



Poetry Slam, p.6



Local artists, p.12

Black History

## Celebrating Black American History, Culture in Greenbelt

by Lois Rosado

Many wonderful programs have been presented so far this month to educate and celebrate the cultural and historic contributions of Black Americans in building our society and country. Black American artifacts were on display on February 6 through Regina's Popup Museum. Regina Small, a resident of Greenbelt, graciously shared her collection with city residents. Due to the Community Center staff efforts

in creating a clean and safe environment, many participants were able to come out and view this wonderful, interesting collection in person.

On Sunday, February 7, Creative Arts Director Nicole DeWald arranged for an Artful Afternoon that included puppet and quilt crafts as well as puppet shows. Dirk and Azaria

See **BLACK HISTORY**, page 6

## Co-op Powers Up 240-kW Rays on the Roof Solar Array

by Cathie Meetre



PHOTO COURTESY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

An aerial view of the Co-op roof emphasizes that every inch is working hard to power the store.

The Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy energized its newly installed 241.6-kilowatt rooftop solar project on Tuesday, February 9. Completed in December, the array had to pass inspection by the county and be energized by Pepco before switching to its operational mode.

"I'm so delighted that the Co-op will be powered by clean energy through this project, and am so grateful to our dozens of Co-op members and community members who invested and donated money to make it a

See **SOLAR**, page 11

## Covid Vaccine Sign-up Woes, Hints; Offer Help for Others

by Cathie Meetre

Obtaining a vaccination slot is tough for the computer averse. Greenbelters who don't belong to an organized health care provider like an HMO must get their shots by hook or by crook. A letter on Saturday, February 13 from County Executive Angela Alsobrooks promises that restructuring is underway but meanwhile the county remains last in the state, far behind other local jurisdictions, in percentage of population vaccinated (Prince George's: 5 percent, Montgomery: 10 percent, Kent: 20 percent, Baltimore City: 10 percent). County bulletins are available at princegeorgescountymd.gov/2401/News-Center.

In the following stories, names have been changed but the events are real.

**Shot Seeking**

Samantha Savvy is in her mid-eighties and has health issues. Her family organized curbside grocery pickup and signed her up at the county health

See **VACCINE**, page 8

**What Goes On**

**Monday, February 22 8 p.m.** City Council Meeting  
**Wednesday, February 24 8 p.m.** Council Worksession with Board of Elections  
 All council meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

## City Council Hears Initial Report On Deficiencies in Maglev DEIS

by Matthew Arbach

Jill Grant and Associates, a law firm hired by the city, met with the city council on Wednesday, February 10 to share their evaluation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) issued by SCMaglev on January 15. Grant said they were asked to "point out flaws" and ascertain if all proper steps and contingencies had been addressed. Their goal in the meeting was to get direction from council on what issues to explore further and whether experts should be brought in to enhance arguments.

At present, the comment period on the DEIS ends on April 22. In the event of any court appeal to the project, if it moves into a final EIS stage, all issues must be raised by the city, or other involved parties, by that time to be allowed into any kind of an argument.

The firm's outline to council touches on a large number of topics. It points out a deficiency in considering the full scope of the project, as it would eventually extend to New York. They found a lack in considering other

alternatives, such as enhancing existing rail systems like Amtrak or MARC as well as "inaccurate financial assumptions and inaccurate traffic data" as a basis for the project's need. Other types of technology were not explored, such as Chinese maglev technology.

There was a "failure to address all water quality impacts," including stormwater, groundwater, wetlands and requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The firm

See **MAGLEV**, page 9

Black History

## Greenbelt Recreation Hosts Virtual Drummers Master Class

by Glory Akem Ngwe

"Bass, bass, bass. One at a time."

The rhythmic sound of drums belted through the computer speakers as an intimate crowd of five gathered over Zoom to learn the basics of West African drumming.

Greenbelt Recreation hosted an African drummers master class Saturday as part of the city's line-up of Black History Month events.

The class was taught by Michael Kweku Owusu, an artist and craftsman from Accra, Ghana. He wore a shirt with a West African print and was accompanied by his instrument.

"Try and raise your hand more when you play," Kweku instructed as he lightly tapped the Djembe traditional drum between his legs. "The drum should be tilted away from you."

For the class, Kweku taught participants a traditional piece



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL KWEEKU OWUSU

Michael Kweku Owusu and his drums

of music called Kuku which is commonly played in West Africa during the fishing harvest.

"Boom, boom, boom. Hit the center of your drum with your palm," Kweku said. "Once you understand the basics, you can play the Djembe."

Kweku spent over 10 years studying traditional West African drumming, building drums and

working closely with poverty-stricken children in the Ghana Arts Center.

He founded Drumming Up From Poverty, whose purpose is to support, polish and share the talents of artists and craftspeople. Kweku teaches many classes internationally and said he loves

See **DRUMMERS**, page 6



PHOTO BY REBEKAH SUTTIN

Regina Small (left), her husband Gleason Small and daughter Glenna Small welcome visitors to view Regina's Black Artifacts Popup Museum. See story, page 7.

# Letters to the Editor

## Thanks for HB704 Dear Delegate Ivey,

Thank you for co-sponsoring HB704, to help save our forest preserve.

I have lived in historic old Greenbelt for over 40 years.

Without the "belt of green" we would not be who we are. It was an integral part of the original planned community and there is precious little left. Without the actions 20 years ago of our citizens and our city government to preserve it from development, even those remaining 100 acres would be gone.

If the maglev is built, not only would over 15 acres, 15 percent of our important historic preserve, be destroyed, but the entire preserve would become little more than a buffer for an emerging underground and elevated train track system.

Adjoining baseball, soccer fields and our astronomical observatory would be lost as well.

Moreover, it would be an elevated train track that does not serve the people. It serves just the egos of a few misguided politicians, lines the pockets of developers, creates over 10 years of expensive disruption and problems, and should not be built, period.

The money would be better spent upgrading Amtrak and Metro.

Planting trees rather than cutting them down would be another better use. You could even name it the Larry Hogan Forest Preserve system.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Frank Gervasi



## Correction

The byline was omitted from the print version of last week's page 6 story on the Greenbelt Fair Housing Group. The story was written by Jeanette Connors.

## City Notes

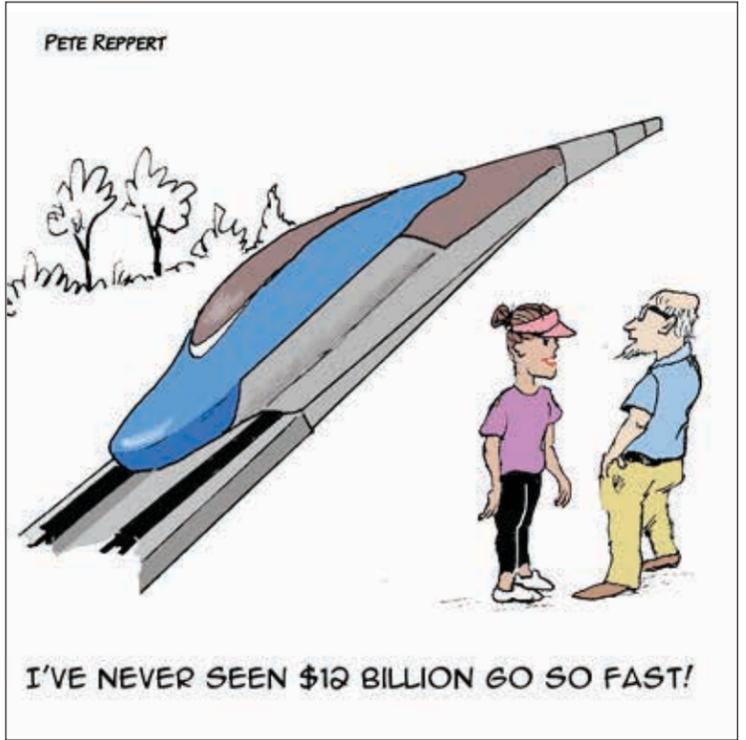
Besides shoveling snow, Horticulture/Parks repaired many things: broken hand sanitizers, wooden benches, post caps and a trash can. Street Maintenance/Special Details maintained snow plows and repaired potholes. Refuse/Recycling collected 26.18 tons of refuse and 12.57 tons of recyclables. Building Maintenance installed temporary phone lines for fire alarms at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Animal Control investigated a fatal dog-on-dog attack. Shelter residents are three cats and three dogs. Park rangers posted about weather-related trail hazards.

Greenbelt Homes Inc. installed a new front door at the Museum and staff researched a university inquiry about sculptor Lenore Thomas Straus. Black History Month daily posts featured Black architect Paul R. Williams.

Winter recreation continues. Black History Month events included an African Drummers Class and a Poetry Slam. Preschoolers learned about Mae Jemison, the first African American woman space explorer.

At the Community Center, Therapeutic Recreation hosted a blood drive, facilitated food deliveries for 37 seniors and hosted Ageless Grace for Golden Agers.



**Drop us a Line!**  
Electronically, that is.  
[editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com)

## Our Readers Tell Us of Their U.S. Postal Service Problems

Two readers responded to our request for U.S. Mail-related problem stories:

On December 20, 2020, Crossroads Prison Ministries mailed a prisoner's lesson to me, a mentor. Usually, it takes six days for a lesson to reach me after it is mailed from Grand Rapids, Mich. For unknown reasons, the lesson didn't arrive at my Greenbelt address until February 10, 2021, a span of over seven weeks.

Jim Gray

My husband and I live on Lakeside Drive. We have been having problems with mail de-

livery for more than a year. We have not gotten bills and have had to go online or the telephone to find payment information. Many days we get no mail at all. Some companies send us a notice of a missed payment, but some do not. A package I ordered through Amazon, but assigned to USPS delivery, came six weeks late and was rerouted all over the country for six weeks. Our latest experience is a card written to our granddaughter who is in college in Salisbury. It was mailed on January 9. It arrived at her dorm on February 10. It is a good thing it was a card and not homemade baked goods.

