health resources, including trauma-informed and healing-centered care.



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Greenbelt's Officer Kendall Graham has earned the rank of Private First Class. Officer Graham is pictured (left) beside Chief of Police Richard Bowers.



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BARISTA continued from page 9

Deal Café for a cup of coffee, I want you to have the best cup of coffee possible. ... I want to bring specialty coffee at a high level back to Greenbelt."

His own favorite coffee drink is mocha latte. Why? Mocha latte is a gateway drink, he says. It's mainly coffee, espresso and chocolate, and the chocolate does a lot of masking of the coffee and espresso.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

Coffee at the New Deal Café with a design by Stanley Banks Jr.

Banks makes three coffee drinks.

- Cortados – 1:1 ratio of espresso to steamed milk, creamy but strong, 4 to 4.5 oz.
- Macchiatos – espresso with a small "stain" of foamed milk, very intense, 2 to 3 oz.
- Americanos – espresso topped with hot water, a similar volume to drip coffee, but with a different flavor profile, 8 to 16 oz.

All can be served hot or iced. The difference in the drinks is in the milk texture. Lattes are the most popular and have a lot of milk. Cortados are not extremely hot because they're made to drink quickly, not linger over.

New Deal Café Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the New Deal Café will take place on Sunday, June 7 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the back room of the Café. Sign-in and payment of annual dues begins at 12:30 p.m. If a member cannot attend the meeting in person for any reason, an absentee ballot for election for vacant seats on the board of directors can be requested by emailing the board secretary at boardofdirectors@newdealcafe.com prior to the meeting. The full agenda will be emailed to members 48 hours in advance. Come early to enjoy breakfast or lunch before or during the meeting.

Coffee Beans
The coffee beans Banks uses are roasted by Grace Street Coffee in Georgetown, which Banks helped open and where he worked for seven years. He uses two blends. The first, Ethiopian Yirgacheffe Gedeb, has hints of mango and tangerine, with a Rooibos tea finish that is both refreshing and complex. The second, 3210 Blend (the original street address of Grace Street Coffee), tastes like home – stone fruit, caramel, chocolate and coziness. The 3210 is used for both espresso and drip coffee drinks – espresso gives more of a lighter side and drip coffee has a darker, more chocolate note.

Planning to Stay
In summing up his new position at the Café, Banks says exuberantly, "I plan on being here for a very long time. I am 36 years old, and I plan on retiring from working here."

Starbucks, you've been warned: Stan the barista man is in town.

Reading/Study Group, New Deal Friday, June 5

A new reading/study group will hold its second meeting at 3:30 p.m. at the New Deal Café on Friday, June 5 to talk about Arendt's Men in Dark Times and Dana Villa's Hanna Arendt: a very short introduction. Contact Van Caldwell, vvcaldwell@gmail.com, for more information.



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

A duck swims in Greenbelt Lake.

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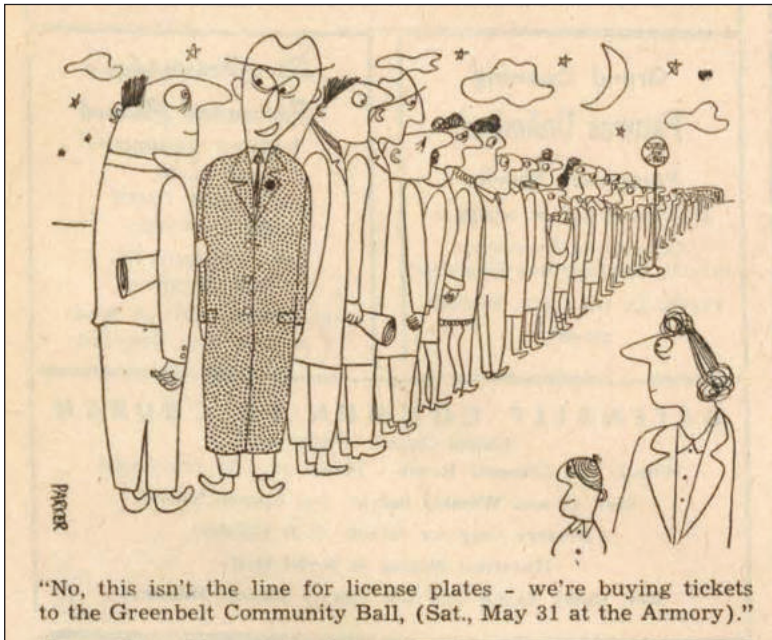
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A cartoon in the May 29, 1975 issue imagines a line for tickets to the community ball that was part of Greenbelt Day celebrations that year. - Clippings courtesy GNR archives

Greenbelt Day Activities Will Last All Weekend

by Wini Milan

Coming up this weekend is the first celebration of a brand new custom here, Greenbelt Day. Recommended by the Bicentennial Committee, and established by the City Council, as the first Sunday in June, this will be a time for all Greenbelters to commemorate Greenbelt's unique past, to contemplate the city's future, and most especially to celebrate what we have here today, including numerous hard-working citizens and good friends who have helped make Greenbelt a nice place to live.

