GREENBELT CANCEL CONTROL OF CONTR GREENBELT

Inside Stories





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country, p.11

OCTOBER 5, 2023

VOL. 86, No. 46

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Election 2023

Last Candidates Complete Roster: Rodney M. Roberts, William Orleans

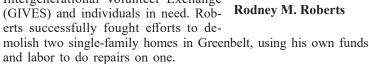
The final two candidates for the Greenbelt City Council election on Tuesday, November 7 are Rodney M. Roberts and perennial challenger William Orleans. Their nomination forms have been certified by City Clerk Bonita Anderson. Biographies are prepared by the candidates and published as they are received by the paper. They join candidates Ric Gordon, Matthew Inzeo, James Whipple, Jenni Pompi, Danielle McKinney, Moses Sekatawa, Kristen Weaver, Silke Pope and Emmett Jordan.

Rodney Roberts

Rodney M. Roberts, 65, is a lifelong Greenbelter. He attended Prince George's County schools and was active in sports with the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club. Roberts is sole proprietor of a small business that specializes in onsite repairs of various types of equipment and vehicles.

In 32 years, Roberts has never missed a council meeting.

Roberts volunteers his professional skills to groups such as Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange (GIVES) and individuals in need. Roberts successfully fought efforts to de-



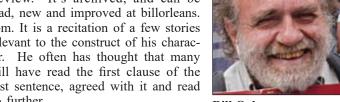
Roberts proposed and worked through to implementation a community policing program that included the city's first bicycle

Roberts was a leader in the citizen movement that resulted in

See **ROBERTS**, page 2

William Orleans

When first permitted to run for council, or from council, as it may be, Bill's biography was published in the October 20, 2011 issue of the News Review. It's archived, and can be read, new and improved at billorleans. com. It is a recitation of a few stories relevant to the construct of his character. He often has thought that many will have read the first clause of the first sentence, agreed with it and read



Bill Orleans

When he returned to Greenbelt in 2004, it was not to win friends and

influence council, it was from necessity, not choice. Life's potential was lost to him in NYC, where he had lived for 35 years, and indeed, his life, itself, was in question. Unemployable for more than a year, ethically, morally and financially in debt, drinking heavily, he returned to live, what he had reason to believe would be relatively a short span of time, in his late mother's GHI home in the dead of night, and, not unpacking his car, drank himself to sleep. The next afternoon, after unpacking, he drove into the VA in D.C., was admitted for a procedure previously received in the New

See ORLEANS, page 2

Election 2023

Questions Posed to Candidates

Prior to city council elections, the News Review poses questions to the candidates and publishes their responses. Starting this week, we will publish a question weekly and request that candidates send their 150-word maximum responses (per question) to us by the following Monday at 6 p.m. Thus, the responses to the question we ask this week, Question 1, will be published Thursday, October 12, along with

Ouestion 2. Question 2 responses, and Question 3, will be published October 19; Question 3 responses will be published October 26.

Question 1: What is the most important thing the city council needs to accomplish in the upcoming term?

Candidates are asked to submit their answers to the News Review by 6 p.m. on Monday, October 9, preferably by email to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Greenbelt Gymnast Represents U.S.A. at Budapest Acro Cup

by Torrence Banks

Six years of hard work in competitive gymnastics paid off for Greenbelt resident and gymnast Fiona O'Brien, age 12. She was one of six kids in her event representing the United States in Budapest this month as part of the International Club Team (ICT). She and her partner competed in the Budapest Acro Cup as an 11-16 women's pair.

USA Gymnastics International Club Team allows young gymnasts who the selection team thinks have the potential to be members of the national acrobatics team to receive early experience competing on the international level.

O'Brien and her partner, Lily Barnowski, were two of the four acrobatic gymnasts from Maryland national Elite Acrobatics and Tumbling. The other women's pair team came from Xtreme Acro and Cheer from

Rockville.

The three-day competition started on September 1. O'Brien



as they represented Inter- Lily Barnowski balances Fiona O'Brien in their balancing routine.

and Barnowski competed against 12 other countries on the first two days and then faced the top six teams in the finals on the last day. The duo finished in

fifth place. Judges score the performances based on the artistry, execution and technical skills.

O'Brien and Barnowski were initially part of a trio; however, one of their members left due to personal reasons. They had only been training together as a duo since December.

"So the fact that they went from only being a pair a really short time to then competing all the way through the season and doing really well at nationals and getting on the ICT was exciting," said Jamie Krauk, O'Brien's mom. Sarah Thomas, O'Brien's coach, said, "I was not surprised because I knew how talented they were and how good they were doing and how much they were improving."

O'Brien has been participating in gymnastics since she was 2 years old,

initially doing artistic gymnastics at Silver Stars Gymnastics in Silver Spring. Her parents got her

See **GYMNAST**, page 7

Council Finalizes One Ballot Question, Rejects Another

by Diane Oberg

At its September 26 regular meeting the Greenbelt City Council finalized the question to appear on the ballot for the November 7 council election and rejected a proposed second question. It also received an update from the City Board of Elections regarding voting procedures.

Noncitizen Voting

Voters will face just one advisory question on the 2023 election ballot. A second question, proposed by Councilmember Rodney Roberts regarding the recent charter amendment, was

What Goes On

7:30 p.m., City Council

Meeting, Municipal Building

7:30 p.m., Council Workses-

sion: Public Safety, Crime

Status and Youth Programs,

See the meetings calendar on

page 5 or visit greenbeltmd.

gov for more information.

Wednesday, October 11

Monday, October 9

Municipal Building

discussed but was rejected after a sometimes-contentious discussion.

First up was the question of who should vote in city elections. A resolution first introduced at the August 14 regular meeting was replaced with an alternate version that is now termed a "non-binding advisory question" rather than "referendum." There was considerable discussion regarding the wording of the question posed to the voters, but in the end the original language was restored: "Should Greenbelt residents who meet residency requirements but are not U.S. citizens be allowed to vote in city elections?"

In a report to council, the Board of Elections identified several questions that council will need to decide upon if the advisory question passes including 1) how long a noncitizen must lawfully reside in Greenbelt to qualify, 2) how residents will prove they meet this requirement, 3) how often noncitizen residents will need to renew their registrations and 4) how noncitizen registration and voting will be administered. This report was not discussed at the council meeting.

Rick Ransom, co-chair of the Community Relations Advisory Board, noted that its report on the issue found that there are many residents who are not citizens but are legal residents of the United States.

Manager Residency

Roberts sought to add a referendum that would undo the charter amendment passed earlier this year allowing council to waive the residency requirement for city managers on a case-bycase basis and restore the original language that "during his tenure of office the City Manager shall reside within the city." Because of the need to finalize the city ballot, this resolution needed to be passed that evening, after suspending the rule that resolutions need to be read at two meetings. His colleagues unanimously agreed to the suspension, but when it came time to vote on the actual resolution, Roberts stood alone, losing on a 6-1 vote.

City Solicitor Jason DeLoach said the proposed resolution was, procedurally, "a bit odd," coming as it did after an attempt to petition the charter amendment to

See COUNCIL, page 4

Letters to the Editor

Small Gestures Mean a Lot

A huge public thank you to Stephen Parks, supervisor of the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center. After working tirelessly for a week to coordinate the emergency repairs to the pool, Mr. Parks

came into work at 1 a.m. to kick start the pool heaters so those who use the pool for rehabilitation, fitness and recreation would find a welcoming temperature sooner rather than later. You're a gem, Mr. Parks. Thank you.

Susan Taylor



ROBERTS continued from page 1

the city's acquisition of 184 acres of woodland, part of the original Green Belt.

Roberts testifies on behalf of the city before federal, state and county officials concerning development, transportation, recreational, environmental and fiscal issues. He represented the city on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board for 28 years.

Roberts found legal representation to help the city fight the maglev train.

Roberts recently knocked on hundreds of doors to collect petition signatures for the city manager residence issue.

