

County's Snow Response Impacts Greenbelt Children, Schools, Parents

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

For Greenbelt families with children in public schools, the winter break, already longer than previous years at two weeks, lasted almost three weeks in the end with schools remaining closed until 11 a.m. on Friday, January 10. Though the snow stopped falling Monday, days later the county's roads were still unplowed in areas and bus stops and sidewalks needed by the schools had not yet been cleared.



Greenbelt Elementary School's parking lot on Wednesday afternoon, two days after the storm

On Thursday, January 9, Prince George's County Director of Public Works Michael Johnson released a video message about the county's response. He said he understood residents' frustrations and said the county is responsible for clearing more than 2,000 miles of roads and has been working in 12-hour shifts since Sunday to do so. Johnson dispelled the rumor that the county had run out of salt, saying they'd had 43,000 tons at the start of the storm and had used

just over 6,000 tons by Thursday. The difficulty is that the salt stops being effective at temperatures below 20 degrees, explained Johnson. On Friday, January 10, Acting County Executive Tara Jackson said the county had heard from frustrated residents and "the operation [to clear roads] did not meet my expectations," she said. Jackson also announced that the county had switched from salt to a deicing compound.

For Greenbelters who enjoyed passable roads from Monday onward, one of the largest impacts of the much-criticized county response was the inability to reopen schools for days. Working parents with small children reported working at night, when their little ones were asleep, and

PHOTO BY JESSICA BLACKSTEN

Parkway Residents Remain Without Heat; City's Deadline Approaches

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



All 42 units at Parkway Gardens are affected by inoperable boiler systems and instead are using problematic window heating units and/or temporary portable units.

This week, residents of Parkway Gardens and Crescent Pointe apartments, located near Roosevelt Center, are still without heat. Greenbelt's Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby confirmed that as of Tuesday evening, January 14, the entirety of Parkway Gardens, a

total of 42 units, and 12 of Crescent Pointe's 42 units are relying on temporary heating solutions due to inoperable boiler systems. Hruby says the temporary solutions currently provided by the landlord, including window

See PARKWAY, page 6

The Meetres Head Southwest To the Bailiwick of Guernsey

by Cathie Meetre



The Co-op building in St. Peter Port, Guernsey, is a lot more fanciful than Greenbelt's.

As snow still sits on Greenbelt, with more frigid weather ahead, a resident shares the summer adventures of Greenbelters, cycling abroad, so we can dream of electric bikes and warmer days.

After the ride from Paris, France, on their rented ebikes (see the August 28, 2024 issue), the Meetres kept their bikes and headed southwest from Mont St.

Michel to the walled city and port of St. Malo and the ferry to Guernsey.

Cycling in Guernsey

Guernsey is almost exactly the same size as if Greenbelt, College Park and Beltsville were combined into an island – an idea that may bear consideration – there's nothing like a good moat. Guernsey sits on the ferry

See GUERNSEY, page 6

County Proposes Temporarily Relocating Beltsville Firefighters

by Erica Johns

The Prince George's County Fire Department (PGFD) has asked the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) for permission to place temporary trailers for firefighters and apparatus for two years at Chestnut Hills Park in Beltsville, one mile from the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) Station 31, during that station's renovations to address health and safety concerns there as cited by the county. Still unknown to the community are what temporary structures will



Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department, Station 31, shown on January 11

What Goes On

Monday, January 20
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, City Offices Closed
Wednesday, January 22
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: Review of Council Standing Rules, Discussion of Pool Deck Repairs and Aquatic Services for 2025 Season, Municipal Building

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

be built, what the renovation will consist of and service impacts, timelines and costs.

The proposal follows other 2024 events including the county's attempt to remove career staff from BVFD due to health and safety concerns cited by the county, an engineering assessment identifying station conditions in need of attention and an attempt to place trailers at Beltsville at that point during station renovation. A proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), was described by the Beltsville News

as pressuring Beltsville to grant 15 years' authority to the county over BVFD land. BVFD owns the land and building, with the county responsible for maintenance. Beltsville refused to sign. (See Timeline, page 8.)

Proposal

In August PGFD Fire Chief Tiffany Green asked the M-NCPPC for permission to place modular buildings at the park to house firefighters and apparatus there for at least two years. Beltsville learned of this in

See BELTSVILLE, page 8

Valentine's Day Is Coming. Get Those Rhymes Ready!

Members of the News Review staff are not only the intrepid reporters one expects, but also a bunch of romantics.

Every February we publish a special Valentine issue, with hearts, flowers, puppies, rainbows, unicorns, roses, kittens and maybe a bicycle built for two dotted amongst its pages.

The ads waft across Greenbelt from loving hearts to friends, lovers, partners, spouses, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, family pets and institutions like Public Works, the Co-op Supermarket and the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. They come and go between first names, nicknames, codenames, initials and that softie Anonymous.

This year's display will be available electronically at GreenbeltNewsReview.com on Wednesday, February 12 by 7 p.m. and on paper at doorsteps and newsstands the next day.

It's a cheap and cheerful way of acknowledging who and what you love. It's less expensive than a dinner date, much less fattening than chocolate and comes with some exercise for your brain, too.

Here's how to get one for those you love or if you're feeling neglected, send one to yourself for a surprise.

Timeline

All submissions, with payment, must be received by Saturday, February 8 at 6 p.m.

Electronically: Easiest Way

Go to greenbeltnewsreview.com and click the Valentine button on the home page. Follow the directions to provide your text and use Square to pay.

In Person: Low-tech and Reliable

Paper forms are available in this newspaper (see page 7) and on displays in the New Deal Café and the Co-op Supermarket. Both locations accept completed submissions sealed in the envelopes provided on the displays. Fill in the form legibly and include cash or check (made out to Greenbelt

News Review). Our office hours in the Community Center are Monday and Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. for delivery in person and our Suite 100 door slot can be used at all other times. Ads without payments will not be published.

By Mail: Chancy

Delivery can be unpredictable by U.S. mail, but if you must use it, send the completed ad submission form with a check made out to the Greenbelt News Review to: Valentines at Greenbelt News Review, Suite 100, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. There are potential delays after mail is delivered to the city offices, so send early.

Pricing

The smallest Valentine (Sweetie) costs \$6 for up to 20 words. The next size is 21-30 words (SuperSweetie) and costs \$9 and the largest standard size (Mega-Sweetie) is 31 to 40 words at \$12. Additional words are \$3 per 10 words or part thereof.

We accept checks or cash but do not give change – any overpayment is considered a contribution to the newspaper. There are several examples of ads and their word counts and costs in this issue.



This Ad Could be Yours and be praising your Sweetie
He oughta be flattered to know that he mattered
Praise him to the skies
Look deep in his eyes
At twelve bucks a shot!
He's worth it. Why not?
MegaSweetie Size \$12



See p. 7 to get yours!

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Room Next Door


Ingrid (Julianne Moore) and Martha (Tilda Swinton) were close friends in their youth, when they worked together at the same magazine. Ingrid went on to become an autofiction novelist while Martha became a war reporter, and they were separated by the circumstances of life. After years of being out of touch, they meet again in an extreme but strangely sweet situation. "The Room Next Door showcases a carefully choreographed dance between two Oscar winners that elevates both of their performances to greatness," said critic Odie Henderson of the Boston Globe.

Sing Sing

Divine G (Colman Domingo), imprisoned at Sing Sing prison for a crime he didn't commit, finds purpose by acting in a theater group alongside other incarcerated men, including a wary newcomer (Clarence Maclin), in this stirring true story of resilience, humanity and the transformative power of art. It's an unforgettable ensemble cast of formerly incarcerated actors. Said critic Justin Change of The New Yorker, "Having pared away nearly every detail that doesn't advance the plot, Kwedar and Bentley rely heavily on their lead actors to fill the ensuing breach. In this, at least, their instincts are sure."

The Last Showgirl

The Last Showgirl, a poignant film of resilience, rhinestones and feathers, stars Pamela Anderson as Shelley, a glamorous showgirl who must plan for her future when her show abruptly closes after a 30-year run. "Gia Coppola's film," said critic Peter Travers of ABC News, "has barely a sketch of a plot, but soars on the quietly devastating performance of former Baywatch babe Pamela Anderson as an aging Vegas showgirl."