Betty Sonneveldt



PHOTO BY SAMUEL TEINTURIER

An American robin and a cedar waxwing find scant shelter in the ice storm.



PHOTO BY MARA HEMMINGER

This picnic table is not exactly what is usually meant by a "white tablecloth" restaurant.

## Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com) para ver artículos en español.



See our website, [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com), for articles in Spanish.



## Letters Policy

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

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

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



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887

Phone: 301-474-4131; Fax: 301-965-8247

[editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com) (stories, letters, photos)

[ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com) (ads)

[business@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:business@greenbeltnewsreview.com) (billing)

website: [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)

Presidents: Alfred M. Skolnik, 1959-1977, Elaine Skolnik, 1977-1985

Mary Lou Williamson, Editor

Amy Hansen, Managing Editor

### STAFF

Matt Arbach, Mary Ann Baker, Ann Bauman, Kathryn Beard, Judy Bell, Letty Bonnell, Jerry Bonnell, Melinda Brady, Jessi Britton, Asha Brown, Alan Burt, Rick Coleman, Jill Connor, Jeannette Connors, Peter Curtis, Deanna Dawson, Leigh Ellis, Ana Fernandez-Napp, Kathleen Gallagher, Anne Gardner, Elizabeth Gardner, Jon Gardner, Melanie Gaschick, Jim Giese, Patrick Gleason, Jim Gray, Mary Halford, Kyla Hanington, Amy Hansen, Butch Hicks, Peggy Higgins, Donna Hoffmeister, Larry Hull, Jeff Jones, Tom Jones, Suzette Joyner, Jennifer Jurling, Lesley Kash, Elisabeth Kevorkian, Amina Khalifa, Sue Krofchik, Michael Kusie, Sandra Lange, Amanda Larsen, Sylvia Lewis, Marcie Lissauer, Linda Lucas, Marc Manheimer, Neil McFarb, Kathleen McFarland, Cathie Meetre, Rahul Mehta, Mary Moien, Elaine Nakash, Carolina Napp-Avelli, Patricia Novinski, Diane Oberg, Julie Rapp, Peter Reppert, Sandy Rodgers, JoEllen Sarff, Pat Scully, Carl Seely, René Sewell-Raynor, Melissa Sites, Lola Skolnik, Helen Sydavar, Beth Terry, Nancy Tolzman, Jeff Travis, Joanne Tucker, Jan Wolf, Stan Zirkin and Dea Zugby .

CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: [circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com)

HOA information at: [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution)

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathie Meetre, president; Diane Oberg, vice president; Deanna Dawson, secretary; Tom Jones, treasurer; Pat Scully and René Sewell-Raynor

### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

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

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

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

## Beltway Plaza Holds Black History Events

On Saturday, February 27 from 2 to 4 p.m., Beltway Plaza will host music by The Tribe, featuring soul and rhythm and blues, at the TJ Maxx entrance.

Now through February 28, enter to win a \$500 Beltway Plaza shopping spree. Enter online at [beltwayplazamall.com](http://beltwayplazamall.com) or at various locations in the mall.

### Valentine Contest

Now through February 28, Beltway Plaza Mall is hosting a Valentine's Day Contest. Submit a video or still photograph on Instagram showing the Most Creative Valentine's Proposal, the Funniest Valentine's Day Message or Favorite Valentine's Day Crush. The winner in each category will receive a \$100 gift card.

Winners will be chosen by March 1. Enter on Instagram at: [#bpmvdaycontest](https://www.instagram.com/bpmvdaycontest); [instagram.com/beltwayplaza/mall/](https://www.instagram.com/beltwayplaza/mall/).

## Talk on Hidden Figures Behind Space Software

On Thursday, February 25, the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will present a virtual lecture by Kenneth Costello of NASA's Katherine Johnson IV&V Facility, who will explain how today's "hidden figures" ensure the quality of the software that runs the space program. Zoom session opens at 7 p.m. The presentation starts at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome. Zoom information will be posted before the meeting starts on the Astronomical Society website, [greenbeltastro.org](http://greenbeltastro.org).



## Reduce Stress With Yoga Nidra

On Monday, February 22 at 7 p.m., Greenbelters can experience Yoga Nidra, a powerful meditation technique, through an evening event sponsored by the group Connecting Across Greenbelt. Laura Bonkosky, a local yoga teacher trained in the iRest method, will guide participants through a series of steps designed to encourage relaxation and awareness.

Yoga Nidra is one of the easiest yoga practices to develop and maintain. No special equipment or experience in meditation is needed. Yoga Nidra is traditionally practiced lying on a mat or blanket on the floor, using additional blankets and pillows as needed, but it can be practiced in any comfortable position, including seated in a chair.

Yoga Nidra promotes deep rest and relaxation while still remaining conscious or awake. It has been shown to be a gentle but effective way to reduce anxiety and stress.

Connecting Across Greenbelt is a local organization working to enhance the quality of life for all residents of Greenbelt through convening a series of cross-community, cross-cultural and cross-generational conversations. To join this free virtual event, go to [us02web.zoom.us/j/84271802553?pwd=aWhuVG9jeGh6eWV3T1R2a1ZjQXMwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84271802553?pwd=aWhuVG9jeGh6eWV3T1R2a1ZjQXMwUT09).

## Zoom Meeting For Gardeners

On Sunday, February 28, at 7 p.m. Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, the city's environmental coordinator, will speak about native and invasive plant species. The program will discuss these plants' impact on the environment and how to get involved, in one's yard or beyond. This program is geared toward both experienced gardeners and outdoors folks, who may want to share some experiences with curious beginners. Winter is a great time to remove invasive species. Questions and suggestions from participants are welcome and encouraged.

This environmental Zoom series is sponsored by the Green Teams of Greenbelt Community Church, UCC and the City of Greenbelt.

RSVP to Jane Young at [gccjane@aol.com](mailto:gccjane@aol.com) for Zoom information. Give a username as it will appear in Zoom, or a phone number if calling in.



## Racial Equity In Greenbelt

The Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance invites white Greenbelters to participate in a free, interactive, three-part workshop on Saturdays, February 20, March 6 and March 20 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. that covers how racism and white supremacy function, their foundation in the United States and the role of white people in building racial justice and supporting liberation movements led by Black, Indigenous and other Peoples of Color (BIPOC). As a way of understanding how racism operates, discussion will focus on Greenbelt's history of housing discrimination and the ways it impacts our community today. For more information, contact [greenbeltracialequity@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltracialequity@gmail.com) and see [greenbeltracialequity.org/training-workshops](http://greenbeltracialequity.org/training-workshops).

## At the Library

Curbside service is available Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m., and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Customers may place new hold requests via the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) catalog ([catalog.pgcmls.info/polaris](http://catalog.pgcmls.info/polaris)) or Ask a Librarian Telephone Reference service at 240-455-5451. Call 301-699-3500 and ask for Public Services or use the link at [pgcmls.info/contact-us](http://pgcmls.info/contact-us) for assistance.

The library is not accepting book donations for the foreseeable future. Customers can place donations in the third-party book donation bin; do not place donations outside the bin if it is full.

All Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) students have access to the library's online resources with their LINK card number. Adults may register for a free virtual library card or renew an existing card at [pgcmls.info](http://pgcmls.info).

Biblio Consulta: The Library's Spanish language call center is available at 240-455-5451 (press option 2) Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m.

### Black History Month

PGCMLS has scheduled a spectrum of virtual events for Black History Month. On Friday, February 19 at 4 p.m. is Black History Month: Children's Reader's Advisory (ages 5 to 12) and at 7 p.m. is Viewer's Advisory: Bridgerton (for adults). A full schedule of upcoming programs can be accessed at [pgcmls.info/events](http://pgcmls.info/events).

## Mud Cloth Workshop

Join Artist-in-Residence Karen Arrington and mud cloth expert Kathy Arrington on Fridays, February 26 and March 5, to learn about and make your own mud cloth. All experience levels welcome. Suitable for families. Advance registration and fees required. For more information, go to page 14 of the Greenbelt Recreation Winter Activity Guide, [greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltmd.gov/recreation) or email [alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov).

## Democratic Club Hosts Black History Event

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club's Black History Month event will take place Sunday, February 28 at 3 p.m. The Zoom link will be included in next week's issue of the News Review. The Club will hold a black history quiz, a history lesson on Black Women and a discussion of the 2015 film Drive While Black starring Dominique Purdy, Sheila Tejada and John Mead. (The film is available on YouTube.) The Club recommends readers view the film over the next couple of weeks so as to contribute more readily and listen more meaningfully to the main points expressed by others.

The Club feels that this would be a great way for Greenbelters to conclude what has been an impressive range of Black history lessons provided by the City Recreation Department, Greenbelt Access Television, the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, the Greenbelt Museum and the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee.

For more information, including checking on your membership status or how to become a member, access [rooseveltclub.com](http://rooseveltclub.com) or call club President Konrad Herling at 301-345-9369.



## PGCS Holds Town Hall On Reopening Plans

Prince George's County Public Schools CEO Monica Goldson will hold a Telephone Town Hall to discuss school reopening plans with families and community members on Thursday, February 18 at 6 p.m. Parents and guardians will receive a direct call from the school system. Those who do not receive a call can dial in at 855-756-7520, ext. 71961#. The Spanish-only call-in number is 508-924-5155.

On Thursday, April 8, Phase 1 instruction will begin with a two-day hybrid learning schedule for all special education students in kindergarten through 12th grade and for students in prekindergarten through 6th grade and 12th grade. On Thursday, April 15, Phase 2 instruction will begin for all remaining students. The hybrid learning model will include staggered scheduling, with students divided into two groups for in-person instruction for two days each week, with appropriate social distancing; the remaining three days will be spent in distance learning.

PGCS will distribute a survey to all families so they can select to either continue virtual learning for the remainder of the school year or begin hybrid instruction two days a week in April. Families will have until Sunday, February 28 to complete the survey.