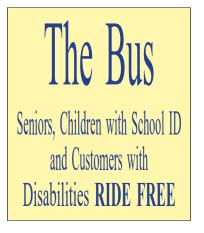
In 2022, Roberts filed a NEPA suit against the U.S. Treasury Department to fight the proposed industrial development of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. Because of his suit, Treasury has had to abandon plans to dump 120,000 gallons of polluted wastewater daily into Beaverdam Creek.

ORLEANS continued from page 1

York VA. The next day he was informed by a company of doctors that he could not live unless he stopped drinking.

Hoping to resolve as much of his collective debts as would be possible, he was persuaded, drove back to Greenbelt and the next day fulfilled every good boy's obligation, got a library card and a change of registration form.

That first week back, or the next, he went to his first Greenbelt City Council meeting. A Queen and her Consort, no less pompous and basely political than their big city counterparts, or than the Senator Snorts of Congress and no one was there to watch them cavort. Thus began Bill's last act, monitoring Greenbelt Council, and done so mostly alone and made all the more difficult because he was engaging in this sober.



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On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Royal Hotel

Americans Hanna (Julia Garner) and Liv (Jessica Henwick) are best friends backpacking in Australia. After they run out of money, Liv, looking for an adventure, convinces Hanna to take a temporary live-in job behind the bar of a pub called The Royal Hotel in a remote Outback mining town. Bar owner Billy (Hugo Weaving) and a host of locals give the girls a riotous introduction to Down Under drinking culture but soon Hanna and Liv find themselves trapped in an unnerving situation that grows rapidly out of their control. "It's a thriller, and an uncomfortable one, in which dangers lurk around corners so common that we sometimes forget how dangerous they really are," says critic Alissa Wilkinson of Vox.

Dumb Money
The ultimate David vs. Goliath tale, the film is based on the insane true story of everyday people who flipped the script on Wall Street and got rich by turning GameStop (yes, the mall videogame store) into the world's hottest company. In the middle of everything is regular guy Keith Gill (Paul Dano), who starts it all by sinking his life savings into the stock and posting about it. When his social posts start blowing up, so does his life and the lives of everyone following him. As a stock tip becomes a movement, everyone gets rich - until the billionaires fight back, and both sides find their worlds turned upside down. Also starring Pete Davidson, Vincent D'Onofrio, America Ferrera, Nick Offerman and Anthony Ramos.



Early voting will take place Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Voting will be available at three locations: Community Center, 15 Crescent Road; Schrom Hills Park Clubhouse, 6915 Hanover Parkway; and Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane. Registered voters can vote at any of the three loca-





Greenbelt Cinema 129 Centerway 301-329-2034 www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members Always \$6.50! Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6, Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM: Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions CC = Closed Captions DVS = Descriptive Video Service

> **SHOWTIMES:** OCTOBER 6th - 12th

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

The Royal Hotel (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (91 mins)

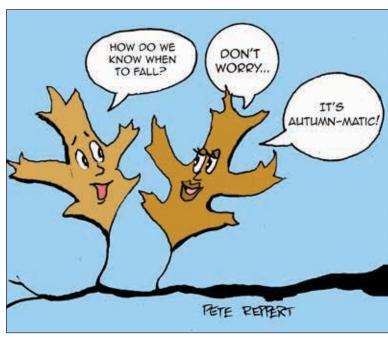
Fri. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM Sun. 2:00 PM (OC), 4:30 PM Mon. 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM Tues. 7:30 PM Wed. 7:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Thurs, 7:30 PM

Dumb Money (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (104 mins)

Fri. 5:45 PM, 8:15 PM Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM Sun. 1:45 PM, 4:15 PM Mon. 2:45 PM (OC), 5:15 PM Tues. 7:15 PM Wed. 7:15 PM Thurs. 7:15 PM



- News Review, November 3, 2022



Letters Policy during City Elections

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

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

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

The News Review will not print letters endorsing candidates. The News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.

Greenbelt **News Review**

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story. - Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd. OFFICE HOURS: Monday 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

At the Library

The Greenbelt Library is open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. In case of inclement weather or an emergency, real-time updates to the Library's schedule are posted at pgcmls.info/alerts.

Storytimes

Friday, October 6, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls. info/event/9020756.

Wednesday, October 11, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at.pgcmls.info/event/9020826.

Children's Vision Screening

Wednesday, October 11, noon to 2 p.m., ages 18 months to 18. Free walk-in vision screenings for children presented by the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington.

Teen Action Group

Wednesday, October 11, 4:30 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Register at pgcmls.info/event/9187635.

Teens Create

Thursday, October 12, 4 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Throwing it back to the 90s, attendees will make friendship bracelets, sand art jars and scratch paper art. All supplies will be provided. Register at pgcmls.info/event/9013830.

Music Playlist

Celebrate diversity and Latin culture with a mixtage by PGCMLS staff. Stream it for free with your library card on Freegal (https://prge.freegalmusic.com/ genre-detail/Latin).

News Suite

The News Suite (pgcmls.info/ news-suite) offers quick and easy access to many national and international newspapers and magazines, including digital editions of The Washington Post and The New York Times.

Performers Sought

Greenbelt Chess Club is seeking volunteer performers/music, singing, dance, pantomime, etc., for National Chess Day, to be celebrated in Roosevelt Center on Saturday, October 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Interested individuals can call Effie at 443-415-1053.

Diego Rivera Lecture Honors Hispanic Art



Detail from Diego Rivera's Detroit Industry murals, 1932-33

On Wednesday, October 18, at 7 p.m. via Zoom, the Greenbelt Museum will host a lecture entitled Diego Rivera and The Working Class Hero, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Lecturer Jonathan Maffay wrote his dissertation on Diego Rivera and states that when the Mexican muralist arrived in the United States in the early 1930s the country was in the throes of the Great Depression. Rivera witnessed the struggle of the working classes and saw hope in a modern industrial economy and what it might offer the economically disadvantaged. That sense of hopefulness also resonates throughout the murals he painted first in San Francisco and then in Detroit. The relief sculptures on the Community Center by Lenore Thomas Straus created during that same period, though in a more stylized abstract manner, resonate with that same sense of optimism.

This is a virtual event. Register at the Museum's Eventbrite page using the following link: eventbrite.com/e/diego-rivera-andthe-working-class-hero-tickets-72 6280112367?aff=oddtdtcreator. A Zoom link will be sent prior to

This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, Greenbelt Recreation Department and the City of Greenbelt.

Chess Club to Meet On Monday

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Monday, October 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the New Deal Café. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Teaching will be provided as needed.

For more details, call Effie at 443-415-1053.

Hunger Is Year-Round: Poetry in Schrom **Support PORCH**

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing its program to collect food in October on the following schedule:

Sunday, October 8 - by 11 a.m. at 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts

Sunday, October 15 - by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village

Saturday, October 21 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel

Sunday, October 22 - by 4 p.m. for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors) and for the 9, 11, 12 and 13 Ridge Road Courts; by 5 p.m. for Lakeside

Leave donations of nonperishables and hygiene products by the front door marked RUAK or PORCH, and visible from the street. Make sure donated items have not expired.

Volunteers are always welcome. PORCH is particularly looking for coordinators in the Greenbelt East area. Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.

Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday, October 7 at the City Observatory located at Northway Fields. Attendees can expect to see Saturn and deep sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae and star clusters currently high in the sky, viewed through the observatory telescope and astronomical camera. All are welcome and there is no charge. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own telescopes to set up on the hilltop.

Observing will begin at 8 p.m. and continue for two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.

Hills Garden

Poetry in the Garden will meet on Sunday, October 8 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the clubhouse at Schrom Hills Park. All are invited to bring a favorite poem to read or just enjoy listening to poetry. For more details, call Effie at 443-

The event is sponsored by CHEARS, the Greenbelt-based Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the health of all who share the Chesapeake watershed environment. Among its activities is caring for the Three Sisters Gardens.



