



Little League, p.11



Venturing Crew, p.12

City Calls for Justice for Residents Following Fraud Conviction

by Cathie Meetre

On May 21, Mordichai Weiss of New York City, now 29, was convicted of one count of wire fraud in association with his activities on \$230M in loans relating to multiple developments, including Greenbelt's Charlestowne North. This outcome was the result of a plea agreement. Sentencing is anticipated shortly. Weiss owned Charlestowne North Holding Company, Inc., which had purchased the eponymous property in December 2022.

This result, however, will address only the damage to investors — but not the harm to residents of Charlestowne North, who endured significant impacts and stress as a result of the owner's neglect of the building and blatant disregard for their rights. The owner siphoned out rental cash and failed to take care of the building or pay taxes



A dramatic view of the eight-story building on a sunny day in January 2024

PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

and other fees and even took residents to court for nonpayment of rent after the building had been repossessed.

Proposed Action

City Manager Josué Salmerón is calling for the Maryland Attorney General's office to seek restitution from Weiss on behalf of the affected tenants by filing suit under the consumer protection statutes. Several earlier News Review articles detail the tenant impacts (September 14, 2023; January 11, 2024; and January 18, 2024).

Asked if council had approved action, Salmerón said that the initiative for this call is his, rather than council's, and he didn't believe council approval was necessary to advocate for justice for the tenants. The form of any potential restitution was unknown. At this time, Salmerón believes "any justice for the residents would be better than no justice and no acknowledgement" — with the plea agreement offering neither.

See FRAUD, page 7

City Acts on Unions, SLRC Funding and Cell Coverage

by Cathie Meetre

During the June 8 city council meeting, a public hearing inserted into the agenda formally accepted the charter resolution on collective bargaining, which was passionately debated over several previous months. John Barry from the United Food and Commercial Workers Union spoke briefly in support of the amendment. With no comments from the public and to applause from the audience, council voted unanimously to approve. There is a 45-day period during which the charter amendment can be challenged by the public before it goes into effect, but such an action is unlikely.

Unfortunately, the associated labor code agenda item and several subsequent topics were omitted from the recording of this meeting and are not reported in this article. An update will be provided when the information becomes available.

SHL Rec Center

The Maryland legislature has not funded Project Open Space (POS) for next year and, as a result, funds are finite and dwindling. Last year two projects were potentially funded, but neither actually used the POS funds.

See CITY, page 8



Springhill Lake Recreation Center

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

Greenbelt Residents Arrested In Multistate Drug Operation

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

A resident of University Square Apartments on Westway said they woke to what they believed to be the sound of shooting on Tuesday, June 2. That resident says they saw a man outside dressed in army fatigues and holding a large weapon. She was afraid the man was shooting at the building. About 10 minutes later, the FBI arrived, according to the eyewitness. Another resident contacted the News Review out of concern, asking us to investigate what could have taken place. "My friend feels quite terrified and would like to understand what is happening, if possible," said a resident whose friend lives in an apartment there. "Members of the community want to know what is happening, or how to follow this to feel more secure."

Greenbelt Police have no record of a shooting that morning, but they were informed of FBI activity in the area and assisted by diverting traffic and blocking vehicles at both ends of the street.

The loud noises reportedly heard by residents that morning were likely "flashbangs," which are sometimes deployed by law enforcement to disorient someone and gain access to a residence. In attempts to serve warrants, for example, the sound and bright flash would quickly be followed by law enforcement entry.

The News Review found the activity on Westway on the morn-



A resident of Westway took a photo of FBI agents gathering there at approximately 6:10 a.m. on June 2, about 10 minutes after residents were awoken by loud bangs.

PHOTO COURTESY NEWS REVIEW SOURCE

ing of June 2 was likely related to a joint law enforcement effort that was underway in Greenbelt and elsewhere that morning as the FBI and others made 13 arrests across Maryland and West Virginia. The arrests targeted two drug trafficking operations selling large quantities of cocaine and cocaine base in Berkeley and Jefferson counties, West Virginia, said a Department of Justice (DOJ) announcement.

One of the drug operations was allegedly led by Rohan Lamante Broadie, 53, aka Glama G, who was identified by the DOJ as "an illegal alien from Jamaica"

See DRUG OP, page 7

What Goes On

- Monday, June 29**
7:30 p.m., City Council Work-session: County Councilmember Tim Adams, Municipal Building
- Wednesday, July 1**
7:30 p.m., Council Special Meeting/Closed Session: Personnel Matters and Real Estate, Municipal Building

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

Primary Returns Most Incumbents; Tim Adams Elected to District 4

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Primary election day was wet and slow in Greenbelt. While the rain sometimes poured, the voters were no more than a steady trickle. At times there were more candidates and campaigners than voters in front of the polling places.

Since Prince George's County and Maryland voters overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates, the primary election is frequently the definitive race.

At the end of this primary election day, most races were clear before all precincts had reported and the big winners were the incumbents.

County Council District 4

In the District 4 race, appointed incumbent Tim Adams had a secure win with 61.26 percent of the vote. Challenger Euniesha Davis earned 21.77 percent and

Juliet Agocha received 16.97 percent. Adams has been serving as the District 4 representative since his appointment in January, after Ingrid Watson resigned to lead the county's Economic Development Corporation. Adams was Mayor of Bowie until his appointment.

Board of Education District 2

Nonpartisan school board races appear on the primary ballot when there are more than two candidates, as was the case for District 2, which includes Greenbelt. Current District 2 Representative Jonathan Briggs is not running for re-election at the end of his term, so there was no incumbent in this race. Terence J. Clegg, a Greenbelter and lawyer with children at Robert Goddard Montessori, won with 45.64

See PRIMARY, page 6



The sun goes down on campaign signs on the Community Center lawn on Primary Election Day, June 23.

PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Letters to the Editor

A Kind, Gracious Man

I was saddened to read in this week's News Review of the death of John Henry [Jones].

I had a few encounters with him over the years and was always struck by what a kind and gracious gentleman he was, even though he barely knew me.

Stuart Williams

Who Should Be Greenbelt's 2026 Outstanding Citizen?

Summer passes quickly: the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival is only 10 weeks away. Since 1973, our annual town festival includes recognizing an Outstanding Citizen: someone in Greenbelt whose unpaid volunteer efforts have made our community a better place.

Our town depends and thrives on volunteers. The Outstanding Citizen is selected by a committee of volunteers. But we don't know everyone in town. Finding that special person in a city full of volunteers requires broad community input across organizations and neighborhoods. Tell us about someone you know who contributes to Greenbelt!

Every successful nonprofit relies on a team of volunteers. Without volunteers, our cooperatives could not function. Without citizens giving their time, the City of Greenbelt could not rely on vital input from advisory boards

and committees. Volunteers run youth programs, sports and scouting programs. Volunteers support local senior citizens and our community woodlands.

Nominate someone you know by completing the form on page 6 or emailing OutstandingCitizenGB@gmail.com. Describe their contributions to our community, their acts of kindness and their actions that make Greenbelt better – whether the whole city, a neighborhood or an organization. Nominations are due Saturday, August 1. This year's honoree will be the 52nd since the award began in 1973. The honoree will also serve as Grand Marshal of our Greenbelt Labor Day Parade.

Every Greenbelt resident knows someone providing outstanding volunteer service, often quietly. This annual award can provide the recognition they deserve. Since there are many potential nominees, we want you to know that many Outstanding Citizens were nominated several times over the years before being selected. The committee counts on nominations from the public to identify this person each year, and to ensure Greenbelt's civic traditions grow and flourish.

Tom Jones, Co-chair, Outstanding Citizen Selection Committee



On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

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.

The Death of Robin Hood

Grappling with his past after a life of crime and murder, Robin Hood finds himself gravely injured after a battle he thought would be his last. In the hands of a mysterious woman, he is offered a chance at salvation. The film stars Hugh Jackman, Jodie Comer and Bill Skarsgård.

Exhibition on Screen: David Hockney at the Royal Academy of Arts

Enjoy a cinematic celebration of arguably Britain's most popular artist. Featuring intimate, in-depth interviews with Hockney, this revealing film focuses on two blockbuster exhibitions held in 2012 and 2016 at London's Royal Academy of Art.

Nepal-America International Film Festival

The festival showcases all genres of films, including feature-length, documentaries, animation, experimental and shorts from all over the world, including Nepal, America, South Asia and beyond. Since its inception, the film festival has partnered with the Global Peace Film Festival Florida for the Sidebar section. Additionally, the festival will feature a special DMV close-up section highlighting films from Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

Mädchen in Uniform

After the death of her mother, teenage Manuela (Hertha Thiele) is sent off to a boarding school run by the autocratic Fräulein von Nordeck (Emilia Unda). Initially withdrawn from the other girls due to her grief and anger at being sent away, Manuela is drawn out of her shell by the beautiful and sympathetic young teacher Elizabeth von Bernburg (Dorothea Wieck). But when Manuela's fondness for her teacher turns into a romantic attachment, it becomes a school-wide scandal.

Sing

Dapper Koala Buster Moon presides over a once-grand theater that has fallen on hard times. An eternal optimist, and a bit of a scoundrel, he loves his theater above all and will do anything to preserve it. Facing the crumbling of his life's ambition, he takes one final chance to restore his fading jewel to its former glory by producing the world's greatest singing competition.