A wide variety of activities is scheduled for the first Greenbelt Day celebration, offering something for everyone's enjoyment. Festivities begin with the 11 a.m. Friday opening of the Municipal Swimming Pool and conclude Sunday with a 7:30 p.m. Greenbelt Choral Arts Society concert in St. Hugh's Church.

Community Ball

Saturday night at 8 p.m. the Greenbelt Community Ball will be held in the National Guard Armory, with a full night of entertainment planned. At the beginning of the dance a social hour will be held, during which a number of city, county and state dignitaries will be introduced. Then Fred Perry's Orchestra (big band sound) and the Prophets (rock group) both of whom have played for Kennedy Center Presidential Inaugural Balls, will alternate with music throughout the evening.

There will be a floor show by the Vic Daumit Dance Studio in which dancers in full costume will demonstrate some steps done by Americans in the past, such as the minuet and marimba. Set-ups and chips will be provided; advance tickets \$5 (phone 345-3125), tickets at the door \$7. Dress for the dance, according to coordinator Barbara Lawson, is "suit yourself," which includes wearing clothing typical of any past period in America's history. "I want to emphasize that this is for the enjoyment of the entire community," states Barbara, with new Greenbelt citizens especially welcome, dancers and non-dancers alike.

Library Exhibit

On Sunday, June 1, the Greenbelt Library will begin a month-long display of Farm Security Administration photographs which were taken from the land clearing stage through completion of Greenbelt.

In addition the Women's Club in historical costume will be hostessing and serving refreshments in the library's Tugwell Room from 3-5 p.m. Sunday. Named for Rex Tugwell, a Roosevelt city

planning brain trustee, the room contains a number of treasures from the city's past, such as the original charter. "Citizens should feel free to visit the Tugwell Room any time the library is open," urges librarian Betty Allen, and learn more about Greenbelt's beginning and development.

Concerts

At 2 p.m. Sunday the Greenbelt Concert Band will kick off its outdoor concert season with Director

John Del Homme conducting a varied music program including American numbers dating back to 1776. In conjunction with the band concert on the Center Mall, the City Council members will dedicate a historic marker to be placed later at the entrance to 11 Court of Southway. "The marker will commemorate Greenbelt as a planned community of the Roosevelt Administration," (along with Green Hills, Ohio and Greendale, Wisconsin) points out Assistant City Manager Dennis Piendak. This marker, a bicentennial project will give some information about Greenbelt's development.

Greenbelt Day festivities will conclude with a free concert by the Greenbelt Choral Arts Society Sunday night at 7:30 p.m. in St. Hugh's Church, Crescent Road. Included in the Society's program of selections in keeping with the bicentennial theme will be "Frostiana," Robert Frost's poetry set to music by Randall Thompson.

Sports

For the sports enthusiasts Saturday will feature table game tournaments for all ages at the Youth Center from 9 a.m. to 12; a life-saving demonstration at the pool at noon; softball in the afternoon; and a tennis workshop demonstration on Braden Field courts at 3 p.m.

The highlights for Sunday are the Annual Greenbelt Lake Run which will take place at the Lake at 1 p.m., and the Family Relay Races starting at 3:30 p.m. at the pool.

GREENBELT continued from page 1

tennis competitions that people could participate in, other athletic activities and the Greenbelt concert band," Williamson recalled when describing her earliest memories of the celebration.

Today, Greenbelt Day is traditionally celebrated during the first weekend of June with music, arts and crafts, family activities and educational programs that honor the city's history and enduring community spirit.

Williamson hopes younger residents will take the opportunity to learn about Greenbelt's unique history as one of the nation's early planned communities. "The special nature of Greenbelt in its early planning" is something she believes every resident should understand. She noted that the city was intentionally designed with pedestrian pathways, green spaces, parks and community facilities that encouraged both safety and neighborly interaction. Reflecting on Greenbelt's early image, Williamson recalled scenes like those in the movie *The City* of "nicely dressed children riding bicycles through the streets of Greenbelt with a sunshiny place to play," illustrating the vision of a community built to improve quality of life for families.

Greenbelt Day also offers an opportunity to remember the hardships faced by many Americans during the Great Depression. "During the '30s fathers couldn't find jobs and families were broken up and sent to relatives who could take them in," Williamson said. She added that those lessons remain relevant today. "In some regards, we are dealing with some of those problems today, though not as severe."

Looking toward the future, Williamson hopes Greenbelt Day can continue growing and engaging residents of all generations. "I'd like to see it involve more people at different ages and different activities for different ages."