The Rude Mechanicals in residence at Greenbelt Arts Center present:

*GAC online*

## The Tamer Tamed

by John Fletcher, directed by Liana Olear

*Did you ever wonder what happened after The Taming of the Shrew?*

Online: Saturdays at 8pm, February 13 & 20. Suggested donation: \$10

[rudemechanicals.com](http://rudemechanicals.com) [greenbeltartscenter.org](http://greenbeltartscenter.org)

Coming Soon: Solomon and Marion, February 27 to March 7

**Greenbelt Arts Center seeks General Manager**

8 to 16 hours/week, \$16 per hour  
Applications due February 22

See website or contact [president@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:president@greenbeltartscenter.org) for more information.

**2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
Sunday March 21 at 3pm on ZOOM

GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION, INC. CONNECT WITH GATe ON

**This year we will be hosting our Annual Membership Meeting online.**

To receive a link or phone number to join us on ZOOM please email:

**[greenbeltaccess@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltaccess@gmail.com)**

We will be voting on three Board Member positions. Members will receive a link to vote for candidates the day before the meeting. Nominations will be open until March 14 at 3pm.

**ROSE AWARD**  
for best Greenbelt Community Video

**The 2020 Winner of GATe's Annual Rose Award for Best Greenbelt Community Video will be announced during the Annual Meeting!**

WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77  
FIND OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE at [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) by clicking on Channel

**GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION**  
Friday February 19 - Thursday February 25

**TAKE OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY TODAY!**  
<https://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/community-survey>

	PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE	CONNECT WITH GATe ON
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel • Black History Month • Daily Programming	
8 am	Democracy Now! • Repeat of Yesterday's Program	
9 am	GATe Classic Film ★ Black Cast Drama • 1941 Music at the New Deal Café • The Blood of Jesus Written & Directed by Spencer Williams • Marianna Previti Jazz Group	
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel • or Selections from the GATe Archive	
12 pm	Democracy Now! • Today's Syndicated Program	
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCS • Elementary Competition Calverton v Templeton	
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel • Black History Month • Daily Programming	
3 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Black Cast Drama • 1941 Music at the New Deal Café • The Blood of Jesus Written & Directed by Spencer Williams • Marianna Previti Jazz Group	
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCS • Elementary Competition Calverton v Templeton	
6 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel • Black History Month • Daily Programming	
7 pm	Democracy Now! • Today's Syndicated Program	
8 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Black Cast Drama • 1941 Music at the New Deal Café • The Blood of Jesus Written & Directed by Spencer Williams • Marianna Previti Jazz Group	
10 pm	Democracy Now! • Today's Syndicated Program	
11 pm	Music at the New Deal Café • Marianna Previti Jazz Group	
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel • Black History Month • Daily Programming	

WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77  
STREAMING LIVE at [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream)

# Obituaries



## Elizabeth Pels Nash: A Greenbelt Pioneer



PHOTO BY RON LEWIS

Elizabeth (Liz) Pels Nash

Pioneer Greenbelter Elizabeth Ann (Liz) Pels Nash died February 3, 2021, at the age of 81. She was born July 9, 1939, in Washington, D.C., to Teresa and Siegfried ("Doc") Pels. In September of 1940 the family moved from their apartment on Parkway to 23-C Ridge Road, which became Liz's lifelong home. The Bill and Mattie Siegel family lived next door, and their daughter Carole became Liz's friend for life. In 1944, Liz's brother Philip was born.

Growing up in Greenbelt, Liz took swimming lessons at the pool and piano and dancing lessons. She played clarinet in the town band and joined the Girl Scouts. She and Philip became carriers for the Greenbelt Co-operator (the town newspaper's name back then). As she grew older, she became an assistant leader in the Scouts and took her "girls" on trips. She especially remembered their visit to the 1964 World's Fair in New York City.

Liz attended elementary school at Holy Redeemer in College Park and went on to high school at St. Patrick's Academy in Washington. She joined the Sodality of Our Lady of St. Hugh parish, founded in 1947, and was active in the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization). She became a CYO Adult Advisor and was a member of St. Hugh Young Adult Club. She graduated from the University of Maryland in 1961.

Liz worked for 27 years at the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, retiring in 1988. It was there that she first met Charles Nash, a widower and World War II veteran, 15 years her senior. They were married in 1990. Charlie immediately became a Greenbelter, changing

his American Legion enrollment to join Post 136. Liz joined the Ladies Auxiliary, and both of them helped at all the activities and fundraisers at the Legion Post. They also enjoyed several vacations at the Cape Cod cottage Liz had bought, near her mother's Worcester relatives. Charlie died in 2005.

Liz was extremely proud of her status as a pioneer Greenbelter. In spite of increasing medical problems which caused her to rely on her old Greenbelt and work friends for transportation and other help, she always supported the Greenbelt Museum, the News Review and all the town organizations. She was so thankful that she and Philip were able to attend the 2012 Gala celebrating Greenbelt's 75th anniversary, and also the News Review's anniversary banquet that same year. She announced to all that she believed that she and Philip had been the only "sister and brother" carriers for the paper. Philip died early the next year, in February 2013.

One of Liz's favorite Greenbelt events was the annual Labor Day celebration. On the Sunday night of the weekend, she would dress in her Greenbelt is Great T-shirt and spend hours at the photo exhibit and then the Bingo tables. She liked to sample foods from many different booths and stay at Bingo until the final game was played. In recent years, as her health declined, she spent more and more time in assisted living, moving eventually to Arbor Ridge. Last year, she reluctantly sold her beloved Greenbelt home.

Liz is survived by her godchildren Vernon Payne III and Lisa Payne Doheney and by many friends who helped her throughout her life, especially LaVerne and Vernon Payne, Carole Sie-

gel, Dick Wadden, Paula Windsor, Kathleen McFarland, Milton Greenbaum, Ron Lewis, Rand Price, Eleanor Knowles and staff and friends at Arbor Ridge.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Hugh of Grenoble Church on Tuesday, February 23 at 11 a.m., with burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery following. Those who wish to remember Liz might consider a contribution to the Arts Program of the New Deal Café created by the late Barbara McGee Simon, who was one of her Girl Scouts, or to the Greenbelt Museum or the Greenbelt News Review.

— Kathleen McFarland

## Craig Thomas Wilson, Jr.



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Craig Thomas Wilson, Jr.

On the morning of February 11, 2021, Craig Thomas Wilson, Jr., age 35, died in a tragic car accident.

Craig was born on April 8, 1985, in Cheverly, to Craig Wilson, Sr. and Donna Silver. Craig Jr. was a resident of Hyattsville and attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School, spending a lot of time in Greenbelt. Most recently he lived in Malabar, Fla., where he was working at his father's company, Palm Bay Concrete. Craig took great pride in his career as a truck driver. In his

spare time, he enjoyed working on cars, playing pool, listening to good music and watching D.C. sports – especially his beloved Redskins.

He will be remembered for his kindness, love of life and heart of gold. He was a bright light to all who knew him. His loyalty and his devotion to his fiancée, friends and family were second to none. Craig was incredibly compassionate, and without hesitation would do absolutely anything for anyone that he loved.

At times Craig could seem a bit quiet and reserved, but it never took long for his larger-than-life personality to come out. He had a great sense of humor, contagious laugh and was always down for anything. Craig loved to have a good time, and it was always a good time when you were with him.

Craig had recently proposed to his love, Candyce Naomi Herd, and they were engaged on December 25, 2020. He was incredibly excited and extremely proud to be starting their life together. He looked forward to becoming a devoted husband, and dedicated stepfather to Nilah Lavon Herd, as he loved them both dearly.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Milo Sr. and

See OBITS, page 11

We are saddened by the loss of one of our pioneers and lifelong Greenbelter, Liz Pels Nash.

Condolences to the family and friends of Craig Wilson, Jr., who spent a lot of time in Greenbelt and attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

## 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)

301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now. Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc. 10 a.m. Sunday mornings



"There is perfect brotherhood underlying humanity, for all are servants of one God and belong to one family under the protection of divine providence."

— 'Abdu'l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

## Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666

[www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



February 21 10 a.m.

"Religious Freedom: Getting the Balance Right"

Guest Speaker Rob Boston, Americans United for Separation of Church and State; and Worship Associate Diana McFadden

Religious freedom has traditionally been interpreted as the right to worship, or not, as you see fit. But in recent years, the Supreme Court has embraced a theory of religious freedom that threatens to open the door to discrimination and harms against others, especially members of the LGBTQ community, followers of minority faiths and non-believers. This sermon will examine the historic interpretation of religious freedom and explore options for ensuring that this vital principle is used as a shield to protect individual rights and not a sword to lash out at others. ONLINE ONLY. Streaming information at <http://pbuuc.org/news/>

The Bible Says...

Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance  
Matthew 3:8



Sunday Worship Services

10a-11a ONLINE

[MCFcc.org/online](http://MCFcc.org/online)

Greenbelt Community Church



Join Us on Facebook Live  
Sunday at 10:15

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

Believing and Behaving: The Good News

1 Hillside Road

301-474-6171

Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

## ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.

[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)



Worship with us at  
**Greenbelt Baptist Church**

Biblical  
Confessional  
Reformed  
Gospel Centered

Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 11:00am/Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>

[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

301-474-4212

@GreenbeltBaptist



# City Information & Events

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

## GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING Monday, February 22, 2021 8:00 p.m.

### ORGANIZATION

Call to Order  
Roll Call  
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)  
Approval of Agenda and Additions

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Presentations

- Youth Advisory Committee Update  
- Business Relief Award Update & Committee Recognition Presentation

#### Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

#### Minutes of Council Meetings

#### Administrative Reports

#### Committee Reports

\* Advisory Planning Board Report #2021-01: National Capital Planning Commission Concept Review Referral on the Proposed Relocation Bureau of Engraving and Printing to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

### LEGISLATION

- Verizon Ordinance  
- An Ordinance to Make a Supplemental Appropriation in the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021, in the Amount of One Million Three Hundred Two Thousand Dollars (\$1,302,000) for the Purpose of Making Additional Fund Transfers. - 1st Reading  
- Be City Resolution

### OTHER BUSINESS

- Recognition Group - Greenbelt Senior Softball  
- FY 2021 Expenditures - COVID-19 Related Relief  
- National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Concept Referral on the Proposed Relocation of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to BARC.  
- State Legislation  
- Council Activities  
- Council Reports  
- \*Letter to Board of Public Works on MDOT's I-495/I-270 Managed Lane project  
- \*Reappointments to Advisory Boards

### MEETINGS-Scheduling of Future Meetings

**COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL** Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

**Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)**

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](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov)

## VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY 22-26

Monday, February 22 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION** On the Agenda: Educator Awards – Preparations, 2020 Nominations and Updates – Ace Grant Awards

Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES** On the Agenda: Continue discussion on Arbor Day event

Tuesday, February 23 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY/GREEN TEAM** On the Agenda: Update from Sustainability Framework/Green Team Circles and Future Events

Wednesday, February 24 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Board of Elections** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

Thursday, February 25 at 7:00pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD** Maglev update, Pilot management permission request, Work Session with City Council, March 1, and Trail team assignments

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto: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 virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).

## VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.

There are currently vacancies on:

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- SCMaglev Opposition Task Force
- Youth Advisory Committee

**For more information call 301- 474-8000**

Greenbelt City Council cordially invites you to the...

## Virtual Winter Business Coffee

Tuesday, February 23, 2021  
9:00AM - 10:30AM

Hear from special guest speakers about 2021 trends in business banking, updates about Paycheck Protection Program and other financial resources for businesses:

- Victor Lopez, Vice President & Multi-Center Manager, Fulton Bank
- Myriam Diomande, Relationship Manager, M&T Business Banking

\*Zoom link will be sent 24 hours before event.

To RSVP: <https://greenbelt-winter-coffee-2021.eventbrite.com>

Greenbelt Recreation

[www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation) 301-397-2200

## SPRING ACTIVITY GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Registration begins on Monday, February 22 for Greenbelt Residents  
Classes begin the week of March 22, 2021

Check out our Spring 2021 Activity Guide available at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation) for more details!

Explore our Activity Guide for lots of options for all ages and interests. We offer seasonal special events and varied recreation facilities and classes to provide opportunities for community celebrations, a chance to learn something new or improve your skills in an activity you enjoy, all while socializing and staying active!

## FIT FAMILY HOUR

Register online for an hour of fit family fun!

Families must sign up in advance and may choose a time slot at either the Greenbelt Youth Center or Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Families may register for up to three time slots per week.

Fit Family Hour Fee: \$5; Please bring your own equipment.

This program is reserved for Greenbelt residents.

Please visit our Virtual Recreation Center online or give us a call for more information. Many thanks!



## SEEKING LIFEGUARDS AND POOL MANAGERS!

The Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center is now hiring lifeguards!

Apply now at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs)

## GREENBELT CARES presents THE TEEN DRAMA CLUB

Dispute Resolution And Managing Anger

Online Class

Mondays March 1– March 29  
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm  
5 Weeks

Cost: Free - Earn Gift Cards for Participation  
Ages 13-18

Contact us to Enroll: [cares@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cares@greenbeltmd.gov)  
Certificates of completion awarded for participation in ALL Five sessions.

Get Internet FREE For 1 Year

## INTERNET ESSENTIALS

Internet Access (WiFi)

No Credit Check & No Term Contract

Incorporated Greenbelt Residents only.

Must participate in one or more of the following programs: WIC, SNAP (Food Stamps), VA Pension, Public Housing Assistance, NSLP/Head Start, TANF, Medicaid, LIHEAP Energy Assistance Program, Tribal Assistance Eligibility Letter.

Due to COVID a Self-Installation Kit will be mailed to you

NOTE: You must not be a current Comcast Internet Customer.

Spaces are limited - Registration begins MARCH 1-MARCH 30

Call Lena Enciso for more information and to register (240) 542-2031

## CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY'S CHARITABLE FUNDS

Agency Funds are managed but not financed by the City. All donations to the funds are used for the listed charitable purposes. The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

Funds include: Good Samaritan Fund, Emergency Assistance Fund, Greenbelt Recreation, and Advisory Committee on Education.

Find out more at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations).

You can also mail a money order or check to: City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Please notate which fund in the notes section of the check. You may also use the drop box on flag side of the building. Receipts will be provided and mailed out to you.

## FREE ONLINE MEMORY TRAINING CLASS

Featuring UCLA Longevity Center Trainer-Donna Crocker Mason  
Fridays, March 5-26 from 1-3pm  
Overview of Class:

- What is memory
- How to improve concentration
- Ways to boost memory performance
- Techniques to increase memory capacity and more

Please Note: You must preregister and must be able to attend all classes since assignments build upon each other. The class is not meant for participants with advanced cognitive impairment and participants must be 60+

To register call Haleigh Coar 240-542-2033  
SPACE IS LIMITED

## GREENBELT CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### Enslaved Life and Labor on Maryland Plantations

Saturday, February 20; 2:00pm-3:00pm

Virtual Presenter: Dr. Leigh Ryan

Register for this event at <https://bit.ly/3oMHTO6>

What was life like for those enslaved on a Maryland plantation?

### Female RE-Enactors of Distinction (FREED)

Sunday, February 21; 2:00pm-3:00pm; Virtual

Register for this event at <https://bit.ly/38JRX5a>

Please join us in promoting the accomplishments of the African American Civil War Soldiers and the women who supported their fight for freedom.

### Desegregating Greenbelt: Family Histories of the Community's First Black Residents

Thursday, February 25; 7:00pm

Register for this event at <https://bit.ly/3ilzxec>

Did you know that Greenbelt began as a segregated community? Join the Greenbelt Museum to learn about the community's first residents of color.

### Belly Dancers of Color Collective Class

Saturday, February 27; 3:00pm-4:00pm

Virtual Instructors: Leila Nelson and Adina Gittens-Smith

Register for this event at <https://bit.ly/3ilzxec>

Belly Dancers of Color Collective was formed in 2015. This class will blend the traditional belly dance form with African, Caribbean dance styles.

### Musical Performance from ERHS Gospel Choir

Sunday, February 28; 2:00pm

<https://youtu.be/LYVPQz1Asks>

Enjoy a Previously Recorded Performance

Under the direction of Michele Fowlin, the Eleanor Roosevelt Choir has performed for numerous political and social events throughout the DC Metropolitan Area.

VISIT [WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION](http://WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION)

Follow @cityofgreenbelt on Facebook and Twitter

## DRUMMERS continued from page 1

introducing others to the traditional rhythms of his country.

"Okay, turn on your mics, let me hear you play one by one," Kweku instructed. "Then we'll play together."

The class lasted an hour and was open to all ages. Participants were required to bring their own drums since it was virtual.

Lois Rosado, co-chair of the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee, said it was a great learning experience. Pam Hamlin, a local participant, agreed.

"I've always wanted to drum so this is definitely getting me back into it," Hamlin said. "It was a great class and I learned a lot."

Despite not having a drum, Rebekah Sutfin, Greenbelt's therapeutic recreation supervisor, said she couldn't stay still during the lesson.

"It's hard when you do anything with sound because of the little Zoom delay but I was tapping on my table," she said. "You can't help but move your feet because of the beat, so it was amazing."

Greenbelt Recreation has more Black history events scheduled through February.

*Glory Akem Ngwe is a University of Maryland journalism student reporting for the News Review.*



## BLACK HISTORY continued from page 1

Joseph, a father and daughter team showed how language arts can be taught through puppetry. Schroeder Cherry (of Maryland) exhibited a historical moment in the history of the Black American struggle for equality and social justice during his segment. The father and son team of Jeghetto, Tarin Pipkins (of North Carolina) and Anthony Michael Stokes (of Texas) focused on Afro-futurism. After their presentations, the puppeteers participated in a question-and-answer session with the audience. It was a well-received event.

### Drum Class

A master drum class, led by Michael Kweku Owusu, was held on Saturday, February 13. Kweku is an artist and craftsman from Accra, Ghana. Kweku was attentive to each of the students and took the time to explain correct drum techniques. Participants were of all ages and ethnicities, and all had a great time. There were some participants who just watched the lesson. Everyone appreciated Kweku's efforts to teach the basics and have fun in the process.

### Poetry Slam

Prince George's County students used poetry to express their pain about murders of unarmed Black children, youth, men and women at the hands of police, but also expressed hope for a better future where they are judged only by the content of their character and not by the color of their skins. Marissa Michel, Prince George's County's 2020 Youth Poet Laureate, shared her poetry filled with images of family and memories of her grandmother from Haiti. There was a question-and-answer session after the presentations and it was evident that the audience appreciated the talents of these students, many of whom indicated that they will continue writing as they grow and mature. Some planned to study film and theater arts in college. Neville Adams, a teacher and mentor of youth poets, joined in this presentation, as well as Patrick Washington who helped organize this session. In addition, Ric Gordon, a member of Greenbelt's Black History and Culture Committee, enabled 268 folks to see this event live-streamed. Recreation Department staff aided with technical support and Robert Goldberg-Strassler (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) helped the committee connect to this group.

### Coming Events

Stay tuned for more upcoming and exciting programs. This coming Saturday, February 20 from 2 to 3 p.m. Enslaved Life and Labor on Maryland Plantations will be presented followed by an audience question-and-answer session. On Sunday, February 21 from 2 to 3 p.m. Female RE-Enactors of Distinction (FREED) will give a live performance on forgotten American history. There will be a discussion with the performers after the program on Zoom.

The Greenbelt Museum will show an interview with one of the first African Americans to move into Greenbelt in Desegregating Greenbelt on Thursday, February 25 at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, February 27 from 3 to 4 p.m., there will be a belly dance class taught by certified instructors from Belly Dancers of Color. Wear comfortable clothing and tighten those muscles. Sit in a chair or stand. Just Zoom in and enjoy!

Lastly, a video of the Gospel Choir from Eleanor Roosevelt High School will be shown via YouTube on Sunday, February 28 at 2 p.m.