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 26th - JULY 2nd

Disclosure Day (PG-13)
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (145 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Fri. 5:15 PM

Sat. 8:25 PM

Sun. 5:30 PM

Mon. 1:10 PM (OC)

Tues. 7:00 PM

Wed. 6:45 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Fri. 8:00 PM

Sat. 5:20 PM

Mon. 3:40 PM

Thurs. 3:15 PM

The Death of Robin Hood (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (123 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Wed. 3:45 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Fri. 5:00 PM

Sat. 8:40 PM

Sun. 3:00 PM

Mon. 12:50 PM

Tue. 7:15 PM

Thurs. 6:30 PM

Exhibition on Screen:
David Hockney at the Royal Academy of Arts

(NR) (CC) (2017) (85 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Fri. 8:30 PM

Sat. 5:45 PM

Mon. 4:30 PM

Tue. 4:40 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Sun. 6:00 PM

Wed. 7:00 PM

Nepal-America International Film Festival

Purchase tickets at <https://nafilmsociety.org/buy-tickets-and-passes-2026/>

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Fri. 1:30 PM - 4 PM

Sun. 10 AM - 4:30 PM

Screen 1 & Screen 2

Sat. 10 AM - 4:30 PM

Mädchen in Uniform (PG)
(1931) (88 mins) Film in Focus

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

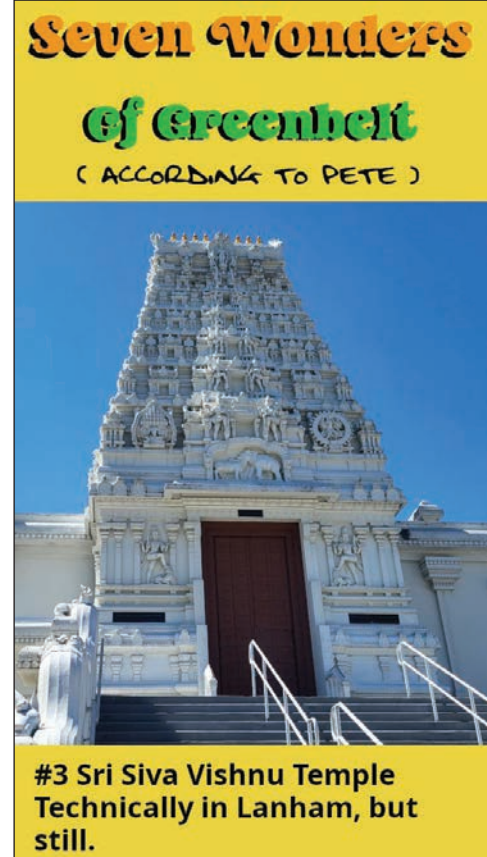
Mon. 7:00 PM

Sing (PG) (2016) (110 mins)

School's Out! - FREE

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Thurs. 1:00 PM



#3 Sri Siva Vishnu Temple
Technically in Lanham, but still.

- Pete Reppert

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.

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 26, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16335543.

Wednesday, July 1, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16486789.

Thursday, July 2, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16486820.

Come join in for stories, songs, fingerplays and more. This engaging activity nurtures early literacy and sparks creativity, making it an unforgettable experience for little ones.

Build with Legos

Monday, June 29, 4 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Build, create, and explore with LEGOS. With plenty of pieces and endless possibilities, kids can let their imaginations take the lead in this freestyle building session. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16281689.

Ride and Read

Thursday, July 2, 11 a.m., ages 16+. Sign up for an hour ride on a stationary bike with free apps from PGCMLS like Libby, Kanopy, and Freegal to enjoy while working out. Participants must be 16 or older, sign a waiver before beginning to ride and be wearing loose-fitting clothing and closed-toed shoes. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16519505.

Time to Renew MaxTrash Option

Participants in Greenbelt's Save As You Throw program are reminded that a MaxTrash sticker must be renewed before June 30. The new sticker will be in effect beginning July 1. WasteZero has placed RFID tags on existing MaxTrash sticker cans. Record the number on the tag and use it to pay for the next six-month period (July 1 to December 31) or bring the number to renew the sticker at the city Finance Department in the Municipal Building. The link to the MaxTrash option renewal page is myflexusa.com/MaxTrash. Should one want to stop using the MaxTrash option, one must purchase the approved trash bags.



Independence Day Chill-ebriation July 3

Looking for a quieter way to celebrate Independence Day? Join Greenbelt's Independence Day Chill-ebriation on Friday, July 3 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Roosevelt Center and Greenbelt Cinema. This community-focused event is designed for families with young children, nervous pets and anyone who prefers to celebrate without fireworks. Enjoy an afternoon of activities including:

- 3 p.m. — Art activities
- 4 p.m. — Film screening, Cinema
- 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. — Drum circle
- 5:30 p.m. — HONK! Situation
- 6:30 to 8 p.m. — DJ and mingling

For additional event information, visit the city's Independence Day Chill-ebriation webpage at greenbeltmd.gov/july3.

Independence Day Fireworks on Saturday

Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with a full day of family-friendly activities at Buddy Attick Park, culminating with Greenbelt's annual fireworks display at 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 4.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic, take a walk around the lake and enjoy the park throughout the day. Special activities include:

- 4 p.m. — Reading of the Declaration of Independence
- 4:30 p.m. — Singing of the national anthem
- 4:45 to 5:30 p.m. — Pocket Change performance
- 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. — HONK! Situation
- 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. — Live DJ
- 9 p.m. — Fireworks display

Note: No fireworks, firearms, alcohol, propane or gas grills (charcoal grills only). Drones are prohibited in the park. Failure to comply with park rules or directions from city staff and police may result in removal from the park and possible fines.

For additional event information, visit the city's Independence Day webpage at greenbeltmd.gov/july4.

Spirit of '76: Greenbelt At the Bicentennial

A new exhibit at the Greenbelt Museum, 10-B Crescent Road, looks back at the U.S. 200th birthday as the nation now celebrates the 250th. The free exhibit is open Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. through November 22.

The Greenbelt Museum is primarily a 20th-century historic site. United States history from 1776 is amply covered in other historic places (and there are no muskets in the museum's collection). One way for a more recent museum to acknowledge the country's 250th anniversary would be to look back on the 200th.

What was life like in 1976, both in Greenbelt and nationally? The Vietnam War had just ended. President Gerald Ford was in the White House, but Jimmy Carter would be elected in November of '76. Gas was 60 cents a gallon. Much of the nation was buoyantly celebrating its birthday, but many in the U.S. were also fighting fiercely for their rights. What has changed in the country since then? What remains the same?

Among artifacts on display are a Time magazine that declares "Crisis in the Middle East" in bold letters on its cover and a 1976 Muppet calendar complete with drawings of the beloved puppets crossing the Delaware River. Learn about Native American protests, the first African American to speak at the Democratic Convention, as well as civil rights efforts by African Americans, women, LGBTQIA+ people and those with disabilities. Or just come by to see some groovy 1970s clothing. Polyester, anyone? Sponsored by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, the Greenbelt Recreation Department and the City of Greenbelt.



Town Hall Meeting on Reparations, June 27

The Greenbelt Reparations Commission invites residents to learn more about the history of Greenbelt and the research the Commission has completed, and to give feedback on proposed recommendations for repair.

The town hall will be held in the Greenbelt Library auditorium on Saturday, June 27 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, visit greenbeltreparations.info.

Creative Kids and Circus Camp Shows on June 26

This year, two of Greenbelt Recreation's summer camps will host a full day of shows on Friday at the end of each two-week camp session, with the first set of shows on June 26. At 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. enjoy Creative Kids Camp's production of Hercules and Hippolyta, an original musical written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreation's performing arts coordinator. Join history's first superheroes on a musical adventure. Working together, they rescue the noble titan Prometheus, defeat the bullying Big Bad Boar and capture the Golden Hind, a magical deer who can grant any wish. How Hercules and Hippolyta use their wish is the final test of whether they are heroes.

At 1 p.m. see the Circus Camp's production of Under the Big Top. Under the direction of mentors Sam Collins and Julia May, circus campers will present a showcase of their skills, including juggling, stilt walking, unicycle, tightrope, tumbling, clown gags and more.

All performances will take place in the Community Center gym. For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-297-2208. Tickets will be available starting June 23.

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

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. The following is the schedule for the month of July.

- July 1, Business meeting.
- July 8, Speaker: Mayor Emmett Jordan.
- July 15, Birthday celebration with a potluck luncheon.
- July 22, Bingo.
- July 29, Sing along with guitarists Barbara and Mike.

Saturday at Goddard

The Goddard Space Flight Center Visitor Center hosts events for everyone from 3-year-olds to adults.

Saturday, June 27, 1 to 2 p.m. Film Screening: A discussion of a new short film, Moon Man, about Robert Goddard's premiere launch 100 years ago, followed by an introduction by the film's creator and a screening. Registration is required at eventbrite.com/cc/nasa-goddard-visitor-center-3091729.