Senior Open Forum **Now October 14**

Due to inclement weather, the Greenbelt Senior Citizens Advisory Committee's (SCAC) annual Open Forum was postponed. The new date is Saturday, October 14 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 201. No registration is required. Greenbelters of all ages are invited to share what they like about living in Greenbelt and their concerns and issues throughout the community. The SCAC reports the main comments from this open forum to the city council. Council, the Police Department and Public Works have been invited to attend to give direct feedback to the attendees. Masks are recommended but not required. For more information call 301-397-2200.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Luminis Hosts Annual Pink Ribbon Rally



Participants in last year's Pink Ribbon Rally, from left: Deneen Richmond, president of Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (LHDCMC); Dr. Regina Hampton, chief of Breast Surgery at LHDCMC; and Dawn Ridley, vice president of development at LHDCMC

It's time to paint the town pink! Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center is hosting its annual Pink Ribbon Rally to raise awareness about breast cancer and the critical importance of early detection through mammograms. The event, taking place on Friday, October 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., will feature no-cost mammograms and clinical breast screenings and information. The free public event will be held in the top level of the Emergency Department garage at Doctors Hospital.

In addition to mammograms, the Pink Ribbon Rally will offer resources and guidance from local organizations, support groups and healthcare professionals. There will also be inspirational stories from breast cancer survivors, bra fittings, live music, food and

"African American and women of color are especially at risk because we tend to get breast cancer at younger ages and a more aggressive form called triple negative breast cancer," said Dr. Regina Hampton, chief of breast surgery at the campus.

The Pink Ribbon Rally is not just an event; it's a movement to empower our community with the knowledge and support in the fight against breast cancer.

NDC is seeking an experienced restaurateur to fully run our cafe's operation. Go to our home page, NewDealCafe.com, for more information

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Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 9pm; Friday/Saturday 8am - midnight; Sunday 9am - 9pm

The state of the s						
TH 10/05	FRI 10/06	SAT 10/07	SUN 10/08			
Wolf's Blues Show & Sit-In Jam 6:30 - 10pm Hosted by the legendary Wolf Crescenze	PIANO STYLINGS OF PETER REPPERT, 6-7:30P Magical Mystery Four 8-11pm All female Beatles tribute band	COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE W/ KATY GAUGHAN, 3:30-5p Little Red and the Renegades 8-11pm Get your Mardi Gras on!	DEAF BRUNCH, 10:30a-12pm* Charlie Owen and Pocket Change 6-8pm Legendary rhythm & blues			

MON 10/09	TUES 10/10	WED 10/11	TH 10/12	SPECIALS!
MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION NIGHT* 4-9pm CHESS CLUB* 6-8pm Fall Risk 6-8pm Classic rock covers	NDC Open Mic w/ Tom Gleason 7-9:30pm SIGN UP AT 6:15pm Express Yourself!	Jeff Miller 7-9pm Nashville-based songwriter and master of the "looping pedal"	Brother Bill Quintet 7-9pm Classic from the 50's and 60's Bluenote era.	HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE WINE WEDNESDAY \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE

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Greenbelt Access Television Oct. 7, Sat - Oct. 13, Fri

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 . Comcast 77 (School Programming on Your Cable Guide) Streaming on www.greenbeltaccesstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe . Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)

Night of the Living Dead (1968) The directorial debut of George A. Romero, this film pioneered the zombie-themed horror genre. Happy spooky season!

TeaFairy & Friends Storytime Adventures - Move Your Body It's time to get up and move with TeaFairy and Jennifer! The sixth episode of the third season is jam-packed with grooves, endearing and relatable stories, and much more!

All this and more on the GATe channel this week! Check greenbeltaccesstv.org for the full broadcast schedule, and visit Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube for new video productions.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

referendum had failed. Roberts disagreed, saying that the effort did not fail. He said that he had knocked on hundreds of doors collecting signatures and 95 percent of the people he encountered had signed and were adamant that the city manager should live in Greenbelt.

In order to petition a charter amendment to referendum, organizers must collect the signatures of 20 percent of the registered voters in the city. Roberts said that before the city started using the county voting rolls (as required by a change in state law), this was manageable. However, with the expanded voting rolls, he said, it is unreasonably hard to meet this threshold.

Roberts wanted his resolution to lead to a binding referendum, not an advisory question. He argued that this was not a legal question but a question of right or wrong. Before the unified voter rolls went into effect, Roberts said, the citizens had a right to petition charter amendments to referenda. Now, he argued, they no longer have that right. He called it ironic "that you would get two White women and two Black men" to vote to take peoples' rights away, referring to the four councilmembers who had voted for the charter amendment.

This set off a considerable hubbub among his colleagues, with Gordon calling it "a very racist statement." Roberts countered that what is racist is taking peoples' votes away. The vote was taken shortly thereafter resulting in the 6-1 rout of Roberts' resolution.

Board of Elections

Council accepted without discussion two reports from the City Board of Elections. The first relayed the results of that body's review of newly appointed Councilmember Konrad Herling's proof of residency and his acceptance of nomination to coun-



Sundays 10:00 a.m. City Council Room 25 Crescent Road

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

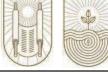
Christ-centered Biblical & Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD www.greenbeltbaptist.org





cil. The board advised council that Herling's paperwork met all election code requirements and Herling is eligible to serve on council.

The second was an update on the upcoming election. It stated that mail-in ballot applications would be mailed out that week with instructions in English and Spanish. The board expressed its confidence that the vendor "will perform its work in a timely manner and avoid the mail-in issues" experienced during the last

Early voting will be held only during the weekend before the election: November 4 and 5. Three polling places will be used with each open from 10 a.m. to

All voters, whether voting early, by mail or on election day will mark the same paper ballots with no voting machines used. Voters may use any of the five polling places (Schrom Hills Park, Greenbriar, Springhill Lake Recreation Center, the police station and the Community Center) regardless of where in the city they live.



Kathleen Williams Brady



Kathleen Williams Brady

Kathleen Williams Brady died peacefully at home in Greenbelt on September 10, 2023. Born January 10, 1947, in Hawaii to a military family, she was the daughter of Beth Mercer and Gene Williams. She was raised in Japan, San Diego and primarily in Naperville, Ill. She graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in elementary education and spent 42 years in the Prince George's County Public Schools as a classroom teacher and later as a testing coordinator at Springhill Lake Elementary.



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Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-9410 **Pastor Evelyn Romero** In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Come as you are

The Bible Says...

The Ten Commandments #5-Honor Your Father & Your Mother Exodus 20:12



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services 10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged. CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd. www.sthughofgrenoble.org



Obituaries

She leaves behind a lifetime of colleagues and friends whose great respect she earned in her professional career. Kathy could always be expected to do the right thing, a legacy of her upbringing. She began each day with a positive outlook and a hopeful attitude, a habit that she passed along to everyone she met. If one stopped to ask her how she was, one could always expect a response of "Dandy."

She is survived by her sister, Trish Kuhn, of Ankeny, Iowa; her brother, Ken Williams, of Chatham, Ill.; and their respective families. She is also survived by her husband, Peter Brady, of Greenbelt, and his surviving

Per her wishes, Kathy was cremated and there will be no service. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make a contribution to Amnesty International or Doctors Without Borders.



Condolences to the family, friends and former students of Kathleen Brady who taught for over 40 years in Prince George's County schools.

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



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Mishkan Torah Congregation



that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century. Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Breaking the Spell of High Conflict

Hear best selling author and podcaster Amanda Ripley reveal how humans can help one another break out of destructive feuds-and

generate healthy, useful conflict instead. Thursday October 19, 7PM at the University of Maryland. Bahá'í Chair for World Peace lecture. RSVP at www.bahaichair.umd.edu There is no charge.