Greenbelt Day Activities

Friday, June 5

Pride Flag Raising Ceremony, Municipal Building, 3 to 4 p.m.
Live Music with Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes, New Deal Café, 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 6

Greenbelt Museum Bricks and Blocks Walking Tour, 10 a.m. to noon

Explore Greenbelt's New Deal History through a guided tour highlighting the community's distinctive domestic architecture. The tour focuses on the brick and block homes that make up much of the original planned community and teaches visitors how to "read" these historic homes. Participants will also visit sites of historical interest that have not been featured on previous walking tours.

The tour begins at the Greenbelt Museum, 10-B Crescent Road, and lasts approximately two hours, including a screening of the Museum's orientation film. Following the tour, visitors will have the opportunity to explore the interior of the museum's historic home. Space is limited to 12 participants. Reservations can be made through Eventbrite.

Greenbelt Rotary Club Greenbelt Garden Tour, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The tour features 12 gardens across Greenbelt. Tickets are available at tinyurl.com/ucyf2n7a.

Greenbelt Jazz Festival, Roosevelt Center, 1 to 7 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of outdoor live music with friends and neighbors. Featured performers include The Brother Bill Quintet, Marianna & the DC Jumpers, Scotch & Soda, The Rhythm Doctors featuring Valentina Maria and The Seth Kibel Quartet featuring Flo Anito.

Sunday, June 7

Greenbelt Museum Table at the Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Members of the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum Board of Directors will share information about Museum programs and the new Education and Visitors Center.

Exhibit Opening at Greenbelt Museum, 1 to 5 p.m., 10-B Crescent Road

Free opening of a special exhibit honoring the 250th anniversary of the United States. *Spirit of '76: Greenbelt at the Bicentennial* invites viewers to explore the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary through the lens of the Bicentennial celebration of 1976. As guests experience the exhibit, they are encouraged to reflect on what has changed and what remains the same since the nation celebrated its 200th anniversary 50 years ago.

Admission is free. The exhibit will remain on display through November. The exhibit is sponsored by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum and the City of Greenbelt.

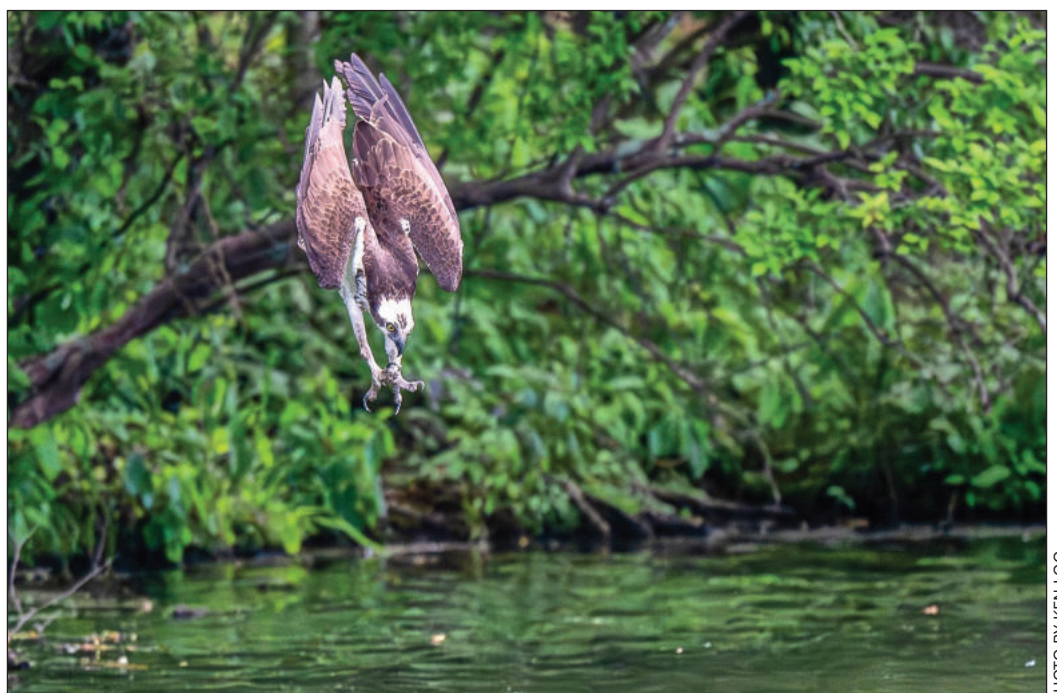
Greenbelt Concert Band, Community Center Gym, 3 to 4 p.m.

Celebrate Greenbelt's birthday with a performance by the Greenbelt Concert Band and stay for a special Greenbelt City Council history presentation beginning at 4 p.m.



Monarch caterpillars on swamp milkweed

PHOTO BY BARBARA BUJNES



Osprey at Greenbelt Lake

PHOTO BY KEN LOO

A news clipping from May 29, 1975 discusses the new tradition of Greenbelt Day.