The Visitor Center is located at 9432 Greenbelt Road. Regular hours are Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Hunger Relief: PORCH

Greenbelt PORCH continues to support the Greenbelt Interfaith Food Pantry with nonperishable food items. Neighbors will collect food in June as scheduled below. Put out food by the times listed below; it will be collected after that.

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 and for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors). Email Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on June 28 at spreadruak@gmail.com and he will come to your porch.

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

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

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television
+ June 2026 +
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 • Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

+ Featured Productions +

New, daily episodes of Democracy Now

Coverage of local events, performances and productions

All-new creations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation Class

+ + +
All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!



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 6/25	FRI 6/26	SAT 6/27	SUN 6/28
The UpBeats 7 - 9pm A creative and high-energy modern instrumental jazz quintet with a fantastic sax player!	Bad Influence 8 - 11pm Four-piece group that breathes new life into blues and roots	NDC JAZZ JAM, 2 - 5pm Magical Mystery Four 8 - 11pm All-female quartet that pays tribute to the Beatles	INTERNATIONAL LGBT PRIDE DAY ASL BRUNCH, 1030a - 12pm CLOTHING SWAP, 11a - 2p *** TBD ***
MON 6/29	TUES 6/30	WED 7/01	TH 7/02
NO EVENTS	NDC Open Mic w/ Anthony Case 6 - 9:30pm Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p	The Campfire Sessions 7 - 9pm A monthly listening room. Host: Joseph P. Swelterpants	Wolf's Blues Show & Sit-In Jam 6:30 - 10pm Big, bodacious boogie blues jam. Host: Wolf Crescenze
New Deal Cafe RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC! See link below*			

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

Obituaries

Eunice Pierre



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Eunice Pierre

Eunice Pierre, beloved daughter, sister and aunt, died peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on Friday, June 12, 2026, at the age of 59. Born on March 5, 1967, in Arcahaie, Haiti, Eunice lived a life marked by love, service and dedication to God, family and community. She is survived by her many brothers, sisters, cousins and nieces.

Eunice grew up in Brooklyn. She attended the University of Maryland School of Law in Baltimore and moved to Greenbelt in 2001. She had a career as a federal government employee at the Departments of Justice, Interior and Homeland Security, working

in various capacities.

Eunice combined a brilliant legal mind with a warm and generous heart. She was known for her wisdom, integrity, sharp wit and willingness to stand up for what she believed in. Whether serving in government, advocating for others or supporting family and friends, she did so with grace, compassion and enduring faith that inspired all who knew her.

Committed to God and her community, she touched the lives of many people and left a lasting impact on those fortunate enough to know her through her volunteer services, her 12 years of active service on the City of Greenbelt Public Safety Advisory Committee and as a devoted steward of the Emory A.M.E. Church.

In addition to family, Eunice enjoyed traveling, beautiful beaches, gospel and jazz music, jogging activities among other interests and will be especially remembered for her zest for life. Though deeply missed, Eunice's legacy of love, compassion and service to God will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Find More Peace Through Meditation

Ever wonder what it would be like to be encouraged to relax and slow down? Ever ponder how meditation might contribute to health and well-being?

Katrina Boverman, a longtime meditation instructor with the SAGE program, and the Mishkan Torah Synagogue Sisterhood have quietly offered Summer Guided Meditation classes for the past 11 years. Although the synagogue itself is a wonderful peaceful setting welcoming to all, meditation will again be offered via Zoom so people can attend from the comfort of their own home.

Current classes via Zoom are held every other Monday through August 24; the next session will be Monday, June 29 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. There is no charge; donations are welcome.

For more information email or call Katrinaboverman@yahoo.com or 301-641-1035.

Registration Open For Peace Camp

Little Friends for Peace (LFFP) will hold its fifth annual Peace Camp at Greenbelt Community Church this July 20 to 24, Monday through Friday. Peace Camp is a week-long summer camp for children ages 5 to 14 to learn skills for cooperation, nonviolent communication, empathy and problem solving through Peace Circles, art, music, cooperative games, a Peace Museum and other peace tools. LFFP Co-Directors MJ and Jerry Park have led Peace Camps in Minnesota and the Washington, D.C., area annually since 1981.

In the past 10 years, LFFP has reached 3,700 children through more than 83 Peace Camps, and post-camp surveys have found a 40 percent increase in camper ability to resolve conflicts peacefully.

Information on registration, as well as applications for Peace Camp counselor and junior counselor positions (ages 15+), can be found at LFFP.org/peacecamp.

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.

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 page 2 for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.

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

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 We Are an Open and Affirming Church
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 GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

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

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

St. Hugh's Sale Draws Big Crowd

by Matt Neufeld



PHOTO BY MATT NEUFELD

Busy sale

Bargain hunters were having a grand old time hunting for myriad treasures at the sprawling and quite busy summer rummage sale at St. Hugh of Grenoble Church early Saturday morning, June 20. Rummagers filled the church's huge downstairs community reception room to browse and buy, well, just about anything at generously discounted prices. There were tables and tables full of jewelry of all types, kitchen wares, home goods, decorations, souvenirs, mugs, glasses, various types of utility boxes, paintings, purses, linens, holiday season decorations, toys, games, sports equipment, puzzles, books, CDs, 45 rpm records, clothes, electronics, office products and, yes, even furniture.



There was also a table filled with varied delectable baked goods for sale and hot coffee for sale at the kitchen counter.



Our Neighbors

Our condolences to all who knew and loved Eunice Pierre, a longtime Greenbelt resident and public servant, who leaves a legacy of grace, compassion and enduring faith.

Congratulations to Vijay Kowtha on his election as president of the Rotary Club of College Park. Kowtha is a Greenbelt resident. Among the College Park club's past presidents is another Greenbelter, Sylvia Lewis.

Congratulations also to Eliana Hebert for breaking the Greenbelt girls 13-14 breaststroke and freestyle records last weekend.

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

The News Review Needs You

As a mostly volunteer paper, we need people. Our most pressing current need is for people willing to tackle stories. Not just on the things that interest them personally, but on the list of must-haves like council meetings, shenanigans at NASA and BARC and the other concerns that pop up. If you're not confident of your ability to write for a newspaper, though you may have written in other contexts, we'll soon be offering a writing class for new volunteers (and anybody else who is interested in journalism). Let us know you're interested by emailing meditor@greenbeltnewsreview.com or filling in the volunteer form on the website at greenbeltnewsreview.com/volunteer-to-help.

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/98519851985)

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

Vision for America
SPIRITUAL RENEWAL
 A Common Endeavor

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

Scan with cellphone camera to play on YouTube

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 29 - JULY 3

Monday, June 29, at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER TIM ADAMS - Council Chambers**

Monday, June 29, following WS – County Council Tim Adams, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS/REAL ESTATE - Council Chambers**

Wednesday, July 1 at 6:30 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD - Greenbelt Community Center, On the Agenda: Discussion: County Legislative Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of exempting certain private school uses in a Residential Zone from the requirement for special exception approval**

Wednesday, July 1, at 7:30 pm, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS/REAL ESTATE - Council Chambers**

Thursday, July 2 at 7 pm, **CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE - 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.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1)(3) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, June 29, 2026 immediately following the Work Session – County Councilmember Tim Adams: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and 3) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; 2) to discuss Real Estate; and 3) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

*** The public may attend the Work Session – County Councilmember Tim Adams prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Monday, June 29, 2026.**

- Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Deputy City Clerk

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1)(3) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 7:30 pm, in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and 3) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; 2) to discuss Real Estate; and 3) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

*** The public may attend the Special Meeting of the City Council prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, July 1, 2026.**

- Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Deputy City Clerk

GREENBELT PRIDE MAKEUP WORKSHOP

Saturday, June 27, 2 - 4 pm

Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

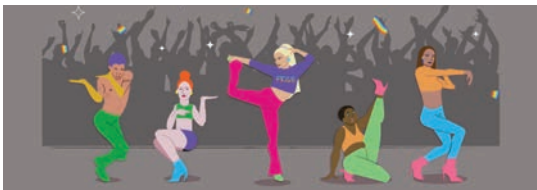
Celebrate self-expression, creativity, and community at this hands-on makeup workshop. Participants will have the opportunity to learn techniques, explore artistic styles, and connect with others in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

GREENBELT PRIDE VOGUE WORKSHOP

Saturday, June 28, 2 - 4 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd

Explore movement, expression, confidence, and ballroom culture in this community-centered workshop welcoming participants of all experience levels. Come learn, connect, and celebrate creativity through dance.



TOWN HALL MEETING ON REPARATIONS

Saturday, June 27, 12:30 - 4 pm

Greenbelt Library Auditorium, 11 Crescent Rd

The Greenbelt Reparations Commission is inviting residents to learn about the history of Greenbelt and the research that the Commission has completed. There will be time for feedback and lunch will be provided.

For more information, visit www.greenbeltreparations.info

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.

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH IN GREENBELT!

INDEPENDENCE DAY CHILL-EBRATION

Friday, July 3 from 3 - 8 pm
Roosevelt Center & Greenbelt Cinema

Looking for a quieter way to celebrate Independence Day? Join us for Greenbelt's Independence Day Chill-ebration, a community-focused event designed for families with young children, nervous pets, and anyone who prefers to celebrate without fireworks.