GATE Newsreel will feature Black American history facts. Each Wednesday, Greenbelt Recreation is featuring a prominent African American on their Facebook site.

This country was built with the contributions of many ethnic groups and individuals. A goal of the committee is to share American history not usually included in the history books about the nation. Enjoy and participate in learning.

### Black History

# Poetry Slam Expresses Feelings Of Youths, Connects Audience

by Haley Kerby

On Sunday, February 14, Prince George's County Public Schools gave students the opportunity to share their feelings and pain at a Virtual Black History Month Poetry Slam. The event was hosted by mentors in Greenbelt, Rebekah Sutfin of the Greenbelt Recreation Department and residents Ric Gordon and Neville Adams.

The event showcased six students' poetry, including Prince George's County 2020 Youth Poet Laureate and published author, Marissa Michel, 16. Michel performed two show-stopping poems, one entitled Flowering Women which detailed her Haitian heritage as it connects to her family and life in America.

Michel, a resident of Bowie, is the youngest person to be honored with the Youth Poet Laureate award. When asked for her inspirations and themes for writing, Michel responded with much enthusiasm. Family, intergenerational relationships and a love for her culture and heritage is what allows Michel's writing to prosper and uplift so many others.

Greenbelter Sainey Ceesay, the Prince George's County 2021 Youth Poet Laureate, also performed two poems. Ceesay, 19, served as Greenbelt's 2020 Youth Poet Ambassador and is an alumna of Eleanor Roosevelt High School who now studies at Prince George's Community College.

Ceesay's second piece, entitled Water, described the connections between the way African Americans are exposed to society in such negative ways and the everyday necessity that is water. She ended her poem by asking a question, "How is water the blackest thing you've ever seen?" This poem was incredibly moving, leaving much of the audience speechless and wanting more.

When asked about influences on her writing, Ceesay explained how her writing documents her struggles, allows her to speak



### Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos. They should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Sainey Ceesay, Prince George's County 2021 Youth Poet Laureate, performs her poems at the Poetry Slam on Sunday, February 14.



Nathan Addai, from ERHS, performs at the Poetry Slam.



Ric Gordon co-hosts the Poetry Slam.

- Video screenshots by Beverly Palau

to the issues that remain silent and puts power back into aiding these struggles. "My writing allows me to speak on things that aren't talked about anymore ... and shows what it means to be a black person."

The other students who performed were Deja Epps from Largo High School, Jorin Ellison from Frederick Douglass High School, De'Aun Coleman

from Hyattsville and Nathan Addai from Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Gordon congratulated these poets toward the end of the slam, saying, "What we've seen today is true black excellence ... you've made your ancestors proud."

Haley Kerby is a University of Maryland journalism student reporting for the News Review.



Rumor said that "Print was dead." Not on our watch. This ad is \$40.

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com



WWW.MCCARLDENTAL.COM

Quality and Affordable  
Emergency Dental Care

\$55 EMERGENCY DENTAL EXAM  
INCLUDES DIGITAL X-RAYS  
OVER 500 5-STAR REVIEWS!  
COVID INFECTION CONTROL CERTIFIED



Dr. Joy McCarl, Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarl, Dr. Richard Duarte, and Dr. David McCarl are licensed general dentists.

Greenbelt 301.474.4144 | Shipley's Choice Medical Park 410.987.8800

**Black History**

# Exhibit of Black Artifacts Opens City's BHM Events

by Deanna Dawson



PHOTO BY REBEKAH SUTFIN

Regina's Black Artifacts Pop-up Museum is on display in the Community Center on Saturday, February 6.

The City of Greenbelt kicked off its celebration of Black History Month (BHM) on Saturday, February 6 with an exhibition of Regina's Black Artifacts Pop-up Museum. The exhibit, which was set up on a line of tables in the Community Center gym, included a variety of artifacts representing Black history and accomplishments from slavery through the White House. There were figurines and photos of notable Blacks, and groupings of items featuring, among other things, Black inventors and inventions, Black books and magazines, voting rights and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, and historically Black colleges, universities, fraternities and sororities. A final section on the presidency of Barack Obama and the election of Vice President Kamala Harris was followed by a photo opportunity with life-size cutouts of Barack and Michele Obama.

due to Covid-19 on March 13, 2020. Attendees were required to pre-register, with six 20-minute time slots available, each limited to nine people. Community Center staffers were on hand to conduct the now-standard health screening and to let each group of registrants into the building at the appointed time. Community Center Supervisor Di Quynn-Reno remarked, "The artifacts displayed were impressive, with many attendees stating they learned interesting history through Regina's artifacts. We are grateful for Regina's enthusiasm and willingness to share her exhibit and to the staff who worked the event to ensure a safe experience for everyone."



The curator of the exhibit is Regina Small, a resident of Greenbelt East. She started her collection of artifacts in 2006, when she ran a reading program for children in grades K through 6 at Kettering Baptist Church. Each year Small did something special for a Black history event, bringing in storytellers, puppeteers or items from her growing collection. When she retired from the reading program and from her career as a systems engineer, she reached out to elementary schools in Prince George's County and the District of Columbia. During the past two Februaries, Small and her husband made 19 school visits to show parts of the collection to students. She said that Black inventions and her Now and Then collection of familiar objects – irons, telephones, cameras, etc. – are the most popular items, but 5th- and 6th-graders are interested also in learning about the people depicted in figurines or photos. She has no additional showings scheduled at this time but plans to reach out to some other organizations once the health restrictions are lifted. Small would like to find a location where she could display her museum collection for a week or longer at a time, but for now "pop up it is," she says.

The pop-up exhibit was the first public event held in the Community Center since it closed

**A Review**

# Greenbelt Arts Center Plays Tamer Tamed on YouTube

by Melissa Sites

Petruchio's treatment of Kate makes *The Taming of the Shrew* a hard play to like, and this has been true all the way back to Shakespeare's day when his contemporary, John Fletcher, wrote a sequel called *The Tamer Tamed*. In Fletcher's play, poor Kate has already kicked the bucket, and now Petruchio is up to his old tricks with a new wife, Maria. Fletcher's women fight back, resisting the patriarchal world order to end up victorious over Petruchio and those like him. *The Tamer Tamed*, directed by Liana Olear, is currently being presented on YouTube by the Rude Mechanicals in residence at Greenbelt Arts Center.

There are three main women in this new play: Maria (Melissa Schick), who is already married to Petruchio (Wes Dennis) but not eager to consummate the marriage; Livia (Linda "Spencer" Dye), Maria's younger sister; and Bianca, Kate's sister, who urges the women to pursue their own happiness, played with a nice intensity by Pamela Northrup.

Wes Dennis as Petruchio brings a wild energy to his performance, familiar as the title character of *The Revenger's Tragedy* earlier this season. Schick as Maria counters with a low-key and relaxed performance, consistently refusing to take Petruchio's bait. Her ability to turn every ploy of Petruchio's to her own advantage provides the backbone of the plot.

Livia's machinations center on her attempts to wed her sweetheart Rowland (Sarah Pfanz), instead of Moroso (Bill Bodie). Pfanz delivers a fun, bouncy performance as the young, enthusiastic lover; Bodie portrays his character as desperate, lecherous, yet somewhat worn-out, and very

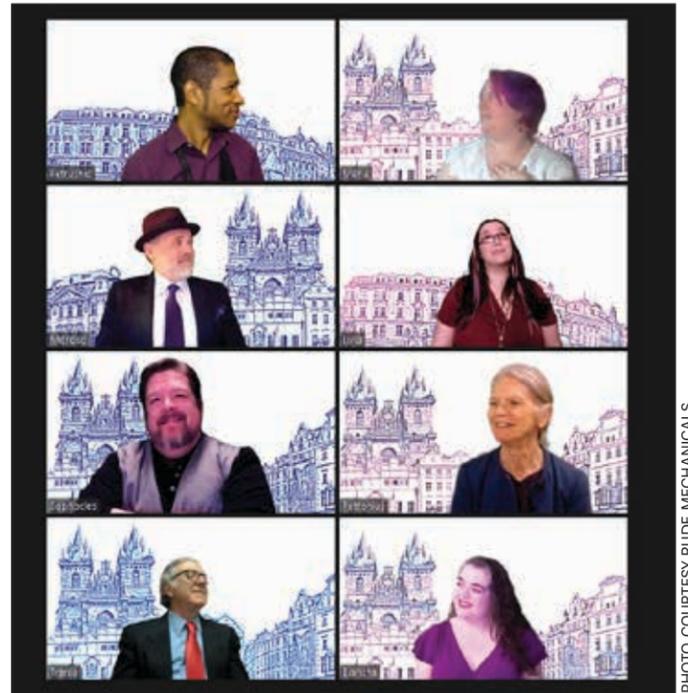


PHOTO COURTESY RUDE MECHANICALS

Performing in *The Tamer Tamed*, from top left, are Wes Dennis (Petruchio), Melissa Schick (Maria), Bill Bodie (Moroso), Linda "Spencer" Dye (Livia), Jim Adams (Sophocles), Nancy Linden (Petronius), Nathan Rosen (Tranio) and Pamela Northrup (Biancha).

poorly suited to Livia. The two characters, one lively and silly, one eponymously morose, make a fun contrast in this play, and the audience easily knows whom to root for. The cast is rounded out with great acting by Jim Adams as Sophocles, Nancy Linden as Petronius and Nathan Rosen as Tranio, characters who stand as "straight men," representing the more conservative points of view in opposing the women's desire to determine their own future. Sean Eustis also shines, bringing a light and clownish energy to the servant Jaques.

The Rude Mechanicals again did a really good job with the technology, manipulating the capabilities of Zoom to show one character at a time in a very

unusual – and helpful – way. The action flows organically between characters as they speak, and the characters do not seem trapped in their boxes. Title cards between scenes, featuring punk songs mostly by women, help the viewer keep track of the plot. Backgrounds were well-chosen to show that the action of the play is more or less always in public, with Petruchio performing his masculinity as much for the other male citizens as for his new wife.

