



Early Greenbelt History, p.8



Swim Coach Cora Jackson, p.13

Last Chance to See Cookie Caper, Creative Kids Camp Musical

by Rebecca Squire



PHOTO BY REBECCA SQUIRE

Campers visit the News Review office to learn about the history of Greenbelt in *The Cookie Caper* by Chris Cherry. See more, page 8.

Greenbelt Recreation's Creative Kids Camp invites community members to attend free, family-friendly performances on the last day of the Creative Kids Camp session. See campers ages 6 to 12 and select staffers perform *The Cookie Caper*, an original musical written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreation's performing arts coordinator. When an entire batch of cookies mysteriously disappears, the campers at Creative Kids Camp decide to do some

sleuthing. A series of intriguing clues leads them on a musical tour of discovery through the historic Greenbelt Community Center. The final performances will take place at 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. in the Community Center gym on Friday, August 9. For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-397-2208. City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Greenbelt's Total Crime Rate Rises over the Past Decade

by Randy Chow

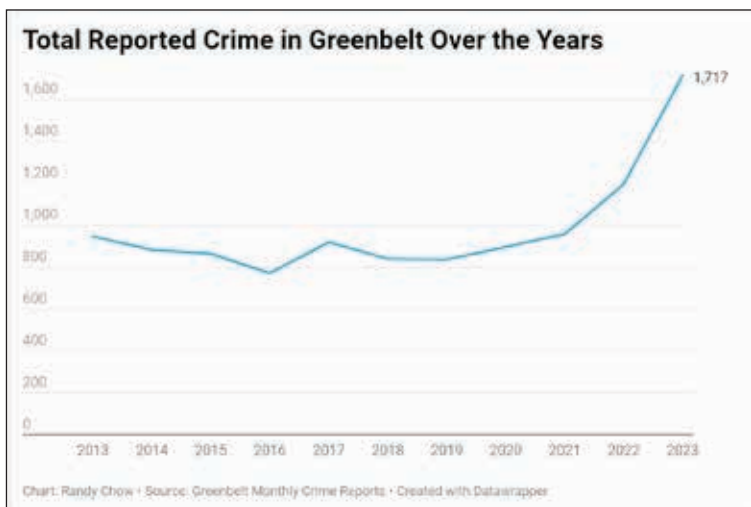


CHART BY RANDY CHOW, CREATED WITH DATAWRAPPER

Over the last 11 years, crime rose in Greenbelt. Officer Ricardo Dennis, a spokesperson for Greenbelt Police Department, says much of the increase can be attributed to repeat juvenile offenders who are taking expensive electronics, often from other juveniles.

This article has been corrected from the print version.

Total reported Greenbelt crime has risen 81.8 percent – from 948 reported cases to 1,717 – between 2012 and 2023, according to the City of Greenbelt crime reports.

The most reported category of crime is larceny. The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program defines larceny-theft as the "unlawful taking, carrying,

See **CRIME**, page 10

New Trail to Connect Greenbelt Station to the Metro Will Proceed

by Erica Johns

The City of Greenbelt is proceeding toward final approval and construction of the long-delayed pedestrian/bicycle trail from the Greenbelt Station community to the Greenbelt Metro station. This follows recent agreement between the city, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA, Metro) and the Maryland Department of Transportation that it is time to proceed with the trail. The project was on hold while awaiting selection of Greenbelt by the General Services Administration (GSA) for the FBI headquarters (HQ) relocation, which occurred in November 2023. The agreement is based on FBI occupancy not being expected until at least 2036. Greenbelt Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby estimated trail



MAP DATA FROM OPENSTREETMAP, ANNOTATIONS AND TRAIL PATH ADDED

The dark blue line is the planned trail route from the Greenbelt Station community to Greenbelt Metro. The metro and MARC tracks are to the left.

construction will begin in summer 2025 and take 18 months. She said the parties agreed to adjust the northern end as needed upon Metro property reconfiguration amid construction of the FBI HQ and the associated mixed-use commercial development.

Design

Hruby said the 0.8-mile-long trail will be on Metro property to the north and Greenbelt Station property to the south. It will consist of pavement built on an existing gravel bed to the north, and a wooden boardwalk and bridge over wetlands and Narragansett Creek to the south. The design includes lights and call boxes, as well as security cameras connected to WMATA se-

curity and communications systems. The trail will enter the south end of Metro parking lots at a pedestrian crossing of the road carrying cars from the Beltway. The crossing will have a pedestrian/biker-activated beacon to stop traffic, similar to that on Crescent Road near Northway, and traffic calming devices.

Schedule

Completed so far, said Hruby, are: an agreement detailing city and WMATA responsibilities; Greenbelt Station HOA and Pepco easements; county stormwater, soil conservation and construction permits; environmental and wetland reviews by the Maryland Department of the Environment and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) review. The State Highway Administration (SHA) reviewed the city's 60 percent engineering plan and the city completed a 90 percent engineering plan for the construction of the trail. The federal wetland reviews are conditions of a federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant administered by SHA.

Hruby said her department is now finishing addressing SHA's 60 percent review comments. She expects to spend fall-winter 2024-2025 obtaining SHA/TAP and WMATA approvals of the

See **TRAIL**, page 10

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union Merges with PG Community FCU

As of Friday, August 2, Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union expects to finalize its merger with Greenbelt Federal Credit Union.

Renovation of the Historic Greenbelt branch began on June 22; the renovation was expected to be completed by late July. The Historic Greenbelt branch was closed on Wednesday, July 31 and Thursday, August 1 for system conversions.

Beginning Friday, August 2, customers can expect to see the same familiar staff, but with new branch hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Additionally, credit union patrons will have access to more branch locations in Beltsville, Bowie and Largo.

The current Greenbelt Federal Credit Union website remained active until Monday, July 29, and will automatically re-route to the



PHOTO BY SANDY RODGERS

New signage shows that the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union has been merged with the Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union.

Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union website.

This article is summarized

from a press release from Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for Kind Words

Thanks to Sandra Lange, Mary Lou Williamson and the staff for the wonderful story about my career with the City of Greenbelt in the July 25 Greenbelt News Review. Another thanks to those former associates of mine for their kind words as quoted in the story.

I wish to emphasize that the accomplishments during my time as city manager were the result of a team effort, not of any one person. It took an active citizenry, a dedicated group of councilmembers and the strong support of numerous employees to enable Greenbelt to achieve the successes that time.

Nor would this have been possible were it not for the dedicated volunteers who have never failed to produce the News Review week in and week out. The paper has played an essential role in keeping Greenbelt citizens informed and making certain that city government operates in the open and not behind closed doors. Greenbelt could never be the community it has become were it not for this paper.

I am pleased to see that Greenbelt still has an active citizenry, a dedicated city council and a capable support staff. Those are key factors in what makes Greenbelt great.

Jim Giese

Prompt Response

I want to thank Officer Smith and the Greenbelt police for their prompt response to a frightening incident in front of my house late yesterday evening, Saturday, July 27.

When I stepped out of my house at around 11 p.m. to scan my premises, lock my car and front door, I saw a large pickup truck. It was wedged in my driveway between my girlfriend's car and my next-door neighbor's SUV. When I telephoned my neighbor, she had no knowledge of this truck or its occupants.

I immediately called the Greenbelt police emergency line. Two or three police cruisers arrived within about 10 minutes and illuminated the scene with their headlights. They ordered the driver to back the truck out

See **LETTERS**, page 4

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Twisters

Daisy Edgar-Jones stars as Kate Cooper, a former storm chaser haunted by a devastating encounter with a tornado during her college years who now studies storm patterns on screens safely in New York City. She is lured back to the open plains by her friend Javi (Golden Globe nominee Anthony Ramos, *In the Heights*) to test a groundbreaking new tracking system. There, she crosses paths with Tyler Owens (Glen Powell), the charming and reckless social-media superstar who thrives on posting his storm-chasing adventures with his raucous crew, the more dangerous the better. As storm season intensifies, terrifying phenomena never seen before are unleashed, and Kate, Tyler and their competing teams find themselves in the fight of their lives squarely in the paths of multiple storm systems converging over central Oklahoma.

Widow Clicquot

After her husband's untimely death, Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot flouts convention by assuming the reins of the fledgling wine business they had nurtured together. Steering the company through dizzying political and financial reversals, she defies her critics and revolutionizes the champagne industry to become one of the world's first great businesswomen.

Touch

A romantic and thrilling story that spans several decades and continents, the film follows one widower's emotional journey to find his first love who disappeared 50 years ago, before his time runs out.

Laura

In one of the most celebrated 1940s film noirs, Manhattan detective Mark McPherson (Dana Andrews) investigates the murder of Madison Avenue executive Laura Hunt (Gene Tierney) in her fashionable apartment. On the trail of her murderer, McPherson quizzes Laura's arrogant best friend, gossip columnist Waldo Lydecker (Clifton Webb) and her comparatively mild fiancé, Shelby Carpenter (Vincent Price). As the detective grows obsessed with the case, he finds himself falling in love with the dead woman.

The Last Waltz

Seventeen years after joining forces as the backing band for rockabilly cult hero Ronnie Hawkins, Canadian roots rockers The Band call it quits with a lavish farewell show at San Francisco's Winterland Ballroom on November 25, 1976. Filmed by Martin Scorsese, this documentary features standout performances by rock legends such as Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Eric Clapton, Joni Mitchell and Muddy Waters, as well as interviews tracing the group's history and discussing road life.

Turning Red

Mei Lee is a confident, dorky 13-year-old torn between staying her mother's dutiful daughter and the chaos of adolescence. And as if changes to her interests, relationships and body weren't enough, whenever she gets too excited (which for a teenager is practically ALWAYS), she "poofs" into a giant red panda.



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:
AUGUST 2nd - 8th

Twisters (PG-13) (CC) (DVS)
(2024) (122 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 4:15 PM, 7:00 PM
Guest speakers!
Sat. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 3:15 PM, 6:00 PM
Tues. 8:00 PM
Wed. 8:15 PM
Thurs. 7:45 PM

Widow Clicquot (R) (CC)
(2024) (90 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 4:00 PM (OC)
Tues. 8:15 PM
Wed. 5:45 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:30 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM
Sun. 5:15 PM

Touch (R) (CC) (DVS) (2024)
(121 mins)

Japanese w/ English subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 6:15 PM
Tues. 5:30 PM
Thurs. 5:15 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 4:30 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM
Wed. 5:30 PM

Laura (NR) (1944) (88 mins)

Cinema Classic | Book
signing and Q&A with local
author Lauren Silberman
before both showings!