Enjoy an afternoon of activities including:

- 3 pm – Art Activities
- 4 pm – Film Screening
- 4:30 - 5:30 pm – Drum Circle
- 5:30 pm – HONK! Situation
- 6:30 - 8 pm – DJ & Mingling



GREENBELT INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS

Saturday, July 4 from 4 - 9 pm
Buddy Attick Lake Park

Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with a full day of family-friendly activities at Buddy Attick Lake Park, culminating with Greenbelt's annual fireworks display at 9 pm.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic, take a walk around the lake, and enjoy the park throughout the day.

Special activities include:

- 4 pm – Reading of the Declaration of Independence
- 4:30 pm – Singing of the National Anthem
- 4:45 - 5:30 pm – Pocket Change Performance
- 5:45 - 7:15 pm – HONK! Situation
- 7:15 - 8:15 pm – Live DJ
- 9 pm – Fireworks Display



Please Note: Fireworks, firearms, alcohol, propane or gas grills (charcoal grills only), and drones are prohibited in the park. Failure to comply with park rules or directions from City staff and police may result in removal from the park and possible fines.

For additional event information, visit the City's Independence Day webpage at www.greenbeltmd.gov/july4.

GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS

MEMORY CAFÉ: FIND YOUR RHYTHM

Wednesday, July 1, at 1:30 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East

This is designed for aging adults and individuals experiences changes in cognition. To register, contact Natalie Garcia at ngarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 244-6010.

STRONGER MEMORY CLASSES

Tuesdays, July 7 through August 11, 1 - 2:30 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East

Participants will learn practical strategies to strengthen memory, stay mentally active, and connect with others in the community.

FREE - Registration is required. Final call for registration is June 15. To register, contact Cesar Herrera at 202-891-8071.

SENIOR TECH CAFE

Sunday, June 28, 1 - 3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 109

Whether you're new to computers, iPhones, Androids, or tablets, our friendly volunteers are here to assist you!

Drop by any time during our session as no appointment is necessary. Please note that we're not a "Genius Bar" and do not fix devices, but we're more than happy to help you learn how to make the most of your technology!

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

UPCOMING NATURE EVENTS

Kayaking at Buddy Attick Park
Saturday, June 27 from 8 - 11:30 am
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Rd



Join Greenbelt Park Rangers and explore Greenbelt Lake by Kayak. Kayaks, vests, and paddles are provided at no cost, but supplies are limited. Participants are welcome to bring their own watercraft, vests, and paddles.



FEATURED PETS

BLU



Ready for Adoption?
Call (301) 474-6124

10-month-old Blu was surrendered to the shelter a few months ago when his owner could no longer care for him. When he's not smothering you in affection, Blu loves to play with toys and go on walks. He does great on the leash and is non-reactive – he just wants to say hi to everyone he sees (plus, his former owner said he really loves other dogs). Blu is also picking up very fast on training and has already mastered "sit".

If you're interested in adopting bright-eyed Blu, please email animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-6124 for more information.

* 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, Advisory Committee Advancing Public Safety, 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

Creative Kids Camp Performs Hercules and Hippolyta 6/26;

10am & 2:15pm (Greenbelt Community Center) A musical adventure about history's first super-heroes! Written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreations' performing arts coordinator. Ticket information below. Additional performances on 7/10, 7/24 and 8/10.

Circus Camp Presents Under the Big Top 6/26; 1pm

(Greenbelt Community Center) Campers present a showcase of their circus skills, including juggling, stilt walking, unicycle, tightrope, tumbling, clown gags, and more! Ticket information below. Additional performances on 7/10, 7/24, 8/10 and 8/14.

Both camp shows are FREE, but tickets are required. Visit the Greenbelt Community Center business office or call (301) 397-2208. Seating is limited.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Free Artist Talk with Cheri Glover** F 7/17; 6-7pm
Greenbelt Community Center RSVP at sugeni.us/eEYT.
- **Friends & Family Workshop: Felted Summer Harvest** F 7/10; 5:30-7:30pm. Greenbelt Community Center (page 17).
- **Intro to Painting on Canvas** M, 6-8pm. 6/29-8/10. Greenbelt Community Center (page 22).

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

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

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

Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt! For City information and events, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

Election 2026

Residents Exercise Civic Duty, Share Priorities at Early Voting

by Charlotte Ormond

Early voting came to an end on Thursday, June 18, in Prince George's County, after eight days of ballot casting before Election Day on June 23.

Around 30,000 eligible voters in Prince George's County cast their ballots during early voting. Residents were able to vote at several community centers and schools across the county, with the closest to Greenbelt being the College Park Community Center.

Throughout the past week, the College Park center was lined with signs and posters representing candidates seeking a variety of elected positions. Several candidates were also stationed outside the center, hoping to connect with voters before they cast their ballots. Among them were Alvaro Ceron-Ruiz, a candidate for the Board of Education, and Ron Oliver, who is running for sheriff, who were present when the News Review visited the polls.

In discussions with the News Review at the College Park polling location, voters ranked transparency, dedication, integrity and honesty among the top traits they want in local elected officials this year. A few voters described their ideal elected official to be "motivated to do the job" and to "stand by the issues they ran on, instead of bowing to pressure." This year, voters said they hope to see real change in their communities.



Voting booths during early voting at College Park Community Center

"A lot of [candidates] say, 'I'm just like you,' but they haven't said anything about the issues, and they haven't said anything about how they're going to make it happen," one voter stated.

Immigration was a common concern among voters at the College Park Community Center. Several voters said they were casting their vote with immigration issues and ICE detentions in mind. As of April 2026, 60,311 migrants are in ICE detention and President Trump has promised the largest mass deportation in history.

"I have historically worked in areas, progressive areas, specifically as an ally for immigrants. Given the situation now, it's ultra important for them to know that people have their back," one voter said.

"Many immigrants have contributed greatly to the United States," another voter said.

One resident said she hopes her vote will help bring about a change in leadership across the

country.

"This is a critical time, and we're in bad shape as a country. One of the only ways we are going to get out of this is changing the leadership at the federal and state levels," she said.

Healthcare, the rise of food deserts and aging infrastructure were among the other concerns raised by voters. One resident recently visited her old school in Beltsville and noticed how the school looked, "almost exactly the same" since she graduated over 20 years ago. She urged fellow residents to participate in elections and vote on issues that directly affect their communities.

"If you're going to complain, you might as well try to make your voice heard, you know, through your vote," she said.

Many voters said they hoped their incoming elected officials would listen and communicate with their constituents. One voter shared three hopes for those taking office:

"I hope that we can move forward with harmony and peace. I hope that we cannot politicize everything. I hope that they will think of people first," she said.

Following early voting, primary election day took place on Tuesday, June 23.

Charlotte Ormond is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.



PRIMARY continued from page 1

percent of the vote. Alvaro E. Ceron-Ruiz, an Eleanor Roosevelt graduate and current UMD student in public policy and criminology and criminal justice at the University of Maryland was second with 29 percent, and Greenbelter and former PGCPs teacher Caroline Decaire-Goldin came in with 25.36 percent, 77 fewer votes than Ceron-Ruiz. All three were at Greenbelt polls on primary election day. Since the primary narrows this three-way field to two, Clegg and Ceron-Ruiz will progress to the general election in November.

County Races

County Executive

Incumbent Aisha Braveboy won by a landslide with 70.06 percent of the vote. Her closest rival was Gregory Holmes, who managed 13.33 percent. Braveboy has been serving as county executive since June 2025, following a special election to replace Angela Alsobrooks.

County Council At-Large Seats

Incumbent Jolene Ivey and current District 9 Councilmember Sydney Harrison (who was terminated in his current position) were elected to the at-large seats. Ivey gained 34.9 percent of the vote and Harrison 18.69. The current at-large member in addition to Ivey, Wala Blegay, was not running for re-election due to her bid for Congress. The next closest

candidate in the race was Jeana Jacobs with over 15.34 percent.

Judge of the Circuit Court

Voters were asked to select up to nine candidates in this race. Since nine Democrats and nine Republicans ran in total, all will proceed.

States Attorney

Incumbent Tara Jackson, who was appointed to the position to succeed Braveboy, took a comfortable majority of the vote, with 54.6 percent reported. Challengers included current District 2 County Councilmember Wanika Fisher, who got 38.57 percent, and Karen Piper Mitchell, who managed only 6.83 percent.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Clerk of the Circuit Court was a close race and the only one to see an incumbent lose. Mahasin El Amin, currently serving in the role, had just over 48 percent of the vote, losing to Qiana Johnson, who earned almost 52 percent. Johnson, who has two felony convictions for her role in a housing fraud scheme in Prince George's County in 2014, served two and a half years of her eight-and-a-half-year sentence and founded and leads a non-profit, Life After Release, to help formerly incarcerated people. She also lobbies for voting rights for those incarcerated. Her candidacy was criticized by some victims of the fraud scheme who lost their

houses. Johnson says she wants to help residents navigate the court system. She was surprisingly successful in unseating an incumbent in an election where those in other races were not. She was endorsed by Progressive Maryland and CASA in Action and Blue Voter Guide.

Register of Wills

Of 11 candidates, Kayla D. Bryant prevailed with 18.59 percent. Jocelyn Route was second with 16.86 percent and Antwan C. Brown third with 13.92.