*The Tamer Tamed* will be live online via YouTube on Saturday, February 20, starting at 8 p.m. at [youtube.com/c/TheRudeMechanicals](https://youtube.com/c/TheRudeMechanicals). Suggested donations can be made via [greenbeltartscenter.org](https://greenbeltartscenter.org), selecting Support Online Shows.



## INDULGE IN A BIT OF SELF-CARE PAMPERING!

In Historic Roosevelt Center

[www.greenbelt.coop](http://www.greenbelt.coop)



TART RASPBERRIES + DARK CHOCOLATE



OAT MILK RICE CRISP + DARK CHOCOLATE



CINNAMON CAYENNE & CHERRIES + DARK CHOCOLATE



Cocomel's COCONUT MILK CARAMELS



ALABBIA EVERYDAY SHEA



ALABBIA DEEP SLEEP BATH SALTS



Yogi Honey Lavender Stress Relief



Yogi Lemon Ginger

We Believe Everyone Deserves Pampering!

- Scrumptious Chocolates
- Softening Skin Care Lotions
- Relaxing Teas
- Calming Bubble Baths for Kids and Adults
- Soothing Bath Salts

## Council Discusses Possible FY-21 Budget Adjustments

by Diane Oberg

At its regular meeting on Monday, February 22 the Greenbelt City Council expects to decide upon what deferred expenditures it can restore to the current (Fiscal Year 21) budget and which positions can be unfrozen. The deferrals and partial hiring freeze were implemented last year in the face of the unknown impact of the coronavirus pandemic on city revenues and expenditures. Council and staff discussed these issues at the pre-budget worksession on February 3 and at its February 8 regular meeting.

### Current Status

The agenda packet for February 8 (available online) contains City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon's update of the city's current budget situation. Gaymon made a few changes to the projections council reviewed in December. Based upon further review by Recreation Director Greg Varda, recreation revenues were revised resulting in a projected increase in city revenues of \$119,301. Gaymon also added \$216,000 to projected expenditures for legal fees related to maglev.

Gaymon's \$1.3 million reduction in the allowance for anticipated real estate abatements remained unchanged. At the December 28, 2020 worksession several of those in attendance questioned this reduction given that abatements can be made late in the assessment cycle and applied retroactively. There was no discussion of this issue at either the February 3 worksession or the February 8 council meeting.

On the expenditure side, Gaymon budgeted \$216,000 for maglev-related legal fees and adjusted Miscellaneous expenditures by \$54,267 for expenses related to Covid-19, some of which may be reimbursed. However, Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby had received new information from the city's environmental law firm, Jill Grant and Associates. The firm estimates it will need \$90,000 per month for 3 months for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), not counting the cost of any technical consultants needed. They currently expect to need at least four technical consultants.

This sum does not include costs related to the Environmental Impact Statement, which Councilmember Judith Davis reported that State officials say will be far more costly than the DEIS review. Nor does it include any

costs related to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, proposed to be housed on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center or the proposed Royal Farms gas station.

Other than these two changes, the projected expenditures in her spreadsheet are simply those in the adopted budget, pre-pandemic.

Altogether, she presented council with \$1,383,200 in overall savings, nearly all reflecting the reduction in the allowance for future abatements. Gaymon plans to increase her projected legal expenditures to \$300,000 in her next update.

### Priorities

At the February 3 worksession, the councilmembers discussed their priorities related to these savings without reaching a consensus. They tried again at the February 8 regular meeting with various combinations being proposed until Councilmember Edward Putens moved to table the item to the next meeting so that Gaymon could put together a final proposal.

The major expenditures proposed by at least one councilmember:

- Restore employee COLA – estimated cost \$275,000
- Employee Compensation Study - \$75,000. Some council members believe the city's compensation costs are too low and are making it difficult to hire and retain staff.
- Unfreeze the Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development position - \$37,750 this year, \$151,000 for next fiscal year.
- Unfreeze a full-time Animal Control Officer position - \$16,000 this year, \$64,000 next year.
- Unfreeze the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Mobility Coordinator - \$8,000 this year, \$32,000 next year.
- Transfer some amount to the city's Emergency Fund. Councilmember Emmett Jordan proposed \$50,000. Byrd proposed \$87,750.
- Covid-19 Relief - Mayor Colin Byrd proposed spending the remainder of Gaymon's savings for Covid-19 relief but did not yet have a specific proposal. It is also not yet known if there will be additional federal or state relief.
- Architectural Space Study – \$30,000 – Jordan pressed for this saying with many staff working remotely it would be a good opportunity to make space changes.

## Collecting Non-Perishable Food Items to Fight Hunger

by Jo-Anne Fournier

Once again, the Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is participating in the Crop Walk and the Souper Bowl of Caring programs to fight hunger, under the leadership of Marty Folk and her many helpers.

The Souper Bowl of Caring, in its 30th year, is a youth-led program to fight hunger. The idea is to use some of the excitement of the Super Bowl to focus on hunger, by collecting non-perishable food items and donations to support local hunger programs.

Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) has been partnering with GCC on the Crop Walk and Souper Bowl of Caring for several years. For the last three years, teachers Mackenzie Peter and Tamia Perry, sponsors of the Greenbelt Student Government Association (SGA), have taken this program on as a project to support the community. Perry shared that, "when I heard about this opportunity, I was elated to continue to be a part of this act of kindness."

How were they able to generate interest in this project with their students learning online? Perry said that "the students at GES look forward to this com-



PHOTO BY JO-ANNE FOURNIER

From left, Mackenzie Peter, Tamia Perry and Marty Folk promote the annual Crop Walk and Souper Bowl.

munity service every year thanks to our wonderful SGA who broadcasts the information to our students over the announcements and by creating posters and flyers" about the Crop Walk and Souper Bowl. "The fact that students were not in the building might have made it difficult to collect non-perishables but a box was provided outside our school building for families to drop off canned food at any time throughout the day," collecting 80-plus

items of non-perishable foods that were taken to the Help by Phone Pantry. Perry added, "we are very happy to see the support of our Greenbelt families as canned food items were donated to the Crop Walk and Souper Bowl during this time. In school, students learn the importance of being a good citizen. Working with GCC is one way we can fulfill our roles as citizens and bring about change in our community."

## VACCINE continued from page 1

department. But no dice. With online assistance from a friend, she got a CVS appointment 60 miles away in Leonardtown where she received swift and courteous service.

Vladimir Vaxworthy – a 72-year-old computer geek with IC priority – got onto the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) list on January 27 and was vaccinated at the UMMS Prince George's Hospital in Cheverly on February 1. He feels guilty that higher-priority people remain unvaccinated but says he'd have been a fool to turn down the chance. With so many 1B requestors still without shots, it seems UMMS may not be prioritizing by age.

For Pippa Coronova, a healthy IC in her late sixties, multiple forays to access pharmacy and the Six Flags sites were unsuccessful. Though her son saw openings at Six Flags around 7 a.m. one day, all were gone in less than half an hour. Update: Coronova finally got a late February appointment at the Greenbelt Safeway.

In perhaps the most telling vignette, a 93-year-old resident was told by her doctor to wait patiently for a shot. Despite being registered on a number of sites, she has not received an appointment – which somewhat contradicts the claims of prioritization. In fact, only sites that pre-register can prioritize. Sites like pharmacies and Six Flags schedule in real time – so there's no way to choose the most deserving.

### Strategies

The information included here is based only on anecdotal evidence. No guarantees are offered.

Web addresses for stores and hospitals are at coronavirus.maryland.gov – click on "Find

a Vaccine." Once a location and search radius are entered, the sites are listed with contact information – whether or not they have availability.

Any Maryland location can be used to search – it's not necessary to stick to Greenbelt. County health departments accept only residents of their county but pharmacy and hospital sources are available to everyone (one Elliott City couple apparently got his and her shots in Ocean City and Frostburg, respectively).

### Play to Win

This list covers only some of the possibilities. A Facebook page called "Maryland Vaccine Hunter" also offers suggestions.

– Register where possible. This includes (but may not be limited to) the Prince George's County Health Department, UMMS, Luminis Health (which runs Doctors Hospital), Adventist Hospital and MedStar. If required to select only one location, consider signing up multiple times with a different location each time.

– Of the pharmacy sites, Giant tells you after requesting a few screens of information, that they have no appointments available so what would happen next is unknown.

– CVS has an "umbrella" gateway showing availability in Maryland and Virginia (the button to sign up is in the list box if there's availability). If there's a slot, use its location as the geographic search criterion. If the website registers an error, it's likely too busy. Start over and keep trying until the "umbrella" summary shows no availability.

– Walgreens first requires establishment of an account, but then displays availability within 25 miles of a location without further questions when accessed.

– Six Flags appointments apparently appear early in the day and are rapidly snapped up.

### Timing is a Factor

Sites add appointments for only a couple of days ahead because of uncertainty in the vaccine supply – likely early in the morning and stepping forward day by day. Consider setting the alarm for o-dark-thirty.

### Volunteer to Help

Consider volunteering to help a vulnerable older person and be prepared for a siege. Vulnerable individuals may not advertise their plight, so ask around older friends. Family members helping older relatives in other ways may not realize how daunting this particular task is.

Facilitators need personal information for registration. Sites vary in their demands but birthdate, comorbidities, mother's maiden name, Medicare or insurance numbers, home address and home and cell phone numbers may be required. Use the facilitator's contact information to receive communications for those not electronically inclined – or emailed and time-sensitive sign-up links may be missed. A life may be saved.

Volunteers can offer to drive or help their friends find someone who can. Appointments may not be nearby and the recipient may be safer accompanied on a long drive home, in case of reactions.



PHOTO BY VIJAY PARAMESHWARAN

A chalk drawing for the Year of the Ox on February 12

**LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW**  
Visually impaired may listen for free  
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear  
301-681-6636  
No special equipment needed



# MAGLEV continued from page 1

found “problems with the analysis of impacts on various species and habitats,” especially regarding aquatic and forested areas and threatened species. They said that hazardous waste and construction spoils were insufficiently addressed as were air quality impacts, greenhouse gases and particulates. Threats to private property, due to proximity to construction as well as the project itself including tunneling, were not sufficiently explored.