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 1:00 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

The Last Waltz (PG) (1978)
(117 mins)

Summer Concert Series
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 8:00 PM

Turning Red (PG) (CC) (DVS)
(2022) (100 mins)

School's Out - Free! - Sponsored by Rad Orthodontics
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 1:00 PM

The Old Curmudgeon



- Izzy Parker, News Review, April 4, 2002

Correction

In last week's candidate responses, Republican candidate Kamita Gray's biographical information should have stated that she is the managing director of the CDCx community organization and a community outreach and engagement practitioner.

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Greenbelt News Review

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- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
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- 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

Bilingual Story Time At SHL Rec Center

On Friday, August 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System will present engaging, lively stories and activities for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills. This monthly program is an introduction to reading aloud to children as a way to instill the love of literature. After the readings, the children can stay and play with balls in the gym. There will be free children's books and free healthy, nutritious snacks. Come, and spread the word to friends and family. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10824293.

Los Niños Leen y Juegan

El viernes 9 de agosto a las 10:30 a.m. en el Centro Recreativo de Springhill Lake, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) con el Sistema de Bibliotecas Conmemorativas del Condado de Prince George's presentarán interesantes historias y actividades divertidas para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores, para ayudar a desarrollar las habilidades de alfabetización temprana. Este programa mensual es una introducción a la lectura en voz alta a los niños como forma de inculcar el amor por la literatura. Después de las lecturas, los niños pueden quedarse y jugar con pelotas en el gimnasio. Habrán libros infantiles gratis y aperitivos saludables y nutritivos. Como dijo un padre al irse, "Fue muy bueno!" Unete a nosotros, y corra la voz a amigos y familiares.

Volunteers Needed

The Greenbelt Makerspace seeks volunteers to staff the tool library and organize classes and other events. People are asking for more open hours. Help is needed for the tool library to expand. Sign up for shifts at signup.com/go/UNkLnqk or email us at staff@make125.org if interested in other times or jobs.

The Greenbelt Makerspace is down the outside stairs on the west side of the Granite Building at 115 Centerway.

Français, s'il vous plaît: French at the Café

A group of people interested in speaking French meets at the New Deal Café every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. All ages, all levels of fluency are welcome.

Greenbelt Concert Band Welcomes Musicians

The Greenbelt Concert Band rehearses Monday evenings beginning September 9, and welcomes new members, especially trumpet players. For more information, visit greenbeltconcertband.org.

For more information, call Li'l Dan Celdran, Greenbelt Concert Band General Manager, at 240-643-3768.

Short Films for Kids Screen Saturday, Aug. 3

A local movie group, LOJAI productions, is holding a special showing of five short movies designed for children at the Greenbelt Cinema on Saturday, August 3 from noon to 1:30 p.m. The movies include both animated and in-person works that are all award winners. Admission can be purchased from instantseats.com (search on Kids Movie Compilation) and includes popcorn, drink, snack, goodie bag and more.

National Night Out in Greenbelt

Greenbelt's National Night Out is Tuesday, August 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. The evening out is sponsored by the police department and will take place in five locations: Beltway Plaza (rear); Hunting Ridge, 6900 Hanover Parkway; Schrom Hills Rec Center, 6915 Hanover Parkway; Windsor Green, 7474 Frankfort Drive; and Lakeside North, 430 Ridge Road. The party includes games, demonstrations of K-9 officers, food and prizes.

GIVES Needs Drivers

The Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that helps adult Greenbelt residents with transportation and friendly visits, along with other services. More drivers are urgently needed to meet the increase in requests for services. To be a driver for GIVES, one needs to be a resident of Greenbelt, a member of GIVES, have a valid Maryland license and insurance, and obtain a free background check. Membership is free. For information or an application, call 301-507-6580 or visit givesgreenbelt.org.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

March in the Parade On Labor Day



The Festival Parade will take place on Monday, September 2 from 10 a.m. to noon. The parade route is along Crescent Road, from Greenhill Road to Southway. Organizations, clubs and other groups are encouraged to participate. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com/parade for more information and to register. The registration deadline is Friday, August 23.

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. 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, 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.

Golden Age Club Will Meet Wednesdays

The Golden Age Club meets from 11 a.m. to noon each Wednesday. Visitors are welcome. The topics in August will be:
August 7: Business Meeting
August 14: Presentation by Jan Derry on Salvageable Clothing
August 21: Birthday Celebration (bring snacks to share)
August 28: Bingo.

Used Books Sought For School Book Sale

It's that time of year again. Declutter and support a local elementary school. For those whose bookshelves are overflowing, the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be collecting used books to sell at its Annual Used Book Sale at the Labor Day Festival.

Book donations will be accepted on Saturday, August 3 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. A second donation event will be on Saturday, August 17 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at a location to be announced later. All books, except manuals, encyclopedias and dictionaries, as well as CDs, DVDs, records, puzzles and games will be accepted.

Information Day Applications Open



The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee is accepting applications for Information Day, which will take place between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 31 in Roosevelt Center. Organizations, clubs, businesses and other groups are invited to share information with the public. Find out more and register at greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/information-day. The deadline to register is Friday, August 16. Companies or organizations registered by Friday, August 2, will be included in the event advertisement in the News Review at no additional charge.

Greenbelt Chess Club

The Greenbelt Chess Club meets on Tuesdays, August 13, 20 and 27. The meetings take place in the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels.

Start Planning Soon For Retro Town Fair

One of the Greenbelt Museum's favorite events each year is the Retro Town Fair, and it is returning on the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend, September 1. The Fair will take place on the grounds of the Museum house at 10-A and 10-B Crescent Road. The Retro Town Fair is much like events the earliest Greenbelters enjoyed starting in 1939. Ribbons will be awarded for the best entries in a number of categories: flowers, vegetables, baked goods, canned goods and needlework/sewing.

Entries will be accepted from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and must be accompanied by a completed entry form, limited to two per person per category. Entries will be on display from 1 to 4 p.m. All items must be picked up between 4 and 5 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Fair, including with setup, takedown and, depending on one's area of expertise, judging. Interested in volunteering or have questions about the Fair? Email Education and Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Maffay-Tuthill at education@greenbeltmuseum.org. More information is available on the Museum's website, greenbeltmuseum.org, and Facebook page and at the Co-op Supermarket checkout stands.

Mishkan Torah Hosts Pool Party August 25

Join Mishkan Torah for its Back to School Pool Party on Sunday, August 25. The party will be held at the Ellen Linson Splash Park from noon to 3 p.m. All ages are welcome. Join in and learn about their welcoming, family-friendly Jewish community while cooling off from the heat. Contact childrensed@mishkantorah.org to learn more.

This Week at the New Deal Café

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

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642

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113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Mon/Wed/Th 8am - 9pm; Tues 8am - 9:30pm; Friday/Saturday 8am - 10pm; Sunday 9am - 9pm, UNLESS NOTED.

TH 8/01	FRI 8/02	SAT 8/03	SUN 8/04	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Wolf's Sit-In Blues Jam 6:30-10pm Sign up and Jam!	The Greg Meyer Project 7-10pm R&B, classic rock, N'awlins and funky ol' soul	NDC SATURDAY JAZZ JAM, 2-5pm August First 7-10pm A celebration of the Jerry Garcia Band	ART RECEPTION, 1-3pm Supernational Sound System 6-8pm A unique fusion of West African & Arabic rhythms	
MON 8/05	TUES 8/06	WED 8/07	TH 8/08	SPECIALS!
THE MONDAY MAUVENESS KARAOKE 6-9pm Hosted by Mike Bennett INFINITE	S.A.W. Open Mic 6-9:30pm Hosted by Lynn Hollyfield. Featured act plays from 8-8:30	The Campfire Sessions 7-9pm A monthly "listening" room.	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Vibe Collective 7-9pm Classic & original Afro-Cuban jazz	HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE WINE WEDNESDAY \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE

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.

THE NDC NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME ON COMMITTEES.

Contact: jbelttower@yahoo.com. We promise: It won't hurt!

Greenbelt Access Television
Aug 3, Sat - Aug 9, Fri
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station
Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)
The Man Who Knew Too Much (1934)
Starring Peter Lorre, Edna Best, Leslie Banks, and Nova Pilbeam, this espionage thriller is classic Hitchcock, and not one to miss!

New This Month
What's New at Greenbelt Cinema? | August
This August, Greenbelt Cinema is jam-packed with beloved classics, exciting cult throwbacks, highly anticipated new films, and more! Join Caitlin and Sheila as they cover everything you can expect to see for the month of August!

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

Letters cont'd from p.2

of the driveway and out of the vehicle. He was the sole occupant. The truck had heavy damage on the right-side fender and door. It turned out that the driver was disoriented and distraught from a recent romantic breakup. Eventually, a tow truck arrived to remove the vehicle.

Officer Smith came to my door and explained that the driver was going to leave via an Uber or with a friend. He was apparently harmless and unarmed,

much to my relief. Officer Smith did not know why the driver had chosen to park his truck in my driveway.

There was no damage to my girlfriend's car, nor apparently to my neighbor's SUV.

I am most grateful for the prompt response of the Greenbelt police and for Officer Smith to come to my door to explain how the police handled this trespassing event.

Shalom Fisher



Advertising Rate Change

Effective with this issue, the News Review has changed its ad rates.

Classifieds
Base rate is \$4 for the first 15 words and \$1 for each 1-5 additional words.

Display
The base rate (Tier A) is \$10.90 per column inch. The nonprofit rate for those qualifying is \$7.70 per column inch.

Discounts are available for those placing at least 45 column inches per calendar quarter.

For further information see greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/advertising-2.



Condolences to Amal Saleh on the death of her sister. Amal and Anwar Saleh own Greenbelt Barber and Stylist.

Congratulations to Greenbelter Rachel Bradley, an ESOL teacher, who became a Jeopardy champion on the Friday, July 26 show.

Good luck to Zachary Shattuck, former swim coach of GMST, who will compete in the Paralympic Games in Paris.

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



PHOTO COURTESY JEOPARDYTONIGHT.COM

Rachel Bradley, Jeopardy champion



A POEM OF GREENBELT

(Editor's Note: We were struck by the sincerity of the following poem, which was displayed on a bulletin board at the Center School during Open School Week. If the poet will communicate with the newspaper, we will be happy to print his full name.)

by Alan B.

When I go fishing,
I feel like just sitting and wishing.
When I go to the store,
I always feel like getting more.
When a fire ever comes,
It's just like beating on the drums.
There are many kinds of trees,
And some trees have falling leaves.
After a snack at the lake,
I heard a sick duck quack with an ache.

Poet's Identity Discovered
The News Review has been informed that A Poem of Greenbelt, printed in last week's issue, was written by Alan Burt, 11-E Ridge. Alan is nine years old and a fourth grader at the Center School.

This poem by a young Greenbelter was printed in the November 22, 1962, issue of the News Review. The item beneath ran the next week, identifying Alan Burt as the poet. These days Alan works for the News Review, distributing bundles of papers to carriers, newspaper boxes, businesses and other places around Greenbelt on Thursday mornings.

A native cactus in bloom in June

PHOTO BY JERRY DANCIS

"Humanity's collective life suffers when any one group thinks of its own well-being in isolation from that of its neighbors or pursues economic gain without regard for how the natural environment, which provides sustenance for all, is affected."

— The Universal House of Justice

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero
Sermon Title: Loving Friends
John 21: 3-4, 10-17

Theme: The love of friends carries us through good times and times of trouble. Jesus models for us true friendship even through times of disappointment and hurt.

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

Greenbelt Community Church
One Hillside Road

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

We are an Open and Affirming Church

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

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

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT MASS

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
City Council Room
25 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

cathcomgreenbelt.org

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

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

The Bible Says...

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
Psalm 107:1

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Eleanor Roosevelt High School
(7601 Hanover Pkwy.)
MCFcc.org

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

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

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
-Missouri Synod-
6905 Greenbelt Road

SUNDAY
Divine Service: 9:30am
Fellowship/Bible Study: 11:00am

LITURGICAL
SACRAMENTAL
BIBLICAL

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

August 4, 2024 at 3 p.m.
Hunger for Hope

Rev. Lynn Strauss with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

Do you hunger for hope in what feels like despairing times? As we do our inner soul work amid the harsh debates on the world stage and in our national political scene, we yearn for rescue and safety, we yearn for a saving grace. Where will hope meet you? Join our guest preacher, Reverend Lynn Strauss, to consider these questions together.

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 AUGUST 5-9

- Monday, August 5 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION – GATE**
- Tuesday, August 6 at 7:00 pm, **ARTS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**
- Wednesday, August 7 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION – ALL RESIDENT VOTING INITIATIVE**
- Thursday, August 8 at 7:30 pm, **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (CRAB) MEETING**

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

GREENBELT LITTLES PRESCHOOL Ages 3-5

Play, learn, and grow together. Registration now open. To register or for more information, call (301) 397-2200.

GREENBELT LITTLES PRESCHOOL
PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
AGES 3-5
CALL 301-397-2200

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

GREENBELT DANCE STUDIO MINI-CAMPS

Greenbelt Community Center, Room 10, 15 Crescent Rd
For FREE tickets, visit the Greenbelt Community Center or call (301) 397-2208.
There are still spaces available in the Ballet Dance Theater Mini-Camp for Ages 6-9 from 7/30-8/8.
Learn more in the Summer Activity Guide: <https://bit.ly/42UVwyD>.

BUDDY ATTICK PARK PLAYGROUND CLOSURE Beginning Monday, July 22

The playground at Buddy Attick Park, located at 555 Crescent Road, will be closed for renovations beginning Monday, July 22. We anticipate reopening within 5-6 weeks; however, please note that weather constraints will determine the target completion date. We will notify the community when the playground reopens.

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

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR
Tuesday, August 20, 10 am - 1 pm
Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Join us for our 'Back-to-School Health Fair! Meet organizations devoted to strengthening community connections - providing resources about health insurance, mental health services, and city educational programming.

Free dental screenings, vision screenings, fun activities and more! The first 100 families to register and attend will receive free school supplies.

Registration is required. We kindly ask that children be present at the event to receive giveaways.

To register, call (240) 424-0302 or visit <https://forms.gle/DjhpsAijaFd5zFBv7>.

¡Que iniciamos este año escolar con buena salud!

Conozca organizaciones locales dedicadas al fortalecimiento de nuestra comunidad - proporcionando recursos acerca del seguro médico, salud mental y programas educativos en nuestra comunidad. ¡Evaluaciones dentales gratis, exámenes de la vista gratis, actividades recreativas y más! Las primeras 100 familias que se registren y asistieron recibirán útiles escolares o tarjeta de regalo para alimentos.

Para registrarse, llame (240) 424-0302 o <https://forms.gle/DjhpsAijaFd5zFBv7>.

OUR SPONSORS
RESTORATION CHURCH
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION
J. THOMAS CLARK

CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge:

- Pink Pantry Opn Registration.** This quarterly program assists low-income Greenbelt residents to access free menstrual products. To register call (240) 424-0302 or email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.
- Greenbelt Nursery Project.** Our Greenbelt Nursery project is dedicated to supporting families with young children. We provide 6 Home Visits that offer personalized care and resources. To register call (240) 424-0302 or email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.
- Emergency Diaper Distribution.** Must register <https://forms.gle/NTFEkFefAttjqsQt9>. Call (240) 424-0302.
- Produce Distribution** at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, Lower Level Parking Lot, 25 Crescent Road
Upcoming Dates: August 15, from 1 - 3 pm
- Produce Distribution** at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Ln (Greenbelt West Residents Only)
Upcoming Dates: August 15, from 3 - 4:15 pm

For descriptions and information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/CARESPROGRAMS and see ads on this page!

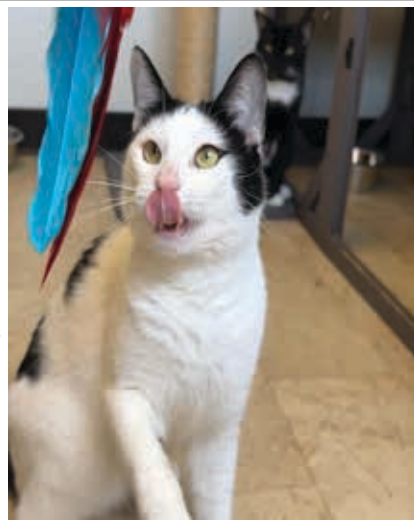
FEATURED PETS DOMINO

Ready for Adoption?
Call (301) 474-6124

Domino has been at our shelter since April, and we don't understand why!

This 4-year-old kitty was found in an abandoned apartment with his siblings, Morning Glory and Zorro (who are also still available for adoption). Domino is a very sweet-natured and playful guy and gets along great with other cats. Did we mention he's also a lap cat?!

If you're interested in adopting Domino, call (301) 474-6124 or email us at animalcontrol@greenbeltmd.gov



FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

UPCOMING PRODUCE DISTRIBUTIONS AUGUST 15 - TWO LOCATIONS

Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Lower Parking Lot: 1 - 3 pm, while supplies last. Open to all Greenbelt residents. **Must have a registration card** via Brendy Garcia at (240) 424-0302 or bgarciagreenbeltmd.gov.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: 3 - 4:15 pm, registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only. Register via email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST SPRING/SUMMER CITY CONNECTER IN MAILBOXES THIS WEEK!

CITY OF GREENBELT
CITY CONNECTER
Spring/Summer 2024

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES ROADSHOW GREENBELT PITSTOP



CREATIVE KIDS CAMP PRESENTS: THE COOKIE CAPER

Friday, 8/9, 10 am & 2:15 pm
Greenbelt Community Center Gym, 15 Crescent Rd

For FREE tickets, visit the Greenbelt Community Center or call (301) 397-2208.
Enjoy the original musical written and directed by Chris Cherry and performed by Creative Kids Camp.

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES AVAILABLE 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 Education
- Advisory Committee on Trees
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Community Relations Advisory Board
- Employee Relations Board
- Ethics Commission
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability
- Park and Recreation Advisory Board
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

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!

EMERGENCY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION August Registration Open

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST REGISTER EACH MONTH.

Parents must present proof of Greenbelt residency displaying parent's name and residential address, state-issued photo ID, each child's birth certificate.

To register: <https://forms.gle/NTFEkFefAttjqsQt9> or call Brendy Garcia at (240) 424-0302.



National Night Out
Tuesday, August 6th - 6 - 8 pm
5 Locations
Beltway Plaza Mall (Rear) 6000 Greenbelt Rd.
Hunting Ridge 6900 Hanover Pkwy
Schrom Hills Rec Center 6915 Hanover Pkwy
Windsor Green 7474 Frankfort Dr.
Lakeside North 430 Ridge Rd.
Prizes FUN! Games

County Council May Be Heading For More Than One Special Election

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

One candidate for the Prince George's County Council's at-large seat – Jolene Ivey – is already on the council, meaning her election would necessitate a second special election. In addition, if the County Executive position becomes vacant this fall the council might find itself with an empty seat then, too.

If Ivey, a forerunner in the race, wins the election for the at-large seat she'll leave the District 5 seat on the council vacant, necessitating a special election to fill that seat. Ivey is currently halfway through her second four-year term on council. She'll be unable to run for re-election in her current position due to the county's two-term limit.

Additionally, if County Executive Angela Alsobrooks defeats Larry Hogan in the race for the U.S. Senate seat in November, a special election could be held to determine her successor in early 2025. There has been some speculation that County Council at-large candidates Ivey and Tim Adams, current mayor of Bowie, are both potential candidates who may run for County Executive in the event Alsobrooks leaves. Neither Ivey nor Adams responded to questions from the News Review about their intention to commit to a full term as at-large councilmember if elected. In addition, Calvert Hawkins II, who occupies the other at-large seat on the council, has expressed his interest in the executive position.

Furthermore, in yet another scenario that would see another seat on County Council vacant in the near future, if Alsobrooks wins but leaves the office of County Executive after December 5 (and therefore into the last two years of her term) the County Council will select one of its members to become County Executive for the rest of the term, which continues to December 2026. If the council doesn't elect a successor within 14 days or is deadlocked, the council's current chair, Ivey, would automatically become County Executive until December 2026.

Maryland Matters, a nonprofit and nonpartisan news site, reports that the current special election has already cost over \$1.3 million, not including the cost of printing ballots and training election judges. Our Revolution Maryland, a progressive organizing group, reports that the District 8 special election in December 2021 cost \$660,000. A special election for District 5, should Ivey win the at-large seat, would likely cost a similar amount. A second at-large election, should one of those two seats become vacant again soon, would cost much more and would necessitate a general election not subsumed within a presidential one.

Thus the Senate race and general election may spell more vacancies, elections, expense and disruptions for the county council.

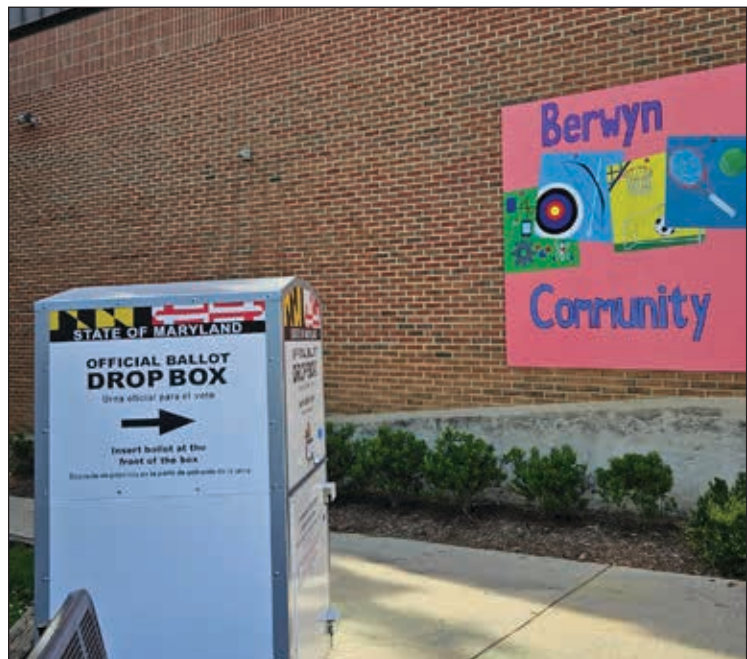


PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF BERWYN HEIGHTS

One of the closest ballot boxes to Greenbelt is in Berwyn Heights.

County Board of Education Responds to Resignation

Last week, David Murray, an elected member from District 1 to the Prince George's County Board of Education (Board), resigned from his post after the discovery that he had taken a new high-level position in a Missouri school district as of January of this year (see the July 25 issue). County school board members are required to be registered voters in the county and required to live in their district. The Board has taken steps to have this matter investigated in "accordance with applicable Maryland State Laws."

The Board is addressing the recent inquiries surrounding the circumstances concerning Murray's tenure and resignation by requesting that an investigation be initiated with the Office of Integrity and Compliance and other

appropriate agencies. According to a press release, the Board wrote, "[We] are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct and will cooperate fully with the investigative process." The Board wrote that they are committed to transparency and accountability but they will refrain from any further comments until the completion of the investigation. "We appreciate the public's understanding and patience as we work through this process and strive to uphold the trust placed in us by the scholars, parents and communities we serve."

This article is summarized from a press release from the Prince George's County Board of Education, July 24, 2024.

Special Election Voting Information

The Prince George's County Board of Elections is holding a Special Primary Election this Tuesday, August 6 to fill a recent vacancy in an at-large County Council seat.

Special Primary Election ballots were mailed in late July to every eligible Prince George's County voter, including a postage pre-paid return envelope.

Individual voter registration must be up to date with correct current address. Register to vote or update your voter registration information in person during early voting or on election day. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked or in a ballot drop box by 8 p.m. on August 6.

Early in-person voting began July 31 and runs to August 5 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day, or noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Early voting centers near Greenbelt are Calverton Elementary at 3400 Beltsville Road, Beltsville; Carrollton Elementary at 8300 Quintana Street, New Carrollton; and Robert Goddard Montessori School at 9850 Good Luck Road, Lanham.

The nearest ballot drop box is at the Berwyn Heights Community Center, 6200 Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights. Visit the Prince George's County Board of Elections website for more drop box locations.

Greenbelt Park Has Saturday Drumming

On Saturday, August 3, Greenbelt Park will offer a 7 p.m. Campfire Program: Drumming with Katy. Come to the campfire to hear the rhythm and beats of the drums. Leader Katy Gaughan facilitates an evening of drumming for all ages. Extra drums are available, and participation is encouraged.

Meet at 7 p.m. at the Campfire Circle in B loop in the Greenbelt Park campground. For more information, call 771-208-1588 or check the Park's website at nps.gov/gree.



Vendor Slots Available At Fire Dept. Sale

The BOOTIQUE Craft and Vendor Show will be held at the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department on October 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There are still a few vendor spots available. If interested in securing a spot, contact Kim Lewis at firemama3535@gmail.com for more information.

Greenbelt Farmers Market

Sundays 10a - 2p
Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

Watson Says She Resides in Bowie Apartment, Not Husband's Home

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On July 25, NBC Washington News4 reported that a private investigator hired by a county resident had followed Prince George's County Council Member Ingrid Watson for weeks and found her coming and going from a home in Upper Marlboro, outside of District 4, which she represents. Watson, who ran for election as Ingrid Harrison, was elected to Prince George's County Council in November 2022 to represent District 4, which includes Greenbelt, Westchester Park, Bowie, Glenn Dale, parts of Lanham-Seabrook and Upper Marlboro. She was previously an at-large Bowie council member.

Following the recent revelation that Prince George's County Public Schools Board Member David Murray was serving on the board and running for re-election after moving to Missouri (see article on this page) constituents are particularly concerned about the residency of the officials representing them.

According to NBC Washington, tax documents show Ron Watson owns the Upper Marlboro home where the private detective and NBC witnessed that Ingrid Watson appeared to reside. During an interview with NBC Washington, Watson said she spends time "with Ron at home, at his home and other times at night I'm at my home. So, we have kind of a dual residence going. I do both. I kind of go back and forth, but the majority of my

time is in District 4." The home Watson calls hers is a rented apartment in Bowie. Neither the private investigator nor NBC's investigative team witnessed Watson or her vehicle at that location, NBC reported.

On July 29, Watson responded to some questions from the Greenbelt News Review via email, but was unavailable for an interview. She declined to comment on whether her name is also on the property owned in Upper Marlboro. "I am a resident of District 4 and that has not changed. I remain strongly committed to serving the residents of District 4 and continuing my job as your councilmember ... I currently rent an apartment in Bowie and have lived there since 2015," she told the News Review in a message.

Councilmembers must forfeit their office if they cease to be a resident of their district. Jobina Brown, Watson's director of policy and communications, told the News Review via email, "Please note that Councilmember Watson fully follows the letter and the spirit of the law and fulfills all requirements governing councilmember residency."

Watson's husband, Ron Watson, is a Maryland State Senator representing Legislative District 23, which includes Bowie and Upper Marlboro. He was appointed by then-governor Larry Hogan in August 2021.

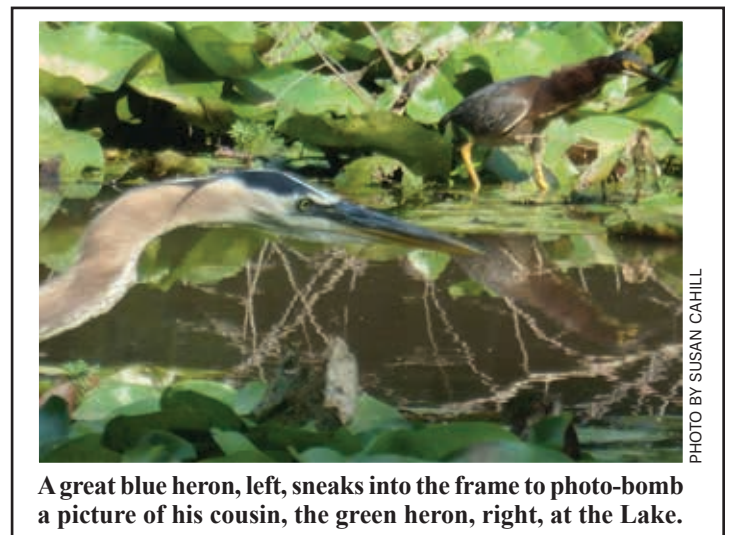


PHOTO BY SUSAN CAHILL

A great blue heron, left, sneaks into the frame to photo-bomb a picture of his cousin, the green heron, right, at the Lake.

GES PTA BOOK SALE
Collection Alert

2024

Dust off those books! It's time for the annual Greenbelt Labor Day GES PTA Book Sale and we would appreciate your donations!

Collection sites and dates are:

Saturday, Aug 3rd: 8:30-11:30
@ St. Hugh of Grenoble
135 Crescent Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Saturday, Aug 17th: 8:30-11:30
location TBA

Updates @ <https://tinyurl.com/2nzfpk88>
Questions? booksalegespta@gmail.com
Facebook @ Greenbelt Elementary PTA

Volunteer sign up:

Thank you!

New Deal Café Picks New Vendor For Food and Beverage Service

By John Campanile

On July 23, the New Deal Café (NDC) board voted to award its food and beverage contract to Kenny Hilliard of Temple Hills, effective November 1, 2024. The vote was taken via email after a July 22 worksession and is expected to be officially confirmed at the next open board meeting on Monday, August 26.

The decision, called “difficult but necessary” in an email announcement to members from NDC President John Campanile, was made because of the lack of any income to the Café in the three years of operation by the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (the Co-op). “Simply stated, there were none to be shared by the terms of our contractual agreement, and not a case of profit payments withheld,” said the announcement.

The Co-op’s board had notified the NDC board in April 2023 that, due to the Café’s heavy financial losses, it might not vote to approve an extension of the contract beyond its original two-year term. A vendor search committee was thereby formed, and interested candidates submitted their proposals. The decision came after months of vetting, interviewing and meeting with applicants.

The NDC board members “recognize the nonfinancial benefits and cooperative spirit of our community, and we deeply appreciate the hard work that Dan Gillotte has put into managing the Café for the past three years. Our thanks to Dan, the Co-op Board and the staff of the Café for their ongoing levels of service and effort during their tenure.”

Hilliard has pledged to interview all current employees of the New Deal Café and hopes to retain them under the new contract. He currently operates restaurants, both called Kenny’s Kale, in Temple Hills and in Union Market, D.C. He envisions a fresh, new approach to menu options “beyond kale” tailored to the Greenbelt market and changes in Café ambience.

John Campanile is president of the New Deal Cafe Board of Directors

Find More Peace Through Meditation

Katrina Boverman, a longtime meditation instructor with the Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally (SAGE) program, and the Mishkan Torah Synagogue Sisterhood have offered Summer Guided Meditation classes to Greenbelters and others for the past nine years. Meditation this year will be offered via Zoom to attend from the comfort of your own home.

Attendees have expressed quieting of their bodies, minds and spirits, a deepening of inner stillness and a better ability to reconnect with themselves. They have described feeling more peaceful, serene, relaxed, mindful and present, both during and in between the classes.

Classes are held every other Monday through August 26, from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. There is no charge; donations are welcome.

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



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

The New Deal Café will have a new food vendor starting in November.

Co-op Grocery Store Responds

by Co-op Gen. Manager Dan Gillotte and the Board of Directors

Reached for comment, Co-op Grocery General Manager Dan Gillotte said that “Greenbelt Co-op has been proud of our commitment of service to the people of Greenbelt and Roosevelt Center through our history as the community grocery store and most recently as the operators of the food and beverage operation at New Deal Café. We’re disappointed at the New Deal Café board’s decision to end our contract and go with a new operator, but we wish them well as New Deal is an incredibly important part of Greenbelt.

“We’re especially proud of our role in keeping the New Deal

operating during the pandemic and the ensuing worst economic period in recent history. The efforts of staff to provide a community living room, great food and drink, and a gathering place even during extremely difficult financial times is a testament to the cooperative and community spirit Co-op embodies.

“Co-op will endeavor to keep service going until our last day on October 31. We anticipate bringing over as many of the favorite features of our offering to Co-op as we transition, so be on the look out for those additions to our offerings at the store.”



PHOTO BY CATHERINE PLAISANT

Ashy sunflower (*Helianthus mollis*) and a skipper butterfly at the intersection of Laurel Hill and Ridge Roads



PHOTO BY BARBARA BIANES

Ripening blueberries

Curbside Food Scrap Program To Open to New Households

by Tom Taylor

The city will begin offering free curbside food scrap collection for 12 months to 120 new Greenbelt households starting August 22. This second group of households will join the first 200 that started in February. First-come, first-served pre-registration is already open on the Compost Crew website at customers.compostcrew.com/subscribe or by scanning the QR code with this article.

The first 120 pre-registrants, including previously pre-registered interested households, will receive an email from the Compost Crew in mid-August, inviting them to register. Those who do so will receive collection bins during the week prior to August 22.

The program serves individual Greenbelt households, or groups of near neighbors joining in combination to fill the seven-gallon bin for weekly pickup. After a \$20 one-time charge for the bin, pick-up service for 12 months is free. Compost Crew, a locally-owned food scrap recycling business, will pick up food scraps weekly and deliver to their compost processing facility, Compost Outpost, at Trinity Assembly of God Church on Good Luck Road. Quality compost will be returned to Greenbelt to amend soil in gardens and public spaces. Composting will reduce food waste going to the landfill and lower greenhouse gas emissions coming from the landfill. The program is a partnership of the City of Greenbelt, Compost Crew and Trinity Assembly of God, with funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



PHOTO COURTESY STEVE SKOLNIK

Steve Skolnik shows off a food bin for the curbside food scrap collection program.



Use this QR code to sign up for the program.

Compost Crew reports that the first round of the program has gone well, with high participation and excellent compliance about acceptable waste content.

For any questions, email Luisa Robles, City of Greenbelt sustainability coordinator, at lrobles@greenbeltmd.gov.



Nonprofit?
Get your message here for \$30.80

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

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A HOME HEALTHCARE AGENCY
NO MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED
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WE ACCEPT MEDICAID PRIVATE PAY & LONG-TERM INSURANCE
Call today for a FREE In-home Consultation

WE SPECIALIZE IN PERSONAL & COMPANIONSHIP CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH STROKE, DEMENTIA, ALZHEIMER'S, MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, PARKINSON'S, VISION IMPAIRED—Call Today for Service
WE ASSIST WITH BATHING, LAUNDRY, DRESSING, MEAL PREPARATION, TOILETING, HOUSEKEEPING, MEDICATION REMINDER, WALKING, RESPITE CARE, ESCORT TO DR'S APPOINTMENTS, PICK UP MEDICATIONS, INCONTINENT CARE, THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE, MEMORY STIMULATING ACTIVITIES, 24/7 LIVE IN CARE, & MUCH MORE

We Are Local, & We Serve All Counties in Maryland

The Cookie Caper Exhibit: Early Greenbelt in Black and White

by Rebecca Squire

A new Greenbelt history exhibit has opened in the Community Center's gallery. Entitled *The Cookie Caper: Early Greenbelt in Black and White*, the exhibit explores the history depicted in this summer's Creative Kids Camp show. In the show, current campers discover a diary hidden in the Community Center in 1937, on the day that Eleanor Roosevelt came to visit the building. The campers learn that the diarist, 10-year-old Dorothy Donohue, recorded both her joy at living in the new town of Greenbelt, and her sorrow that her best friend, Lily Washington, could not live in Greenbelt because of racial segregation. Dorothy resolves to speak with Mrs. Roosevelt on behalf of Lily and her family.

Although Dorothy and Lily are fictitious characters, many of the events described in *The Cookie Caper*, including Eleanor Roosevelt's visit, are historical events. The new exhibit provides a rich factual context for this time in the history of Greenbelt and the nation. Performing Arts Coordinator Chris Cherry both authored the play and conducted the research for the exhibit. As part of his research, Cherry and his husband Stefan Brodd traveled to Hyde Park, N.Y., in April to visit the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. The Roosevelt Museum has mounted a major exhibit – *Black Americans, Civil Rights and the Roosevelts, 1932-1962* – which runs through the end of 2024. Cherry called the visit to Hyde Park powerful and informative. "We went back for a second day in order to go through the exhibit all over again," he said. "It gave us a much fuller understanding of the history of the time and especially the important role played by Eleanor Roosevelt."

Another research visit took Cherry to the manuscripts division of the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center at Howard University. There he obtained a copy of a letter to Eleanor Roosevelt from Selma Thomas, a Black woman who had read newspaper accounts of the Greenbelt project. She expressed her longing for a similar community for her family. Her letter is included in the Community Center exhibit. The exhibit highlights some other little-known events and forgotten characters. Today's Greenbelters will be pleased to learn that the Greenbelt drug store's lunch



Chris Cherry stands at the FDR Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York.

the story of Dr. Will Alexander, the official who oversaw the completion of Greenbelt and the operation of the town during its early years. Dr. Will, as he was affectionately known, had been instrumental in the founding of Dillard University, the historically Black university in New Orleans, and had served as its first acting president. Prior to entering government service, he had headed the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, a nonprofit organization that worked throughout the South to avert lynchings, end the practice of peonage and combat the Ku Klux Klan. Dr. Will can be seen in an exhibit photo, smiling at Eleanor Roosevelt's side during her visit to a classroom at the Greenbelt school. The photo is one of 40 historic photographs in the exhibit, which also includes letters, newspaper excerpts and even a recipe.

The exhibit is currently on display at the Community Center in the gallery (Room 112) during evenings and weekends through Sunday, August 25. Weekday daytime viewing is also available, starting August 12. City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Rebecca Squire is the Arts Promotion Specialist with Greenbelt Recreation Arts.

counter was integrated from the start, and that when controversy arose, residents vociferously supported equal service in what was the town's only eating establishment in the 1930s.

Another rediscovered gem is



Eleanor Roosevelt visits the Greenbelt school in December 1937. The man on the left is city manager Roy Braden. The man on the right is Dr. Will Alexander.



Creative Kids Campers make plans to sleuth out the cookie thief in *The Cookie Caper*.



Campers sing about the Greenbelt Community Center Clay Classroom.

- Photos by Rebecca Squire

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Used Book Sale Still Thrives At The Labor Day Festival

by Elizabeth Twedt



PHOTO BY PETER TEUBEN

Festivalgoers peruse the books at the 2023 Greenbelt Elementary PTA book sale fundraiser.

The used book sale at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival is managed by the Greenbelt Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (GES PTA) and has existed in some form for over 50 years. The sale is the largest annual fundraiser for the PTA, providing funds to support field trips, assemblies and classroom needs. The sale also serves as a community outreach event providing free books to GES classrooms and local charity organizations. The PTA is proud to organize and stage this community favorite, and to offer an avenue to move unused books into the hands of new readers.

There have been several changes over the last few years that have enabled the sale to continue despite many challenges. The pandemic forced many adjustments to this community tradition, as with so many traditions involving people getting together. As the Labor Day Festival has continued its journey back to its pre-pandemic glory, so has the GES PTA Book Sale re-established its roots as a Greenbelt institution.

Some of the changes put in place due to pandemic restrictions have proven to be advantageous and persist because they streamline a volunteer-intensive event. The frequency and location of book collections have been a challenging dilemma for the PTA in recent years. Several factors have contributed to the lack of availability of the school itself. Classes now start before Labor Day, meaning book storage at the school would displace students. Construction at the school this summer has also prevented its use to collect and store books. St. Hugh of Grenoble Church has generously offered the use of some space in their event hall to store books collected before the sale, and book sorting will take place during and directly after drop-off to minimize logistical complications. Book drop-off events have been scheduled on two Saturdays, August 3 and August 17, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The first will occur at St. Hugh of Grenoble. The location of the second collection will be announced closer to the date. Volunteer support on these days would be greatly appreciated. Prince George's County Public School's middle and high school students can earn service credit hours.

Disposal of unsold books has been another challenge for the PTA. The professional bookseller who collected all unsold books in

previous years retired during the pandemic, and finding a way to transport hundreds of boxes of books and an organization willing to accept them is no small task. Minimizing the number of unsold books at the end of the sale mitigates this to some extent. The PTA's goal, therefore, is to collect the number of books that will sell at the festival and no more, to the greatest extent possible. This also minimizes the space needed to store books before the sale.

In years past, the price of books has been \$1 for softcover books, \$2 for hardcover books, half price on Sunday and free books on Monday with donations encouraged. This year the price of books will double on Friday, the first evening of the festival, and return to traditional pricing for Saturday and Sunday. Books will still be free on Monday with monetary donations encouraged. The price of books has remained unchanged for many years and the increase in price during the first five hours of the sale this year reflects the rising expenses associated with the sale.

The GES PTA is honored to continue this beloved tradition and looks forward to another successful event this year thanks to its dedicated volunteers. See the ad this week to sign up to help sort and box books before the sale or sell at the festival. See you there.



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City Notes

Planning met with the City Arborist and WSSC about tree removal, and with the City Manager and PEPCO about street light inventory.

Public Works oversaw demolition for the Buddy Attick Park Inclusive Playground Project. Environmental/Sustainability requested proposals for community flood resiliency planning.

Horticulture/Parks refurbished Peace Garden benches, removed six hazardous trees and, with volunteers, removed invasive plants from woodlands.

At the Community Center, Dance Annex renovation continues; floor and mirrors have been installed. Arts offered fused glass workshops and a tutorial on photographing ceramics.

Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion staff continued running Camp Pine Tree, Creative Kids Camp, Kinder Camp and the Springhill Lake Recreation Summer Program.

The Animal Shelter is hosting six dogs, eight cats and three kittens with assistance from Park Rangers, who also investigated a reported hornet nest near the Youth Center and an unpermitted pony photoshoot at the lake.

CARES facilitated an energy assistance workshop at Green Ridge House for 12 residents.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library 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. Face masks are recommended for all customers over the age of 2.

Weekly Storytimes

Friday, August 2, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10815019.

Wednesday, August 7, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10814997.

Thursday, August 8, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10814967.

Come join in for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

Creative Resilience

Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m., ages 18+ (adult). Whether pursuing art as a career, side hustle or hobby, there are challenges – like motivation, self-doubt, creative blocks and balancing creative pursuits with life. This interactive workshop facilitated by local author and filmmaker Erica Ginsberg will help artists better navigate the ups and downs of the creative process. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10636984.

Books at Bedtime

Wednesday, August 7, 6:30 p.m., ages newborn to 3. Stories, music and activities for children with and without special needs. Presented by the Prince George's County Public Schools Infants and Toddlers Program for up to 12 community families. Register at pgcmls.info/event/10881304.

Greenbelt Receives Grant For Heritage Area Research

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority has awarded 87 matching grants totaling \$5.19 million to Maryland nonprofits, local jurisdictions and heritage tourism organizations, and Greenbelt was among the recipients.

Greenbelt received \$35,000 in State Heritage Area funds to research persons interred in three city-owned cemeteries, including Native Americans, successive waves of European settlers dat-

ing back to the early 1700s, the enslaved, small farmers, Revolutionary War heroes and tenants of all kinds.

Other Prince George's County recipients were Gateway Community Development Corporation to support adaptive reuse of the Cottage City Firehouse and Field of Firsts Foundation to support an exhibit on the Columbia Air Center at the College Park Aviation Museum.



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Greenbelt artist Mike McMullin (far right) poses with Recreation Coordinator Brian Butler (second from left) and the exuberant summer campers and staff at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Behind them is a collaborative painting made by Mike and many community volunteers, along with the campers' artwork. Mike's piece will be on extended display at the Center.

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

TRAIL continued from page 1

engineering and contractor procurement plans, perform contractor selection in spring 2025 and begin construction in summer 2025.

Cost and Funding

The Greenbelt Station developer Woodlawn committed \$517,000, which has been almost fully spent on the development of the 90 percent engineering plan, after which the city is responsible for funding the construction of the trail. Hruby estimated a \$3 million construction cost. Funding sources include the \$1.5 million TAP grant; \$1 million from Greenbelt West developer contributions to the city's Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund; and other grants of \$400,000. She expects to add to that \$2.9 million with additional grants, saying the project is well liked by grant programs for connecting residential development to multi-modal transit. (The Metro station includes Metrorail, Metrobus and MARC trains between D.C. and Baltimore.)

Hruby said the city will fund electricity for the lights, cameras and traffic beacon and will maintain them and the trail, including repairs, snow and ice removal and vegetation management, as on other city trails. She said the trail, bridge and boardwalk are designed to accommodate authorized vehicles so that small Public Works and emergency vehicles will be able to enter from either end of the trail, with most city vehicles entering from the Greenbelt Station community. Larger vehicles, such as fire engines, would enter the paved trail from the Metro station pedestrian crossing and return there from a turnaround in the trail.

Metro Station Access

Woodlawn planned and advertised a trail to Greenbelt Metro since before Greenbelt Station's 2013 incorporation. When inter-agency coordination delayed the trail, Woodlawn funded a Metro shuttle until approximately 2017. Prince George's County TheBus route 15X now travels from the community to Metro.

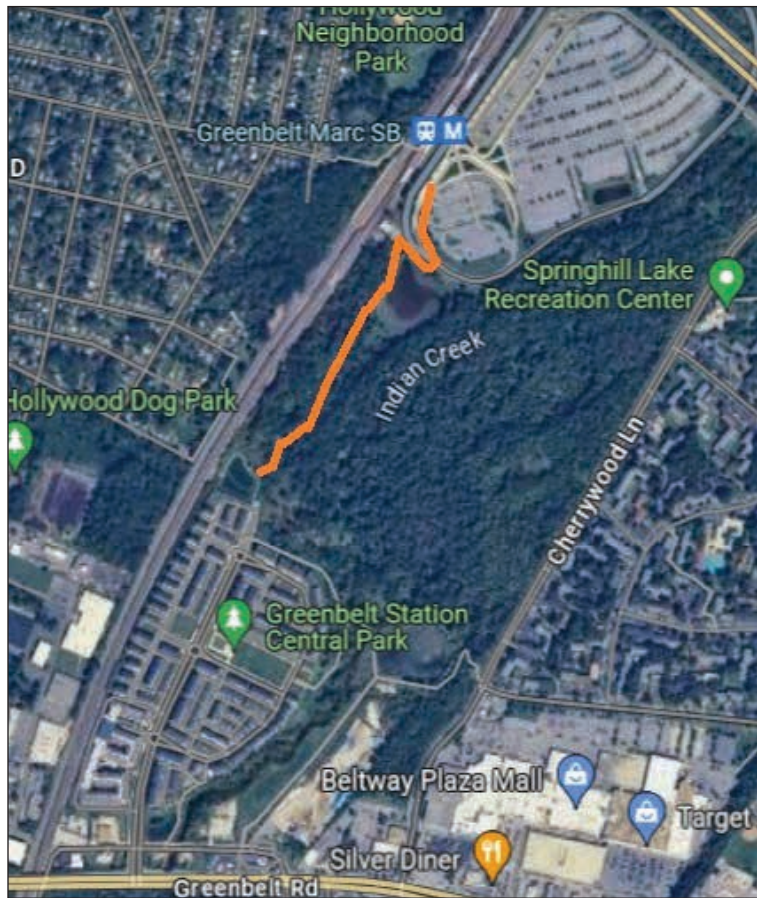
Greenbelt Station Parkway extends from Greenbelt Road to the community's north end. M-NCPPC's Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Sector Plan cites plans to extend the road to Metro, as does GSA's FBI HQ Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Greenbelt.

A full Beltway interchange at the Metro station in both directions is included in GSA and Maryland planning for the FBI site. The current Beltway ramps are only from and to the west. Maryland's FY24-29 Consolidated Transportation Program budget contains \$264 million through FY27 to design and build the interchange. When contacted by the News Review for planning and schedule information, SHA said it is "in the early stages of design/engineering for the [interchange]." About the parkway, they said they are still finalizing "the scope of improvements that will complement the relocated FBI headquarters."

City Councilmember and Greenbelt Station resident Danielle McKinney wrote, "We are excited about the prospect of this project finally moving forward. The trail, the completion of the nearby Purple Line and access to green spaces were key selling points for many residents,

including myself, when we purchased our homes in Greenbelt Station. Having direct access to public transit helps reduce our carbon footprint and creates an affordable option to get to work

and other activities in and around the DMV. We are grateful to the city staff for continuing to advocate for the trail on behalf of the residents with WMATA, MDOT and other partners."



The orange line at top is the planned trail route from the Greenbelt Station community at the bottom to Greenbelt Metro at the top. Metro and MARC tracks are to the left, Branchville and Greenbelt Roads are at the bottom below Greenbelt Station, and Cherrywood Lane is to the right.

MAP COURTESY ERICA JOHNS/GOOGLEMAPS, FROM A CITY DIAGRAM



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Plans indicate the trail will begin at this pond north of Miner Road.



CRIME continued from page 1

leading of property ... [that is] not taken by force, violence or fraud." The other crimes included in the total reported data are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assaults, breaking and entering and motor vehicle theft. A murder of a Greenbelt resident would not count toward the city's crime reports if their murder took place outside Greenbelt.

Although total reported crime is higher, 2023's zero reported murders equals 2013's homicide reports. Also between 2013 and 2023, reported breaking and entering decreased 74 percent (from 192 cases to 50).

What Else Has Changed

"When you look at some of these robberies, especially ... the ones taking place with juveniles - for example, in 2013, you didn't have too many fourth graders walking around with a cell phone; in 2023, 2024 that's common," said Ricardo Dennis, Greenbelt police spokesperson. "Ten years ago, [expensive electronics] weren't as common as they are today. What you have

is an uptick in certain areas with juveniles stealing more stuff."

Comparing reports from over the years is difficult, Dennis said. "It's not the same because the statutes...have changed a lot. Every year they make modifications to the law. Back then in 2013, if you steal something worth \$500, it was a felony. Now, it's \$1,500 ... the rules have changed."

Another difference between recent years and the past is the widespread use of masks, Dennis noted. "Everybody [has] a mask," Dennis said. "Ten years ago, nobody had a mask. Pre-COVID, nobody had these surgical masks on. It just didn't happen. Now, these kids are like 'You don't know who I am if I wear this mask.'"

11-Year Trend

Between 2013 and 2023, cases of reported rape increased 80 percent (from five cases to nine), reported robbery increased 46 percent (from 65 cases to 95), reported aggravated assault increased 174 percent (from 35

See CRIME, page 11

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred July 22-28, 2024. 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 five domestic incidents, including three with arrests; one mental health diversion; and one sexual assault.

On July 22 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a relative reported missing a homeless man who was last seen at Beltway Plaza on June 7. **On July 25 near 9262 Edmonston Road,** a mother reported her son missing after he failed to return from a friend's house.

Shooting

On July 26 at 2:28 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a boy was shot by someone trying to rob him; he was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Hit and Run

On July 28 at 4:03 p.m. near 9132 Edmonston Terrace, a vehicle was struck and the driver of the other vehicle drove away after stopping briefly. The striking driver was identified and charges are pending.

DUI Arrest

On July 24 at 1:00 a.m. near 7501 Greenbelt Road, officers observed a vehicle in the middle of the roadway impeding traffic, with the driver unconscious at the wheel. After waking, he admitted he had been drinking. Sobriety tests showed several signs of impairment and he was arrested on suspicion of DUI.

On July 27 at 2:03 a.m. near 7518 Mandan Road, a caller advised that someone was trying to drive after drinking too much. Officers stopped him and after investigation, he was arrested for DUI.

Fraud

On July 24 near 7216 Mandan Road, a woman received a payment in cash, and when she tried to deposit it, the bank told her the currency was counterfeit; it was seized to be sent to the Secret Service.

On July 25 near 22 Ridge Road, someone gained access to a bank account through a cell phone.

On July 28 near 5809 Cherrywood Lane, a woman was tricked into sending a rental deposit to a fake landlord for a property listed online.

Theft

On July 22 at 4:28 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a boy concealed merchandise in his bag; he was stopped once he passed all points of sale and all items were recovered. As a juvenile he was released to his guardian.

On July 22 at 12:05 a.m. near 6400 Ivy Lane, items were missing after housekeeping came to a hotel room.

On July 22 at 3:08 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man pushed a full shopping cart of items out the front door without paying.

On July 23 at 5:17 p.m. near 7821 Mandan Road, a woman reported that maintenance took money from her residence.

On July 23 at 5:19 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, an employee stole money from the store; he had an open warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department, and was arrested.

On July 24 at 6:51 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a man ran from the store with stolen

items. **On July 25 at 4:11 p.m. near 7475 Greenbelt Road,** three men came into the store empty-handed and walked out, each carrying a bag full of stolen items.

On July 27 at 3:16 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man stole several items.

Trespassing

On July 22 at 12:36 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, officers arrested a known individual for trespassing.

Vandalism

On July 25 at 1:19 p.m. near 8325 Canning Terrace, a homeowner discovered a screen door had been vandalized.

**Vehicle Crimes
Stolen Vehicles**

Four vehicles were stolen, including: **July 23 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane,** a black 2021 Infiniti Q50 (D.C. JH9491); **July 24 near 7810 Walker Drive,** a black 2017 Hyundai Sonata (Md. 9EC3960); **July 27 near 7407 Morrison Drive,** a 2014 Chevy Impala (Md. 6FA2950); and **July 28 near 151 Westway,** a 2003 black BMW (Md. THP7669).

Stolen Vehicle Recovered

On July 25 near 211 Ridge Road, a stolen motorcycle was found near a walking trail.

Attempted Theft of Vehicle

On July 25 at 23:37 p.m. near 6102 Breezewood Drive, officers observed four subjects running from a silver Hyundai with a broken door handle and damaged ignition. **On July 27 near 14 Ridge Road,** a vehicle's window, ignition and steering column were damaged.

Theft from Auto

On July 23 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, several items were taken from a vehicle. **On July 28 near 129 Westway,** a rear tag was stolen.

Vandalism to Auto

On July 22 near 7803 Mandan Road, a vehicle had ignition damage. **On July 23 near 6027 Springhill Drive,** a vehicle's front window was smashed and bags of trash were dumped inside. **On July 24 near 219 Lakeside Drive,** a 2015 BMW had a damaged window. **On July 26 near 5811 Cherrywood Lane,** a vehicle's door handle was broken.

Safeway ATM Burglary

The Greenbelt Police Department's Criminal Investigative Unit is currently investigating an ATM burglary that occurred at Safeway, located at 7595 Greenbelt Road.

The pictured suspects forced entry into the building on July 24 at approximately 03:49 a.m. and forced entry into the ATM, stealing the cassettes filled with money. There are three suspects,

pictured, along with another unidentified suspect waiting in a vehicle. The vehicle is described to be a blue compact, four-door vehicle with black rims.

If anyone has information regarding the listed subjects, contact Detective Wynkoop at (240) 542-2135, wynkoop@greenbeltmd.gov or the Greenbelt Police Department at (301) 474-7200.



ATM burglary suspects

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on
August 8, 2024

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

- a) Approval of Minutes of the Closed Meeting held on April 18, 2024
- b) Member Financial Matters
- c) 2024 Contract for Compensation Review
- d) 2024 Contract for Replacing Roofs and Gutters on Masonry Block Homes – 1st Reading
- e) 2024 Contract for Exterior Repairs to Masonry Units
- f) Member Matters
- g) Personnel Matter

GHI Open Meeting – starts at 7:30 p.m. - open to members and visitors

- a) Statement of Closed Meeting held on August 8, 2024
- b) Approval of Minutes of the Open Meeting held on April 18, 2024
- c) Finance Committee Report
- d) 2024 Budget Process
- e) Confirm Date and Topics of Work Session with Greenbelt City Council
- f) Email Communication Authorization
- g) Bicycle Committee Rule Change Request
- h) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on September 5, 2024

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

- a) \$500K Dividend to GHI

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZwtd-uuqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33zbi9r

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

CRIME continued from page 10

cases to 96) and reported motor vehicle theft increased 404.7 percent (from 107 cases to 540), according to the city's monthly reports.

The prevalence of portable technology, like cell phones and AirPods, contributes to the increasing trend of citizen robbery, Dennis said. "With citizen robberies, we had 57 [cases] so far this year versus 32 this time last year, so it's gone up by 25, but a lot of that stuff is we're finding is juveniles are robbing one another – stealing the cell phones, stealing the iPhones, stealing the AirPods. You have things that didn't exist 10 years ago that people are [taking in strong-arm robberies]," Dennis explained.

Crime Increases by Sector

Reported violent crime in Greenbelt Center increased tripled (from eight cases to 24) from 2013 to 2023, via the monthly Greenbelt crime reports. Violent crimes, as defined here, are murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

From 2013 to 2023 reported violent crime in Franklin Park rose 50.9 percent (from 55 cases to 83), in Greenbelt East increased 83.3 percent (from 24 cases to 44) and in Beltway Plaza increased 75 percent (from 16 cases to 28) over the same period of time.

Trends this Year

Between January 1 and July 16 this year, Dennis reported, cases of robbery increased 55 percent (from 40 cases to 62) from the same period last year, reports of non-fatal shooting assault have doubled (from four cases to eight) and reports of assault without a weapon decreased 19 percent (from 53 cases to 43). Reports of assault through January 1 and July 16 this year match last year's reports over the same

time span at 71 reports. During the same period, Dennis reported, total reported crime decreased 25 percent (from 1,147 cases to 862) and total reported violent crime increased 3 percent (from 190 cases to 196) from the same period last year.

The Greenbelt Police Department's Command Staff and patrol supervisors identify areas with higher reports of crime and then adjust patrol units to target those areas, Dennis said.

"The City of Greenbelt, the Command Staff has been monitoring the crime trends when they rise, and we try our best to make the adjustments," Dennis said. "I think we've been able to curtail quite a bit of the crime that's been happening in the area."

County Trends

Between January 1 to July 27 this year reported violent crimes in Prince George's County rose 11.3 percent from the same period last year (from 2,496 cases to 2,778).

County Executive Angela Alsobrooks recently formed a new team of officers: The Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) Gun Crimes Unit. PGPD Lt. Paul Gambardella told 7News on Your Side, "What we're finding is a relatively small number of people committing a vast number of crimes; we're taking that small number of individuals off the street and, ultimately, going to result in a reduction of violent crime."

Dennis said he believes "a few individuals are likely responsible for multiple crimes, and it seems that these crimes were committed by a juvenile rather than an adult."

Randy Chow is a student at the University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the News Review.

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PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2024-2025 session of the Maryland General Assembly.

Classroom training begins in September for 12 weeks, two days per week, at the College Park campus, with site visits to the state complex in Annapolis.

The volunteer assignment will be for a minimum of two days per week, starting in Jan. 2025, in the Annapolis offices of various senators and delegates. For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu or call (301)-405-2529.

Museum Features Greenbelt's Historic Gardens in Lecture

by Amy Hansen

Once upon a time, at the beginning of Greenbelt, there were gardens. Lots of gardens. "Gardens were a planned feature [of Greenbelt] as much as all the other pieces of town," Stephen Oetken told a standing room-only crowd at the Greenbelt Museum's lecture on July 18. And by gardens, Oetken clarified that he didn't mean flowers near houses, he meant the 50- x 50-foot plots where Greenbelt families grew vegetables to supplement their larders.

Oetken, an historian and volunteer docent for the museum, walked the crowd of about 70 people through both the places where the gardens used to be and what happened to them. Admitting as he moved through the maps that he himself is not a gardener. "I couldn't even grow bamboo," he joked. But he added, doing the research made him want to try.

With the slides that accompanied the talk, Oetken showed his research tools. He found mentions of gardens in the Greenbelt Cooperator (now the Greenbelt News Review). He also found mentions of the gardens in the Greenbelt Oral History project. Then he had visuals. There were pictures available at the Library of Congress and pictures from private collections found in the Greenbelt Library's Tugwell Room. He also worked with maps and aerial photos of the early town, showing white splotches where the ground had been plowed. And yes, he said, the government plowed the plots for the early gardeners.

One of the historic gardens was next to the Boyle farmhouse, which is now the American Legion. The plots were on what is now the parking lot and went down to the two-lane road (now Greenbelt Road) at the bottom of the hill. One of the early pioneers interviewed for the oral history project remembers picking berries next to the road as his family walked to their garden.

And there were more. Oetken mentioned at least eight garden sites from different times in Greenbelt history, including plots on Ridge Road where there is now a playground looking out onto the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, plots where the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. administration building is, plots by the lake at the current Public Works building site, plots on the land that became the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and plots next to Schrom Airport, now Schrom Hills Park.

When Greenbelt opened, Oetken said, there were 300 gardens. Then the war started and those plots were renamed "Victory gardens" and more land was dedicated to the cause until there were 700 spaces. Now, Greenbelt has 89 community gardens that Oetken knows about, though it became clear from the discussion afterwards that he didn't know about all of them.

Oetken said the city administration faced a constant struggle to balance the need for gardens with the other city needs. Not only was the growing city wishing for more playgrounds and ballfields for the many children to



On July 18, Stephen Oetken, a volunteer at the Greenbelt Museum, presents his research.

PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN



Greenbelt residents work in their garden plot.



- Photos by Marjory Collins

play on, the city also needed to grow grass. The defense housing was thrown up quickly and for quite a while was called "mud belt" because there wasn't grass in the lawns. Some gardens were turned into sod farms for a few seasons. In addition, some of the plots may have also been abandoned because of the difficulty in getting water, Oetken said, and read a quote from the oral history project in which someone remembered their father carrying buckets of water down the long dirt road part of Northway to what is now the ballfields. With no car to move the water, and no

running water on site, gardening was difficult.

The work of gardening, he said, was mostly conducted by men and some women. Children helped, he added, showing a few pictures, but the gardens were mostly a way for adults to get out in the fresh air and raise food.

Oetken was pleased but not surprised by the enthusiastic response to the lecture's topic. "There's a lot of nostalgia," he said to the audience in an air-conditioned building. "Who doesn't like a good garden?"

Maryland Marks Major Land Conservation Milestone Early

by Jeremy Cox

Six years ahead of schedule, Maryland's land conservation organizations have reached their goal for protecting nature from development.

Under the Maryland the Beautiful Act of 2023, the state set targets of conserving 30 percent of its land by 2030 and 40 percent by 2040. Governor Wes Moore and other officials announced May 15 that the 30 percent goal had been met, with a total of 1.85 million acres put under protection.

"By moving in partnership, we are meeting our goals ahead of schedule," Moore said. "But we know there's more left to do. I will work closely with state and local leaders to find as many opportunities as we can to add to the state's growing portfolio of public and protected lands, so we can reach our 40 percent conservation goal by 2040."

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) public lands represent the largest sector of protected land at 502,307 acres, or about 33 percent of the total. That is followed by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation with 361,746 acres, and then privately held lands

where development rights were either transferred or sold through county preservation programs with 236,590 acres.

About 95 percent of the state drains into the Chesapeake Bay. Just over 30 percent of the land within the state's portion of the Bay watershed has been conserved, according to an analysis by DNR.

Among the six states and the District of Columbia that drain into the Chesapeake, Maryland's conserved land, as a percentage of total watershed acreage, is highest. It is followed by Delaware (28 percent), Pennsylvania (26 percent), D.C. (22 percent), Virginia (21 percent), West Virginia (16 percent) and New York (8 percent).

A decade ago, the multistate and federal partners in the Bay cleanup campaign set a goal of conserving two million acres of land within the watershed by 2025. Through 2022, the states and D.C. were 82 percent of the way toward achieving that target.

Jeremy Cox is a Bay Journal staff writer based in Maryland. This article first appeared in the Bay Journal.



PHOTO BY NICK HALL

The beavers in Greenbelt Lake have given birth. Two kits have been spotted; there may be more. Here's one of them with a parent.

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.



Attention Filmmakers

Mark your calendars for the 20th anniversary of the Utopia Film Festival October 18 to 21. Submit your films! For questions contact the Festival organizers at UtopiaFilmFest20770@gmail.com or call GATe at 301-507-6581.



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Sports

Coach Jackson and GMST Get Along Swimmingly

by Matthew Neus



PHOTO COURTESY CORA JACKSON

Cora Jackson began swimming for GMST at age 11. After stints as a volunteer coach and paid assistant coach, she is now in her third season as head coach.

Cora Jackson didn't take a liking to any activity when she participated in sports when she was young. She wasn't fond of soccer or baseball, and quit one sport after another. That trend continued until she jumped into the pool.

She took swimming lessons at the Greenbelt pool and finally found something she really enjoyed. Her mom then signed her up for the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team (GMST) and Jackson continued to swim for the team, persevering through a brief period of doubt.

After years of swimming – and coaching as a volunteer and assistant coach – for GMST, Jackson now leads the team as a head coach.

From Swimmer to Coach

"I started working with them when I was 11, and I just absolutely loved it," Jackson said. "I just wanted to spend all my time volunteering, and eventually when I was old enough I got hired."

Jackson began coaching as a volunteer when she was 11 years old while continuing to compete for her team. Her first role as a volunteer coach was helping the developmental swimmers. That led to assisting another coach with the 8-and-under age group, all while participating and practicing as a normal member of the team. She would take off her swim cap and goggles and immediately help coach her team.

The opportunity to still be at the pool when not being in the water helped Jackson keep her love for swimming. Even though she recalled being exhausted from competing, the chance to coach her peers kept her motivated to continue going to practices and continue to improve as a swimmer. "I think the transition really made me fall in love with the sport again," she said. "It really helped me get over that burnout."

In 2019, when she was 15 years old, Jackson became a paid assistant coach. Two years later, she served as the GMST head coach for the first time. She's held that same role in 2022 and now in 2024.

Team Spirit, Team Success

Jackson said the support she's received from the GMST board, parents and the team instills a feeling that she belongs on the

pool deck giving valuable advice to her team. Now in her third season as head coach, Jackson said she's seen improvement in both the team and herself. She loves the feeling of the community of Greenbelt coming together to rally around the team. It's something that Jackson said keeps her motivated to lead her hometown youth swim club.

"If you work a ton of hours off-deck, you're not going to get paid in money," Jackson said. "You will get paid in gratitude, and in progress and in just great memories."

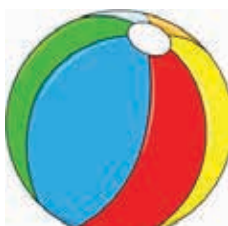
Jackson is one of the youngest coaches in the Prince-Mont Swim League. The GMST competes in Division C. They lost just one dual meet and placed second at the Divisional meet. As she embraces the challenge of being a younger coach, it's all about creating the best environment for the kids on her team.

Jackson said she wants everyone to know that swimming for Greenbelt is "super fun," and that excitement levels rise with each meet throughout the season. Different games and goal-setting activities helped connect the team as one. It led to the team winning the Saum/Hilton Award for Division C, awarded to the most improved team based on seeding. GMST was seeded to come in fifth place out of six teams, but they ended the season in second at Divisionals.

GMST has been a constant in Jackson's life for years. From the team being an activity she stuck with at a young age to finding personal growth as a coach, Jackson said she owes a lot to her local swim team.

"I feel like coaching has helped me develop a sense of self," Jackson said. "Being a part of [GMST] is really special.... It's a Greenbelt thing."

Matthew Neus is a student at the University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the News Review.



Greenbelt Barracudas Finish Swim Season in Second Place

by Karen Knee

Greenbelt's municipal swim team, the Barracudas, finished the 2024 season strong, placing second in their division and winning the Saum-Hilton memorial award. The award recognizes the team in each division that improved the most relative to its initial seeding but did not win the division – Greenbelt, for example, was seeded fifth out of six teams, but ended the season in second place, scoring 203.5 points at Divisionals and narrowly edging out Indian Head Swim Team, which scored 201.

Adding to the excitement, Greenbelt's Mia Moore broke a nearly 30-year-old team record in the 13- to 14-year-old girls 50-meter freestyle with a time of 29:44. These accomplishments capped a great season in which the Barracudas won four of their five regular meets.

Like several other team parents, Moore's mother, Johanna, swam for the team as a child. Her two other daughters, Kira (16) and Libby (8) also swim for the team, and Johanna serves as the team's league representative. "The summer team is something that the kids and I look forward to all year. It's a good, healthy experience for kids and teens and it's good for the community."

Laura Hebert, the team's president, is the mother of four swimmers: Owen (14), Eliana (12) and Maya and Catherine (both 6). "I love how the swim team brings the community together," she said. "People come back for events 30 years later."

Greenbelt's swim team has several features that make it unique. Most summer swim teams only practice during the summer and if swimmers want to continue training during the rest of the year, they need to join club teams, which can be expensive and demanding. In contrast, Greenbelt offers practices on Sunday mornings and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Aquatic & Fitness Center's indoor pool, allowing swimmers to improve their strokes and build their friendships in the pool year-round at an affordable price and in a low-pressure environment. Kids as young as 5 can get started in the developmental group.

Other than Head Coach Cora Jackson, the team's coaching staff is made up of swimmers in the 13 to 14 and 15 to 18 age groups who impart their knowledge and enthusiasm for the sport to their younger teammates. This ap-



Mia Moore swims the 50-meter freestyle.



Louis Roberts demonstrates good sportsmanship after a race.

- Photos by Ken Loo

proach keeps costs down, builds community and allows middle and high school students to gain valuable leadership experience.

"It's kind of like a second home," said Mia Downs, a 14-year-old swimmer and volunteer coach who has been on the team for six years. "I spend so much time at the pool with my friends. It's such a fun place."

Jackson began volunteering with the Greenbelt team at age 11, was hired as the year-round 9-to-10 age group coach at 15, and became the head coach in 2022 at 17, as a rising high school senior. She now attends Vanderbilt University, where she studies secondary education and earth and environmental science, swims for Nashville Aquatic Club's Master's program and Vanderbilt University's club swimming, and coaches for the Nashville Aquatic Club.

"Coach Cora is very optimistic and supportive," said 10-year-old swimmer Maggie Brown. "She pushes us just hard enough to excel."

Jackson emphasized the role the swim team plays in bringing diverse people from in and

around Greenbelt together in a positive way. "In a time when everything is so overwhelming and polarizing, community care is absolutely crucial. It means so much to be able to invest in the community that gave me a childhood full of love and cheer," she said.

The swim team attended the All-Stars meet for top finishers from all six divisions on the morning of Saturday, July 27 and the end-of-season awards banquet that evening. They will be marching in the Labor Day Parade on September 2. Then, after several weeks of much-deserved rest, practices will start back up in the fall.

For more information about the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team, visit greenbeltswimteam.com.

Karen Knee is the parent of GMST swimmer Maggie Brown.



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Out and About - in Greenbelt and Beyond



PHOTO COURTESY RENÉE COOPER

Greenbelt News Review traveled to Vienna, Austria, with Renée Cooper, shown with brother Alexander Krumpholz in front of the Belvedere.



PHOTO COURTESY MARTI GALVIN

Marti Galvin, left, and Donna Peterson visit Prince George's County Brown Station Road Refuse Center to hand-deliver defunct small appliances. They tossed their unusables over the barrier into a waiting dumpster. This adventure is well worth the effort!



PHOTO BY JOE ROBBINS

A torn Earth flag, symbolic of what we are doing to the planet, stitched up by a friend to focus on the positive of helping to repair our planet



PHOTO BY LIN ORRIN

Reinaldo Guebarra of Bright-View trims a tree near Parcel X in Greenbelt on Wednesday, June 5.



PHOTO BY LIN ORRIN

Mabel Appiah-Duffell of Greenbelt sings Give Me One Reason to Stay Here by Tracy Chapman at Karaoke Night on Monday, July 1, at the New Deal Café.



County Schools Offer Free Summer Meals

Prince George's County Public Schools offers free meal service for children under age 18 through Friday, August 9. Breakfast is served from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and lunch from noon to 1 p.m. on weekdays. Meals must be eaten on site and dates and times are subject to change.

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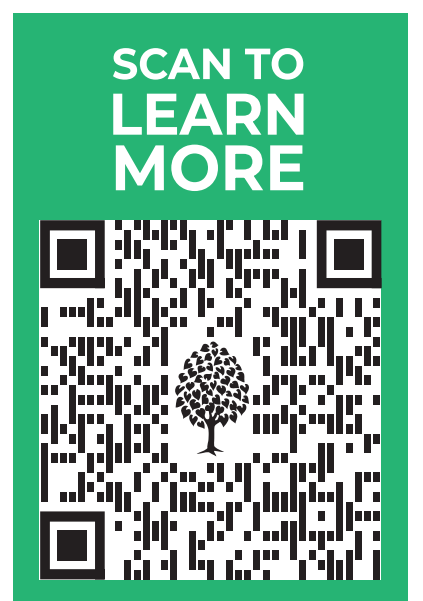
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