Sheriff

Incumbent Sheriff John D. Carr had a definitive win over Ron Oliver with 77.68 percent to 22.32 for Oliver.

Results for State Offices Governor/Lt. Governor

In the Democratic race, incumbents Wes Moore and Aruna Miller won overwhelmingly, with 93.39 percent of the vote, to Eric S. Felber and LaTrece Hawkins Lytes with 6.61 percent. In the Republican race, Dan Cox and Rob Krop won with 41.7 percent of the vote and Ed Hale and Tyrone Keys Jr. came in second with 20.64 percent.

Comptroller and Attorney General

Both comptroller races were uncontested. Brooke Elizabeth Lierman (D) will face Sonya

See PRIMARY, page 12

Local Voters Highlight Education, Affordability and Accountability

by Cam Crossett

Voters arrived slowly and steadily throughout Tuesday at the Community Center as residents cast ballots in Maryland's primary election, weighing issues ranging from education and healthcare to affordability and public trust in elected officials.

Voters considered Tim Adams, Juliet Agocha and Euniesha Davis for their county council representative for District 4, while the Prince George's County Board of Education District 2 contest also drew significant attention from residents entering and exiting the polling location.

For Greenbelt resident Xavier Courouble, education was the central issue motivating him to vote. "I'm an independent voter, so I only had the opportunity to vote for the Board of Education, and that's the most important issue for me," Courouble said outside the Community Center on Tuesday.

Courouble, who has lived in Greenbelt for four years after previously living elsewhere in Prince George's County, said he supported Board of Education candidate Caroline Decaire-Goldin. "I'm French, and candidate Caroline Decaire-Goldin is also French, so that was an added reason that I supported her," he said. "She also seems to have very strong educational credentials. Everything I know about her and the other candidates came from reading the Greenbelt News Review."

Decaire-Goldin, a former Prince George's County Public Schools second-grade teacher and education policy leader, has centered her campaign on teacher retention, academic support and school safety. She was outside Greenbelt's Community Center with her mother Tuesday morning to greet voters.

In campaign materials, Decaire-Goldin said she believes neighborhood schools "can and must work for every single child."

She highlighted her experience working in education policy at both the congressional and state level while advocating for stronger teacher development programs and expanded student-support services.

"Families want to feel genuinely excited and confident about their neighborhood school," Decaire-Goldin stated. "They want classrooms with great teachers who know their children, stay all year and are prepared to teach every kind of learner well."

Courouble said local journalism played an important role in helping him stay informed during the election season.

"I'm an avid reader of the News Review, especially on Wednesdays," he said. "The digital copy is very handy since I'm not always home to read the paper version."

He also said Greenbelt residents appear to have more access to local information than voters in neighboring communities.

"Since moving to Greenbelt, this is where I've gotten the most information as a voter," Courouble said. Still, he expressed frustration with county leadership and called for stronger civic engagement among residents.

"I would appreciate elected officials being more straightforward and focused on residents' interests instead of their own interests," he said. "I think voters need to become more involved in civic matters and participate in the voting process."

A 22-year-old Greenbelt voter was planning to vote for Alvaro Ceron-Ruiz for school board, after speaking with him outside the Community Center. That voter was excited to see a young candidate on the ballot and to learn that Ceron-Ruiz had attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School like he had.

Other voters at the Community

See VOTERS, page 9

2026 Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Nomination Form

Submit your nomination by **August 1** to

Tom Jones

Outstanding Citizen Committee

1 Woodland Way Unit C, Greenbelt MD 20770

or OutstandingCitizenGB@gmail.com

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Attach a statement describing why this nominee deserves recognition as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen.

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

Others' testimonials or supporting material, are useful but not required.

You may be contacted for additional information. If you prefer, send this form now and complete the statement later. The form and any additional information must be received no later than the **August 1 deadline**.

Nominated by:

Name(s)

Signature(s)

Telephone

We need your input—thank you!

Shape the Future of the Pumpkin Festival: All Voices Needed!

by Stacy Stewart

Every October, something magical happens in Greenbelt. In three different neighborhoods, Greenbelters come together to carve pumpkins into jack-o-lanterns and participate in pumpkin walks. The Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival is one of the community's most beloved traditions and keeping it vibrant takes more than pumpkins. It takes people.

This July, the Greenbelt Rotary Club is bringing those people together.

On Thursday, July 9, the Rotary Club will host a Pumpkin Festival Round Table at the Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for snacks and socializing, with the meeting getting underway at 7 p.m. All former volunteers and community members with a passion for this tradition are warmly invited to attend and share their perspective, whether they've carved a pumpkin, placed pumpkins into the woods, helped with composting or just enjoyed the magic of a Pumpkin Walk.

This year will be Stacy Stewart's final season as the Pumpkin Queen and she wants to leave the festival in good hands. What's next for the Pumpkin Festival? That's exactly what the Round Table is going to discuss. A few key questions will kick off the conversation, but additional topics are welcome.

Leadership and coordination: The Pumpkin Festival has grown into an operation spanning three locations and five events. It's a lot for one person to organize. Could a committee model, with a neighborhood "Pumpkin Monarch" for each location working collaboratively, make the festival more



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Pumpkin Queen Stacy Stewart presides over the pumpkin carving on Friday, October 17, 2025.

sustainable and more manageable?

Fundraising: The festival currently relies on donations that often arrive after expenses have been paid out of pocket. How can the festival build a fundraising model that works in advance? Past festivals have featured bake sales and live music performances. What creative ideas might the community bring?

Community involvement: Greenbelt volunteers are legendary for showing up on event days. But how do we bring more people into the planning process, where their energy and ideas are just as needed?

Composting: CHEARS did an amazing job of composting the pumpkins for years, but the festival has outgrown what is reasonable to ask of them. A dedicated crew could ensure that the pumpkin leftovers are handled in a way

that conforms to the Waste Management Hierarchy.

The Labor Day Parade: Should the Pumpkin Festival make an appearance in the Labor Day Parade to build excitement ahead of October? What would that look like?

The Pumpkin Festival has always been a true grassroots event with no formal structure, no bank account, just community members who love Greenbelt showing up and making something wonderful happen together. That spirit is worth preserving and building on. But now is the time to widen the circle and bring in fresh energy, new ideas and the kind of shared ownership that will keep the festival

going strong for years to come. A special thank you is owed to the Greenbelt Rotary Club for serving as the festival's fiscal sponsor, making it possible to collect digital donations and giving this beloved grassroots event a little more solid footing.

To get in touch with the Pumpkin Festival directly, reach out by email at GreenbeltPumpkinFestival@gmail.com.

Stacy Stewart is the current Pumpkin Queen.



FRAUD continued from page 1

Though the city has neither the means nor the authority to seek civil or criminal penalties against Weiss, Salmeron hopes the State Attorney General has both at his disposal.

Fraud and Default

According to a Department of Justice (DOJ) press release dated May 21, U.S. Attorney Robert Frazer stated, "Weiss and his co-conspirators orchestrated an elaborate scheme built on falsified records designed to trick lenders into funding loans that never should have been approved." DOJ goes on to say, "In total, Weiss obtained approximately \$229.6 million in loans from multiple financial institutions through this scheme. Ultimately, he defaulted on the loans, or the loan balances substantially exceeded the value of the underlying collateral, resulting in approximately \$94.4 million in losses to lenders, including the Federal National Mortgage Association, commonly known as Fannie Mae, and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, commonly known as Freddie Mac."

The press release notes that, "The sole count to which Weiss pled guilty carries a maximum penalty of 20 years' imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000, or twice the gross loss to the victim or gain to the defendant, which

ever is greatest."

The Property Today

Charlestowne North remains under the receivership of Tarantino Properties, appointed February 26, 2024 by the Prince George's County Circuit Court, when the property was forfeited to lender Freddie Mac. Since that time, services to tenants have significantly improved and the property is stable (see the News Review March 6, 2024 issue). A follow-up in the December 26, 2024 issue notes that most problems had by that time been corrected although difficulties in procuring parts had delayed some elevator repairs. Current county tax records value the property at approximately \$37M.

A Checkered Past

Charlestowne North started life enmired in controversy, as a product of developer Charles Bresler's activities in the rapidly

developing Greenbelt of the mid-1960s and in apparent contravention of then-current zoning laws. According to Salmeron, it has also never met building codes.

Charlestowne Village, including both the townhomes and the apartment building, was the topic of extensive negative and passionate articles in the News Reviews of that era (for example, June 16, 1966) complaining about developer encroachments and evasions.

Famously, a presumably much-riled Bresler later sued the News Review on a different pretext, leading to the landmark Supreme Court decision in which the News Review prevailed (see the May 21, 1970 issue).



DRUG OP continued from page 1

but had been a resident of Greenbelt, along with Aneteneh Zewde Terfe, 45, believed by the DOJ to be from Baltimore and with a prior Silver Spring address in court records, and Marvin A. Taaff, 39, whom the DOJ called "an illegal alien from Jamaica," but whom court records show lived previously in areas including New Carrollton, Takoma Park and Greenbelt. Taaff was already in custody prior to the June 2 arrests. These three led an operation involving 15 others who used multiple residences to store and distribute drugs, alleges the DOJ. Members of the group allegedly used firearms in their trafficking activities and handled large amounts of cash as proceeds from the sale of drugs.