Able to clear city streets in a single night! Faster than a speeding snowstorm!

- Shayna Skolnik, News Review, January 28, 2016



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:
JANUARY 17th - 23rd

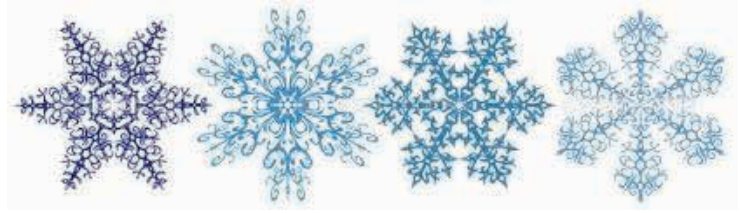
The Room Next Door (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (110 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM
Mon. 2:15 PM, 5:00 PM
Tues. 4:45 PM
Thurs. 7:15 PM

Sing Sing (R) (CC) (DVS) (2024) (107 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:15 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)
Tues. 7:15 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM
Sun. 2:30 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

The Last Showgirl (R) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (86 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 7:45 PM
Mon. 5:15 PM
Tues. 5:00 PM
Wed. 5:30 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sun. 5:15 PM


Storytime on Screen - Free!
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

National Popcorn Day is Sunday, January 19th!
All day Sunday get \$2 off any size/combo (excluding mini popcorns)



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published). Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary. All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

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

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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

It's District 22 Night In Annapolis Monday

Join the Eleanor & Franklin Democratic Club on Monday, January 20 at the Governor Calvert House, 58 State Circle, Annapolis. The District 22 State Senator and Delegates are organizing this event, featuring a special MLK Day speaker (surprise guest) at 6 p.m., light dinner and refreshments and a State Capitol visit at 8 p.m.

A bus departs at 5 p.m. from Greenbelt Library (rear). The roundtrip cost is \$10. An RSVP is required and there is limited space available. RSVP to Delegate Nicole Williams at 410-841-3058 or nicole.williams@house.state.md.us



At the Library

The Library will be closed Sunday and Monday, January 19 and 20, for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. The Library's regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, January 17, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12329221.

Wednesday, January 22, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12329122.

Thursday, January 23, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12329148.

Bibliopop Dance Party

Saturday, January 18, 10:30 a.m., ages newborn to 5. Bust a move and shake the sillies out. Bring parents or caregivers and prepare to boogie and bop. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12330039.

Storytime on Screen

Monday, January 20, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5 with caregivers, at the Greenbelt Cinema. Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with PGCMLS, is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12329295.

STEM-tastic

Tuesday, January 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 8 to 12. Become a scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science activities using basic scientific principles. Drop in to learn about how computers think and solve some puzzles. This session's theme is Turing Tumble. Register at pgcmls.info/event/12282468.

Chess Club Meeting

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, January 21 at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to our mailing list, go to tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Direct questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Golden Age Club Schedule for Jan.

The Golden Age Club meets most Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. The club does not meet when inclement weather delays or closes the Prince George's County schools. Annual dues are up for renewal.

For the rest of January, the schedule is:

January 22 – Mayor Emmett Jordan will swear in this year's officers, followed by celebration of members with January birthdays. Bring a snack to share.

January 29 – New Year closet inventory with Jan Derry. Jan tells how to inventory closets to be more efficient.

Makerspace Repair Café

The Makerspace Repair Café will be open on Saturday, February 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Granite Building, 115 Centerway. Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (volunteers needed as well). Bring bikes, clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making them useful again. Repairs are not guaranteed.

Tool Library Saturdays are from 10 a.m. to noon, Sundays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Go to tools.greenbeltmakers.org for more information

Food Transition Project Has Potluck Dinner

The Great Food Transition Project will be holding a vegan potluck dinner and discussion on Wednesday, January 22 in the Community Center kitchen and dining room from 6 to 8 p.m. Registration is required. For more information email ghadamsrn@gmail.com.

Museum Open House: Valentines and More



PHOTO BY MEGAN YOUNG

Sweets for the sweet at Greenbelt Museum

Join the Museum for Be Our Valentine, a free Museum open house on Sunday, February 2 from 1 to 5 p.m. at 10-A Crescent Road. Visit for a quick tour and a lighthearted look at love in the 1940s and 1950s. See vintage valentines, decorations, funny ads, magazines and more. This is a free event; pre-registration and tickets are not required. Visitors of all ages and abilities are welcome.

The Museum has always been committed to creating an inclusive environment, so this year they are hosting the youth-led nonprofit We Are Artistic as part of the open house. The group will be educating visitors about Spread the Word to End the Word, an effort to stop use of the harmful "R" word, historically used to describe people with intellectual disabilities.

Community Orchestra Welcomes Musicians

Greenbelt Community Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings at the Community Center and welcomes new members, especially string players and low brass. For more information, visit GreenbeltOrchestra.org.

Book Discussion Group at New Deal

The Bibliophiles will meet from 11 a.m. to noon on the second Wednesday of each month at the New Deal Café. The first meeting is planned for Wednesday, February 12. The agenda includes introductions and housekeeping, followed, time permitting, by discussion of their first nonfiction book: Celebrating the Third Place, Inspiring Stories About the Great Good Places at the Heart of our Communities by Ray Oldenburg. The book will be reserved at the Greenbelt Library's e-book; the paperback can be ordered from Amazon or the Libby app from the Prince George's County Memorial Library System. Email RSVPs to Van Caldwell at wvcaldwell@gmail.com with the subject line Bibliophiles.

Poetry in the Garden

The Poetry Club will meet on Sunday, February 9 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the clubhouse at Schrom Hills Park in Greenbelt East. The topic for this free session will be African American poetry. The public is invited to read their chosen poems or enjoy listening and discussing this topic. Refreshments will be served.

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



Lafayette Credit Union Hosts Budget Workshop

Lafayette Federal Credit Union is hosting a Budgeting Basics Workshop on Saturday, January 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Credit Union in Greenway Center.

This workshop helps community members take control of their finances. In this interactive session, experts will outline how to track income and expenses, master budgeting basics, create a personalized budget plan and more. Light fare is included. RSVP at lfcu.events/budget0125.

Weekly Programs Held at The SPACE

Join in commemorating five incredible years and a host of new community partners at The SPACE: Free Art For All.

New class: Artrepreneurship, meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 5 to 7 p.m. Four-week program.

Sundays, Sewing Classes, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Open to all skill levels. A limited number of sewing machines is available; participants can also bring their own.

Wednesdays, Beginners Music Classes in Ukulele and Keyboards, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Fridays (1st and 3rd of the month), Free Art for All Game Night, 5 to 7 p.m. Play for fun and gear up for monthly tournaments.

Saturdays, Yoga with René Hood, 10 to 11:30 a.m.; Expressive Art Workshops, 2 to 4 p.m. Space Family Band Jam Session, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Joe is back. Bring an instrument or borrow one from The SPACE and jump into the jam.

All classes are not only enriching but also free and open to the public. The program extends a warm welcome for donations to support its community initiatives.

The SPACE is located upstairs in the former Big Lots space at Beltway Plaza, 6000 Greenbelt Road. Details on upcoming events can be seen on Instagram or Facebook @TheSPACEFreeArtForAll. For questions call 240-244-6115.

Toastmasters Open House, February 1

Looking for a fun and supportive way to improve communication and leadership skills? Come to the Toastmasters Open House on Saturday, February 1 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center to network with local members and learn how to join a club near you. Visit bit.ly/4fnSAjJ for more information and to register.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

This Week at the New Deal Café

SUPPORT Greenbelt's only venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday 9am-10pm; Tuesday—Thursday 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – 12midnight; Sunday 9am – 9pm

TH 1/16	FRI 1/17	SAT 1/18	SUN 1/19
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Classic Jam with The Low Rent Quartet 6:30-9:30pm The long-running jam from Bowie has found a new home!	UKULELE LADIES, 3:30-5:30p Dirty Soul 8-11pm Swampy funk & R&B soul with powerful vocals & rhythm section	POETRY OPEN MIC, 1-3pm On The Bus 8-11pm Longest running Grateful Dead tribute band in the DMV	***** New Deal Cafe ***** **Grand Re-Opening** ***** Celebration ***** 7pm - 12midnight Music by Jamal Moore and Band Electric
MON 1/20	TUES 1/21	WED 1/22	TH 1/23
REEL AND MEAL 7-9pm MONTHLY SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM SERIES	NDC Open Mic with Joey Campfire 7-9:30pm Sign-ups at 6:30p Express Yourself!	Jelly Roll Mortals 7-9pm An entertaining stew of rock & country	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Goldbug Revival 7-9pm Americana band with a love for songwriting

*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Become a Member with

Tap into the World of Community-Driven Storytelling!

- Learn to use (and rent) high-quality video, audio, and lighting equipment
- Access our cutting-edge studio with the latest editing and animation software
- Gain knowledge and assistance from our talented staff and volunteers
- Participate in our Annual Meetings

To Become a Member, Visit GreenbeltAccessTV.org/Membership-Form
 Or reach out to us at GreenbeltAccess@gmail.com

Obituaries

Linda White



PHOTO COURTESY KIRBY WILLIS

Linda White

Linda Ruth White was born February 20, 1947, in Jumping Branch (Madams Creek), W.Va. Lin died on January 11, 2025, at her home in Greenbelt. She had lived in Greenbelt since 1968.

Linda grew up in True, W.Va. After graduation she was recruited by the USDA and worked in Hyattsville and at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center before being hired by Prince George's County Memorial Library System from which she retired.

She is survived by her sister Tess Angell, brother Carlos Angell and his wife Nilia, nephews Mitchell and Alan Angell and their families, cousins Judy Mann and Glenna Shull, and her life partner Kirby Willis.

She was preceded in death by her parents Clarence and Bea Simkins, brother Jackie Angell and ex-husband Robert White.

A memorial service is planned for February 10 at 11 a.m. at Greenbelt Community Church, 1 Hillside Road.

Larry Hull



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Larry G. Hull

Larry G. Hull, a devoted family man, Goddard retiree and passionate community volunteer, died peacefully on December 27, 2024, at the age of 82.

Larry was born April 24, 1942, and grew up in Connecticut, where he graduated from

Newington High School in 1960. He completed his undergraduate degree at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and continued his education at Northeastern University before moving to the area and beginning a lifelong career at Goddard in 1966. Over nearly four decades, Larry played a vital role in missions, including serving as backup ground control for Apollo missions. His early work included pioneering computer technologies. Later in his career, he worked to ensure accessibility compliance in NASA's web presence. He retired in 2004.

Larry's commitment to his community was as unwavering as his dedication to his work. He generously gave his time, assisting with tax preparation at the Greenbelt Library, volunteering for Eleanor Roosevelt High School's Grad Night and serving as treasurer for Greenbelt Community Church, the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and the Greenbelt Volksmarch Club. He volunteered with the Greenbelt Swim Team and donated his time after retiring to Cookies at the Bridge, where adult volunteers hand out cookies to high school students walking home to have a positive adult presence in a location that needed it. He also was a volunteer at the Greenbelt News Review.

Larry met his wife, Rena Voigt Hull, through a singles group at Saint Paul's United

See OBITUARIES, page 11

In Memoriam

William Barber

by Rick Ransom

William "Bill" Barber, who grew up in Greenbelt and spent most of his life there and in surrounding municipalities, died peacefully on December 17, 2024, at an assisted-living facility in Seattle. He had joined his daughter Danielle there in 2019 when his mother sold the family home in Glenn Dale, Md. Danielle and her three girls were telling Bill how much they loved him. He responded that he loved them too, after not speaking for days. He died shortly thereafter. He would have been 81 on January 4.

He had the gift of gab, which he used throughout his life. He first worked after high school at the construction site for the Westchester Park Apartments on Greenbelt Road, trading on his experience of building tree forts behind his house on Ridge Road. Many of his friends from Greenbelt worked with him. His salesman personality led him later into selling carpets with stores and with independent sales companies like the one operated by Greenbelt Lewis Merritt, as well as selling insurance.

He joined the Army in 1962 before the Vietnam War and was stationed in Germany. Shortly after his marriage in 1980 and the birth of his daughter Danielle, he was involved in an auto accident with another vehicle whose driver failed to heed a red light. Bill hit his head on a window and later learned he had sustained

damage to the frontal lobe of his brain. He was advised not to work by doctors. His personality was affected in a way that even his mother found it hard to be around him during an extended period of recovery and adjustment. He did reclaim his personality and raised Danielle after his divorce and helped to raise three granddaughters. In his later years, he worked as a courier and as a rehabilitation counselor.

I knew Bill for many years, first as the brother of Ric Barber, a friend from childhood. I became closer to him and to his mother Edith after I married Ric's widow, Barbara, 28 years ago. I witnessed both of the lives Bill experienced in succession. He spent his youth and young adult years as a "wild and crazy guy," as Steve Martin used to say. He was an accomplished dancer, learning from his mother, with whom he continued to dance whenever he could. He attended several parties I hosted in those days, drank more and more often

See BARBER, page 11



Condolences to the family and friends of longtime Greenbelt Bill Barber who died in Seattle in December.

Condolences also to the family and friends of longtime resident Larry Hull who was actively involved in the Greenbelt community, both during and after his long career at Goddard Space Flight Center.

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Linda White, another longtime resident who worked at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the Prince George's County Memorial Library System.

Sympathies also to the family and friends of Bonnie Staughton, who was part of the GHI community since the early 1970s. She and Harry have taken care of 8-A Hillside, one of the largest yards around. She was a lover of animals, especially feline and equine. Her wake was attended by many from the horse community.

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

COME TO OUR NEW LOCATION

Community Center Room 114

15 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owneregroups.io

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate hope with us.

"Ultimately, the power to transform the world is effected by love, love originating from the relationship with the divine, love ablaze among members of a community, love extended without restriction to every human being."

- The Universal House of Justice

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

For nothing will be impossible with God.
Luke 1:37

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

MCFcc.org

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

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

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

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

Greenbelt Community Church
One Hillside Road

We are an
Open and Affirming
Church

Join Us Sunday
10:15 AM
for Worship
and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.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

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

January 19, 2025 at 3:00 pm
A Dream Deferred?

Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Jacqui Walpole

In the spirit of our January theme (Equity) and the MLK holiday, we'll share a service centered in what Dr. King identified as the three evils of society (racism, poverty, and war). Together we'll consider those three shadows (and the light of Dr. King's dream of beloved community) in the context of our modern world.

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




City Information & Events

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

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

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



MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 20-24

Monday, January 20, **NO MEETING - MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY**

Tuesday, January 21 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Arbor Day 2025 Discussion*

Tuesday, January 21 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, *On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda/Minutes, Updates, Subcommittee Reports: Community Engagement and Education Subcommittee, Reparations Policy Research Committee, Historical Research Subcommittee, Public Comment*

Wednesday, January 22 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - REVIEW OF COUNCIL STANDING RULES / DISCUSSION OF POOL DECK REPAIRS AND AQUATIC SERVICES FOR 2025 SEASON**

Thursday, January 23 at 5:30 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Thursday, January 23 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Stewardship: Updates and Discussion on Community Garden Shading Plan, Trail Reroutes: Canyon Creek and Eagle Bridge Trails, Maintenance: Clarification About Maryland Legal Protection for Landowners*

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

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of January 20
Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, January 24.

RFP: MASTER PRESERVATION PLAN FOR THREE HISTORIC GREENBELT CEMETERIES

Close date: February 14 at 3 pm

The City of Greenbelt ("Owner") requests proposals from qualified historic preservation and cultural planning professionals ("Consultant") for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan for the preservation, maintenance and use of three historic cemeteries: Hamilton, Walker, and Turner located in the City of Greenbelt. The Master Preservation Plan will provide guidance for the restoration, preservation, heritage tourism and maintenance of the cemeteries.

Please provide an electronic and original hard copy to:

Terri Hruby, Director
Department of Planning and Community Development
15 Crescent Road, Ste. 200, Greenbelt, MD 20770
thruby@greenbeltmd.gov (301) 345-5417

All requests for clarifications or additional information related to this Request for Proposal (RFP) must be submitted in writing (via email) by January 29, 2025 and directed to Terri Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development, at thruby@greenbeltmd.gov. All answers will be provided in writing and posted on the City's website on or before January 31, 2025.

View the RFP at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/advanced-components/rfp-posts-list>.

OUT OF HARMS WAY Thursday, January 23 at 7pm

Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8027883382980836699>.

Please contact Brendy Maddox at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE

JANUARY 20, 10 AM - 1 PM
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

Be part of the community effort to protect trees from beaver herbivory and invasive vines at Buddy Attick Park. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to place wire caging around the trunks of native trees to protect them from beaver herbivory and remove invasive vines.

Register by email at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

At its regular meeting of January 13, 2025, the City Council adopted a resolution to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until February 22, 2025, at the Municipal Building, as well as on the City's Web site at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

Copies may also be requested from the City Clerk. It will become effective on March 4, 2025, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law. As also required by state law, this notice is given to provide a fair summary of the resolution. Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2114.

Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend §32 "Vacancies on Council" to Change the Procedure for Filling Vacancies on the Council by Following Procedures in Newly Enacted § 8-14 of Chapter 8 of the City Code

Purpose: To amend the City Charter to establish procedures for filling a vacancy on the City Council.

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

SPRING & SUMMER CAMP GUIDE 2025
www.greenbeltmd.gov/camps

ELECTRONICS & STYROFOAM RECYCLING Saturday, January 25, 9 am - 12 pm

Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent

RECYCLE YOUR OLD COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS!

Electronics Recycling - Accepted: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, power cords. NO - ALKALINE BATTERIES or CFLs; NO - TUBE TVs.

Expanded Polystyrene - White, block Styrofoam #6.
Clean - Cups, egg cartons, and food trays welcome.

YUCK OLD PAINT RECYCLING - \$5 per container.

Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004 with any questions or concerns.

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference!

The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city's charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process.

Submit an application at the following link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-and-committees>. Scheduling interviews for February 3 at 7:30 pm.

For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

UPCOMING PRODUCE DISTRIBUTIONS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, FEBRUARY 20, MARCH 20

Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Lower Parking Lot: 1 - 3 pm, while supplies last. Open to all Greenbelt residents. **Must have a registration card** via Brendy Garcia Maddox at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: Registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only. Register via email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY VISIT Monday, February 10, 11 am - 4 pm

Join Greenbelt Recreation and Senior Globetrotting as we visit The National Museum of African American History and Culture. It is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. Enjoy lunch on your own at the museum or at a local restaurant.

You may register online or in person at Greenbelt Community Center. Activity #178202-1. Resident: \$5, Non-Resident: \$7

Events and programs are 60+ (Open to All Ages). Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux, (240)- 542- 2056, pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov.

"IF I WERE MAYOR" ESSAY CONTEST 25TH ANNIVERSARY

This digital essay contest has inspired nearly 50,000 young minds to dream big & learn about local government. The theme for this year's contest is "building community for a new generation."

This contest is open to all Maryland 4th grade students enrolled in the 2024-2025 school year. Essays must be submitted digitally, not exceed 275 words, begin with "If I were mayor," and received no later than March 7, 2025.

Visit <https://bit.ly/3W3nVbG> to learn more.

ARTWARD BOUND: ART SOCIALS FOR ADULTS

Spend time with your friends learning a new skill - or just creating together - at a workshop scheduled just for you. Available activities include drawing, painting, pottery, collage, stained glass, fused glass, music, dance and more.

Email agardner@greenbeltmd.gov for more information or to arrange a program for your group.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION!

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. Public Works will pickup trees at locations listed below or online. Please insure all ornaments and lights are removed. Drop off your trees for recycling at specified areas up until **February 7, 2025.**

- GHI**
 - Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
 - Plateau Place and Ridge Road (corner on playground side)
 - Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
 - Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
 - Eastway & Crescent Road (corner)
 - Ridge Road, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
 - Crescent Road and Ridge Road (playground at junction)
 - Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Road)
 - Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
 - Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
 - Ridge Road, 11 Court and 13 Court (area between courts)

- BOXWOOD**
 - Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)

- Lakewood**
 - Greenhill Road & Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)
- CHARLESTOWNE VILLAGE AND CHARLESTOWNE NORTH**
 - Property adjacent to Attic Park

- UNIVERSITY SQUARE**
 - In front of swimming pool

- LAKESIDE NORTH**
 - Near Swimming pool

- SPRINGHILL LAKE**
 - Field past 9294 Edmonston

- GREENBRIAR**
 - Between buildings 7708 & 7710
 - Between buildings 7728 & 7730
 - Between buildings 7826 & 7828
 - Between buildings 8003 & 8009

- GLEN OAKS**
 - Between buildings 7903 & 7905
 - Between buildings 7509 & 7511

- HUNTING RIDGE**
 - Between buildings 6936 & 6978

- WINDSOR GREEN**
 - At court entrances, picked up by Windsor Green staff

- GREENBROOK VILLAGE AND ESTATES**
 - Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr & Matthew Dr
 - Southeast corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
 - In front of barricade - Mandan Road & Matthew St

- GREENWOOD VILLAGE**
 - Opposite 8175 Mandan
 - Opposite 7646 Mandan
 - Opposite 7648 Mandan

- GREENSPRING AND GREENSPRING II**
 - Southwest corner of Megan Lane & Craddock Rd
 - Park area between 7926 & 8006 Greenbury Dr
 - Corner of Spring Manor Drive & Springshire Way
 - Open area between 6519 & 6515 Springcrest Dr

- BELLE POINT**
 - Corner of Vanity Fair Dr. & Prince James Way
 - Open area between 7800 & 7801 Vanity Fair Dr.
 - Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive

- GREENBELT VILLAGE**
 - Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Dr
 - Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
 - Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Dr

- GREENBELT STATION**
 - Central Park field along Stream Bank Lane



PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FIRE/EMS SUMMER STAFFING PLAN FOR GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greenbelt, MD - The City of Greenbelt is disappointed in the County's decision to reassign 24 career personnel from Greenbelt Station 835 on July 1, resulting in the removal of all career personnel from our Station. County Fire Chief Tiffany Green and County leadership ordered the redeployment of 55 career firefighters from Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt, Bunker Hill, and Bowie Station. We are gravely concerned with the impact in response times of emergencies in Greenbelt and our surrounding areas.

Greenbelt will continue to work in tandem with College Park and Berwyn Heights alongside County leadership in addressing our concerns and fighting for the City of Greenbelt.

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Office of the County Executive
countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-4131

Office of the County Fire Chief
tdgreen@co.pg.md.us
(301) 883-5200

At-Large County Council Member Hawkins
At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-2195

County Council Member District 4
councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-3094

Letters of Support to keep/return career staffing to Greenbelt Station 835 can be sent to:

City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or council@greenbeltmd.gov.

AGING SOLO

6-week program that will have speakers and group discussions. To register, (240) 424-0302.

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 **Advisory Committee on Trees, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

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

Call (301) 474-8000.

RECOGNITION GROUP APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Fiscal Year 2026 Recognition Group applications and policy guide are now available on the City website at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/recreation-parks/recognition-groups-applications>.

Applications are due by close of business Monday February 3, 2025.

Please call Cathryn Pracht at (240) 542-2196 with any questions.

GUERNSEY continued from page 1



PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE

This strange vessel goes out on the mudflats to scrape up shellfish. It's been adapted so it can come back at the last possible second when the tide comes in.

route between St. Malo in France and Poole in Dorset, England, and is easily reached from either. But Greenbelt book clubs should know that the movie *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* was mostly filmed in Clovelly (in the U.K. county of Devon) because Guernsey's main town of St. Peter Port now looks too modern. It does however have a very nice co-op grocery store housed in a remarkable domed building.

Cycle on the Left! Oops!

Guernsey is British – its currency is the pound sterling and cyclists have to remember to cycle on the left. It also has some very good cycling – once out of St. Peter Port, an extensive network of country lanes had little or no traffic and what there was kept at slow speeds because of the narrow surface and many sharp bends. A poem by G.K. Chesterton states, "The rolling English drunkard made the rolling English road" and it could scarcely be more accurate.

Guernsey is about six miles tall by three miles wide and the cyclist is rewarded with frequent beaches and cliffs as it's all edge and little middle. For walkers, there's also a well-groomed 39-mile coastal walking path that circumnavigates the island.

Guernsey and WWII

The Channel Islands (between 14 and 30 miles off the French coast) were the only British territories in Europe occupied by the Nazis – from June 30, 1940, until May 9, 1945. Some may wonder why it was held for almost a year after the D-Day invasion, when nearby Normandy was liberated.

Hitler, convinced the Channel Islands would be the D-Day landing point, fortified them to the hilt. With massive gun em-

placements (many still there) and up to 25,000 troops (plus at one point 15,000 in forced labor camps while the fortifications were being built), the allies wisely bypassed the islands. Hitler backed the wrong horse.

But the islanders paid a high price for Hitler's error during that year, suffering near-starvation – mitigated only somewhat by intermittent Red Cross parcels. The Occupation Museum on Guernsey enshrines thousands of letters, artifacts and stories that document this harrowing experience throughout the war.

From Guernsey, the Meetres took the ferry and the Train a Grand Vitesse (TGV) to return to Paris with the bikes. The French TGV is an extensive rail network achieving speeds of 186 mph on rails the same gauge as regular trains. When close to cities, it goes slower and uses the regular tracks but high-speed sections between cities are usually separately routed on purpose-built tracks that are especially smooth and

See **GUERNSEY**, page 11

PARKWAY continued from page 1

heating units and portable heaters, are not performing up to building code standards and the owners have been given until January 20 to provide a permanent solution that does. Parkway Gardens resident Marayna Smith told the News Review they've been without heat since the fall, when it was never turned on. City Manager Josué Salmerón said Tuesday that the city is waiting for a proposal of a permanent heating solution from the property management company. "Their deadline is January 20 and we will levy fines if an acceptable solution is not provided," Salmerón told the News Review.

New Management

The properties were under the management of Pinnacle Properties until December 31. A statement from the city said they were surprised to learn Pinnacle was no longer managing the properties and Dreyfuss Management has taken over. Smith said her boyfriend's mother, who lives at Crescent Pointe and does currently have heat, received a letter stating the management company's last day was December 31, 2024. Smith hadn't received a similar notice. What she and her boyfriend did receive was notice that the new management company will be raising their rent. "Isn't that lovely?" asked Smith. "They raised the rent knowing there isn't any heat and no solution in sight!"

Braving the Cold

Dealing with extremely low temperatures, Smith says she covers herself in three to four blankets in front of the radiator heater they were given by the previous management company. It's much larger than a regular space heater, she said and it's increasing the electric bill, she noted. She has to plug it into an extension cord because all the plug sockets are so old, says Smith. She's concerned they are

also risking fires in the building with residents relying on heaters in a building with old wiring. "We don't sleep with the heaters on because I'm petrified of a fire and we just deal with the cold and pile blankets on us to keep warm," Smith told the News Review.

Another Parkway Gardens resident, Tyresa Simon, has similarly been using a plug-in radiator and relying on multiple blankets. "We are sleeping under a lot of covers and in warm onesie pajamas or clothes and socks," Simon told the News Review. She has two radiators on wheels but is only able to plug them in in the bathroom and bedroom because elsewhere the fuse blows, particularly if they try to use an appliance or television at the same time as the heater. "Basically, it's freezing in my living room and kitchen area," said Simon. "I use my living room as a living room/bedroom and my grandkids have the bedroom. And our electric bill is skyrocketing due to having to keep the radiator space heaters plugged in for long periods of time."

"Crescent Pointe and Parkway Gardens Apartments are working toward a permanent solution by January 20, addressing issues with fuse boxes and circuit breaker panels that impact the use and efficiency of window heating units. Jane Apartments currently have a functional boiler system, and no recent heating complaints have been recorded," read a statement from the city. Residents are urged to report any concerns directly to the code enforcement office at 301-345-5417 or via email at pcd@greenbeltmd.gov.

On Tuesday afternoon, January 14, Smith shared the first message of hope for residents: the on-site Property Manager Shanel Ramsey sent an email to residents informing them that the company is now working with two contractors to restore the boilers to full capacity. They'll keep residents updated with the progress, reads the email.



BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW?
Don't be silly, call Lilly!
 (240) 332-0603

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 A Catholic School for children PreK to 8th Grade

Academic Excellence
 Small class sizes, STEM focus

Holistic Education
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Award-winning Staff
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Excellence in **education** with the power of **faith**

Register for an upcoming Open House!

SUNDAY Jan. 26th WEDNESDAY Jan. 29th

school.holy-redeemer.org ESTABLISHED 1931

The Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club

Invites you to

Get on the Bus to "District 22 Night" in Annapolis

Join the Eleanor & Franklin Democratic Club 5pm on Monday, January 20th at the Governor Calvert House in Annapolis.

Our District 22 State Senator and Delegates are organizing this event, featuring:

- Light dinner & refreshments
- Special MLK Day guest speaker at 6 pm
- State Capitol visit at 8 pm

Monday, January 20th
 Bus departs 5 pm sharp from Greenbelt Library Rear Parking lot

Roundtrip ticket \$10 (cash or check)

RSVP required:
 Contact Delegate Nicole Williams
 410-841-3058 or nicole.williams@house.state.md.us
www.rooseveltclub.com

the seagull
 by anton chekhov
 a story in music

at **GAC**
 GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

8pm fri & sat: january 24, 25, 31 & february 1
 2pm sun: january 26 (facemasks required)
 pay-what-you-will! 8pm wed january 29
 scan qr code for tickets or visit greenbeltartscenter.org

In Bitter Cold, No Heat Yet In Sight at Chelsea Wood

by Erica Johns

As of Monday, January 13, Chelsea Wood residents without heat last week are still without heat this week. This despite a January 7 announcement by management company Metropolis of pipe repairs scheduled to begin January 7, and planned January 8 arrival of service staff to address a newly failed boiler. One resident told the News Review of seeing a truck arrive on January 8 with long metal pipes.

No End in Sight

Chelsea Wood condo owner Jocelyn Cox updated the News Review on January 13 that she and other residents were notified that an estimated completion date is unavailable. Cox wrote "we are just waiting with no clear end in sight."

Chelsea Wood residents first lost heat in October 2024 in one half of the complex, with the second half losing heat in December. As of January 7, the 280-unit condo complex had heat in only 12 of 47 buildings. Temperatures warmed this week to the 30s and low 40s, but are forecast to plummet again.

Help from Greenbelt

Greenbelt Councilmember Kristen Weaver told the News Review that city staff helped

Chelsea Wood expedite getting supplies needed for the repairs and offered the city's Municipal Building as a warming center. Cox confirmed learning of Greenbelt's warming center offer and said County Councilmember Eric Olson also sent county warming center information to residents. However, she said warming centers aren't feasible for most residents who work full time or have small children.

No County, State Help

Cox is still waiting to hear what advice staff from the county Community Relations/Common Ownership Communities office have obtained from county attorneys. Those staff told her they contacted the attorneys on December 20 with no response yet.

Cox spoke with Maryland State Senator Alonzo Washington on December 30, who said he'd look into the situation. Cox said Washington's community engagement staff called her January 7, saying they would look into resources.

Cox believes meaningful assistance would be funds for more expertise and labor to complete repairs immediately, though no office seems willing to provide funds.

WSSC Calls for Essential Use Only; Lifts Request Late Monday

On Sunday, January 12, WSSC Water urgently requested all its 1.9 million customers in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties to use water for essential purposes only, effective immediately. The request was issued due to a significant number of water main breaks and leaks brought on by the freezing temperatures, with major main breaks in Riverdale and Damascus highlighted in the Sunday announcement. WSSC crews are still seeking to identify the locations of some breaks and leaks. Water remained safe to drink and there was no need to boil before essential use, reported WSSC. The request was lifted at 6:30 p.m. on Monday.

Many customers received no direct notice of the request, which was placed on WSSC's website, but the City of Greenbelt shared the alert through their notification system on Sunday afternoon.

Call for Essential Use

WSSC hoped to avoid a Boil Water Advisory by asking residents to conserve water, they said. They urged customers to use water only as necessary by taking shorter showers and turning

off faucets immediately after use, not flushing toilets after every use and limiting the use of washing machines and dishwashers.

Monday

On Monday, WSSC said it was responding to 63 breaks/leaks and the essential-use restriction remained in effect. It announced it had called in additional crews and emergency contractors to search for any unreported breaks/leaks and make repairs. Their water inspectors were shutting down broken and leaking mains prior to dispatching repair crews in an effort to keep system pressures stable, they reported. As a

result, customers may experience water outages or lower pressure for more extended periods, they warned, while thanking customers for their patience. They were able to lift the essential use request Monday evening.

Customers are urged to contact WSSC Water's Emergency Services Center at 301-206-4002 to report any running water or the smell of chlorine, which is used to disinfect drinking water and would suggest a water main break or leak, said WSSC.

This report was compiled in part from announcements by WSSC.

Wintertime Wellness Tips

by Dan Celdran

As winter continues, some people may feel depressed, lonely or isolated. Feel all your feelings, even the uncomfortable ones. Remember, it's okay not to be okay; everything is temporary.

It's also important to stay connected. Offer company to those who might feel isolated and seek out community or ask for the gift of time from friends if you are experiencing loneliness. Be specific when offering help. Instead of saying "How can I help?", ask "What would be helpful to you?" And be clear with your offerings: say "I can help by

bringing a meal or groceries, books/magazines, visiting, etc." By setting clear boundaries for ourselves and others (physical and emotional), practicing self-care and self-kindness, we can reap benefits together.

See resources that may be helpful at ncoa.org/article/taking-care-of-your-health-through-the-holiday-season; though focused on the holiday season there are suggestions helpful for much longer.

Dan Celdran is a Maryland-certified community health worker.

New Coordinator for City Services

Gizelle Alvarez is Greenbelt's new constituent services coordinator. This is a new position that will form part of the city manager's administrative team. Alvarez will serve as a resource and advocate for Greenbelt residents, ensuring their voices and needs are heard. Her job involves coordinating with city departments, officials and council to ensure all needs are met. This includes responding to residents' inquiries regarding city services and any issues that arise.

The job description elaborates: the constituent services coordina-



Gizelle Alvarez

tor is responsible for managing and resolving routine, complex and interdepartmental citizen service complaints or requests regarding city services. The role requires acting as a liaison between citizens, city departments, civic associations, community-based organizations, county and state agencies. Alvarez can be reached by phone at 240-542-2020 or email at galvarez@greenbeltmd.gov.

PHOTO BY CHONDRIA ANDREWS

Valentine Ad Submission Form

Drop at Co-op office, New Deal Café counter, or Greenbelt News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Text (Please Print Legibly) _____

Count of Words: _____ Amount Included _____
 (up to 20 words, \$6; 21-30 words, \$9; 31 to 40 words \$12.. **\$3 per 10 extra words (or part)** Need help? GNRValentines@gmail.com or call 301-474-4131 Mon & Tues, 2 to 4.

No change given. Overpayments become donations.
 (See Love Note examples in this issue)

Valentine's Day is Coming

Send a love note to your cuties.

Sweetie (\$6 up to 20 words)
SuperSweetie (\$9 21-30 words)
MegaSweetie (\$12 31- 40 words)
\$3 per 10 extra words (or part thereof)

Submit by 6 p.m. Saturday Feb 8
Appears 7 p.m. Feb 12 (electronically) and Feb 13 on paper.

Send/Pay Electronically: Use Valentines button on www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

In Person: Place legibly written Love Note with exact payment (cash or check) either at Co-op Grocery Store office, New Deal Café counter, or GNR office door slot (Room 100) in the Community Center
Put your name/phone on all items

Need Help?
 Email GNRValentines@gmail.com
 or call 301-474-4131 Mon/Tues, 2 to 4.
 (See Love Note examples in this issue)

NEW LISTINGS!

73D Ridge Road

3 BD | 1 BA \$225,000

A roomy, beautifully designed deck and landscaped back yard is one of our favorite things about this peaceful, well-maintained co-op townhome.

11Q Ridge Road

3 BD | 1.5 BA \$385,000

Beautifully updated and meticulously cared for Greenbelt co-op home with a half bath on 1st floor!

Kim Kash

Realtor®
 m: 301.789.6294
kim.kash@compass.com

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

BELTSVILLE continued from page 1

October. An October letter from Bill Tyler, director of Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation, describes two 35' high buildings of 2,500 and 3,500 square feet. On January 11, the News Review observed a November 8 county Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) sign at the park mentioning four buildings.

The project would place buildings, utilities and stormwater management, as well as drive-ways, parking and possibly other paved features on a field next to a playground which the correspondence said would remain open. The project was referred to the Prince George's County Planning Board for review and approval, a submission process that includes asking applicants what community feedback they collected and will include a public hearing. The News Review was unable to find the project on any published board agenda since August but did find a January 8 site development and grading permit. DPIE staff said board approval is required before issuing a grading permit.

Location Concerns

In an interview with the News Review, BVFD President Margie Dickey said the station's 4911 Prince George's Avenue address gives rapid access to Route 1, Powder Mill Road and Sunnyside, to serve locations along Route 1 and in Calverton, Vansville and Greenbelt. The proposed trailers would be located near the intersection of Montgomery and Sellman Roads, farther from those arteries and in a more residential area.

Green's September 18 letter to M-NCPPC said the location will house career and volunteer firefighters and an engine and ambulance. As a county facility, Dickey said it won't house Beltsville-owned vehicles, which may therefore be a mile from the firefighters and thus reduce service to the area.

Unknowns

During the interview with the News Review, Dickey said that in a December meeting about the station renovation, Green expressed the intent to fully vacate the station for a faster renovation, but said Green didn't answer whether the trailers would accommodate BVFD administrative staff, saying it could be discussed later. BVFD manages its corporate business from the station, including bills, taxes and regulatory recordkeeping, says Dickey, who believes the renovation can be accomplished in phases without fully displacing personnel and functions.

Dickey said the county didn't



Beltsville VFD is located over a mile from Chestnut Hills Park, where PGFD plans to build temporary trailers to house firefighters. Critics worry they will be further from equipment and main roads, leading to increased response times.

discuss what the renovation may include at the December meeting. Rather, PGFD provided draft agreements about PGFD and BVFD responsibilities and commitments during the renovation, not the renovation itself. She added BVFD doesn't know when the Chestnut Hills construction would begin, if approved, or when station staff would move there.

Fiscal Concerns

Dickey said Beltsville made repair requests to PGFD for years that went unaddressed and wondered how funds are available for a \$500K - \$1M Chestnut Hills construction estimate, which she said would be county-funded. She said installing trailers at BVFD's paved site with existing power and water would cost less than on parkland. In March 2024, then county executive Angela Alsobrooks projected a \$171M deficit for the fiscal year ending in June 2025. Green's August letter to M-NCPPC estimated \$4.2M for the Beltsville renovation. Dickey said county Public Safety Director Barry Stanton said state funds, state bonds and BVFD funds could be used for the renovation, but she was unclear if county

funds are available.

Lacking Transparency

Dickey also said that BVFD, State Senator Jim Rosapepe (D - Legislative District 21) and County Councilmember Tom Dernoga (D - District 1) negotiated with PGFD on the BVFD trailer MOU in good faith until October 2024, when indirectly learning of Green's August request for access to Chestnut Hills. Dickey noted the county hasn't consulted with the Beltsville community that will be impacted by the move.

According to Dickey, BVFD believes the county's intent was to permanently move firefighters and build a new firehouse elsewhere until meeting highly public community and elected official pushback. She supported her assertion by saying the county doesn't need 15 years authority over BVFD land during a short renovation, but 15 years does fit the time needed to budget, approve and build a new firehouse. The News Review found the county's 2019-2024 and 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Plans include (but don't fund) replacing the Beltsville and the Greenbelt stations. She further supported

her statement by noting the draft trailer MOU was not initially accompanied by a renovation agreement. That was included in the December meeting. Dickey credits the involvement of Rosapepe, Dernoga and Delegates Ben Barnes, Mary Lehman and Joseline Peña-Melnyk for moving the county toward renovation over replacement.

Both Rosapepe and County Councilmember-at-Large Jolene Ivey expressed concerns about reduced fire and EMS services in Beltsville and the north county. Ivey questioned the Chestnut Hills location, supporting the Beltsville location and improving the firehouse. She applauded the Beltsville community's determination to pursue the staffing, station conditions, and service and protection they deserve.

Dickey ended her conversation with the News Review with her perspective on county actions over the last year. She said PGFD has not been fiscally responsible in how it has addressed Beltsville services and facilities and has demonstrated a huge lack of transparency. She said public servants who are sworn to protect and serve county residents and property have jeopardized those persons and property, instead of prioritizing their safety.

Elected Officials

Rosapepe told the News Review that he and other members of the District 21 delegation as well as the county council support temporary trailers at BVFD, and that he and his colleagues urged M-NCPPC to reject trailers at the park. He said the delegation and Dernoga asked the county to work with BVFD to agree on what improvements the firehouse needs, which he is hopeful "we'll work out" within a few months.

The News Reviews' questions and request for comment went unanswered by PGFD Public Information Director Alan Doubleday.

Timeline of BVFD Events

Chestnut Hills is the latest of several controversies that began in early 2024 when PGFD Fire Chief Tiffany Green proposed removing career staff from the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) Station 31 due to "numerous health and safety concerns" she cited there. PGFD has shared minimal information with Beltsville residents about what to expect for future county fire and EMS services and facilities, with the community first learning of the personnel move and Chestnut Hills plan indirectly. Beltsville concerns about Chestnut Hills include reduced service from further away and the use of funds at Chestnut Hills that could be used for station renovations, amid a \$171M county budget deficit.

2024 Events

Proposed personnel move and trailers: In January 2024 Beltsville learned PGFD planned to temporarily move career firefighters from Beltsville due to "numerous health and safety concerns" to Calverton and Laurel during building assessment and repairs. After vociferous engagement from the community and elected officials, the county paused relocation, began negotiating with Beltsville to place county temporary trailers on BVFD land across the street from the station and contracted a March engineering assessment of the station.

Station Assessment: The report, released in June, identified minor and more serious issues in the building, including cramped or inadequate spaces, exterior wear and tear, HVAC issues, no fire sprinklers, egress concerns and the second floor community hall and public restrooms not being ADA-compliant. It further said the building, constructed between 1947 and 1960, did not

See **TIMELINE**, page 9

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred January 6-12, 2025. 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@greenbeltnmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported three domestic incidents, one involving vandalism and three mental health diversions, one involving attempted suicide.

Assault

On January 11 at 11:08 p.m. near 7327 Hanover Parkway, a man was asking employees for money. When a security officer asked him to leave, he head-butted him and fled. The security officer was not injured.

Burglary

On January 10 near 8010 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a residence was burglarized. The front door was kicked in and the house was rummaged through while the owner was out of town.

DUI Arrest

On January 12 at 12:45 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth Avenue, officers responded to a vehicle stopped in the roadway. The driver was asleep with the car running. Officers were able to wake him and the strong odor of alcohol was present. After sobriety testing confirmed that he was impaired, he was arrested and charged with DUI.

Abandoned Guns

On January 7 at 1:18 p.m. near 7599 Greenbelt Road, the bank was removing items from a safety deposit box that a customer had stopped paying for. Two handguns and ammunition were found inside and the police were called to take them to the property room.

Theft and Shoplifting

Packages were stolen: on

January 7 near 6156 Springhill Terrace; on January 9 near 5925 Cherrywood Terrace, with the suspect caught on video; and on January 10 near 6013 Springhill Drive.

On January 7 at 8:28 a.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, two suspects stole high-end skin care merchandise from a store; at 8:31 a.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man stole products.

On January 10 at 1:47 p.m. near 5900 Greenbelt Road, a purse was stolen from a changing room. The surveillance cameras show a man taking the bag and concealing it inside his jacket as he walked out of the store.

On January 10 at 6:22 p.m. near 7495 Greenbelt Road, a man stole merchandise and fled in a white Kia.

On January 9 at 4:09 a.m. near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, a man and a woman grabbed packages and stacked them in the back stairwell; when officers arrived, they found multiple opened packages but the suspects had already left.

On January 11 at 2:28 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, two women stole under \$100 worth of personal items and fled in a red Mazda; police have vehicle tag information.

Vandalism

On January 8 at 8:05 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, officers located an MS-13 gang tag on a store's wall during a foot patrol.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicle

On January 8 at 12:46 p.m.

near Greenway Center Drive, a man reported that his 2013 BMW X5 had broken down on the side of the road and it was gone when he returned. He could not provide any information or proof of ownership of the vehicle.

Tampering

On January 9 at 1:15 a.m. near 9111 Springhill Lane, a man saw another man inside his vehicle; he left the car and ran away before officers arrived.

Theft from Auto

On January 6 near 5908 Cherrywood Terrace, a 2020 Toyota Corolla window was damaged and a coat was stolen.

On January 10 near 6108 Breezewood Drive, a 2020 Nissan work van was broken into overnight and construction tools and supplies were stolen; and near 6460 Capitol Drive, a vehicle window was broken and a purse was stolen.

Vandalism to Auto

On January 10 near 6002 Springhill Drive, the windshield was broken on a 2003 Toyota Camry.

On January 12 near 5925 Cherrywood Terrace, several vehicles in the parking lot had their windows broken: a 2008 Acura TSX, a 2012 Toyota Camry, a 2018 Toyota Camry, a 2016 Toyota Camry, a 2018 Honda Civic, a 2007 Acura TL and a 2018 Toyota Corolla; there were no witnesses.

On January 12 near 6004 Springhill Drive, a 2014 Nissan Altima was broken into; and near 5908 Cherrywood Terrace, a vehicle was broken into.



City Notes

The city manager coordinated with county officials and the Council of Governments on snowstorm readiness. Various city departments contributed to preparedness, organizing staffing, warming centers, snow removal and trash and recycling adjustments as well as recreation venues and Cinema offerings.

Economic Development and Public Affairs attended a Prince George's Chamber of Commerce legislative reception and also the Maryland Economic Development Annual Winter Conference. The Grant Coordinator and Environmental cooperated in applying for a grant for the purchase of an EV replacement refuse truck.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted Pre-K Bilingual Storytime and Learn-2-Earn training.

The Community Center hosted a blood drive. Arts offered an Artful Afternoon, an Art Social and an Art Share and facilitated a meeting of the Arts Advisory Board. Winter visual art classes began and rehearsals are underway for the Youth Musical. Therapeutic Recreation provided inclusion support for a children's ceramics class.

Park Rangers addressed icing issues at Schrom Hills Park and facilitated a CHEARS event.

TIMELINE continued from page 8

meet current ADA, building or safety codes (though has grandfathered permission), nor several National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requirements.

The report described inadequate compliance with NFPA standards to decontaminate and store firefighter turnout gear and for airlock separation between "dirty" gear and apparatus spaces and "clean" living spaces. Turnout gear is known to absorb carcinogenic toxins when exposed to fires and to emit those toxins afterward, increasing firefighter cancer risk, and Maryland law treats certain cancers as occupational diseases for firefighters. The report said the building was structurally sound and well maintained for its age. It estimated a \$3.9M renovation cost, a \$9M replacement cost and recommended replacement.

BVFD assessment perspective: Beltsville President Margie Dickey told the News Review on January 11 that the report largely describes station conditions accurately, and noted BVFD requested for years that PGFD address many of the items. (BVFD owns the building and land, with the county responsible for maintenance.) BVFD and the Beltsville News reported finding no BVFD repairs in several years of PGFD's Capital Improvement Plans, including 2024. Dickey said half of Prince George's firehouses have similar issues, some worse. She said decontamination facilities are the most important issue to address.

Renovation Priorities: Repairs and renovations can be funded with state, county and VFD monies, and Dickey said BVFD ob-

tained \$1M in state funds for an elevator and \$500,000 for other repairs. She noted BVFD, as a private entity unconstrained by government procurement rules, can begin work sooner than the county, repeatedly asking Green to identify her top priorities from the assessment. She said having received no answer, BVFD has begun only the elevator, to avoid potential PGFD disagreements after beginning other work.

Chestnut Hills: In October BVFD personnel and elected officials were still negotiating the BVFD trailer agreement with PGFD, when they learned of Green's August proposal for temporary relocation to Chestnut Hills.

- Erica Johns

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Tickets to see the swearing-in of President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect J.D. Vance, as well as President Trump's inaugural address are available free of charge. To request tickets to the inauguration use the link: events.t47inaugural.com/events/rsvp-47-president-trump-inauguration.

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors
on January 23, 2025

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

- Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on December 5, 2024
- Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on December 19, 2024
- Attached Garage Roof Repairs
- Member Matters

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

- Statement of Closed Meeting Held on January 9, 2025
- Statement of Closed Meeting Held on January 23, 2025
- Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on December 5, 2024
- Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on December 19, 2024
- Committee Reports
- Yardi Taskforce Charter
- Member Handbook Taskforce Recommendations
- Strategic Plan 2025
- Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on February 6, 2025

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwtd-uuqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33gbi9r

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

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Obituaries from p.4

Church of Christ in Lanham. A loving husband, he always supported Rena's community involvement and love for travel. From cross-country RV trips to multiple journeys to Alaska, as well as trips to Europe and Asia, Larry embraced every opportunity to explore and support his wife's passion for seeing the world.

An avid mathematician, Larry immersed himself in mathematical theory, delighting in solving puzzles and sharing his knowledge with his grandchildren. He regularly shared logic challenges, played chess and shared book suggestions to spark the curiosity of the younger generations of his family.

Larry was predeceased by his beloved wife and life-long Greenbelt resident, Rena Voigt Hull. He is survived by his sister, Lynn Ives (John), and his

three daughters, Rena Shylanski (Steve) of Odenton, Lynn Hull (Joshua Seager) of Gambrills and Kateri Baker (Matt) of Greenbelt. He will be deeply missed by his grandchildren, Katelyn, Matthew, Hannah, Levi, Adelaide, Gena and Evelyn, along with his many cherished nieces and nephews.

Larry's legacy of kindness, curiosity and dedication to career and community will live on in the lives he touched and the memories he created. A memorial service will be held at the Greenbelt Community Church on Monday, January 27 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Meals on Wheels, a program Larry donated to for years and appreciated the services of himself this past year.

— Rena Shylanski, Lynn Hull and Kateri Baker

BARBER continued from page 4

than most of us and partook of other drugs not sold over the counter. I tell you this because he kept it no secret and it set the stage for his second life.

After a near-death drug experience, he joined AA and NA and achieved sobriety, which he maintained for 50 years. I cannot give you other numbers, but I know that Bill stayed active in AA and attended meetings, founded chapters and sponsored many fellow addicts. His mother wrote in her autobiography, "During the following years, he sponsored other recovering alcoholics. At any hour of the night, he would go out to help and counsel someone arrested for alcohol or drug-related problems. Wardens and clergymen would ask him to speak to recovering alcoholics in the jails and prisons in the area. Later he was asked to speak to students in the Prince George's County Public Schools."

Because of the religious aspects that are part of the 12-step program, Bill dove into studies of spirituality. He was ordained through an online program and

performed a number of weddings. In his later years, he called himself the Reverend Bill Barber. He cited a quote from Khalil Gibran — "To give to others is to give to yourself" — to guide his work in helping others with recovery. He still enjoyed dancing, music and get-togethers, but in a much more relaxed state. He loved the Old Town Bowie Grille and the New Deal Café, where he was known as "Dancing Bill."

His eldest granddaughter, Dasha, wrote on social media: "Growing up I lived with PaPa most of my life. He taught me many things, like how to swim and how to keep up a pool, how to have patience and practice deep meditation. He taught me that love conquered all, and to always give to those less fortunate. He taught me not to take [baseless criticism] from anybody, to live life to the fullest and to shine bright." His niece, Melissa, wrote, "I am sure he is dancing through heaven's doors."



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GUERNSEY continued from page 6

whose curves are designed for high speeds (who needs maglev?).

Paris Revisited

The Meetres and the Bonnells regrouped in Paris, eating a final dinner and heading for the airport. The trip was declared a success — only minor injuries, lots of good weather and good times. The remaining question is, where next?

Is Riding an E-bike Cheating?

In the Tour de France, yes. But battery power complements the rider's level of fitness, enabling those with widely different levels of fitness to ride efficiently together and the individual to regulate the energy they contribute thus avoiding exhaustion. The e-bike opens up possibilities otherwise denied to older or challenged riders. Purists and ascetics are welcome to turn the power

off or use a regular bike.

Greenbelters Can Do This Too

Those planning a similar trip are warned that e-bike batteries cannot be transported on planes so taking one's own bike is not possible, and though workarounds have been extensively investigated, nothing viable has surfaced. Rental e-bikes are available in most European cities but it's important to distinguish between those rentable by the day or week and the bikes in the local bike rental scheme which go by the hour — like Capital Bike Share.

The electric touring bikes are heavy (sometimes 50-60 lbs.) and can go up to 100 miles of riding at the lowest power setting.

If you have questions, email editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com to have them forwarded to the author.



Sunset over Greenbelt on a cold night

PHOTO BY STEVE BUCCA

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Upper Level 1 Bedroom GHI Home
Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Remodeled kitchen. Full-sized washer/dryer in separate laundry room.

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SNOW continued from page 1

sharing the care load with neighbors, taking groups sledding or to the Cinema's snow day movies while others worked. "Three or four days of no school can be pretty devastating for working parents," said Elise Young, a Greenbelt mother of two. Although she had some flexibility in her work, she was still working until 2 a.m. to complete assignments. "Others are not so lucky and have to choose between losing pay or taking care of their children," said Young. "In extreme cases it can cost people their jobs. And regardless, it is always an extra heavy care burden on mothers," she said.

On Thursday and Friday, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) opened five emergency meal distribution sites in the county, including one at Greenbelt Middle School. The sites provided breakfasts and lunches that could be picked up for students who rely on schools to provide meals.

Though Greenbelt's streets and even many sidewalks were cleared quickly, that wasn't the case for the county, and even in Greenbelt the school parking lots remained under snow and ice for days. While Greenbelt has its own Public Works Department to respond to snow in the city, the schools grounds are part of the county's jurisdiction. Greenbelt Elementary School's parking lot was not plowed until Wednesday afternoon. Schools finally opened with a two-hour delay on Friday.

Administrators at Dora Kennedy French Immersion in Greenbelt sent a message to families warning them of icy areas on the school grounds that morning and assuring them that staff would be ready to greet students and help them upon arrival. Principal James Spence and teacher Philip Held were shoveling parts of the school's two parking lots themselves Friday morning.

For PGCPS the challenge of opening schools after snow is complicated by the size of the county and the need for not only clear roads but also clear bus stops, bus lanes and sidewalks for children who walk to school. That's in addition to parking lots and neighborhood streets throughout the almost 500-square-mile district. Still, neighboring counties, including Montgomery and Anne Arundel, both of which are larger in size and Montgomery County Public Schools also having more schools, opened by Thursday, January 9. D.C. Public Schools and Howard County Public Schools, which are smaller school districts, reopened two days before PGCPS, on Wednesday.

The author has two children who currently attend Dora Kennedy French Immersion.



PHOTO BY PETER TEUBEN

This already festooned tree is further adorned with snow in the January 6 snowstorm.



PHOTO BY JOELLEN SARFF

The Mother and Child statue looks peaceful in the snow on January 6.



PHOTO BY JEFFREY ALLEN JONES

A holly bush is weighed down by snow in the North Tract woods on January 6.



PHOTO BY BARBARA BJANES

New Year's Eve day at the lake

Artists-in-Residence Here Featured in Annapolis Show

Greenbelt Artists-in-Residence Rachel Ann Cross and Mary Gawlik will have their artwork featured in the House Office Building in Annapolis for the legislative season in 2025. The art exhibit, entitled Timeless Prince

George's, will run January 8 through April 7. Other Greenbelt artists included in the show are fabric artist Celestine Ranney-Howes and Greenbelt Arts Instructor Racquel Keller.



PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTIST

Guardian of Crone Wisdom by Rachel Ann Cross



PHOTO BY BRIANNE BOYLAN

Ruby Snyder Marshall visits her friend Dmitri Barnes during their playdate Saturday, January 4. Not an unusual location for the News Review, but perhaps an interesting audience. At the News Review, we like to get them while they're young.



PHOTO BY GITA SUBRAMANIAM

Vijay Parameshwaran makes sure to get a picture with the News Review, saying hello from Needles, California, an important part of historic Route 66.