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



October 8, 2023 at 3:00 pm Piscataway History Is Our American History

Mario Harley with Worship Associate Carol Carter Walker

Mario Harley is a citizen of the Piscataway Tribe. He has embraced and lived his culture since childhood. Mr. Harley is a teacher, speaker, and artist. We will have a shortened Worship Service in order to give ample time to his presentation, including questions and answers.

This service will be available to those who attend on Zoom and in person at 3:00 at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

It will not be streamed to Facebook.

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704 301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector Join us for In-Person Worship every Sunday at 10 AM Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM

To view services online:

Go to https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsZionParish/Live/ Other services online via Zoom: Wednesday Noonday; Thursday Bible Study and Compline 7 PM via Zoom

Please contact the church office if you are interested in any of these resources.

Our Mission: To share God's love with everyone to bring hope and change lives.



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, October 9, 2023 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order

Roll Call

Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Petitions and Requests

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

- Cooperative Month Proclamation
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation
- Indigenous People's Day Proclamation
- * Minutes of Council Meetings
- Administrative Reports
- * Committee Reports
- * Greenbelt Reparations Commission Report

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- FY 2024-2029 Draft Maryland Consolidated Transportation Program - List of Proposed ARPA Funded Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects
- ARPA Status Update
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report #2023-05 Proposal to close and reroute trail section along Goddard Branch
- Community Questionnaire
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- * Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) MOU
- Appointment to Reparations Commission
- * Meetings
- * Stakeholders

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.

MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 9 - 13

Wednesday, October 11 at 7:30 pm, WORK SESSION - PUBLIC SAFETY CRIME STATUS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

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

BRING YOUR OWN BAG ORDINANCE

Effective January 1, 2024, the City of Greenbelt's Bring Your Own Bag bill aims to reduce single-use plastic bag waste and litter in our local waterways and tributary

The Bring Your Own Bag Bill will prohibit a retail establishment from providing a plastic carryout bag to shoppers and can charge at least 10 cents for each paper bag provided to a customer at the point of sale. This bill applies to all retail stores, restaurants, grocery stores, or any other establishment that provides single-use plastic bags to its customers due to the sale of a product or service, whether for-

The City of Greenbelt recommends the use of reusable bags, defined as: A bag with stitched handles specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuses, made of cloth or other washable fabric; a durable material suitable for multiple re-use that is NOT made of plastic film.

For more information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/BYOBO

GREENBELT LEARN 2 EARN

Youth Workforce Development Program **Program Starts October 2023**

Topics include financial literacy, interview preparation, skills assessments, and more! Hear from local businesses on what they are looking for, paid internships and employment opportunities, stipend rewarded for excellent attendance

11th and 12th grade Greenbelt residents may apply. This program starts in October and meets for 2 hours every other Saturday.

Visit https://forms.office.com/r/QiViVeTrB9.

LEAF VACUUM SCHEDULE | FALL 2023-2024

The City Public Works Department will again collect loose leaves from the following areas with the leaf vacuum from October 30, 2023 until January 2024. We remind residents to rake the leaves to the curb, but not into the street, and to remove all sticks and stones from the pile as these can damage the machinery. Areas to be collected will be posted as in past years. We also remind residents NOT to park in front of leaf piles.

NOVEMBER 20 - 22

Lakewood

NOVEMBER 27 -

DECEMBER 1

Lakeside. Greenspring I & II

OCTOBER 30 -**NOVEMBER 3**

Lakeside,

NOVEMBER 6 - 9

Woodland Hills

NOVEMBER 13 - 17

Boxwood

DECEMBER 4 - 8

DECEMBER 26 - 29

Lakeside

DECEMBER 11 - 15

Woodland Hills

DECEMBER 18 - 22

Greenspring I & II

GREENBELT CARES Individual Adult Therapy

Individual Adult Therapy. Call (301) 345-6660 or email cares@greenbeltmd.gov.

EARLY AND MAIL-IN VOTING ANY REGISTERED GREENBELT VOTER MAY CHOOSE TO VOTE BY **EARLY VOTING or VOTE BY MAIL-IN** NO MORE EXCUSES!

SAMPLE BALLOT

November 7, 2023

VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN SEVEN (7) /

COUNCILMEMBER /

○ RIC B. GORDON

JENNIFER A. POMPI

O RODNEY M. ROBERTS

○ WILLIAM A. ORLEANS

EMMETT V. JORDAN

○ KRISTEN L. K. WEAVFR

O DANIELLE P. MCKINNEY

ADVISORY QUESTION ON VOTING BY RESIDENT NONCITIZEN

10.08 accept to the cuty clinate, proceedings of this charter shall be fany A qualified within the meaning of this charter shall be fany A qualified procedure of the control of the control of the Ci of Greenbell and (who) Is duly registered with Prince George's County under (the) applicable provisions of farticle 33 off the Annotated Code of Maryland; Inca & U.S. citizen Then a resident registered to vote with the City Clerk; provided that eligibility to vote and City dection shall be subject to applicable (registration deadline)

FOR the Charter Amendment / A FAVOR de la Enmienda a la Carta

AGAINST the Charter Amendment /
EN CONTRA de la Enmienda a la Carta

SILKE I. POPE

EARLY VOTING: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by EARLY VOTING.

EARLY VOTING DATES AND **LOCATIONS**

Greenbelt Community Center -

(15 Crescent Road)

Saturday, November 4, 10 am - 3 pm Sunday, November 5, 10 am – 3 pm

Schrom Hills Park Clubhouse –

(6915 Hanover Parkway)

Saturday, November 4, 10 am - 3 pm Sunday, November 5, 10 am - 3 pm

Springhill Lake Recreation Center

- (6101 Cherrywood Lane) Saturday, November 4, 10 am - 3 pm

Sunday, November 5, 10 am - 3 pm VOTING BY MAIL: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may

choose to vote by MAIL-IN BALLOT.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WILL RECEIVE IN THE MAIL AN APPLICATION TO VOTE BY

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

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

Applications to receive mail-in ballot must be received by noon on Monday, November 6, 2023. We encourage you to return your application (by mail or in-person) as soon as possible.

Return your executed mail-in ballot by

- 1) Sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 6,
- 2) Hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or
- 3) Placing it into one of the three drop-box locations. (Police Station, Schrom Hills Park, and Springhill Lake Recreation Center)

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

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

REMINDER - VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

The final day to register to for the 2023 Greenbelt City Election is Monday, October 9, 2023

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at (301) 341-7300 or visit www.elections.state.md.us. Forms for voter registration and address/name change are available at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, and the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road. Forms are also available on the city website, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

All forms must be received by the County Board of Elections in Largo no later than 4:30 pm, Monday, October 9.

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's County but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete an application to have this information changed. **This can also be done online at www.elections. state.md.us.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

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



COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES **VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education, and make a difference in Greenbelt!

By dedicating your time and expertise, you will help shape the future of Greenbelt and create a community that values the voices of all its residents. Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

GOBBLE WOBBLE

Sponsorships range from \$100-\$500. Depending on sponsorship level, business logos may be included on promotional materials.

Please call (301) 397-2200 or email aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov.

SHREDDING DAY October 14, 9 AM - 12 PM Parking Lot Behind Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

Only 5 file boxes/bags per person. Personal records ONLY businesses). NO BATTERIES. No plastic binders and sheets. No contaminants accepted.

For more information, call the Public Works office at (301) 474-8004.

TREES OF SCHROM HILLS October 14, 2 - 3 PM

Schrom Hills Park

Take a fall walkin tour of notable tees at Schrom Hills Park, hosted by Greenbelt Advisory Committee on

The tour will be a leisurely walk through the scenic park grounds discussing notable trees and what makes them special. Schrom Hills is home of the Prince George's County Champion Deodar Cedar (Cedrus deodara), that is 9'9" in circumference and 52' in height.

For more information, please contact John McMillan at (240) 542-2158 or jmcmillan@greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT JOB FAIR October 14, 12 - 2 F Beltway Plaza by TJ Maxx

Dive into endless career options at the Greenbelt Job Fair. Ignite your journey with local employers and thrive! Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobfair

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION Dates & Deadlines for 2023 City Council Elections

First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/21			
Last day to file nomination petition (5 pm)	9/26			
Date of drawing for placement on ballot (7:30 pm)	9/26			
First interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)	9/29			
First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/06			
Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30 pm in Upper Marlboro)	10/09			
Second interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)	10/27			
Early voting begins	11/04			
Training session for election judges and clerks	11/06			
Election (7 am - 8 pm)	11/07			
Mail-in ballots must be received (by 6 pm)	11/07			
Final Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (12 pm)	11/10			
Charter meeting for swearing-in (7:30 pm)	11/13			
For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson , City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov .				

School News

Town Hall Meeting Probes Safety, Buildings, Water and Buses

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Thursday, September 28, Board of Education Member for District 2 Jonathan Briggs held his first town hall since taking office last November. Despite recent concerns about the independence of the school board, Briggs had the district's virtual town hall facilitated by Progressive Maryland, a political organization that helped fund his campaign.

At the meeting, attended by about 30 community members, including Greenbelt City Councilmembers Judith Davis and Ric Gordon, parents and teachers voiced multiple concerns, chief among them school safety, potable water, transportation and the funding of new buildings. Briggs was simultaneously attending both the town hall and the Board of Education's special meeting to vote on school funding, so much was left to Facilitator Megan Essaheb, director of federal affairs for People's Action, a national organization of which Progressive Maryland is the Maryland member.

After-School Safety

A parent of a Greenbelt Middle School student stated that her child had been assaulted earlier that week, while waiting to be picked up after school in the area between Greenbelt Middle School and Beltway Plaza. Another teen assaulted her child, stole his phone and made off in a dark vehicle with an older youth. The parent was told that though this had happened several times since the start of the school year, the school was unable to warn parents so they might make informed decisions about where to send their children after school. (All three assaults listed in last week's Police Blotter were instances of students being attacked on their way to or from Greenbelt schools, two of them close to the middle school. More assaults of students are in this week's police blotter).

Drinking Water

Another parent, who has one child at Dora Kennedy French Immersion and another at Robert Goddard Montessori, said her primary concern is the lack of available drinking water for her young children. There's little communication with parents about why water fountains are off and when they might be available again. There's not always bottled water available. (For reports on drinking water issues at Greenbelt schools see articles in the September 14 and 21 issues.)

Too Much Technology

The same mother was also concerned about the mandatory use of electronics and technology. Instead of learning to write by hand her first grader is tracing letters from a scanned document displayed on a Chromebook screen, she said.

A substitute teacher expressed concern about cellphone usage during the school day. Students are texting to meet up and asking to go to the bathroom to do so, she reported. There are also problems with social media connected to allowing students to have cellphones during the day, she said.

Transportation

One resident raised the problems of transportation, which continue to plague the county. These are not Covid-19-related difficulties with staffing and tracking, the parent noted, since they have been ongoing for years predating the pandemic. The tracking app with which parents are supposed to be able to locate their child's bus while they wait for its arrival to pick them up in the morning or bring them home in the eve-

to please pass the funding for new schools without the added Memorandum of Understanding language or language requiring a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). Through the Progressive Maryland facilitator, the resident asked Briggs, "If Phase 2 doesn't go through, how are we going to get these schools? It sure looks like you're getting shady money from LiUNA (Laborers' International Union of North America) and - to be honest - Progressive Maryland."

Briggs said he was taking note of the concerns and priorities raised during the meeting and planned to return with further information at future town halls, which he now plans to hold once a month.

Funding eight new schools was voted on and approved by the school board that same evening, with an attached requirement for a PLA. (For more on the controversy about planned school buildings under Phase 2 of

Program see the September 28 issue.)

ning just doesn't work. School Buildings Needed

Another resident asked Briggs

the Blueprint Schools

Board of Ed Passes Phase Two Funding After More Argument

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Thursday, September 28, the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education met for a special session to deliberate on funding for Phase Two of the Blueprint Schools and authorization of additional funding for a shortfall in Capital Improvements, impacting other school buildings. The Phase Two funding is intended for eight new school buildings, including Springhill Lake Elementary in Greenbelt. Both of these items failed to garner sufficient support at last week's Board of Education meeting, support for the Phase Two funding breaking down following an amendment from the floor to incorporate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the union LiUNA (Laborers' International Union of North America). (See the report in the

Parents spoke passionately about the need for the new schools, outlining dire problems such as sewage running in classrooms, lack of heating and cooling, emergency closures and temporary structures that had been used so long they'd developed their own problems. They also chastised the board for playing politics. One cited ethical concerns about campaign donations, another called the board "dysfunctional and embarrassing" and yet another accused them of deception for altering the publicly-shared document for consideration at the special meeting late the night before. Several parents ended their comments with the call, "Build the damned schools!" until they were rebuked by the chair for profanity and the next parent ended her time with

September 28 issue.)

"Build the beeped schools!"

The special meeting was another contentious one. Superintendent Millard House II proposed a new funding document, without an MOU, but with the addition of language requiring a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) rather than a "good faith" effort. Those who had supported the addition of an MOU at the last meeting spoke in favor of the new language and thanked the superintendent and chair. Those who had been in favor of the original language the week before objected to finding the language they were voting on had been changed as recently as 10 p.m. the night before. Several voiced concerns about Superintendent House. When pressed about language change at the last minute, he explained he had met with Board Chair Judy Mickens-Murray and understood board

members were in favor. Some members were concerned about complying with the Open Meeting Act, which requires reasonable advance notice, some accused a faction, and in particular Mickens-Murray of "backroom editing that the full board was not aware of" or of "political jockeying." Meanwhile those who wanted the changed language thanked the chair and administration for bringing the board together and strengthening language.

District 2 Board Member Jonathan Briggs spoke in favor of the requirement of a PLA and called on other members to trust the administration, which sees the big picture, and take their recommendation seriously – which was what those board members on the other side had called for members

See **FUNDING**, page 7



Greenbelt Makerspace Repair Café

Saturday October 21 from 10 am - 2 pm

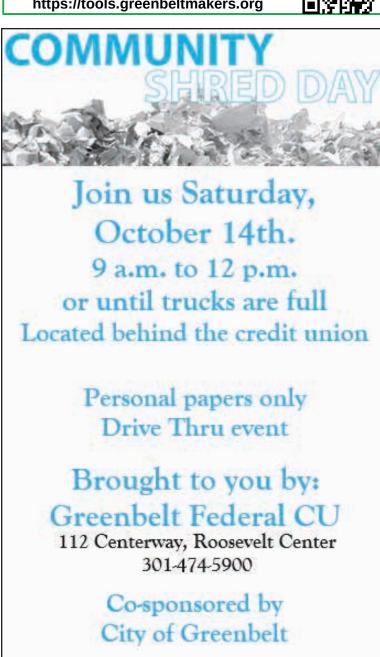
outside the Granite Bldg, 115 Centerway

Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (experienced and novice volunteers needed). Bring your clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making them useful again. Repairs are not guaranteed.

Tool Library Saturdays 10am-Noon, Sundays 11am-1pm

https://tools.greenbeltmakers.org





Foundation Fundraiser Candidates Sought On November 19

The annual fundraiser for the Michael D. Maxwell, Jr. Foundation for Mental Awareness, postponed due to the pandemic, is scheduled for November 19 at the Greenbelt American Legion. There will be great food, a live band, giveaways, silent auctions, the famous Face Paint Lady and an opportunity to visit with the community. Tickets (\$25 per person) can be purchased by contacting the Foundation at michaeldmaxwelljrfoundation@ gmail.com.

The foundation is named in memory of Michael D. Maxwell Jr., a Greenbelt resident and graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School who died in 2016. It has assisted the community since its formation in 2017. Funds have been provided to Eleanor Roosevelt High School to assist the students in various ways. Additionally, funding has been provided to help area youth get

A future community project the foundation is interested in undertaking is rock painting so that messages of inspiration and hope could be left in various safe areas of the city for others to find. Anyone interested in participating in this project should reach out to Lisa Ealley at 1 ealley@msn.com.

The first week of October is Mental Health Awareness Week.

FUNDING

continued from page 6

to do the previous week with the unamended language.

After two hours of contentious debate the funding was passed with a requirement for a PLA. Only Board Member Walter Fields voted against the Phase Two funding in its latest language, saying the process was unethical and unprincipled and calling on the public to stay vigilant and hold the board accountable. Briggs did not vote on the matter.

The additional funding for the Capital Improvement Project with a shortfall was passed shortly thereafter, following much less debate. That funding was unanimously passed with the exception of Briggs who again entered a No vote.



For Co-op Board

Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (GCC) is seeking candidates willing to run for election to its board of directors. The Coop will conduct its election at its annual meeting on Saturday, November 4 at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Center gym. Three board members will be elected to serve three-year terms. Incumbents Sarah Rusk, Steven Bernheisel and Gettie Audain are running for re-election. Members interested in serving as directors can pick up nomination forms at the customer service office in the Co-op Supermarket. To be considered, a member must: (1) have a minimum of \$100 in their member capital account and (2) submit a brief biography and complete the nomination form which requires five signatures from other voting-eligible members by Sunday, October 22. Return the completed form and biography to the Co-op's customer service office or email to board@greenbelt.coop. GCC does not accept nominations at the annual meeting.

College Park Day Festival on Oct. 7

College Park Day is Saturday, October 7 from noon to 6 p.m. at the College Park Aviation Museum and Airport. This annual festival has free activities and entertainment for all ages.

There will be live entertainment on two stages, with both bands and live music and performances for children and families.

Enjoy browsing the College Park Aviation Museum's exhibits and a helicopter fly-in. The event features a wide variety of food and drink vendors with local restaurants, food trucks and breweries. Free parking is available nearby, along with a free shuttle service from select locations, and bike racks. For more information, visit collegeparkday.org.

GYMNAST continued from page 1

involved in the sport after they realized how much she loved to climb on furniture.

"[You were] always climbing up things and jumping off," Krauk said, explaining the story to O'Brien. "We're like, 'Oh, golly. We need to get her in some sort of tumbling activity.""

When she got older, O'Brien transitioned to Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex to continue doing artistic gymnastics. She switched to acrobatics and changed gyms after an injury last sum-

"My back had scoliosis," O'Brien said. "So in artistic, we do a lot of tumbling. And it was like pounding me on my back and acro does it a lot less.'

Krauk added, "They focus a lot on flexibility and stretching. So both her chiropractor and the physical therapist said we're comfortable with the level of stretching that she can stay safe."

All the activities for acrobatic gymnastics take place on the floor. It combines tumbling and choreographed floor routines with balancing skills such as handstands. Artistic is viewed as the more traditional form of gymnastics and is usually done using beams, bars and the vault.

Acrobatic gymnastics takes lots of time and dedication. This past season, O'Brien practiced four days a week for three to four hours per day. To prepare for the international competition, she added an additional day of



Lily Barnowski and Fiona O'Brien pose for a photo with their coach Sarah Thomas in Budapest.

practice on Fridays.

The sport also requires perseverance. During international invitationals in Las Vegas earlier this year, Thomas said that O'Brien and Barnowski got really nervous and made some mistakes during their routine.

"After that one routine in Las Vegas where they made mistakes [in] their second routine they came back and did really, really well," Thomas said. "And from then on out it's like they put the nerves behind them."

The duo did really well in the second round of competition. O'Brien said nervousness during competition never completely goes away and that she has just had to learn to deal with it.

"Like, it goes away a little,

like after the first skill," O'Brien said about dealing with nerves. "But there's not really anything that we do to help it because it doesn't really go away even if you've done a lot of competition."

Thomas said, "She's very calm in competition. That's one thing that we noticed is that she's able to handle pressure very well and not get nervous when she's on the big stage with a big audience."

Next season, O'Brien will continue with acrobatic gymnastics. Now, as the top to a women's trio - with two bases instead of one.

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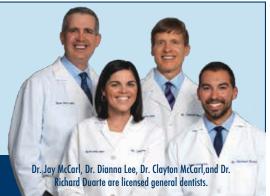


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View Partial Eclipse On October 14

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will host a viewing party at the Greenbelt Observatory for the partial solar eclipse that will be visible from Greenbelt on Saturday, October 14. The eclipse begins at noon when the moon's edge starts to move between the earth and the sun. The maximum coverage of 41 percent will occur at 1:19 p.m. The last bit of the moon to cover the sun leaves at 2:38 p.m.

The ASG has eclipse glasses that will allow viewers to see the eclipse safely. These will be provided for free to the first 100 people to arrive at the observatory. The observatory telescope will also be equipped with a special solar filter that will show the eclipse in greater detail.

That evening, ASG will also host a star party from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The observatory will be open to visitors to view the wonders of the heavens. People are also welcome to bring their own telescopes to set up for observation.

Both events are free and open to the public.

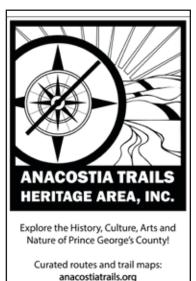
Repair Café at MakerSpace

The next Greenbelt Maker-Space Repair Café is Saturday, October 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Granite Building, 115 Centerway. Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (experienced and novice volunteers needed). Bring clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making it useful again. See tools.greenbeltmakers.org for more information. Borrow tools and other things at the Tool Library on Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon and Sundays 11 a.m. to 1

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Note the updated start time. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, on Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.



City Notes

Planning, Code Enforcement and the city manager met with concerned Charlestowne North Apartments tenants and inspected the premises.

Museum staff installed vintage illuminated Halloween decorations.

The Community Center accommodated Girl Scouts, Concert Band, Golden Age Club, Community Orchestra, the Pottery Group, Honk! Situation, Interfaith Leadership, Greenbrook Estates, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Astronomical Society, Greenwood Village Homeowners Association, a county Health Department visit and 15 renters.

Public Works collected 25.97 tons of refuse and 9.57 tons of recyclables and provided 133 Greenbelt Connection rides. The Aquatic & Fitness Center reopened after Public Works and contractors repaired the hot water line.

Responding to storm forecasts, park rangers rescheduled park events and afterward surveyed for hazardous debris. After residents reported rowdy teens in the Youth Center parking lot and ice cream truck noise at the lake, rangers intervened to resolve the issues.

At a CARES clinic at Green Ridge House, 41 clients were vaccinated for flu, pneumonia, shingles and/or Covid.

Carjacking in Greenbelt Ends With Four Dead in Collision

On September 29, 2023, at approximately 7:30 p.m., officers in the area of Lottsford Road and Palmetto Drive in Mitchellville observed a Kia Sorento with expired temporary tags. Officers activated their emergency equipment and attempted a traffic stop on the Kia but the car sped off. The officers briefly attempted to pursue it but lost sight of the vehicle and disengaged. Officers were notified that the registered vehicle did not match the paper tag and attempted to relocate the vehicle but were unsuccessful.

Meanwhile, according to a witness, approximately four minutes after officers disengaged their pursuit, while traveling in the 12800 block of Woodmore Road, the driver of the Kia attempted to pass another car using the shoulder of the roadway. While attempting the pass, the driver of the Kia lost control and crashed into a tree. The Kia then burst into flames and became engulfed.

Fire and EMS were able to extinguish the fire and all life-saving measures were attempted for the occupants but to no avail. The four occupants of the Kia tragically lost their lives in the crash and were pronounced dead

on the scene. Due to the severity of the burn injuries, their ages and genders are currently unknown.

Investigators determined the Kia was that taken in an armed carjacking shortly before 1 a.m. that morning on Edmonston Court in Greenbelt. During that carjacking, which involved three or four men, a man in a black mask pointed a long gun at the owner, who was approaching his Kia, and demanded his keys. The victim threw his car keys and ran. The tags had been switched between the morning's carjacking and the officers' attempt to stop the vehicle in Mitchellville that evening.

The crash site was approximately 2.5 miles from the site of the attempted traffic stop. After a review of evidence, the Maryland Attorney General's Independent Investigations Division determined the incident did not meet the parameters of an officer-involved fatality. The incident will be subject to administrative review.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to call the Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Unit at 301-731-4422.

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Pedestrian Killed On Kenilworth Avenue

A fatal collision involving a pedestrian occurred on the evening of Tuesday, September 26, in Greenbelt. At approximately 7:45 p.m., a sedan traveling northbound on Kenilworth Avenue, in the area of Greenbelt Road, struck a man in the roadway. The driver remained on the scene and called for emergency services, advising that he had hit a pedestrian. He told police the man had been running across the highway.

Officers arriving at the scene located the man on the highway near westbound 193. He had severe external trauma and was unresponsive. Berwyn Heights Fire and Rescue responded shortly after and a paramedic pronounced the victim dead at the scene. The pedestrian's name had not been released at the time of this report.

As with all fatal collisions, once the investigation is complete, the Prince George's County Police Department's Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Unit (CARU) will refer the case to the State's Attorney's Office for further consideration. Anyone with information about this case is asked to call the CARU at 301-731-4422.



















Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred September 25 to October 1, 2023. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police Department reported a death, three mental health diversions and four domestic disputes, two resulting in arrests

Carjacking

On September 29 at 12:51 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, a man saw a black vehicle parked behind his car with three or four men standing around the car. As he continued walking toward his vehicle, a man wearing a black mask pointed a long gun and said, "Give me your car keys." The victim threw his car keys and ran, and the suspects fled in an unknown direction. Later, the vehicle crashed into a tree and caught fire and all four youths inside were killed.

Assaults

On September 25 at 7:38 a.m. near 11 Crescent Road, the victim was walking on the sidewalk in front of the library when he was approached by two young Black men. Both men were around 6 feet tall, one was skinny and the other one had a heavy build, both had black hoodies with blue jeans, and one had purple in his shoes. The victim was pulled to the ground and kicked, and one threatened him with a knife. His cellphone was taken and both males ran toward University Square Apartments. The victim was transported for medical treat-

On September 26 at 4:34 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a middle school student was assaulted and robbed of his cellphone near Beltway Plaza. He was approached by two unknown males wearing medical masks who asked to use his cellphone. When he handed it over, one demanded his phone's password. When he tried to take his phone back, he was pushed to the ground. One suspect was around 20 years old and the other was around 13. They left in a jeep.

On September 27 at 10:33 a.m. near 7600 Mandan Road, a female Eleanor Roosevelt High School student was attacked by a group of girls at a nearby playground.

On September 29 at 6:24 p.m. near 7600 Hanover Parkway, a girl was assaulted during the Junior Varsity (JV) soccer game at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. During the game, a player on the Bowie JV soccer team slapped her causing a laceration and a welt.

On October 1 at 5:11 a.m. near 5500 Cherrywood Lane, the victim was at a party near Springhill Lake Elementary School when he was assaulted and his wallet was taken. He refused to give any further information, did not want medical attention and left in a cab with his friends.

Fight

On September 29 at 7:20 a.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, an employee was followed into the store and intentionally bumped by another woman, causing her to spill her coffee. In reaction, the employee pushed the woman, and the woman swung with a closed fist and struck her in the face. A fight ensued, and they threw coffee at each other. Both parties left after a witness said she was calling the cops.

Shoplifting

On September 27 at 8:07 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a man took multiple items and headed toward the exit without paying. The manager told him to return the goods and the man threatened to stab him with a knife. The manager backed away, and the man fled in a black Nissan Altima with D.C. tags.

Indecent Exposure

On September 30 at 7:21 a.m. near 7900 Good Luck Road, a man in a store exposed himself as he shopped. Officers arrested the man.

Fraud

On September 26 near 2 Research Road, a mother reported that her young son was contacted online by an unknown female. When he sent images to her, she demanded gift cards in exchange for not posting the images online.

On September 29 near 9000 Breezewood Terrace, a man lost his debit card, and discovered that \$1500 had been spent from his account at the Walmart Super Center in Laurel. The bank was notified.

Theft

On September 26 at 7:19 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man left the store without paying for his shoes. On September 26 at 9:38 p.m. near Greenbelt Road, four individuals left a store with approximately 10 jackets. The store's Asset Protection confronted them but they became unruly and fled. On September 27 near 8000 Mandan Road, a package was stolen from near a front door. On September 27 at 8:23 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man grabbed a pack of toilet paper rolls and fled in a vehicle. On September 28 at 6:35 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, five women and two men stole 46 candles and fled in a black Dodge Charger. On September 28 at 3:54 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft occurred.

On September 29 at 7:43 p.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road, a man picked up eight jackets and fled in a white SUV. On September 30 at 10:57 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man stole several wireless headphones. On

September 30 at 12:42 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a man stole cleaning products and fled on a black bicycle. On September 30 at 7:40 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man around 60 years old stole clothing items. Once spotted, he quickly left the store. On September 30 at 8:15 p.m. near 107 Centerway, a black electric bike was stolen from behind Generous Joe's. On October 1 at 8:56 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, a package was stolen from a residence.

On October 1 at 8:01 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, three young males switched a silver and gold watch with a fake. On September 25 at 2:11 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a repeating trespasser took a cart of merchandise into the parking lot. Officers found him, and all items were recovered. The store declined to press charges.

Trespassing

On September 28 at 6:18 p.m. near 6200 Greenbelt Road, a man was panhandling at Beltway Plaza. He was issued a criminal citation for trespass on private property and released.

Vandalism

On September 25 at 2:48 p.m. near 6400 Ivy Lane, a trailer parked in the parking lot had two rear door locks broken, but nothing stolen

Missing Persons

Missing persons cases were resolved by Greenbelt Police Department on September 25 near 9100 Edmonston Court, September 26 near 9200 Edmonston Road, September 27 near 5800 Cherrywood Lane, September 27 near 9200 Edmonston Road and October 1 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Six vehicles were stolen this week: September 25 near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace, a white Ford Van (Md. 2DH5598); September 27 near 8300 Canning Terrace, a white 2016 Hyundai Tucson (S.C. VRX985); September 28 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a gray 2011 Hyundai Elantra (Md. 5FJ1370); September 29 near 9100 Edmonston Terrace,

a black 2015 Chevrolet Equinox (Md. 5CC7922); and September 29 near 7700 Hanover Parkway, a light blue Hyundai Elantra (unregistered).

On September 25 near 400 Ridge Road, a brown 2014 Nissan Altima with no plates was stolen from in front of the owner's residence. The keys were in the glove box after it was shown to a potential buyer.

Attempted Theft of Vehicle

Six vehicles (two Hyundais and four Kias) had damage to windows and ignition: on September 25, a 2017 Hyundai Elantra near 6001 Cherrywood Court, a 2013 Kia Soul near 6000 Springhill Drive and a 2023 White Kia Rio near 6200 Breezewood Drive; a 2013 Hyundai September 27 near 9 Lakeside Drive; a 2016 Kia Soul September 30 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane; and a 2017 Kia Optima October 1 near 9200 Springhill Lane.

Stolen Vehicles Recovered

On September 25 near 7800 Mandan Road, a 2016 Acura was reported stolen but was actually repossessed. On September 26 near 7300 Hanover Parkway, a stolen 2016 Hyundai Elantra was found with a damaged window and ignition, and the owner was notified.

On September 29 near 22 Ridge Road, a stolen 2014 Kia Rio was found with a broken window and ignition damage. On October 1 near 172 Westway, a stolen 2015 Nissan Altima was found and the owner was notified. On October 1 a stolen 2022 Mercedes-Benz was found and the owner was notified. On October 1 at 1:22 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Road, a witness saw his girlfriend's 2011 Hyundai Elantra pull out of the parking lot and hit a 2015 GMC Truck. A man wearing a black and red jacket fled the scene.

Theft from Auto

Tools were stolen September 25 near 6100 Springhill Terrace from a 2007 Dodge Sprinter, and near 9100 Edmonston Road from a 2008 Ford ES 250, and September 28 near 14 Hillside

Road from a 2016 Ford Transit Connect.

On September 25 near 5900 Cherrywood Terrace, a 2021 Jeep Gladiator had tags stolen (Md. 8DF3911). On September 26 near 6060 Springhill Drive, a disability placard was stolen from a Chevrolet Spark. On September 29 near 6300 Golden Triangle Drive, a watch, sneakers and jacket were stolen from a 2008 GMC Sierra pickup truck. On September 30 near 5800 Cherrywood Lane, tags were stolen

Vandalism of Auto

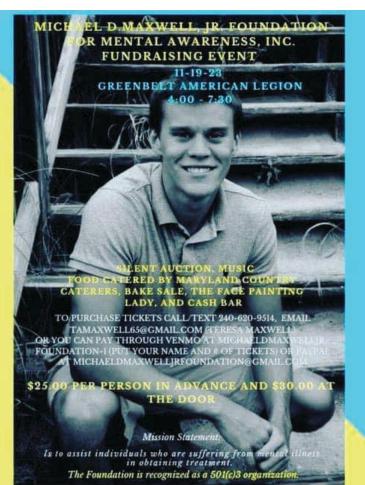
On September 25 near 9200 Edmonston Road, five vehicles had damaged windows: a 2018 Chevrolet Malibu, a 2013 Dodge Dart, a 2019 Chrysler Pacifica, a 2014 Chevy Cruze and a 2019 Chevy Equinox.

More vehicles had damaged windows: September 25 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a 2018 Honda Civic; September 29 near 6300 Golden Triangle Drive, a 2011 Nissan X Terra; October 1 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a 2014 Kia SUV, and near 7810 Walker Drive, a 2015 Chevy Suburban.

On September 27 near 9100 Edmonston Terrace, a 2018 Hyundai Sonata was rummaged through, but nothing was taken. On September 28 near 6801 Green Crescent Court, all four tires were slashed on a 2014 Toyota Rav4 while it was inside the garage, but the owner said her son did it. On September 29 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a 2015 BMW 535 had key scratches on the side of the vehicle and on the hood.







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ments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a

registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply

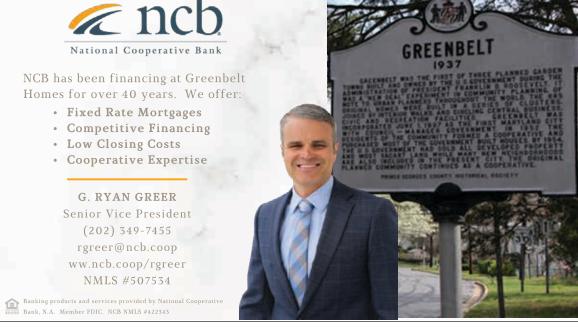
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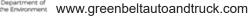


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Sports

ERHS Cross Country Wins



The Eleanor Roosevelt High School varsity and junior varsity cross country teams competed in the Prince George's County Invitational meet on September 30, 2023. The varsity boys team came in first place, with C.H. Flowers High School coming in second, and Suitland High School in third place. Four of the varsity boys placed in the top 15 runners, earning individual medals. On the girls varsity team, one runner earned a medal, coming in ninth.



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The boys JV team also won their competition, and five runners earned individual medals. All three runners on the girls junior varsity team went home with medals. "Tough competition, tougher team," read the team's Instagram post celebrating their achievements.



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Greenbelt Buy Nothing Group Hosts Their First-Ever Potluck

by Andrew McBride



Some of the Buy Nothing potluckers gather at the Community Center.

Buy Nothing groups, which have sprung up across the country in recent years, primarily operating through the platform of Facebook, are intended to "build resilient communities where our true wealth is the connections forged between neighbors." This past weekend the Greenbelt Buy Nothing group got together offline and held its first-ever potluck on Saturday in front of the Community Center and the Greenbelt Library.

Members of the group participated in the potluck by making various dishes for all to enjoy. Participants brought their own plates to fill up on the delicious spread, which included everything from meatloaf to chocolate hazelnut zucchini cake.

Melissa Ehrenreich, the founder of the group, was glad to see some members meet in person for the first time. "Mostly we gift and communicate on Facebook, so it's a way of getting together. That's how you build communities, with in-person connections," said Ehrenreich.

Leslee Clapp, a member of the group, found the same joy in seeing her online connections face to face: "You see their names all the time, and then when you see them in person you go, 'oh that's what they look like!""

Ehrenreich founded the group in January 2020 and has watched the group grow to 1,900 members today. When she started it, she



Buy Nothing members picnic on the Community Center lawn.

envisioned neighbors supporting each other by sharing gifts and giving back to the community. The group's Facebook page sees some 500 posts a week of people actively requesting and gifting.

"It's great to not have to buy so much or throw away so much, but I think my favorite part is the community that has been created through the group," said member Aviva Glaser. The group has grown to the point that it will soon "sprout" into smaller Greenbelt groups, will continue to waste less and gift more but will also keep the sense of community that they have built over three years. Buy Nothing members are already planning their next get-together, this time around a campfire.



- Photos by Andrew McBride

Greenbelt Rotary Sponsors International Day of Peace

by René Sewell-Raysor



International Peace Day is celebrated online.

Tropical Storm Ophelia did not care that the Greenbelt Rotary Club was hosting International Day of Peace, also known as World Peace Day. The rainsoaked Buddy Attick Park was a no-go. Event organizers, Greenbelt Rotary president Jennifer Dudley and immediate past president Steve Kemp, pivoted the operations to an online event.

"Electricity and water don't mix," Kemp quipped as the DJ and the band among others were notified of the changes.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed for Mariame Toure Sylla, a teacher at Dora Kennedy French Immersion School, and DuVal High School student Jayda Medrano-Moore, who both lost their lives on the eve of this commemoration of peace. This was followed by a prayer from Greenbelt's Reverend Ray Raysor.

Create Hope in the World was the theme highlighted by speakers extolling the domestic and international work of Rotary.

Among the projects highlighted was the goal of eradicating polio worldwide, managing refugees and supporting host communities. A Rotarian joined the event online from Rabat, Morocco, even though it was 3 a.m. his local time, to share the work that is being done by Rotary following the floods in that country where villages have been

Domestically, the Rotary boots-on-the ground effort is through Disaster Aid USA. They provide domestic disaster deployment providing disaster aid trailers, tents, chainsaws and more to help communities rebuild from the natural disasters of hurricanes. floods and fires.

Several members of The Air Tigers, a robotics team from Du-Val which is now the Interactors, a Rotary Club affiliate, continue to engage others in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) through math competitions. The plan is to improve math aptitude. A spokesman for the team said that the goal is an affordable opportunity for students, regardless of economics. The team has its eye on competing in Guatemala soon.

Outside, the rain never let up but the energy of people committed to peace, both domestically and internationally, will again be celebrated - not just on World Peace Day, but every day until we get it right.

Crisis Hotline's Number is 988 The National Suicide

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



From left, Michael Hartman, Lore Rosenthal, Jane Young and John Lippert while on vacation in Rehoboth Beach this summer had a delicious lunch at the Green Man Café.

Melanie and Leonora Gaschick pose with the News Review in Kathmandu, Nepal.





Linda Curtis shares Greenbelt news with a Texas Longhorn.