The DOJ alleges that Omari Obeng Stewart, aka O, 46, of Greenbelt, routinely traveled between Maryland and West Virginia to "supply, coordinate and sell cocaine and cocaine base throughout the region." Several alleged members of this operation are now charged in a drug conspiracy involving over five kilograms of cocaine and 28 grams of cocaine base.

The second criminal organization, according to DOJ statements, was led by brothers Jorjory aka Foy and Joroy aka Roy Twyman, of West Virginia, who worked together to distribute over 500 grams of cocaine and quantities of cocaine base in and around Jefferson County. During the investigation, law enforcement searched multiple homes and storage units, seizing tens of thousands of dollars, cocaine and luxury items believed to have been purchased with drug proceeds, they reported.

LeeAnn Lopez, 33, whom the DOJ also identified as a Greenbelt resident, was among those arrested on June 2.

Six defendants remained at large, said a June 2 statement. They are Omo-Karo Cooper, 46, of Brandywine; Tabatha McFalls, 40, of Martinsburg, W.V., Juan Payne, aka Big Guy, 51, of Martinsburg, W.V.; Christopher Pasco, 57, of Inwood, W.V., and an unnamed fugitive. Anyone with information is asked to contact their local law enforcement office.

Investigative agencies involved in this case include the Eastern Panhandle Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force, a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)-funded initiative; the FBI, Pittsburgh Field Office; Homeland Security Investigations; the West Virginia State Police; the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office; the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Martinsburg Police Department; the Ranson (W.V.) Police

Department; the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; the U.S. National Guard, Martinsburg; the U.S. Postal Service, Office of Inspector General, Mid Atlantic Area Field Office; the Bureau of Prisons; the FBI, Washington Field Office; the FBI, Baltimore Field Office; the Montgomery County, Md., Police Department; the Prince George's County Police Department; the Virginia State Police; the Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington Field Office; and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Information.

The DOJ announcement said this case is part of the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) initiative established by Executive Order 14159, Protecting the American People Against Invasion.



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CITY continued from page 1

Planning and Community Development Acting Director Jaime Fearer explained that, this year, the city is requesting one large project, asking \$2.7M for the Springhill Lake Recreation Center (SLRC). The project integrates 20 years of previously unfunded plans and includes additional space and internal refurbishment.

Fearer declared POS funding by no means a given but noted the county's unprecedented, rapid one-week positive reaction to the initial request. The project would require a \$300K local match, of which the city already has \$250K in federal grant funds (see the March 11 and May 7 issues). The next step is to submit an application to the county in mid-June with more information, followed by a later submittal that is more detailed. Mayor Emmett Jordan asked about the timeline, with Fearer responding that the first phase of the work could go to contractors by the end of this year.

The project involves multiple logically separate phases that can be broken up and tackled as money becomes available – there are two separate projects in addition to the interior refurbishment. Work like geotechnical analysis of the soil for loadbearing can be started already. In answer to a question by Councilmember Danielle McKinney, construction work would likely not start in this fiscal year.

Community Involvement

City Manager Josué Salmerón noted that the community has been waiting for these improvements for over 20 years and that, once committed, funds must be used within a relatively short time. Councilmember Kristen Weaver suggested that a community meeting in the recreation center itself would be preferable to a formal worksession. She strongly suggested a food truck to encourage attendance.

County Budget Wins

Timothy Adams, Prince George's County councilmember for District 4, gave an update on the budget apportioned to the city from the county. Greenbelt was funded for several high-priority projects, to the tune of \$1.65M. This included additional support for Buddy Attick Park and Greenbelt Lake, which he noted as resources enjoyed by people living well beyond the city limits. This boosted county contributions to the park from a typical \$260K annually to \$400K this year. There is also \$400K for lighting enhancements to increase safety and enhance access to city resources during evening hours. Additional funding for Greenbelt Museum of \$300K would help move the

expansion project forward and leverage outside funding. In addition, \$65K was allocated for pool recoating as part of the Aquatic & Fitness Center's 10-year maintenance plan. Adams declared he was proud of these investments by the county and remains committed to advocate for future investment.

Cellphone Service

Salmerón presented his administrative report. Concerns about cellphone service are ongoing and in conversations with cell vendors, Salmerón reported that T-Mobile has been the most responsive and is engaged onsite checking service throughout the city. Verizon has been relatively unresponsive and the city is moving away from their services, including ending the current contracts for city cellphones and police vehicle communications. The city website now includes instructions on how to register concerns about cellphone connectivity.

Cell Alternatives

During the refurbishment of the water tower at Lastner Lane and Ridge Road (which continues), T-Mobile's antennas have been removed from the structure and the load distributed to other antennas, but restoration on the tower is planned as work is completed. The second antenna originally on the water tower was dedicated to city communications, but had already fallen out of use and will not be replaced.

WSSC now has full authority from the city (which owns the site but not the tower) to 'monetize' the water tower location and that would include the option to add antennas from other vendors. Councilmembers McKinney and Frankie Fritz were interested in the city also pressing harder on Verizon.

Roosevelt Center Utilities

In a related topic, as the city examines the repaving of Roosevelt Center, it has the opportunity to run telecom infrastructure underground to serve the Center businesses, and this is being stud-

ied. There are legal limitations on the sharing of existing resources, meaning that the city cannot share its bandwidth with others. As a result, there may be a need to consider third-party cell towers or other antenna-mounting strategies to service the location. There is now \$300K available to invest directly into Roosevelt Center with all projects slated to finish in April 2027.

GHI Lighting

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) has expressed concern about taking on responsibility for the streetlights that are on their property (instead of Pepco). Salmerón is checking into whether there were any preexisting, historic agreements that might relieve GHI of this responsibility – so far without result. When Salmerón suggested downloading all the archived News Review PDFs and searching them, Weaver recommended Salmerón check the News Review website for this information, pointing out that the News Review search function "actually works pretty well." (See article on page 12.)

Lighting in Courts 11 to 13 Ridge Road also came up, as the

\$10K of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding GHI obtained for this leaves them short by \$6K. Salmerón recommended providing the additional funding because two of the three lights are on public rights of way – the lights in question are solar and mounted on bollards rather than poles.

EV Chargers

Salmerón noted that the EV chargers in the library parking lot are functioning but that delays associated with the Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement have been challenging and significant. He opined that such delays made it unlikely that commercial installation could be viable as the county process would be too burdensome and expensive.

The Fiscal Year 2026 audit started in early June and will continue over the summer.

In other considerations, resident Lore Rosenthal requested that the city clean up the composting facility at Buddy Attick Park, noting that it was cleaned up only quarterly but really needed to be done as often as monthly to remain sanitary.

City Notes

The City Manager welcomed a new Economic Development Manager and Constituent Services presented at the Maryland Municipal League conference.

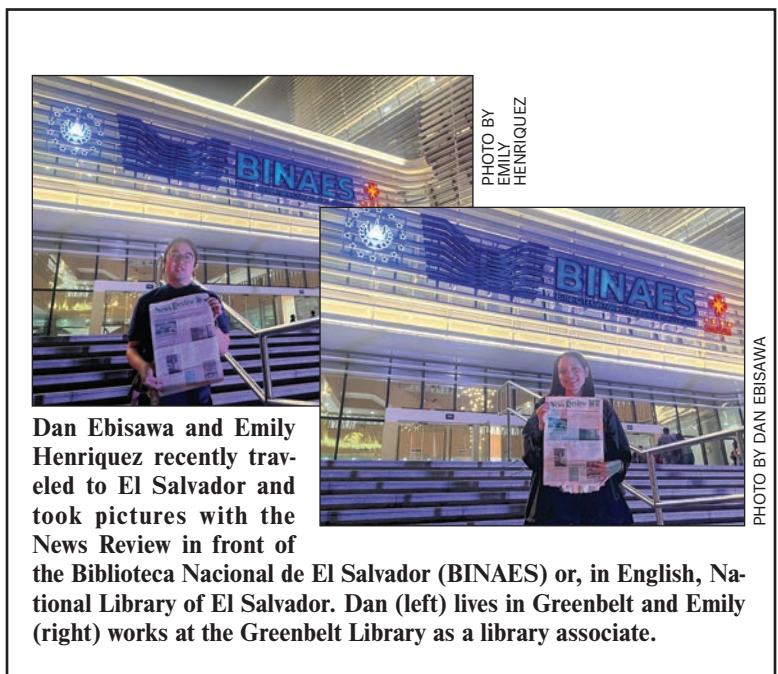
Code Enforcement issued 11 permits and inspected 15 rentals. Animal Shelter residents are seven cats, nine kittens and five dogs, with no adoptions.

Public Works began site preparations for July 4th and hosted a quarterly staff cookout. Recycling/Sustainability responded to an illegal dumping situation and Ballfields/Parks completed playground inspections.

IT assisted the Cinema with network connectivity and the Community Center with front-desk phone issues.