They said the DEIS failed to take into consideration the cumulative effects that other related, large-scale projects would have, as well as “environmental justice implications” involving noise and vibration impacts, as well as pos-

sible gentrification. There was a deficiency in “compliance with the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) requirements,” stipulating approval by the National Park Service in the “conversion of lands purchased with LWCF assistance,” like the city’s Forest Preserve.

Safety analysis was lacking, in terms of passenger safety and electromagnetic radiation. Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act was found wanting. There were “inadequacies in the Department of Transportation Act analysis.” The outline recommended a financial review of the project’s construction and operation costs, as well as the possibility of public subsidizing being



PHOTO BY KEVIN CARPENTER-DRISCOLL

Alignment J1

needed (which would require “an environmental effects report under the Maryland Environmental Policy Act.”)

Council felt all of these issues were pertinent and asked for all to be raised. Councilmember Judith Davis stressed that due to the lack of transparency in the disclosing of data, like finances, traffic impacts and ridership numbers, a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request may be necessary.

An overview of the two alignments being considered and the technology proposed was presented along with representations of what the system would actually look like, superimposed on the current landscape.

Davis reiterated council’s support of the no-build option, but said she would consider the alternative of improving Amtrak. Councilmember Leta Mach said she would consider an extension of Metro’s Green Line to Baltimore.

Council agreed that experts were necessary to make the best possible case and frame each issue correctly. Grant and her team presented a working list of experts in various fields. Council was open to the suggestions, yet also encouraged enlisting local expertise as well, some of which may be with no cost. Mayor Colin Byrd asked for a cost analysis first before a final decision could be made. Grant said that the city would be in a contractual rela-

tionship with each expert. Davis recommended creating a donation fund to help pay the costs. Grant said that the current use of experts would be for information gathering, not so much for fulfilling a role in a court setting.

Council was open to working closely with adjoining communities in this effort, perhaps cost-sharing in the use of experts and finding common areas of impact from the project.

Davis recommended more extensive use and collaboration with the Maryland Citizens for Responsible Transit and the SC Maglev Strategy Group, which have been doing considerable work in gathering data and connecting with the community on this matter. The city’s Maglev Task Force is still open for membership.

Resident Robert Snyder, once a proponent of the maglev, said that the pandemic has altered his stance, as it has become clear that former concepts of safe travel and the need for in-person meetings have changed, perhaps for the long term, making the maglev unnecessary.

Based on direction from council, Grant said that her team would coordinate with city planning staff, of which Community Planner Holly Simmons has been instrumental, on looking at the costs and availabilities of proposed experts. She said that two months would be a reasonable time frame to fully complete an

analysis of the entirety of the issues raised and gather expert testimony.

Davis asserted the absolute necessity of countering the maglev, as it would kill “the heart of Greenbelt,” and be a “tragedy.” She cited Greenbelt’s history in fighting down “formidable” threats to the community.

Mach said that the maglev would “destroy our city,” that “if we don’t fight it, fight it as much as we can, we’re dead.”



## Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)

### Dog-on-Dog Attack

A fatal dog attack occurred on February 9 at 8:48 p.m. at 5809 Cherrywood Lane, when an unleashed white-in-color pit bull approached a woman who was walking her dog. When she picked her dog up, the pit bull jumped up and bit her dog’s leg, fatally injuring it. The pit bull then ran from the area. The woman said she had seen the same dog earlier in the day with a juvenile male and two other dogs.

### Assault

February 5, 10:08 a.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. Officers responded to a report of a theft at the Perfume Center, where two men took a large quantity of perfume from the kiosk and then fled. Security officers found them at Greenbelt Liquors a short time later. One of the men pointed a handgun as the other returned some of the perfume before they both fled on foot. One of them wore red sneakers and a blue coat with white fur.

### Theft

February 8, 6:52 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A woman believed her credit card was taken from her purse at Laundroland Laundromat. It was used later to make unauthorized purchases.

February 8, 6:50 p.m., 438 Ridge Road. A package was removed from the front stoop of a residence on February 4.

February 9, 5:09 p.m., 7814 Hanover Parkway. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

### Vandalism

February 5, 8:20 p.m., 11 Crescent Road. A marker was used to vandalize a sidewalk.

February 7, 7:46 p.m., 5908 Cherrywood Terrace. A rock was used to break the bedroom window of a residence.

February 7, 12:58 p.m., 6006 Springhill Drive. A woman heard a noise in her residence and discovered that a brick had been thrown through the bedroom window. She looked outside and saw a person wearing a puffy black jacket running from the area.

### Vehicle-related

A 2-year-old child was left alone in an unlocked 2018 Chevrolet Traverse on February 4 with the engine running in the 9200 block Springhill Lane, when an unknown person got in the

vehicle and drove away. It was recovered a short time later in the 6200 block of Seminole Street in Berwyn Heights, with the child safe and inside the vehicle.

A man at 6019 Springhill Drive was helping a neighbor start his 2011 Jeep Compass, and left the door to his vehicle unlocked, with the engine running. A man got into the helper’s vehicle and drove away. The vehicle was recovered the next day by the Prince George’s County Police Department at an undisclosed location. Two arrests were made.

An attempted carjacking occurred at 7200 Hanover Drive but was foiled. The target was approached by four men who pushed him to the ground and demanded his car keys. The man refused, and they kicked him several times before they fled.

A successful carjacking occurred at 6011 Springhill Drive, when the driver was standing outside of his vehicle and a man with a handgun stuck in his waistband approached. He took the driver’s black 2010 Nissan Rogue with Maryland tags 6EF9151.

A case of arson is being investigated by the Prince George’s County Fire Department: A parked car at 8 Court Research Road was set on fire.

Multiple stolen vehicles were recovered: a 2004 Ford Mustang from Charlotte-Mecklenburg, N.C.; a black 2011 Hyundai Sonata; and a 2001 Chrysler Town and Country.

A catalytic converter and two handicap placards were taken from the 7700 block Hanover Parkway and 227 Lakeside Drive, respectively.

Nails were used to flatten all four tires on one vehicle in the 8900 block Edmonston Road.

Two windows at 7423 Greenbelt Road were broken.

A 1986 Ford F150 pickup was recovered on Crescent Road. It was reported stolen by the Frederick County Sheriff’s Department.

A 2020 Dodge Charger stolen from 7509 Mandan Road was recovered by the Prince George’s County Police Department in the 1800 block Billings Avenue in Capitol Heights. The tags on it, Maryland 16973CJ, were not recovered and are still out as stolen.

**Do more for yourself and your home  
with a home equity loan.**

**Greenbelt FCU** 112 Centerway - 301-474-5900  
www.greenbeltfcu.com  
Equal Housing Lender

Buyers,  
Start Your  
Engines!

I have THREE great listings coming on the market soon. Are you already preapproved? If not, it’s time. Be in touch and we can discuss how you can get ready to buy in this tight market.

Kim Kash

Realtor®  
m 301.789.6294  
kim.kash@compass.com

COMPASS

Compass is a licensed real estate brokerage that abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. All measurements and square footages are approximate. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Compass is licensed as Compass Real Estate in DC and as Compass in Virginia and Maryland. 660 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20003 | 202.545.6900



# Sports

## Improved Surroundings Await The Return of Local Baseball

by Ian Gleason

The last official baseball game played at Braden Field was the 15U Babe Ruth State Final on July 13, 2019. Covid-19 has caused an upheaval to the typical calendar of youth baseball at Braden Field and other local fields. During that time, a variety of enhancements has improved the experience for future Greenbelt baseball players and fans. The changes include painting the storage shed and storage box at Braden Field #1, painting distance markers from home plate on three light poles in the outfield and planting a Yoshino cherry tree in honor of Kelly Ivy's service to the program.

The shed now sports bold geometric shapes featuring the team colors of green, gold and black, the team logo and a baseball, as well as an eye-catching paint splatter design on the side door.

Former player and local artist Wesley Velasquez designed the current logo and was the lead painter and designer for the shed. Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) graduate Maerielle Batugo did the designs for the storage box outside the entrance of the field. Batugo previously was one of the primary artists on the redesign of the dugouts at the ERHS baseball and softball fields.

The colors that now surround the field will be sure to brighten the venue when practices and games are finally able to resume at Braden Field, and the new cherry tree will provide beauty to the early spring practices and return of baseball season. Until it is safe for the return of a more normal calendar, the green, gold and black will have to catch the eye of the daily dog walkers and passersby.



Designs are by former Babe Ruth player Wesley Velasquez and ERHS graduate Maerielle Batugo.



New paint adorns the structures surrounding Braden Field.

- Photos by Ian Gleason



**NR** Add an ad to your bottom line \$20 and up.

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

**Smell Gas?**  
Call Washington Gas  
800-752-7520 or 911

**Continental Movers**  
Free boxes  
Local - Long Distance  
\$80 x two men  
\$90 x three men  
301-340-0602  
202-438-1489  
www.continentalmovers.net

## SOLAR continued from page 1

reality," said Co-op Board President Bill Jones.

### Power Proceeds

The solar installation is expected to produce 264,000 kilowatt hours of power each year - enough renewable electricity to power 32 typical single-family homes. This avoids 187 metric tons of carbon pollution (from 200,000 tons of burned coal) annually.

Co-op expects the array to reduce the store's yearly electricity bill by \$35,000. The system should pay for itself and the new roof it sits on well inside the anticipated 25-year lifespan of both - with the remaining years of savings creating a head start on its replacement.

Co-op remains connected to Pepco for the remainder of the building's annual power needs.

### Getting It Built

The solar installation was engineered and built by Frederick-based Sustainable Energy Systems in the Fall of 2020 and consists of 604 Axitec 400-watt solar panels covering approximately 20,000 square feet of the building's roof. Construction of the roof by Adelpia Contracting started in late 2019 and the solar array installation kicked off in September 2020.

Funding came from Co-op members who initially loaned the store \$350,000 and donated \$50,000. A \$350,000 grant from the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan program capped the successful Rays on the Roof

campaign. "We are incredibly grateful to Maryland State Senator Paul Pinsky, who sponsored our grant request, and the rest of the District 22 team who gave their full support to this community-based and environmentally responsible project," said Rays on the Roof Committee member Dorrie Bates.

### Kicking Off

The concept of the Greenbelt Co-op converting to solar first came up when the store was in imminent need of a new roof and resources were short. In a brain-storming session on likely sources of grant funding, the Co-op board and its grant-writing volunteers realized that adding a roof-top solar energy project would increase the appeal of the proposal to the state, attract support from environmentally conscious residents and offset the cost of both the roof and the solar array.

The Co-op team developed a cost-benefit analysis to underpin the value proposition and the result was the Rays on the Roof project that inspired loans and donations from Co-op members - and a proposal to the Maryland State Legislature that checked all the renewable energy and community revitalization boxes.

For more information, go to greenbelt.coop or email Kurt@SustainableEnergySystems.net. Drone footage of the roof is available at app.frame.io/presentations/6d179ae0-27c0-4f36-8b9a-b8b51269c289.



## Obits cont'd from p.4

Doris Wilson, grandmother Elizabeth Wilson and grandfather Eric Roberts.

Craig Jr. is survived by his father Craig Wilson, Sr. and stepmother Marsha; mother Donna Silver and stepfather Jeff; grandmother Mary Roberts; and brothers Christopher Wilson, Jacob Silver (Selena) and Jeremy Silver; sisters Hannah Dorough (Kevin) and Jessica Silver. He is also survived by fiancée Candyce Naomi Herd and her daughter Nilah Lavon Herd, two nieces and numerous aunts, uncles and

cousins.

The family will receive friends for Craig's visitation on Friday, February 19 from 10 until 11 a.m. at the Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, Md. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. also at the funeral home. Interment will follow immediately at Ft. Lincoln Cemetery, 3401 Bladensburg Road, Brentwood.

Condolences may be made at brinsfieldfuneral.com.

**Greenbelt Auto & Truck Repair Inc.**

159 Centerway Road  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

**301-982-2582**

www.greenbeltautoandtruck.com

**A.S.E.**  
**Master Certified Technicians**

A complete service facility equipped to perform all service requirements that your manufacturer recommends to comply with Preventive Maintenance service schedules & extended warranty programs! Also, routine repairs that keep your vehicles operating safely and reliably.

Auto-body, collision repairs and theft recovery damage  
A.S.E. Certified Technicians,  
Insurance Claims Welcome.  
Free estimates, please call for appointment

**Realty 1, Inc.**  
Our 33rd Year in Greenbelt  
**301 982-0044**  
**R1MD.com**  
Linda Ivy 301-675-0585  
Mark Riley 301-792-3638  
H. Dwayne Taylor - 301-323-8384  
Leonard Wallace - Broker  
301-675-9036

The Leader in  
**Greenbelt Real Estate**



**Full Attached Inlaw apartment 5 BR,** 4 Bath home with lots of space. Elevator to bedroom level; no stairs! 2 Full kitchens, generator, fireplace & more.  
**Addition With Full Bath Downstairs** 2 BR GHI townhome with large family room/bedroom on main level. Completely remodeled - opened kitchen.

**Need to reach us right away?** Text 'Greenbelt' to 88000 on your cell phone and get an instant response! We can show you any listing in Greenbelt.



Scan here with your cell phone and go directly to our website! Search all of the MLS and more.

**Senior Living** 55+ Community 2Br 2Ba condo w/fireplace & more! Remodeled w/new kitchen, modern baths, sunlit enclosed patio, new carpet & paint.

**Cape Cod Home** Investors - priced to sell! 3Br 1.5 Bath home with large fenced back yard, dining rm., br & full bath on mn. lev. \$208,900

**Estate Sale** GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.

**Brick Townhome with Addition** Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

**Large floorplan w/addition** Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backyard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

**Cape Cod SFH** 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.

**Townhome with 2 additions** 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced backyard, brick patio, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

**4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome** Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

**Townhome with addition** 2 br townhome w/ front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen, full bath, pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.

**Charlestowne Village** Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With SS appliances. \$149,900

**Addition - Backs to Woodlands** Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Central A/C system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

**Brick Townhome** 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900

**Upper Level One Bedroom** GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

**2 BR Townhome** Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900

**Your Greenbelt Specialists  
In Roosevelt Center**

# Greenbelt Artists Keep Working Through Many-month Lockdown

by Matthew Arbach

In spite of the pandemic, Greenbelt artists are pressing on, undaunted both in the development of their own art and the dissemination of their craft to others, recognizing that making art can also promote feelings of well-being, healing, relaxation and restoration.

## Judy Goldberg-Strassler



PHOTO COURTESY JUDY GOLDBERG-STRASSLER

Ceramist Judy Goldberg-Strassler, in addition to her studio production, teaches ceramic arts courses at the Community Center, currently run as Zoom classes. She asserts that clay is the definition of fun, filled with infinite possibilities. Goldberg-Strassler creates functional ceramics for daily use and explores the sculptural aspects of clay. She creates functional ceramics through wood firing and especially through complicated crystalline firing. She calls her work Shalom Pottery, because shalom is a word that means many things, including love, well-being, integrity, perfection, harmony and peace.

“Shalom is how I feel while working with clay. I am calm, focused and filled with well-being in the world of clay. I am thrilled that I can share this with all of my students.” Goldberg-Strassler, a Greenbelt resident since 1977 and with a ceramic arts certificate in 2019 from Hood College, lauds Greenbelt Recreation for their outside-the-box thinking and problem-solving in their continuing efforts to bring the arts to the city.

## Ingrid Cowan Hass



PHOTO COURTESY INGRID COWAN HASS

Puppeteer, painter and print-maker Ingrid Cowan Hass and her puppeteer husband Ole, residents of Greenbelt for 23 years, own and operate Beech Tree Puppets, which has produced many lively performances in Greenbelt. When a spring performance at the Community Center was cancelled, a filmed version and live Zoom interview was created instead, which attracted over 200 viewers, including some from other states and two different countries.

“[We] experienced the tremendous support and connection through the screen as we heard from all these people. The show really touched them and we were uplifted to keep going.” By providing outdoor classes, participating children became engrossed in the process and fulfilled a long-

desired opportunity to connect with others. Cowan Hass reflected that “It was beautiful and I was again reminded how healing the arts can be.”

## Barbara Joann Combs



PHOTO COURTESY BARBARA COMBS

Artist Barbara Joann Combs is a Prince George’s County art educator and a community arts facilitator with pre-K through high school students. Combs recently led a Zoom workshop for Greenbelt Recreation Arts, celebrating Black History Month by guiding students in making paper quilts inspired by abstract, brightly colored African American quilts.

For Combs, “abstraction, jazz, nature and portraiture are the subjects that move me” and the main elements that appear in her own work, which include paintings, drawings, prints and found-object sculptures. She works primarily from her home studio, which she views during the pandemic as an “opportunity to reflect on my goals, create art, get closer to family, develop some friendships and relax.”



Abstraction (above left) and Nature by Barbara Joann Combs

## Tom Baker



PHOTO BY VEJUNE SVOTELIS

Tom Baker, Greenbelt artist in residence emeritus, is a painter, sculptor and wood carver. His most recent works, still in progress, are inspired by the natural world he has encountered on hikes in the Appalachian Mountains with his wife. “Getting away from the political and social chaos and into nature is restorative for me,” says Baker. “It becomes a walking meditation of gratitude. This allows me to respond to current divisions in our country, rather than react to them.”

A Greenbelt resident for 29 years, Baker maintains that the love and practice of art and the desire to serve has led him to be a teacher for 45 years. His students have included deaf children, Vietnamese refugees in Thailand, homeless men, Gonzaga High School students, children in D.C. and students at the Greenbelt Community Center. “I am waiting to teach again when we can get back to the center physically” – a sentiment that the entire Greenbelt community no doubt also eagerly embraces.

To see works by these artists, visit the News Review Art Gallery site: [greenbeltnewsreview.com/art-gallery/](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com/art-gallery/).



PHOTO COURTESY JUDY GOLDBERG-STRASSLER

Judy Goldberg-Strassler poses with an especially large example of her artwork.



PHOTO BY VEJUNE SVOTELIS

Tom Baker works on a sculpture in the Greenbelt Recreation ceramic studio pre-pandemic.



PHOTO COURTESY INGRID COWAN HASS

Ingrid and Ole Hass pose after a rare outdoor puppet performance of The Giant Turnip with Beech Tree Puppets in 2020.

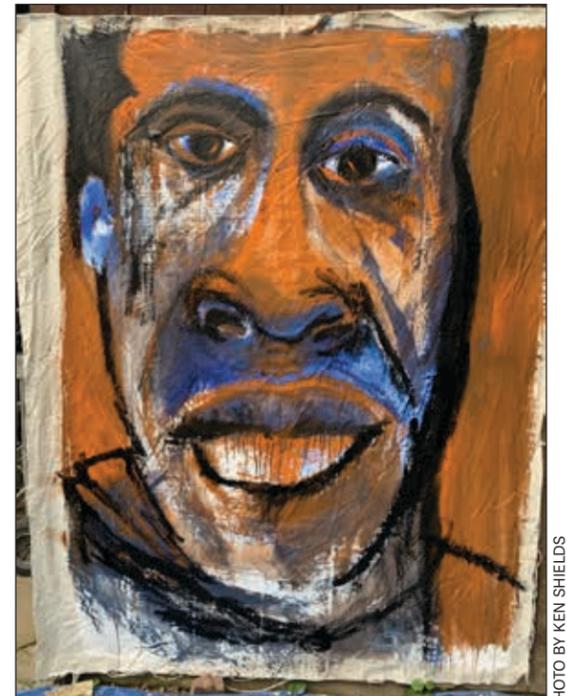


PHOTO BY KEN SHIELDS

Local artist Tom Baker painted this portrait of George Floyd.