Recreation started summer camps and activities at the Community Center, Youth Center, Springhill Lake Recreation Center and the Pool. Arts began Camp Encore, Creative Kids and Circus Camp. Therapeutic Recreation provided camp inclusion support and took seniors on a trip to North Beach. Arts staff attended the Maryland Arts Summit.

CARES hosted produce distributions supported by Greenbelt Grows, and the CARES director chaired a meeting of Maryland's Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform.



Dan Ebisawa and Emily Henriquez recently traveled to El Salvador and took pictures with the News Review in front of the Biblioteca Nacional de El Salvador (BINAES) or, in English, National Library of El Salvador. Dan (left) lives in Greenbelt and Emily (right) works at the Greenbelt Library as a library associate.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred June 15-21, 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 two domestic incidents, both resulting in arrest, and one mental health diversion, involving attempted suicide. On June 16, a missing woman was found and taken to the hospital.

Assault

On June 18 at 12:15 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was assaulted and her property was damaged by a man standing near her parked vehicle. Officers arrested the man. He had an open warrant through the Prince George's Sheriff's Department for second degree assault. While being transported, he also damaged the in-car camera in the patrol vehicle.

Family Dispute

On June 17 at 12:20 p.m. near 7572 Mandan Road, a mother reported that her son, whom she had previously removed from the residence, unlawfully reentered the home by damaging and breaking the door lock. She was advised of her options.

Disorderly

On June 18 at 10:32 p.m. near 6600 Capitol Drive, an employee who was recently fired came in dressed for work. The store manager requested that he be removed and banned from the location.

On June 19 at 10:44 p.m. near 157 Westway, police responded to an intoxicated woman yelling and arguing with someone inside a building, creating a disturbance for the neighbors. Officers took her outside, where she continued to cause a ruckus; they told her multiple times to keep her voice down, but she wouldn't and was arrested.

DUI Arrests

On June 15 at 0:58 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and 63rd Avenue, a driver was asleep behind the wheel, with the engine running and the gear shift in drive. The driver showed signs of impairment and, after sobriety tests, was arrested for DUI.

On June 15 at 11:05 p.m. near Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth Avenue, officers responded to a three-car accident with minor injuries. The driver at fault appeared to be impaired, and he was arrested for DUI and other traffic charges. The other drivers were

provided with the case number.

On June 21 at 8:57 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a vehicle ran a stop sign with no attempt to brake; the driver was intoxicated and was taken into custody.

Fraud

On June 18 near 121 Centerway, someone was defrauded by an individual named "Brett Ashenbach" but no one by that name could be found.

On June 18 near 8011 Craddock Road, a man was threatened after sending a photo of himself to someone online.

Theft and Shoplifting

On June 7 on Cherrywood Lane and Greenbelt Metro Drive, a man wrecked his electric bike and was taken to the hospital. After he was released from the emergency room, he couldn't find the bike and did not have the make, model or serial number.

On June 15 at 9:48 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man was arrested and banned after stealing merchandise.

On June 15 at 7:48 p.m. near 121 Centerway, an electric scooter was taken from the bike rack while the owner was inside the store.

On June 16 at 7:32 p.m. near 121 Centerway, a young man stole goods and dropped them outside when confronted by management. An officer found him and he was banned.

On June 17 at 1:57 a.m. near 7900 Good Luck Road, a man took several items from the shelf and fled on foot without paying; at 11:42 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, someone stole from a retail store and was gone prior to police arrival; and at 12:22 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a store identified a theft suspect; officers will apply for charges.

On June 19 at 6:51 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a repeat offender was arrested.

On June 21 at 7:25 p.m. near 5999 Springhill Drive, a woman knew a person who entered her apartment, removed cash and intentionally broke a key inside the lock to damage it.

Vandalism

On June 18 near 9298 Edmonston Road, trailers serving as office spaces for Franklin Park staff had windows broken out.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Four vehicles were stolen: on June 19, near Ora Glen Drive and Ora Court, a VW Jetta (Va. TUM8678); near 7812 Hanover Parkway, a green 2024 Honda CRV (Md. 6GA4947); and near 4 Laurel Hill Road, a 2019 Honda (Md. 9FA1973); and on June 20, near 7828 Hanover Parkway, a 2019 Hyundai Elantra (Md. 9FP9926).

Attempted Theft of Vehicle

On June 21, windows were broken and the ignition was damaged on three vehicles: a Hyundai near 6206 Breezewood Court, a Kia Forte near 5821 Cherrywood Lane and a Hyundai Elantra near 9106 Springhill Lane.

Theft from Auto

On June 16 near 25 Ridge Road, a car was rummaged through and items were taken.

On June 20 at 3:23 a.m. near 434 Ridge Road, officers responded to the report of a man breaking into vehicles. They saw a black Chevy Impala (Va. SZW405) speed from the parking lot; it crashed into a tree, and the man ran away.

Tags were stolen from three cars: on June 15 near 9002 Breezewood Terrace (front), and near 6233 Springhill Drive, both tags (Va. SVW7998); and on June 19 near 9144 Edmonston Road, front (Texas: TDS9619).

On June 21 near 6000 Springhill Drive, a 2007 Toyota Sienna was broken into and items were taken; near 7929 Mandan Road, a Lexus SC300 had the windows down and items went missing; near 5833 Cherrywood Terrace, a Mazda CX-3 was broken into and a wallet was taken; and near Mandan Road and Mathew Street, all four wheels were stolen from a 2017 Honda Accord.

Vandalism to Auto

On June 18 near 11 Parkway, a 2008 Toyota Camry had the side mirrors damaged.

On June 20 near 7708 Hanover Parkway, a Hyundai Venue had a window smashed.

VOTERS continued from page 6

Center focused on economic concerns and healthcare access.

One Greenbelt resident who didn't want to share their name described affordability as the defining issue of the election.

"Affordability is the biggest issue on my mind today," the voter said after casting a Democratic ballot. "The most important quality I look for in a candidate is honesty," the voter said. "Second is whether they actually do what they say they will do and third is energy and enthusiasm."

Healthcare also ranked among the voters' top concerns.

"Healthcare is the biggest issue facing county residents right now," the resident said. "Over the next four years, I would most like to see improvements in affordability and healthcare access for

everyone in the county."

As polls remained open into the evening, election workers continued assisting voters while campaign signs lined pathways outside the Community Center. Conversations among residents reflected a common interest in education, public accountability and quality-of-life issues affecting Prince George's County communities. While voters expressed different priorities, many shared a similar message: local elections matter and civic engagement remains essential to shaping the county's future.

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

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

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.

Cheri Glover's Art At Center Gallery

Visit the current exhibition at the Community Center Art Gallery, where Cheri Glover's vivid and joyful artwork is inspired, she says, by "nature, dreams and the beauty of being human." The Gallery is open daily Monday through Friday evenings from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The show is on view through August 9.

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

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Sports

Greenbelt to Host Little League District Tournament This Weekend

by Ben Friedman & Katrina Seibert

After a fun and rewarding Little League season at the newly renovated Braden Fields, the City of Greenbelt and the Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League (GYBL) will host the District 4 Tournament for the Little League Minors Division from June 27 to July 3 at Braden Field 2 (behind the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center).

Teams from Greenbelt, Laurel, Arbutus, Annapolis, South Baltimore and Dundalk Little Leagues will compete for the District Championship, playing in a double elimination tournament kicking off Saturday at 3 p.m. The tournament will continue throughout the week and culminate in the championship game on Thursday or Friday, assuming weather conditions cooperate. The

winner of the District Tournament will advance to the Maryland State Baseball Tournament held in South Baltimore starting on July 11.

Local families, sports fans and community members are encouraged to attend and support the players. Admission to all tournament games is free, no tickets are required and attendees should bring their own chairs as seating is limited. League volunteers will be staffing the concession stand at the field, and additional volunteers are welcomed to support the tournament's success. Email greenbeltyouthbaseball@gmail.com if interested in helping out as a scorekeeper, announcer or field maintenance at any of the below game times.

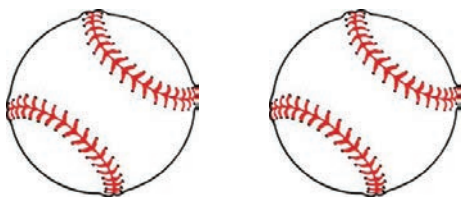


PHOTO BY KATRINA SEIBERT

Greenbelt Little League All-Star team ages 9-11 line up for pre-game announcements on Monday, June 22. The 9-11 tournament was hosted at Laurel American Legion Post 60. From left: Assistant Coaches David Seibert and Ben Barnes; Head Coach John Tucker; players Giancarlo Herrera, Benjamin Seibert, Arthur Collier, Peter Somok, Teddy Barnes, Marcus Clark, Clark Butler, Charles Hammonds, Emmanuel Halim, Borja Henriquez, Hugh Conforti, Robert Tryonsky and Finnan Curran.

2026 8-10 Tournament Schedule

Game	Day / Date	Time	Home Team	Away Team
1	Saturday, June 27	3:00 p.m.	Arbutus	Laurel
2	June 27	6:00 p.m.	Dundalk	Annapolis Area
3	Sunday, June 28	3:00 p.m.	Greenbelt	Winner game 1
4	June 28	6:00 p.m.	South Baltimore	Winner game 2
5	Monday, June 29	5:00 p.m.	Loser game 1	Loser game 4
6	June 29	8:00 p.m.	Loser game 2	Loser game 3
7	Tuesday, June 30	5:00 p.m.	Winner game 3	Winner game 4
8	June 30	8:00 p.m.	Winner game 5	Winner game 6
9	Wednesday, July 1	5:45 p.m.	Loser game 7	Winner game 8
10	Thursday, July 2	5:45 p.m.	Winner game 7	Winner game 9
11	Friday, July 3 (if needed)	5:45 p.m.	Winner game 10	Loser game 10 (if 1st loss)



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Swim Team Wins and Loses; Eliana Hebert Breaks Records

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



Boys 9-10 diving start

Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team, the Barracudas, began the summer competition with two home meets over recent weekends.

On Saturday, June 13, the team opened the season with a heavy loss to Laurel City Swim Team. The final score from that meet was Laurel 369 and Greenbelt 216. A highlight of the competition was Eliana Hebert's record-breaking swim for the girls 13-14 50-meter breaststroke with a time of 37.02 seconds. That broke the Greenbelt team record of 37.39 that was set in 2010 by Jennifer Clune and the pool record (for the fastest in the Greenbelt pool), which had been set over 30 years ago at 37.07 by non-Greenbelt swimmer Lauren Briscoe in 1993.

On Saturday, June 20, the Barracudas were able to celebrate a win against Belair Swim and Racquet in their second competition. The final scores were Greenbelt 315 and Belair 257. Hebert continued her streak of record-breaking swims, breaking the girls 13-14 50-meter breaststroke record she set just the week earlier with a new time of 36.94. Hebert also set a new Greenbelt team record in girls 13-14 50-meter free, with a time of 29.08, breaking a record of 29.37 set just last year by Mia Moore.

This weekend the swim team will compete away against West Arundel Swim Team in Maryland City, Anne Arundel County.



A 9-year-old Greenbelt swimmer competes in freestyle.

- Photos by Jason Andrew

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GNR's Search Engine Reveals Greenbelt's Past in Detail

by Cathie Meetre

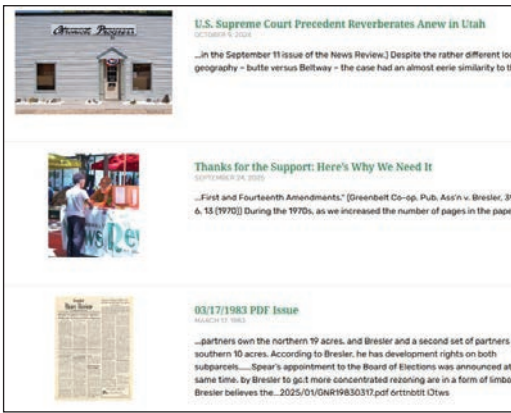
If you want to know about Greenbelt's past — from last week all the way back to 1937, you need look no further than the Greenbelt News Review (GNR) Archive and its search engine. Your Grandma's wedding, the building of Greenway Center, the first city council meeting, the inception of GHI — it's all there.

Inception

The newspaper's Archive Project, initiated in 2016 and completed in 2019, scanned in the newspapers page by page. It was started when two starry-eyed News Review volunteers decided to pursue a Pulitzer Prize based on research from the existing archive and found that it was, alas, almost completely unsearchable before the year 2000. We thought we had an archive, but what we really had was thousands of almost unreadable copies of microfilm downloaded from the Prince George's County Public Library's digitized records. Optical character recognition didn't work on them. Drat.

No Pulitzer for You

The Pulitzer was sadly lost to the Boston Globe's story of undercover infiltration of Asian shrimp farming labor practices, but the big win for the newspaper



Showing both website and PDF hits, the website allows searches throughout the News Review's 89 years of publication

was the birth of the Archive Project.

Money Talks

We still had all the physical copies — but some had begun to crumble — so time was of the essence. We created a 501(c) (3) organization and raised money with a silent auction, donations and a county grant. The University of Maryland digital library group contracted to scan the newspapers on our premises, and the city provided the space to do it. News Review staff member Deanna Dawson spearheaded the effort and volunteers prepped and uploaded the scans and watched over quality. The project involved all the newspapers between

November 1937 and 2001 — over 3,000 issues and perhaps 36,000 pages. It was a big job.

Now "born digital" newspapers are added to the treasure trove each week as they are published.

Search Away

Our search engine is Relevanssi — chosen because it is well suited to our material (and inexpensive). It allows us to search simply, or to restrict the search by date — with a basic or advanced search protocol available. We continue to improve the product it creates.

Like any search, it's important to phrase search words carefully. For example, searching on "Williamson" will produce a zillion hits because Mary Lou of that name has been editor since the 1960s and her name is in every issue. The simple search box is at the top right of the home page. Below it is the Advanced Search link.

Once a newspaper is identified and opened it is possible to search within that paper for the particular topic using Control+F to identify all the occurrences of the word. Easy peasy!!

Concert Band Ends Season

by Li'l Dan Celdran



PHOTO COURTESY GB CONCERT BAND

Members of the concert band gather for an end-of-season potluck celebration.

Members of the Greenbelt Concert Band celebrated the conclusion of another successful season with a potluck party, enjoying good food and fellowship and reflecting on a wonderful year of music-making.

The band anticipates beginning its new season on Monday, September 14. The schedule for the evening is as follows:

6 p.m., Board Meeting (open to all members)

6:30 p.m., Open House for prospective and returning members

7 p.m., First rehearsal of the season

Musicians are encouraged to join; the band is especially seeking trumpet, trombone, tuba and percussion players to help strengthen these sections.

The band is an all-volunteer community ensemble dedicated to providing performance opportunities for adult musicians and sharing quality concert music with the community.

For more information, visit greenbeltconcertband.org.

The Greenbelt Concert Band invites advanced high school musicians to perform alongside talented adult musicians in a welcoming and supportive ensemble. The band seeks dedicated high school musicians who are looking for more performance opportunities and musical growth.

Why join? Musicians can perform challenging and exciting concert band music; gain valuable ensemble experience; play under the direction of experienced conductor Joan Rackey; prepare for honor bands, auditions and college music programs; and build friendships with musicians from across the region.

High school students are welcome to join if they have completed their junior year and have strong musical skills and experience on a concert band instrument. Rehearsals begin September 14 and are held on Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 201.

No audition is required. A positive attitude, commitment to rehearsals and a love of music are all that are needed to be part of a tradition more than 80 years strong.

For more information, go to greenbeltconcertband.org and then to the Join The Band page.



Venturing Crew 746 Prepares For July's Maine Canoe Trip

by Jonathan Murray

On Friday, June 19, members of Venturing Crew 746 continued their canoe training in preparation for a nearly 100-mile paddle along Maine's Allagash Wilderness Waterway planned for mid-July. Venturing is a coeducational, youth-led adventure program for young people ages 14 to 21 based in Greenbelt.

The outing focused on building skills needed for navigating Class I and II moving water. The group launched tandem canoes near Old Anglers Inn along the C&O Canal, close to the Billy Goat Trail in Potomac.

The session began with a land-based orientation led by special guest advisor Bill Cornett



Full crew at the end of the day

of Greenbelt. Once on the water, participants practiced essential canoeing techniques in a low-current area, including draw and bracing strokes, eddy turns and proper body positioning for ferrying and navigating currents.

After demonstrating competency, the crew paddled upstream into Mather Gorge, where they tested their skills in stronger currents. In the Maryland Chute, they practiced

advanced maneuvers such as ferrying across currents, holding position in rapids and entering eddies while moving downstream.

The day concluded with a final run down the "wave train" before the group returned home.

Venturing offers year-round outdoor activities, including boating, climbing, biking, hiking and camping. New members are welcome. For more information, contact Venturing Crew 746 at VentureCrew746@gmail.com.



Venturing Crew 746 waits their turn to practice skills in the Maryland Chute.

- Photos by Jonathan Murray

PRIMARY continued from page 6

Dunn (R) in the general election. Likewise, the attorney general races were uncontested and Anthony G. Brown (D) will face James B. Rutledge III (R) in the general.

Congressional Representatives for District 4

Incumbent Glenn Ivey was a clear favorite in the Democratic primary, with 77.03 percent of votes. His closest rival was Jakeya Johnson, with 12.69 percent. Ivey will face Republican candidate George E. McDermott, who was unopposed in the primary.

State Senator for District 22

Incumbent Senator Alonzo Washington ran unopposed, as did Republican Jim Wass.

House of Delegates District 22

Incumbent Ashanti Martinez led the Democratic candidates

with 29.88 percent of the vote, followed by Tracy Gant with 28.34 percent and Molly McKee-Seabrook with 26.82 percent. Craig Hayes, with 14.96 percent of the vote, was knocked out. The top three will face no Republican challengers and so have secured election through the primary.

Voters will return to the polls for the general election in the fall on Tuesday, November 3.

This article uses the Unofficial 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election Results provided by the Maryland State Board of Elections at time of press. We did not include all uncontested races in this reporting.



Terence J. Clegg (left) and Alvaro Ceron-Ruiz, as the top two vote-getters in the Board of Education race, will both advance to the run-off in November.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow