



EV Event, p.9



HUG Walk, p.16

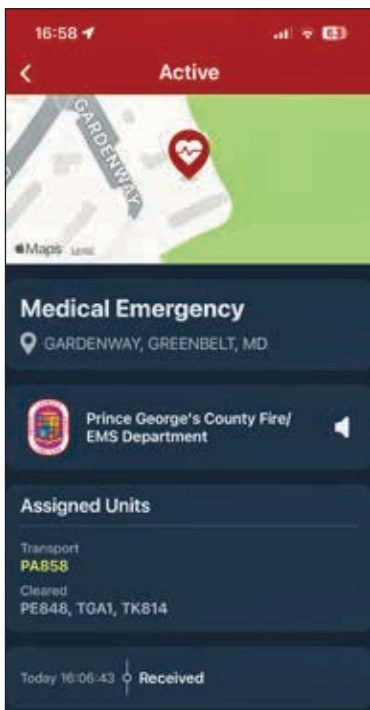
## Man's Death Follows Dispatch Difficulties; PGFD Violates PIA

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

*(Editor's Note: The News Review had hoped to be able to report on this incident with access to official documents. Following our Public Information Act (PIA) request, the Prince George's County Fire Department (PGFD) was required under the Act to provide records or respond with a decision about them within 30 days. Despite our further outreach and reminders, at press time, it was 42 days since the PIA was filed. This incident was one of three cited as cause for serious concern in the City of Greenbelt's open letter to PGFD Chief Tiffany Green on October 2.)*

On September 18 a GHI contractor reportedly went into anaphylactic shock after he was stung by bees while working as an exterminator at a unit on Gardenway. The man died later at the hospital. PGFD Director of Public Information Alan Doubleday told the News Review that two ambulances responded to the call for emergency medical help – one taking four minutes and the other taking seven minutes. The neighbor who called 911 and stayed on the call until an ambulance came into sight shared her phone record with the News Review, showing a call duration of eight minutes.

On September 18 Chrissy



The PulsePoint App recorded a medical emergency at Gardenway at 16:06:43 on September 18.

Voigt was at her home on Gardenway when she saw the contractor spraying for bees in her neighbor's yard. On her home camera, she first noticed him swatting around his face, then she saw him in the front, kneeling down and seeming to drop paperwork. By the time she reached

him he was lying face down in the dirt and having a hard time breathing, recalled Voigt, who called 911. While she was on hold, Voigt went across the court to her neighbors, Amy and Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, to ask for their help. Voigt had time to make it back to the man before her call was picked up. By the time the Carpenter-Driscolls joined her, he was unconscious.

### Difficulty Understanding Address

Once her call was answered the telecommunicator struggled to understand the GHI address. "It felt to me like it took quite a long time for her to understand our address. I had to repeat it multiple times in multiple different ways for her to understand [the unit number and letter].... So that was the part that made me the most nervous, that it seemed so hard for them to understand our address structure and figure out how to dispatch," says Voigt. "I was in a heightened state because it was very distressing," she said, recalling how clear she tried to be about the address. "But ... delivery people get here all the time. We get food deliveries. This is not hard to understand where we live. See DEATH, page 7

PHOTO COURTESY PULSEPOINT

## Phonophobia: The ERHS Band That Took First Place at Festival

by Njeri Kamenwa

After winning first place at the Rising Stars Showcase at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival on September 2, the student rock band Phonophobia has made quite the name for themselves. Composed of Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) seniors Braeden Keffer, Grayson Hough,

Gus McComb and Jason Gallardo, the rock quartet, after winning that first place in September, has gained a large fanbase. From performing at a Tri-M (the music honor society for grades 6 to 12) recital in 2022 to that first-place finish at the Labor Day Festival in 2024, the band has come a

long way from its origins. This reporter interviewed Phonophobia – which, ironically, means a fear of music – to discuss their journey from jazz trio to rock band.

The band first consisted of Hough on saxophone, Keffer on piano and McComb on drums in 2022 when they were doing a recital at a Tri-M event held at ERHS. The trio performed the jazz piece On Green Dolphin Street. Despite the last-minute

See PHONOPHOBIA, page 15

### What Goes On

**Monday, November 18 7:30 p.m.,** City Council Meeting, Municipal Building  
**Wednesday, November 20 7:30 p.m.,** Council Worksession: Traffic Calming Study – Greenbelt Center City, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 and the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information



From left, Grayson Hough (vocals), Gus McComb (drums), Braeden Keffer (guitar) and Jason Gallardo (bass). All four band members are seniors at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

PHOTO BY NJERI KAMENWA

## Emancipation Day

### Panel Reviews Reparations Status, History and Future

by Erica Johns



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Approximately 70 people attended a Saturday, November 9 discussion on the historical context, continuing efforts, and outlook for restorative justice for Indigenous and Black persons. The Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee hosted the panel at Greenbelt Library.

On November 9 over 70 people attended a reparations discussion at Greenbelt Library, hosted by the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee. Panelists shared historical context, continuing efforts and the outlook for reparative justice for Indigenous and Black communities. Attendees came to learn, many bringing notebooks to record information they found meaningful.

### Emancipation?

Committee Chair Lois Rosado, Ed.D., opened with why a fight

continues for repatriation, remuneration and indigenous rights. Moderator Joey Jennings of the University of Maryland introduced panelists Raymond Winbush, Ph.D., of Morgan State University; Dreisen Heath, a human rights, reparative justice and liberation movements organizer, formerly of Human Rights Watch; and Elder Rico Newman of the Piscataway-Conoy Tribe of Indians.

See REPARATIONS, page 10

## Blitz – Stacking Up Reality Against a Movie's Drama

by Cathie Meetre

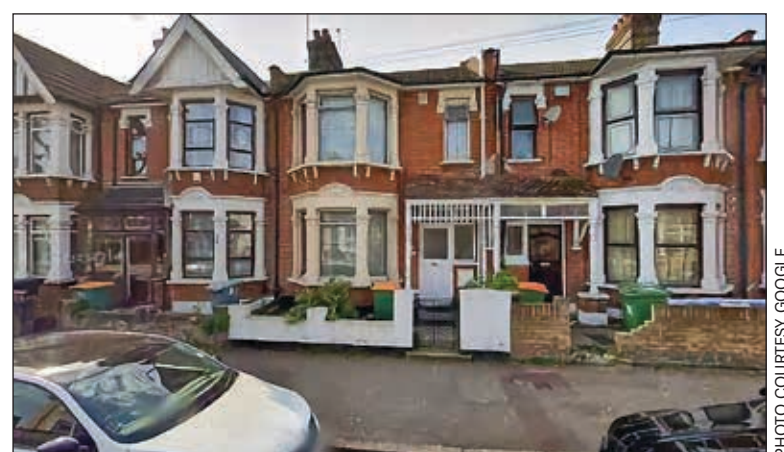


PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE

188 Browning Road — the house with the white door — is where Sylvia Lewis lived during the Blitz.

The movie Blitz, about a young boy in World War II London, currently is on screen at Greenbelt Cinema. Sylvia Lewis may be the only Greenbelter who, as a small child, experienced the Blitz in the East End of London, where the docks and shipyards were a prime target. Lewis' view of the period as a small child is different from that of an older person, of course, but a letter her mother wrote in October of 1941 provides the

viewpoint of an adult.

In Greenbelt, Lewis is known for being an Outstanding Citizen, former News Review board member and, for many years, president of GHI, but she was only 4 years old when war was declared in September of 1939, and was the second youngest of a typical large East London family with seven children.

The Blitz lasted from September 7, 1940, to mid-May See BLITZ, page 12



# Letters to the Editor

## On Reparations

The deaths Mr. Crenwelge's family experienced are appalling, but then war is appalling. It is not relevant to the issue of reparations.

To him: I find it hard to believe that no one helped you. Even if your parents did not encourage and support you, I am sure that your teachers and counselors did. You also had two pieces of good luck: you were born smart and born white. So only about one fourth of your success can be attributed to hard work. Still, you can be proud of that. You achieved the American dream: work hard and get ahead.

For Black and Native Americans life was very different. They had 300 years to learn that there is no reward for hard work, that your teachers are unlikely to encourage or support you and there is no advantage to being smart. Until quite recently, they had very little control over what happened to them.

Yes, we owe them reparations. First, a profound and sincere apology, then our best efforts to ensure that teachers and counselors truly encourage and support all their students and finally ensure that they truly have an equal opportunity for good jobs.

For the record I share your background: blue collar, first to attend college, smart and white.

Mary Halford



## Focus on Mean Words Not Abuses of Power

I can understand the concerns of the City's JEDI [Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion] Action Team over Councilmember Rodney Roberts' strong language used back in August. However, it's telling that the JEDI Action Team wishes to censure Roberts for an alleged violation of the Standing Rules but has remained silent in the face of Mayor Emmett Jordan's ongoing refusal to preside over meetings in accordance with the Standing Rules.

For example, as we saw during last year's appointment process, Mayor Jordan repeatedly denied some members of the public their full three minutes to speak, as guaranteed under Section 1, Item 8, while allowing other members of the public to speak well over three minutes, even though such members of the public did not have "the consent of Council" to do so. Despite the fact that Section 6, Item 2, states, "No member of Council shall interrupt another without that member's consent," Mayor Jordan routinely interrupts his fellow councilmembers, especially Councilmember Roberts. In fact, Mayor Jordan seems to think he is above the prohibitions on "speak[ing] more than once upon any one subject" and against "speak[ing] for a longer time than five minutes" in Section 6, Item 4, even though he is supposed to be equal with all

See **LETTERS**, page 10



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:

**NOVEMBER 15th - 21st**

**Anora (R) (CC) (DVS)**  
(2024) (139 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**

Mon. 5:00 PM

Tues. 7:45 PM

Mon. 5:15 PM

Wed. 6:45 PM

Thurs. 7:45 PM

**Blitz (PG-13) (CC) (DVS)**  
(2024) (120 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Mon. 2:15 PM (OC)

Wed. 4:10 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**

Fri. 5:15 PM

Sat. 8:15 PM

Sun. 6:30 PM

Tues. 8:00 PM

Thurs. 5:00 PM

**Conclave (PG) (CC) (DVS)**  
(2024) (120 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Thurs. 4:45 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**

Fri. 8:15 PM

Sat. 5:15 PM

Sun. 2:15 PM

Mon. 2:00 PM

Tues. 5:30 PM

**Gomeo Bobelu: Lightning Unveiled (NR) (2023) (39 mins)**

**Sponsored by Isadora Kaplan**

**- FREE - post-screening Q&A**

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Sun. 5:00 PM

**Storytime on Screen - Free!**

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

**Wayne's World (PG-13) (1992)**  
(95 mins) - Cult Classic

**Free trivia event at 7 PM!**

**Hosted by @TheScreenBliss**

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**

Thurs. 8:00 PM

## On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

### Anora

Sean Baker's Palme d'Or winner, the film is an audacious, thrilling and comedic variation on a modern-day Cinderella story. Mikey Madison captivates as Ani, a young sex worker from Brooklyn whose life takes an unexpected turn when she meets and impulsively marries Vanya, the impetuous son of a Russian billionaire. However, when Vanya's parents catch wind of the union, they send their henchmen to annul the marriage, setting off a wild chase through the streets of New York.

### Blitz

From director Steve McQueen, the film follows the epic journey of George (Elliott Heffernan), a 9-year-old boy in World War II London whose mother Rita (Saoirse Ronan) sends him to safety in the English countryside. George, defiant and determined to return home to his mom and his grandfather Gerald (Paul Weller) in East London, embarks on an adventure, only to find himself in immense peril, while a distraught Rita searches for her missing son. Said critic Justin Chang of NPR, "Blitz, while not exactly a movie for children, is nonetheless a story about a child, and it has powerful moments of wonderment, humor and even joy."

### Conclave

The film follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events: selecting the new Pope. Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked with running this covert process after the unexpected death of the beloved Pope. Once the Catholic Church's most powerful leaders have gathered from around the world and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence uncovers a trail of deep secrets left in the dead Pope's wake, secrets which could shake the foundations of the Church. Critics' consensus, according to Rotten Tomatoes: "Carrying off papal pulp with immaculate execution and career-highlight work from Ralph Fiennes, Conclave is a godsend for audiences who crave intelligent entertainment."

### Gomeo Bobelu: Lightning Unveiled

This documentary on Zuni artist Gomeo Bobelu won Best Documentary Short Award at the Santa Fe Film Festival.

### Wayne's World

A big screen spin-off of the Saturday Night Live skit. Rob Lowe plays a producer that wants to take the public access Wayne's World to the world of commercial television. Wayne (Mike Myers) and Garth (Dana Carvey) battle to save their show and Wayne's girlfriend from Lowe.



-- Rosanne Douglas

## Letters Policy

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

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

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



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

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



# Community Events

## No Action Needed On WSSC Letter to GHI

Many members of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) have received a letter from WSSC advising them that their water service line may contain lead. GHI has sent an email to members informing them that GHI has requested WSSC to update their records to show that GHI's water service lines are copper, not lead.

## At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

### Storytime on Screen

Monday, November 18, 10:30 a.m., at the Greenbelt Cinema, 129 Centerway. Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. This program is best suited for children ages 1 to 5 and their caregivers. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11866481](http://pgcmls.info/event/11866481).

### Storytimes

Friday, November 15, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11866467](http://pgcmls.info/event/11866467).

Wednesday, November 20, 12:15 p.m. ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11866386](http://pgcmls.info/event/11866386).

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

### STEM-tastic

Tuesday, November 19, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12 (elementary). Join in and explore science, technology, engineering and math. Learn about the Maya counting system and try it out. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11866576](http://pgcmls.info/event/11866576).

### Ride and Read

Thursday, November 21, 11 a.m., ages 16+ (adult). Get some physical activity while at the library. Sign up for an hour ride on a stationary bike with free apps from PGCMLS like Libby, Kanopy and Hoopla to enjoy while working out. Participants must be 16 or older, sign a waiver before beginning to ride and wear loose-fitting clothing and closed-toed shoes. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11866534](http://pgcmls.info/event/11866534).

### Upcoming Virtual Events

Virtual Book Discussion, Tuesday, November 19 at 6:30 p.m., 18+ (adult). The group will discuss Blood Sisters by Vanessa Lillie in celebration of Native American and Indigenous Peoples Month. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/11874940](http://pgcmls.info/event/11874940).

## Homebuying Seminar For Essential Workers

On Saturday, November 23 from 12:30 until 2:30 p.m., Lafayette Federal Credit Union will provide a seminar designed to provide essential workers with the information and tools they need to navigate the homebuying process. Covered will be exclusive mortgage options, financial resources and key steps to take when purchasing a home. This is a great opportunity for healthcare workers, teachers, first responders and other essential personnel to gain insights from industry professionals. Lunch is included.

Register for the event at [lfcu.org](http://lfcu.org) or at 240-747-2471. Lafayette Federal Credit Union is located at 7537 Greenbelt Road, in the Greenway Shopping Center.

## GVFD Community Indoor Yard Sale

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will hold its last of the season Indoor Community Yard Sale on Saturday, November 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fire hall, at 125 Crescent Road. Come help support the Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary. Refreshments, as well as homemade baked goods, will be available for purchase. Tables are still available to rent. See the classified ad for details.

Masks are not required but may be worn if desired. The fire hall is handicapped accessible and has designated parking in the rear.

## Empty Bowls Event Nov. 17 at St. Hugh's

The Empty Bowls event will take place on Sunday, November 17 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. The event will benefit the St. Hugh's Food Pantry, which provides food weekly to over 60 families.

Participants can purchase a ticket (200 tickets will be sold), select a unique handcrafted ceramic bowl made by Greenbelt Pottery Group members and enjoy a cup of soup, bread, drinks and dessert with others in the community. Kids 6 and under eat free. Tickets can be purchased by emailing Mary Ann Tretler at [mary\\_tretler@yahoo.com](mailto:mary_tretler@yahoo.com) or by calling 240-517-7559.

Music will be provided by local Greenbelt groups. There will be additional pottery pieces available for purchase at the event.

## Reel and Meal Presents Film on Rent Stabilization

On Monday, November 18, the Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café will present *People vs Profit: The Fight for Permanent Rent Stabilization* in Prince George's County. The documentary, which premiered only a few months ago, delves deep into the local struggle for affordable housing.

Highlighting the legislative process, the film contains testimonies from county residents. The event starts at 7 p.m. and will be both in-person at the Café and online via Zoom.

Zoom registration is required at [tinyurl.com/reelmealNov18](http://tinyurl.com/reelmealNov18). A discussion will follow the film screening for people to share their experiences and ideas about what individuals and institutions should be doing.

For more information, visit Reel and Meal's Facebook page at [facebook.com/reelmealNDC](http://facebook.com/reelmealNDC). View a trailer for the film at [tinyurl.com/peoplevprofit](http://tinyurl.com/peoplevprofit).



## Greenbelt Chess Club Meetings for November

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays November 19 and November 26. The meetings will take place at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, go to [tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m](http://tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m) and complete the brief form. Email questions to [greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com).

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

## Breakfast With Santa

Greenbelt friends, neighbors, and children: come to the Greenbelt American Legion, 6900 Greenbelt Road, on Sunday, December 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a very special breakfast with Santa. On the menu for breakfast are pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, muffins and a beverage. Children will have their picture taken with Santa and participate in an art and craft project. There is a small fee per ticket and children under 5 are free. Tickets are limited to the first 100 and may be purchased at the door. Both auxiliaries of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Greenbelt American Legion are proud sponsors of the first joint annual event.

## The SPACE Experience

Everyone is invited to The SPACE Experience v0.5 – A Peek Behind the Scenes on Tuesday, November 19, from 5 [sharp] to 7 p.m. [-ish], for an immersive open house at The SPACE: Free Art For All. Explore hands-on art, connect with our SPACE Crew, and see what's been happening "behind those doors." Dive into interactive projects, watch inspiring videos from our Aperture Crew Program and experience the magic that drives our community forward.

They'll be showcasing their arsenal of creative tools, including several high-precision Prusa MK4S 3D printers, the versatile X-Tool F1 laser engraver and a Cricut cutter in their Third Space Lounge, ready for vinyl, heat transfer and adhesive projects. There will also be unique handmade, 3D-printed, painted and sewn items available for purchase, auction and interaction.

For more details, visit [FreeArtForAll.org](http://FreeArtForAll.org) or call/text 240-563-3930.



## Astronomical Society Meets Thurs. Nov. 21

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 21 in Room 114 of the Community Center. Jay Lockman, Ph.D., principal scientist of the Green Bank Telescope, will speak on *The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*. The meeting is free and open to the public. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Lockman will be presenting remotely, with the lecture projected on the screen. Those unable to attend may join the Zoom session directly. The link will be posted before the event at [greenbeltastro.org/events](http://greenbeltastro.org/events).

## Reusable Bag Giveaway

Maryland Christian Fellowship Community Church (MCF) will donate 1,000 reusable tote bags to Greenbelt residents at various locations on Saturday, November 16 from 11 a.m. to noon. "For many families, paying for bags or purchasing reusable bags is yet another challenge in an already difficult journey," says Pastor Jeff Warner of MCF. The tote bags, measuring 20" by 13" by 8", will be offered in person at the Co-op Supermarket, Safeway, Giant and Target.

## Golden Age Club's November Schedule

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon in the Community Center, Room 201. Members must live in Greenbelt, but visitors are welcome.

The programs for the rest of the November meetings are as follows:

November 20, birthday celebration (everyone is asked to bring a snack to share).

November 27, there will be no meeting.

## This Week at the New Deal Café

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

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.



113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

\*\*\* Monday-Thursday 8am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday 8am - 12midnight; Sunday 9am - 9pm, UNLESS NOTED\*\*\*

TH 11/14	FRI 11/15	SAT 11/16	SUN 11/17	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Bobby Thompson 7-9pm Powerful blues, funk and jam	Swell w/Mollie Morrison 8-11pm Fun, energetic band with a spunky style	POETRY OPEN MIC, 1-3pm Great Northern 8-11pm Grateful Dead tribute band	Grateful Sunday featuring Purple 6-8pm Playing a good dose of Grateful Dead	
MON 11/18	TUES 11/19	WED 11/20	TH 11/21	New Deal Cafe
REEL AND MEAL 7-9pm This month's film: "People vs. Profit" <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ReelMealNov18">https://tinyurl.com/ReelMealNov18</a>	Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 7-9:30pm Sign-ups at 6:30pm. Express yourself!	Pub Quiz 7-9pm Bring your own team or form one! Test your knowledge!	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Charlie Owen & Pocket Change 7-9pm Sweet Soul and R&B	KITCHEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

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.

\*\*\*HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK NDC WEBSITE FOR UPDATES\*\*\*

Thank you for your understanding - NDC Board



**Greenbelt Access Television**  
Nov 16, Sat - Nov 22, Fri  
Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77  
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)  
Streaming on [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org)

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)  
**The Stranger (1946)**  
Orson Welles' first noir film, critically acclaimed for its superb screenplay and cinematography, is a thrilling cat-and-mouse chase between a war crimes investigator and a high-ranking Nazi fugitive.

New This Month  
**Fall Animations**  
Peppered into our programming this week is a selection of fine animations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation class this fall, as well as a pixilation short from All's most recent Animation Workshop in partnership with Greenbelt Cinema!

All this and more on the GATE channel this week! Check [greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://greenbeltaccessstv.org) for the full broadcast schedule, and visit [Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube](http://Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube) for new video productions.



# Obituaries

## Louvain Townsend



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

### Louvain Townsend

Louvain C. Townsend died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday morning, October 20, 2024. She lived a full, vibrant life, touching many lives along the way. Her faith was evident. Louvain was wise, devoted and hardworking. Her forgiving heart, her infectious laugh and beautiful smile were an inspiration to all who knew her.

We were privileged to call her Mom, Grammy, Nanny, Aunt and sister.

Louvain married the love of her life after graduating from high school. She worked at home raising four children. As a public-school bus driver she retired after serving more than 25 years.

Louvain loved living in Greenbelt. She loved her family, her church, her friends and her neighbors and was always ready to serve in any way she could. She will be missed. Her family knows and rejoices that she is with the Lord.

Louvain's beloved husband George M. Townsend preceded her in death. She is survived by children Belinda Cohan, Donna Halpern, Shawn Townsend and Brian Townsend; grandchildren Mehmet, Remzi, Brendan, Ryan, Mark, Anna, Kevin, Daniel, John, Ashley, Nicholas, Brianna, Jacob, Keith and Rachael; 12 wonder-

ful great-grandchildren; sister Yvonne; and brother Wendell. She was also an aunt to many dear nieces and nephews.

A memorial/visitation service will take place Saturday, November 23 at 10:30 a.m. at Wallace Presbyterian Church, 3725 Metzert Road, College Park, MD 20740.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Samaritan's Purse.

## Bill Norwood



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

### Bill Norwood and Ms. Cat

Billy (Bill) David Norwood, 84, of Mt. Airy and Greenbelt died Thursday, November 7, 2024, at home in Greenbelt.

Born September 22, 1940, he was the son of the late William and Inez (Pickett) Norwood and the former spouse of Anna Maria Cristina (Chrystalle) deLucca. Bill was retired from the University of Maryland Physics Lab in College Park. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Cold War as a Russian

translator stationed in Turkey. Bill was a member of Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church (UMC) in Greenbelt.

Surviving him, in addition to his former wife, are children Jennifer (Jenna/Osha) Ruth Norwood of Washington, D.C., and son Eric Todd Sherman Norwood of Greenbelt.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, November 13, at Burrier-Queen Funeral Home and Crematory, in Sykesville, with Pastor Evelyn Romers of Mowatt Memorial UMC in Greenbelt officiating. Interment was at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Mt. Airy. Those desiring may contribute to the Norwood Family Fund to help with costs and the furthering of physics education through video demonstrations shared on free platforms. Share online condolences at burrier-queen.com.

## GILA's Thanksgiving Celebration Nov. 27

The Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA) will hold its Annual Thanksgiving Celebration on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenbelt Community Church, 1 Hillside and Crescent Roads. Goodwill donations for the city's Emergency Assistance Fund will be collected. An anonymous donor will match all donations up to \$3,000. Go to greenbeltinterfaith.org and then to Thanksgiving Celebration for more information, including the Zoom link for those who want to attend virtually.

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt**  
**Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors**  
 Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)  
 301-474-5410  
 Pastor Evelyn Romero  
**Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Celebrate hope with us.**

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704  
 301-937-4292 [www.saintjohnsbeltville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltville.org)

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

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
 One Hillside Road

We are an  
 Open and Affirming  
 Church

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

[www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD](https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD)  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

**CELEBRATE WITH US**  
 135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)

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

## Thanksgiving Service Choir Rehearsals



A combined choir is preparing for this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration. Rehearsals will be held at Greenbelt Community Church on Thursdays, November 14 and 21 and Monday, November 25, all beginning at 7 p.m. under the direction of Susan Breon. The Thanksgiving Celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, November 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the same location.

## Give Thanks for Bounty, Help Stamp Out Hunger

The impact of a fully stocked pantry is profound. Those who are thankful for their bounty can help stamp out hunger in Greenbelt. Greenbelt PORCH continues to collect nonperishable food in the month of November as scheduled below.

Saturday, November 16 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Sunday, November 17 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and P.A.L. (Porch At Large) members (including former Woodland Hills donors). Email Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on November 17 at spreadruak@gmail.com; he will come to any porch.

Sunday, November 24 – by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive; after 4 p.m. for the 9, 11, 12 and 13 Courts Ridge Road.

Condolences to the family and friends of Bill Norwood who will be missed by many. A co-founder of the 85 Decibel Club in early 2014, Bill was a fierce advocate for safe sound levels at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and the New Deal Café. As a founder of Greenbelt Dancers, Bill maintained an email list to inform its members about opportunities for dancing in the region, including the Friends of Blobs Park social dance club that met regularly at the College Park American Legion after Blobs Park closed its doors in 2015. Until recent years he was an excellent ballroom dancer in high demand as a partner on the dance floor. He also was a generous and longtime supporter of the Greenbelt Farmers Market.

Our sympathies also to the family and friends of Louvain Townsend. She had lived in Greenbelt for more than 60 years. Her son, Brian Townsend, is assistant director-parks in the city's Department of Public Works.

Send details of your news to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

“And the breeding-ground of all these tragedies is prejudice: prejudice of race and nation, of religion, of political opinion; and the root cause of prejudice is blind imitation of the past – imitation in religion, in racial attitudes, in national bias, in politics.” – ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**  
[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

The Bible Says...

**The Ten Commandments**  
**#10-You Shall Not Covet**  
 (Covet-inordinate desire for what belongs to another)  
 Exodus 20:17

**Sunday Worship Services**  
 10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School  
 (66 Ridge Rd.)  
**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](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
 Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725  
 Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

**Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience:**  
**A Journey for Self, Family, Congregation and Society**

November 17, 2024 at 3:00 pm  
 PBUUC Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)  
 with Worship Associate Carol Boston

At Paint Branch, we annually observe Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience. This service highlights the remembrance of transgender people whose lives have been cut short due to anti-transgender violence and to those who survive, organize and thrive. This service also features the stories of Paint Branchers and their journey toward embrace and love of their transgender family members.

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

**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](mailto:CCG1985+owner@groups.io)

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





# 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](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).



### GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:30 pm

#### ORGANIZATION

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS

**Presentations**  
- **Municipal Government Month Proclamation**  
- **Presentations on Stop Signs Program**  
\* **Minutes**  
- **Administrative Reports**  
\* **Committee Reports**  
\* **Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Report #24-02: Grant Report**

#### LEGISLATION

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Contract for Website Redesign and Services  
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Charles P. Johnson and Associates to Prepare Up to 15 Storm Drain Easements  
- Proposed Police for Processing Little Free Library Placement Requests  
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with VMP Construction Company, Inc. for Paving the Multi-Use Path Between Greenbrook Drive and Schrom Hills  
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Contracts for ARPA Project - Ballfield Renovations for Schrom Hills Park Multipurpose Filed and Braden Athletic Complex  
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Contract for Greenbelt Station Central Park - Shaded Tables  
- Legislative Issue Tracking  
- CDBG PY50 Contract Award – Roadworks Improvements Cherrywood  
- Council Activities  
- Council Reports  
\* Approval of Non-Profit Grant Awards  
\* Meetings  
\* Stakeholders  
\* Approval of Special Employee Holiday  
\* Appointment for Advisory Board/Committee  
\* Authorizing the City Manager to Contract with Charles P. Johnson and Associates for the Preparations of a Storm Drain Easement for the Storm Drain System Located in the Vicinity of 4 Woodland Way at a Cost Not to Exceed \$11,400  
\* Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Renewal of the Fire Station Lease  
\* Resignation/Appointment to Advisory Board

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

*This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV) or call (301) 474-8000.*

### SHOP WITH A COP FUNDRAISER

Thank you for being so supportive and generous!

The Greenbelt "Shop with a Cop" fundraiser challenge coin is now available for \$20. Each year, the Greenbelt Police Department proudly participates in "Shop With a Cop," fostering community spirit and support. To raise funds for this heartwarming event, a challenge coin has been created in the shape of an ornament, showcasing the Greenbelt Police Department badge adorned with lights on one side and the year of the event on the back.

We welcome donations and all proceeds go directly to the Greenbelt Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" program which supports families in the Greenbelt community. We couldn't do this without your support. Donations can be made online by visiting <https://ow.ly/mg6h50TZs6P> or by emailing [rdennis@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:rdennis@greenbeltmd.gov).

### LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE Fall 2024-2025

Week	Location	Holiday
November 4-8	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
November 11-15	Boxwood	<b>Veterans Day</b> November 11
November 18-22	Woodland Hills	
November 25-29	Lakeside	<b>Thanksgiving</b> November 28 & 29
December 2-6	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
December 9-13	Boxwood	
December 16-20	Woodland Hills	
December 23-27	Lakeside	<b>Christmas</b> December 25
December 30 - January 3	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	<b>New Years Day</b> January 1

### MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 18 - 22

Monday, November 18 at 2:30 pm, **ETHICS COMMISSION**

Wednesday, November 20 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY: GREENBELT CENTER CITY**

Wednesday, November 20 at 7 pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Council Liaison Update, Recreation Department Update, Administrative Report*

Thursday, November 21 at 5:30 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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

### PROPOSED COUNCIL VACANCY PROCESS

The proposed Council Vacancy Process legislation will be introduced for a first reading on **November 18**. A public hearing on the proposed Council Vacancy Process will be held on **December 9**.

The Greenbelt Board of Elections has proposed two options for the Council to consider in the event of a vacancy on City Council. If "Option 1" is chosen, legislation will need to be drafted to amend the Election Code. Alternatively, if "Option 2" is selected, legislation will need to be drafted to amend the City Charter. Both options will follow the proposed timeline for filling the vacancy as follows:

#### 1. VACANCY OCCURS (REASON: DEATH, RESIGNATION, INCAPACITY, OR FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE):

- Determine the timing of the vacancy in relation to the next election

#### 2. MORE THAN 180 DAYS BEFORE NEXT ELECTION:

##### Special Mail-in Election:

- Candidates must file nomination papers.
- Ballots are mailed to voters.
- Voters have 30 days to respond.

#### 3. BETWEEN 60 AND 180 DAYS BEFORE NEXT ELECTION:

##### Council Majority Vote:

- Seat filled by majority vote after a public hearing.

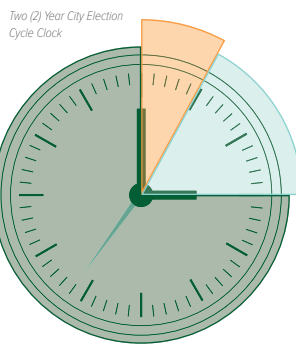
#### 4. Within 60 Days of Next Election:

##### Council Discretion:

- The seat may remain vacant or may be filled at the Council's discretion.

#### 5. SIMULTANEOUS VACANCIES:

- If three or more vacancies occur simultaneously, a special election is required.



Two (2) Year City Election Cycle Clock

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/elections](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/elections)

OR scan the QR code below



### 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](mailto:countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us)  
(301) 952-4131

#### Office of the County Fire Chief

[tdgreen@co.pg.md.us](mailto:tdgreen@co.pg.md.us)  
(301) 883-5200

#### At-Large County Council Member Hawkins

[At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us](mailto:At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us)  
(301) 952-2195

#### County Council Member District 4

[councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us](mailto: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](mailto:council@greenbeltmd.gov).

### EMERGENCY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION

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/mkMAzJf6toZ6Xuhg8> or call Brendy Garcia Maddox at (240) 424-0302.

### COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Trees, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

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

Call (301) 474-8000.

### FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

#### UPCOMING PRODUCE DISTRIBUTIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - TWO LOCATIONS

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

**Springhill Lake Recreation Center:** 3 - 4 pm, [registration](https://forms.gle/RFBH8oYgCikjvrCM8) required. For Greenbelt West residents only. Register via email [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov) or register online at <https://forms.gle/RFBH8oYgCikjvrCM8>.



### GOBBLE WOBBLE Thursday, November 28, 9 am

Join us for the Gobble Wobble Family Fun Run & Walk, a Thanksgiving morning community tradition! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. Participants meet at the Greenbelt Youth Center and the course takes them on the Buddy Attick Park Lake path. Get some exercise and have fun before your Thanksgiving feast!

Participants receive a Gobble Wobble shirt, medals for top finishers, and medals for youth participants. Online registration ends November 27 at 5 pm. For registration assistance, call (301) 397-2200 or email [aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov).

Early registration ticket prices: Individuals \$20; Family 4-Pack \$70. Day of race tickets: Individuals \$25; Family 4-Pack \$90.

Register at <https://bit.ly/gobblewobble24?r=q> or visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov). Race packet pick-up is Wednesday, November 27, 9 am - 8 pm at the Youth Center.





## Maryland's Statewide Burn Ban Includes Fire Pits, Charcoal Grills

Dry, windy conditions have increased fire risk across the state and fueled ongoing wildfires. Beginning November 1, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) implemented a statewide ban on open air burning in all Maryland counties.

Extremely dry conditions persist across the state and have led to an above average number of wildfires statewide, with conditions not expected to change in the near future. The ban will remain in effect until the Maryland Forest Service determines the state has received enough precipitation to reduce the threat of wildfires statewide.

State law enacted in 2007 authorizes the MDNR Secretary, at the recommendation of the Maryland Forest Service, to implement such a ban when landscape and weather conditions warrant. Open-air burning such as campfires as well as charcoal grilling are not permitted under the burn ban, but state law does permit the use of propane grills. The law defines open-air burning as a fire where any material is burned in the open or in a receptacle other than a furnace, incinerator or other equipment connected to a stack or chimney.

"We do not make these determinations lightly and understand this may require some people to adjust their plans," said MDNR Secretary Josh Kurtz. "However, a ban of this magnitude is necessary to protect the lives and property of Maryland residents and visitors, as well as the state's natural resources. Given the significant risk, this is the only option available to us that will allow for statewide monitoring and enforcement to prevent wildfires due to the dangerous conditions. We will be monitoring the wildfire risk daily to determine when it is safe to lift these restrictions."

Seven Maryland counties (not Prince George's) already had local restrictions in place, and state officials are working with local jurisdictions to monitor conditions and enforcement. Outdoor fire restrictions are also in place for the entire State of Delaware and several Pennsylvania counties.

In most areas of Maryland, trees have dropped a significant portion of their leaves, contributing to the ongoing fire risk.

Authorized MDNR agents and all police officers that enforce state laws may enforce the restrictions. The fine for a first citation for violating the ban is \$300.

"While fines may be imposed for violations, the most important result of a ban of this type is that it communicates to the public the severity of the situation and the critical need to act responsibly to protect lives, property and our environment," said State Forester Anne Hairston-Strang.

Maryland Forest Service officials made the recommendation to implement the ban based on the following data:

Since October 1, the Forest Service has responded to more than 24 wildfires that have burned 75 acres, more than triple the 10-year average for the month of seven wildfires burning 21 acres. Forest Service firefighters and partner agencies are currently containing active fires in Washington, Frederick, Anne Arundel and Worcester Counties.

The state has received less than 25 percent of the average precipitation for October, with much of the state receiving little or no precipitation with the exception of Garrett and Allegany counties. Those two counties have received less than 50 percent of the monthly average.

Since 1988, the State of Maryland has enacted the full statutory ban in 1988, 1995, 1999 and 2006 and the less stringent regulatory ban four times, in 1991, 1998, 2001 and 2002. Historically, restrictions have remained in place from one to eight weeks, with the 2006 ban lasting from March 31 to April 24. The ban will be lifted as early as safely possible.

Authority to effect the ban is granted in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article, Title 5-720.

*This article is drawn from a press release from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The ban is still in effect despite last Sunday's rainfall.*

### Frequently asked questions about the burn ban

**Q: Are small recreational campfires permitted?**

A: No, all open fires are prohibited.

**Q: Are pellet grills/smokers allowed?**

A: If a burning device has a stack or chimney, it may be used.

**Q: Are propane grills/stoves/fire pits allowed?**

A: Yes, since these devices have an on/off switch. However, caution is advised.

**Q: Who can enforce the burn ban?**

A: Any officer who is authorized to enforce laws of the state.

**Q: What is the fine for violating the burn ban?**

A: The fine for a first offense is \$300. Officers always prefer to educate citizens rather than issue citations, but that will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Q: When will the ban be lifted?**

A: When fuel, drought and weather conditions improve – requiring a significant rainfall – the ban will be lifted as soon as safely possible.



**Drop us a Line!**

Electronically, that is.

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

## Franklin Park Apartment Fire Displaces a Family of Four

by Erica Johns

In the late morning of Thursday, November 7, a third-floor apartment in the 9800 block of Springhill Lane was badly damaged in a fire. Franklin Park Resident Services Manager Jocelyn Gutierrez said the family of three adults and one child was not home at the time. There were no reported injuries.

Gutierrez said fire alarms and smoke detectors were activated and that multiple staff and residents contacted Prince George's County Fire Department (PGFD). The News Review asked PGFD's Director of Public Information Alan Doubleday for the times the calls were received. He did not answer that question but noted the multiple 911 calls. He wrote that units were dispatched to the one-alarm fire at 11:01:42 a.m., with Engine 838 (from Chapel Oaks VFD in Seat Pleasant but at the Berwyn Heights Station at the time) arriving at the scene at 11:07:15 a.m. According to Doubleday, six additional vehicles responded: two engines from Beltsville and Chillum-Adelphi, a paramedic vehicle from Calverton and three ladder trucks from College Park, West Lanham and Hyattsville.

Doubleday wrote that the fire was quickly extinguished and contained to the apartment. He added that the PGFD fire marshal's office determined the fire was accidental, starting in a portable air conditioner plugged into a power strip, with damage estimated at \$300,000.

Since the removal of career firefighters from Greenbelt, (as well as Berwyn Heights, Bunker Hill and Bowie-Belair) in June, daytime Greenbelt fire incidents are served by the non-Greenbelt fire apparatus closest at the time and fire apparatus from the Greenbelt fire station respond only when sufficient volunteers are present.

The third-floor apartment was on the building's top floor. When Gutierrez spoke with the News Review at 3 p.m. that day, she said the second-floor apartment beneath it received water damage, and its drywall was being replaced at that time. She said the family returned to that second-floor apartment that day.

Doubleday said the Prince George's County Office of Emergency Management assisted the third-floor family, and Gutierrez



Seven Prince George's County Fire Department vehicles responded to a one-alarm fire in Franklin Park on the morning of Thursday, November 7.



Workers begin removing debris from the top floor apartment and repairing water damage in the apartment below in the afternoon after the fire.

- Photos by Erica Johns

said they would be rehoused elsewhere in Franklin Park. The News Review asked Gutierrez whether there are any arrange-

ments for donations to the family – this newspaper will provide readers with information if it becomes available.

**CLOSING WEEKEND!!!**

**The Importance Of Being Earnest**  
By Oscar Wilde

**Friday, November 15, 8:00pm**  
**Saturday, November 16, 8:00pm**

"Humorous, salty, and often silly—the three best things one could want for a period comedy of romance and frivolity—this production is charming and well-paced and will tickle your fancy"

—Amanda N. Gunther, TheatreBloom

"In this 'Trivial Comedy for Serious People,' it is the performers who really shine... It is lighthearted music for the mind"

—Jennifer Georgia, DC Theater Arts

"...fans of comedy, witty conversation and plot twists should purchase their tickets now... Don't wait too late and miss out on a raucous and enjoyable experience"

—Leo Casalini, Greenbelt News Review

Scan the QR code or visit [GreenbeltArtsCenter.org](http://GreenbeltArtsCenter.org) for tickets!



# City Council Formalizes Armory Acquisition; Approves Contracts

by Maurice Crawford

The Greenbelt City Council met on Monday, October 28 and took action on a number of items. They postponed discussion of Councilmember Rodney Roberts' conduct (see article in November 7 issue), heard from U.S. Representative Glenn Ivey's office, formalized purchase of the Armory and moved forward with several contracts.

## Updates from Ivey's Office

Ethan Sweep, community liaison for Rep. Ivey, provided updates concerning Greenbelt residents. Sweep said applications for Community Project Funding will likely open in February or March 2025. There will be a January webinar on the application process.

Any resident can receive assistance from Ivey's office. He said an easy way to do so is on the website [ivey.house.gov](http://ivey.house.gov), by clicking Open a Case at the top of the page.

## The Armory

Council voted to formally acquire the Armory and approved \$50,001 to do so: \$50,000 for utilities and maintenance and \$1 for acquisition. City Manager Josué Salmerón reported the building has been closed off and cameras are in place. Councilmember Amy Knesel wanted to know how long the funds would last. Salmerón said they would last until the end of the fiscal year but that there were other actions, like the feasibility study, that would be funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

## Task Force MOU

Council approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Marshals Service Capital Region Fugitive Task Force. The Task Force mission is to reduce violence in the region by identifying, investigating and apprehending fugitives wanted for serious crimes against the community. This MOU would allow Greenbelt police access to task force resources and provide career enhancement opportunities for Greenbelt officers.

Both Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Danielle McKinney were concerned this may affect the workload of Greenbelt officers. Chief of Police Richard Bowers said the assignments are on a temporary basis and only when Greenbelt cases arise.

Bowers said the task force has been involved in Greenbelt's major cases like homicide and violent crime and gave the specific example of their assistance in the Schrom Hills shooting incident.

## Parking Space Removal

Assistant Director of Planning Jaime Fearer reported that a 7 Court Hillside resident was having problems seeing traffic when exiting their driveway. Staff examined the resident's concern and found a sightline problem. Although the city does not have a policy regarding private driveway sight concerns, removing four parking spaces would follow best practices, alleviate the sighting concern and improve access to a bus stop.

The main concern expressed by council was if residents had been made aware of this agenda item and what the impact of re-

moving the four spaces may be. Notice of the issue was sent to residents via GHI's weekly email on October 28 and, although removing the four spaces would improve sight lines, other effects on residents and street parking had not been assessed.

Roberts suggested removing just one space because this court only has street parking and losing spaces would create a hardship for residents. Jordan moved that only three spaces be removed: one near the bus stop and two on either side of the road, as one approaches from the north or south. Knesel seconded his motion. Council approved Jordan's motion 4 to 3, with McKinney, Councilmember Silke Pope and Roberts opposed.

## Raised Crosswalks

Council approved a contract with VMP Construction for \$20,000 of ARPA funds to install two raised crosswalks on Ridge Road, between Southway and Westway, at the existing street-level crosswalks. They will be similar to the raised crosswalk in front of Greenbelt Elementary School on Ridge Road. The crosswalks would support pedestrian and bicycle master plan implementation and improvements.

## Outdoor Pavilion

Council approved a contract with Sparks At Play LLC to construct two ADA-compliant pavilions at Buddy Attick Park for a total cost of \$218,423.34 (using ARPA funds). One pavilion (20x20 feet with six fixed tables) would be located near the playground and the other (20x30 feet with 10 fixed tables) would be built in the group picnic area. Construction of the two pavilions is consistent with the draft Buddy Attick Master Plan and groundbreaking would occur in the spring or early summer of 2025.

Jordan wanted to know if there were any motivations for the contractor to finish the project on time because he is concerned about the many contracts the city has in place and work not being completed in a timely fashion. Salmerón wanted to exercise prudence, believing punitive damages on contracts would likely lose contractors because they are not short of work right now.

## Chiller, Boiler Replacement

Assistant Director of Public Works Brian Kim described the need to replace chiller and boiler systems at the Community Center. Both systems have an expected lifespan of 25 years but are now 29 years old, plus new chillers would have environmentally compliant coolants. There is some urgency in getting the contract in place due to supply chain issues and the timing of the project. The plan is to have the chillers replaced in fall 2025 in time for use in summer 2026, and replace the boiler in spring 2026 in time for fall and winter use. The cost of the contract is \$1,168,745 with most going to Shapiro and Duncan for the mechanical work and \$50,000 to CPJ, the engineer of record.

Salmerón pointed out that most of the cost (\$1 million) is covered by ARPA funds but \$168,745 is from Capital Improvement Funds. He added that

the city is also seeking grant funds that could be used to support the project.

Jordan queried how the project would affect activities at the Community Center. Kim believed that there would be some disturbance, mostly noise, but did not foresee closing the building for an extended time.

McKinney wanted to know if the 15 percent contingency rate was normal. Kim responded that the contingency rate varies depending upon the project but the 15 percent rate is not unusual for this type of project.

Council voted unanimously to allow the city manager to execute the project.

## IT Equipment, Licensing

Council voted to authorize the city manager to execute about \$100,000 in contracts for information technology needs from several vendors (using ARPA funds). The equipment and infrastructure will be used to maintain the city's computer lifecycle and rotate out old and end of life equipment.



## Kids Discovery Center At Patuxent Refuge

The Discovery Center at the Patuxent Research Refuge offers learning activities and crafts for children ages 3 to 10 with an adult, Tuesday through Saturday. Sessions start at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, lasting 35 minutes. November's theme is Beavers.

Registration is strongly recommended. Call 301-497-5760. Visit [fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/patuxent-visitor-center](http://fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/patuxent-visitor-center) for more information.

## Kids' Fest Saturday At Holy Redeemer

Holy Redeemer Church and School in College Park will host Kids' Fest on Saturday, November 16 from noon to 5 p.m. It's a fun afternoon of bounce houses, STEM activities, visits with Santa, music and more. There is an entry fee. Game tickets and a BBQ lunch will be available for purchase. For tickets, visit <https://shorturl.at/qUATu>.

Kids' Fest is hosted as part of Holy Redeemer's 52nd annual Harvest Bazaar, which also includes a large outdoor yard sale, bakery, raffles, silent auction and craft and white elephant sales. After 5 p.m. there will be a Harvest Bazaar Celebration and Live Auction. For more information regarding the Harvest Bazaar and related events throughout the weekend, visit [parish.holy-redeemer.org/harvest-bazaar](http://parish.holy-redeemer.org/harvest-bazaar).

Holy Redeemer is located at 4902 Berwyn Road, College Park. Kids' Fest will be conducted outdoors, weather permitting. Children ages 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.



# DEATH continued from page 1

I do understand that our address structure is so different from other communities."

## Aid

As the neighbors on Gardenway awaited the ambulance they tried to help the man, whose name they still don't know. "With the instruction from the dispatcher, we were able to roll him over and get him flat, and then she walked us through chest compressions," said Voigt. He was breathing but it was labored and he was foaming at the mouth, she said, leading her to believe he'd been stung multiple times. "[His] symptoms indicated anaphylaxis, between extreme swelling of face and neck, a lot of redness," said Amy Carpenter-Driscoll. When medics arrived they assessed cardiac rhythm using an AED, loaded him onto a stretcher and intubated him in the ambulance, according to the neighbors.

The man reportedly died in hospital a few days after the incident. "That was very upsetting to hear," said Carpenter-Driscoll, who had hoped he'd be all right once he was able to get treatment, since anaphylaxis is treatable. "I feel confident that as neighbors we did what we could for him, so that helps, but it just is a sad situation for him and for his family," said Voigt.

## Response Time

Voigt's call record shows the 911 call began at 4:06 p.m. PulsePoint (an app that shares some emergency call details) showed a medical emergency at 4:06:43. According to Doubleday, two ambulances were dispatched at 4:09 p.m. and the swiftest arrived after four minutes, at 4:13 p.m. (Paramedic Ambulance 858). PGFD counts the response time from when a vehicle is dispatched. If Doubleday's dispatch time is correct, the ambulances were dispatched at least three minutes after Voigt called 911. There's also a one-minute difference in recorded arrival times between Voigt's call end-time and Doubleday's statement of arrival time.

Carpenter-Driscoll says she understands PGFD tracking response time from dispatch, but the time on hold, explaining the address and then possibly waiting for an available engine to be dispatched, "even if that's an additional minute, two minutes, that all adds up in terms of the time that the patient is waiting for care," she says. "I can appreciate

them using that calculation, but at the same time, for people experiencing an emergency and for people calling and waiting, those are two different things, and what matters to the patient at the end of the day is, how fast did I get care from when I started having an emergency. And I don't think that's something we should overlook in these conversations," says Carpenter-Driscoll.

## Another Case

In September the News Review interviewed Steve Edmonds, whose life was saved when Greenbelt Police responded when he sliced open an artery in an accident in Greenway Center. In that case, Edmonds said he was watching his blood spurt out as the person who called 911 for an ambulance was fielding numerous questions, so he asked a nearby man to call the police instead. Greenbelt Officer Joshua Forney arrived and applied a tourniquet that saved Edmonds' life. "If he hadn't have got there I would have died," said Edmonds. Indeed, at the hospital he was told he'd have died waiting for the ambulance. (See the September 12 issue for more on that emergency and Officer Forney's Life-saving Award.)

In addition to reaching out to PGFD, the News Review has contacted Prince George's County's 911 Office by phone and by email to request an interview about call times and staffing, but received no response.

On October 18, in a letter to Greenbelt's Mayor Emmett Jordan, PGFD Chief Tiffany Green wrote that since the removal of Greenbelt's career firefighters on June 1, the average response times for Basic Life Support calls from this coverage area rose from eight minutes 44 seconds to nine minutes 12 seconds. Response time for Advanced Life Support calls increased from six minutes 23 seconds to seven minutes 19 seconds. For more on the average response times between June 30 through October 12, see the October 24 issue of the News Review.

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## State and County Election Results

### President, Vice President of the U.S.

Democratic Candidates Kamala Harris and Tim Walz won in Maryland with 61.11 percent of the votes. Republicans Donald Trump and JD Vance received 35.63 percent of the votes.

### U.S. Senator for Maryland

Democrat Angela Alsobrooks won in the state with 53.12 percent of the votes. Republican Larry Hogan received 44.31 percent.

### Representative in Congress, District 4

Democrat Glenn Ivey won in District 4 with 88.22 percent of the votes. Republican George McDermott received 11.46 percent.

### County Council at Large for Prince George's County

Democrat Jolene Ivey won with 87.48 percent of the votes. Republican Michael Riker received 12.23 percent.

### Judges of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County

The incumbent judges all won reelection. The challenger did not win a seat.

### Judges, Appellate Court of Maryland

The incumbent judges won continuance in office.

### Ballot Questions

Question 1 for a constitutional amendment for the right to reproductive freedom won approval in the state with 87.5 percent of the votes.

### Prince George's County Bond Questions

Question A for County Buildings Bonds won approval with 81.39 percent of the votes.

Question B for Library Facilities Bonds won approval with 87.33 percent of the votes.

Question C for Community College Facilities Bonds won approval with 87.88 percent of the votes.

Question D for Public Works and Transportation Facilities Bonds won approval with 89.34 percent of the votes.

Question E for Public Safety Facilities Bonds won approval with 88.92 percent of the votes.

Question F for County Charter Amendment on Agency Staffing Levels won approval with 87.52 percent of the votes.



## Mary Poppins At MAD Theater

NASA Goddard's Music & Drama Club (MAD) is presenting the musical Mary Poppins on weekends through November 23 at the Barney & Bea Recreation Center at 9998 Good Luck Road. Tickets must be bought in advance and most shows are already sold out; Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22 were still available at press time.

The play is based on the beloved Disney movie and features songs like A Spoonful of Sugar, Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and Chim Chim Cher-ee. With an 11-piece live orchestra and a cast of 52 talented actors and dancers performing in the round, the audience can expect a large and colorful spectacle.

The show is directed by Greenbelter Jon Gardner. Many of the roles are double-cast and the show features several Greenbelt residents, so check the website to find out which shows your favorite actor(s) are in.

Visit madtheater.org for more information and ticket sales.

## 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](https://signup.com/go/UNkLnqk) or email us at [staff@make125.org](mailto: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.

## Greenbelters Energized by Third Annual Electric Vehicle Event

by John Lippert

On Sunday, September 22, the Greenbelt Green Team staged its third annual Electric Vehicle (EV) Event in the Greenbelt Library parking lot. Local EV owners brought 19 EVs, 18 full battery electric and one plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, representing models from nine different automobile manufacturers. There were inexpensive Chevy Bolts and Nissan Leafs to more expensive Mercedes EVs. Most were five-passenger vehicles, but the KIA EV9 accommodates seven passengers. One Greenbelter brought the newly released Honda Prologue from his dealer's lot.

Nearly 60 visitors showed up to explore the vehicles and ask the EV owners questions about their EVs and EV charging experiences. Some sat in the cars where they examined the interior. Towering Mayor Emmett Jordan tried out the seating in the Kia EV9; he made it into the way-back third row seat, but struggled to get out.

The Greenbelt Green Team had a table with information. Scott Wilson, vice president of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington, D.C. (EVADC), was on hand to answer technical questions and hand out information as well. One visitor said this was the second Greenbelt EV Event she attended. She was surprised to learn that a federal incentive up to \$4,000 might be available on a used EV. She

liked the characteristics of the Chevy Bolt and recently purchased a used one. (To qualify for the used EV incentive, the EV must be at least two years old, have been purchased from a dealer and cost no more than \$25,000. Additionally, maximum income-level criteria determine eligibility.)

For the first time, another category of electric transportation was represented: electric bikes and scooters. There was a lively discussion about this two-wheeled electric vehicle form of transportation. Wilson brought and rode around the parking lot an unusual e-scooter sold by Honda. A bit odd looking, its flat footprint makes it easy to transport in a car and then take on the Metro and go that last mile on electrons to work.

With the aim of ensuring Greenbelt Green Team events are available to all sections of Greenbelt, the third EV Event took place in Greenbelt Center. This followed last year's EV Event in Beltway Plaza in Greenbelt West and at Schrom Hills Park in Greenbelt East the year before.



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## September 22 EV Event



PHOTO BY HALLY AHEARN

From left, Jane Young, John Lippert and Kevin Lee are pictured with two of the electric vehicles. At left is a blue Kia EV9, and on the right is a Tesla with gullwing doors.



PHOTO BY KATHY BARTOLOMEO

Attendees at the EV Event survey a variety of electric bikes and scooters, including a reclining bike. Some were purchased as electric bikes and at least one was retrofitted.



PHOTO BY KATHY BARTOLOMEO

Alex Barnes and Kristen Weaver with some of Greenbelt's electric vehicles



PHOTO BY MATHURINE CASSIDE

Kim Kash and Michael Cooney read the News Review overlooking the Place Nationale in Montauban, France.

## County Legislation Would Require EV Charging, But Is that Enough?

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Two pieces of proposed legislation that would make way for more electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the county moved through the Committee of the Whole and were formally introduced before Prince George's County Council on Tuesday, October 15. CB-67-2024, sponsored by Council Chair Jolene Ivey (District 5), Vice Chair Sydney Harrison (District 9) and Council Member Wala Blegay (District 6) and CB-105-2024, sponsored by Ivey and Blegay, would require EV charging stations at all newly constructed multifamily residential buildings, office buildings and mixed-use developments beginning in 2027. The bill calls for 10 percent of parking spaces to be EV-ready and 5 percent to have electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) installed.

### Not Enough

Steve Skolnik, Greenbelt EV specialist and member of Green ACES and the Green Team, spoke with the News Review as a resident. It's timely for legislators to recognize EV's growing popularity and "the concomitant need for growth of 'electric vehicle supply equipment' (EVSE), otherwise known as EV chargers," he said. However, Skolnik believes the required percentage of EV-ready and EVSE-installed spaces in these pieces of proposed legislation is too small. "The M-NCPPC [Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission] Planning Board, in their report on the proposed legislation, recommends 20 percent 'EV-ready' plus 20 percent 'EVSE-installed' for multifamily residential properties, and 10 percent 'EV-ready' plus 10 percent 'EVSE-installed' for

commercial properties," points out Skolnik. "The Biden administration has recommended up to 50 percent of off-street parking spaces be 'EV-ready,' and that 20 percent be 'EVSE-installed.'"

"Electric vehicles are the future," Blegay told her colleagues. "We're behind in the region and we're now going to be ahead. That's going to be great for us because we want to show people that we are environmentally friendly and we're futuristic."

"Our legislators need to think hard about the trajectory of EV adoption, which is increasing at a rapid rate, and adopt policies that assure the EV charging infrastructure we install today will be able to accommodate the increased demand that is sure to come in the near future," Skolnik said. He would also like to see existing multifamily properties encouraged to retrofit installation of EV-ready and EVSE-installed off-street parking spaces (this legislation is directed only at new construction) and legislation preventing property owners, managers and HOAs from arbitrarily refusing residents' applications for installation of EVSE.

In addition to legislation, Skolnik said, "The county should allocate grant or low-interest loan funding programs, provide technical assistance and expedite permitting, so as to encourage multifamily property owners to move forward with EVSE installations."

*This article draws in part from information in Prince George's County Council public communications.*



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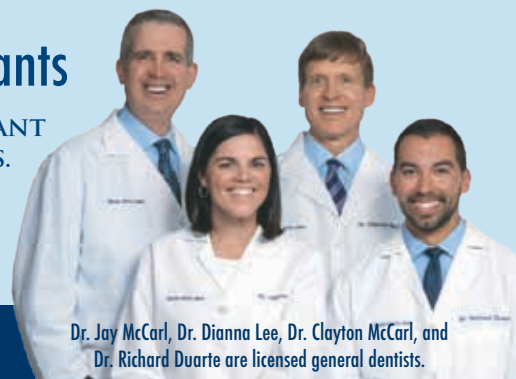
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## REPARATIONS continued from page 1

Though the event commemorated Maryland's November 1, 1864 Emancipation Day, panelists were skeptical of what the day celebrates. The Maryland constitution that emancipated enslaved persons was barely ratified by voters and not fully honored, with some formerly enslaved people forced into indentured servitude to their enslavers. Winbush noted that at Greenbelt's founding, Blacks could work in Greenbelt but not live here.

### Why Reparations?

Rosado said Indigenous and Black persons have been robbed of land and human rights, emancipated only to be confronted with racial terror lynchings and disenfranchisement and have only slowly gained rights, with psychological and economic effects to this day. Heath gave the example that in 1838 Georgetown University avoided bankruptcy by selling 272 enslaved persons to Louisiana slaveholders. The school acknowledged this in 2015 and created a foundation for those persons' descendants, including educational benefits. However, an attendee who identified herself as Kaylin said she documented her descent from the group in her 2019 Georgetown application but was denied admission. This compounds the harm, said Heath.

Heath described the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre when hundreds were killed and over 1,200 houses and businesses burned. No one was held accountable nor were survivors compensated, Heath noted. Tulsa-born Heath testified to Congress that redlining and other policies have also prevented recovery of the neighborhood, which she said has only two Black-owned properties, high unemployment, poor economic development, segregated schools, no local grocery stores and aggressive policing.

More recent injustices highlighted by the panel include Chicago police torturing over 100 Black people, from the 1970s to 1990s, to confess to crimes they didn't commit, leading to prison and death sentences. Though Chicago acknowledged the torture and some convictions were overturned, one person died in prison, some with overturned convictions remain in prison and prosecutors continue pursuing some cases.

### Indigenous Perspective

Newman said tribes seek not financial reparations, but land, education and economic self-sufficiency. They want repatriation of lands where they lived before colonization. Maryland colonial treaties recognized their rights to the land, but the U.S. deemed pre-U.S. treaties invalid. The 1862 Morrill Act authorized sale of Indigenous lands to fund land grant colleges and universities, including the University of Maryland. Former Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley issued executive orders in 2012 that recognize the Piscataway but don't recognize land rights or any entitlements. The tribes seek scholarships for tribal members at universities that benefited from tribal land sales, which Newman said hasn't occurred at the University of Maryland. He also said including Indigenous history in Maryland elementary school textbooks has only marginally improved in 20 years, and ends with 4th grade textbooks.



Panelist Elder Rico Newman of the Choptico Band of Elders, Piscataway-Conoy Tribe of Indians poses with Lois Rosado, chair of the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee.



Panelist Dreisen Heath, independent consultant and organizer for human rights, reparative justice and liberation movements, formerly of Human Rights Watch



Panelist Dr. Raymond Winbush of Morgan State University

- Photos by Erica Johns

### What Are Reparations?

Reparations are not merely financial compensation, but are to repair trauma and damage to survivors and their descendants, the panelists said. Reparations are not one size fits all, since trauma affects persons differently and different communities have different needs.

Reparations are not new, are not only for Black people and are used today to repair many communities who have been violated. Since 2015, Chicago has

provided police torture survivors, their immediate families and deceased suspects' immediate families with psychological counseling and free City Colleges of Chicago tuition and includes the torture history in 8th and 10th grades. Georgetown University established a foundation to benefit descendants of the persons they sold. Federal funds assist families of 9/11 victims, Camp Lejeune personnel exposed to toxic water and others.

But what is offered to Indigenous and Black peoples isn't al-

ways meaningful, the panelists said. Newman said tribes are offered rights they won't accept and can't get rights they do want, mentioning Paha Sapa, the Black Hills of South Dakota, seized from the Sioux in 1877. Court cases in 1979 and 1980 called the seizure illegal and awarded the Sioux Nations millions of dollars. That multibillion-dollar bank account is untouched because accepting the money would renounce the land rights.

A Human Rights Watch report about Tulsa noted a 2021 museum about the massacre could be part of reparations but not instead of necessary repair or without survivor or descendant input.

### Post-Election Outlook

The Bill H.R. 40 has been introduced in every Congress since 1989 to establish the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans. Heath said 2022 negotiations that brought the bill near passing were foiled by Republicans led by Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX and current Senate Majority Leader candidate).

Heath predicted possible post-election scenarios. If Biden creates the commission by executive order before leaving office, President-elect Donald Trump could rescind the order or appoint reparations skeptics to the commission when he takes office. She said the new administration could alter census data and deny FOIA requests, and proposed evisceration of the Departments of Education and Justice would impede access to their data.

Current bill H.R. 4321 is intended to prohibit state and local reparations, which if passed would constrain Greenbelt's efforts.

### The Power of Paying Attention

Winbush stressed the importance of learning history and

staying engaged in reparations efforts.

Panelists insisted on the need to hold institutions and jurisdictions accountable for a full and truthful reckoning of past and continuing harms. Newman and Heath both said that despite Georgetown saying it is redressing harms against descendants, experiences like Kaylin's continue.

Heath discussed supporting each other within and between Black and Indigenous communities. Sharing educates all communities about past and continuing harms, encourages others to share their experiences and harnesses the power of community to repair those harms, she said.

Heath said she is concerned about the image of reparations as payments rather than a struggle for economic and social justice. She urged listeners not to rely on governing bodies for reparations, but independently build processes and institutions to self-resource what they need and deserve, saying, "We have to defend our livelihood."

One attendee asked how to get young people "to embrace that there is still a struggle," describing them as not caring about education or constructive activity. She asked how to inspire "pride in representing our community" and the knowledge that "we need to be collectively we." Heath said she is inspired by young people who organize and strategize and by the intergenerational nature of the reparations and Land Back movements. She cited truth telling as key to younger generations learning the history that brought us to this point – this is not a new struggle. She advised telling them they are part of a legacy of principled struggle and they can't afford not to care.

## Letters, from p.2

other councilmembers in our city's weak mayor system.

Providing a just, equitable, diverse and inclusive space does require councilmembers to speak with respect. However, it's even more important that procedural rules be followed and that no one individual be allowed to dominate a discussion in violation of those rules. Therefore, I am disappointed to see the JEDI Action Team ignore Mayor Jordan's routine abuses of power in favor of targeting Councilmember Roberts.

Alexander Zajac

### In Defense of Roberts

Rodney Roberts has always spoken his mind. No sugar coating. No polished oratory. We are better served because he asks questions and goes against some of council's wants. We keep electing him for that reason. He has so often been the lone dissenting voice in a wave of adversity. Not partaking in a lemming lineup at vote count.

Thank you, Rodney, for speaking up again, for we the citizens of Greenbelt. This latest incident is beyond the tipping point of reason. A heated discussion is part of the job and, yes, words fly fast and furious. The Gumpism "stupid is as stupid does" applies across the board. We all can do boneheaded things. Council should stop spending so much for so many things with so little thought and thank Roberts for asking why.

John Mason and Lolly Gaines



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*My Point of View*

# Historical Demand for Repair and Redress

by Lois Rosado

As detailed in last week's letter to the editor, Mr. Crenwelge's life experiences and family history are horrific. The German immigrants who were massacred at Nueces by Confederate soldiers for refusing to be conscripted into the army was one of many atrocities that occurred in Texas during the Civil War against those opposed to slavery. However, these were not racial terror acts and would be classified as gross violations of human and immigrant rights.

Reparations are based on a long history of injustices and the legacy of systemic racism, white supremacy and anti-Blackness indignities that persists to this day. Mr. Crenwelge was able to assimilate, take advantage of opportunities and move forward with his life. Yes, he carries the trauma from his family history, but he is not daily penalized because of the color of his skin or his economic status. He was not constantly denied opportunities that he qualifies for because of the color of his skin. He was not denied the ability to live where he prefers because of the color of his skin. Black Americans have been criminalized psychologically in the minds of white America, no matter their age, education, economic status and achievements, because of the color of their skin.

Those who demand various forms of reparations are not victims. For example: Belinda Sutton demanded a pension for enslavement in 1783. Callie House in 1897 organized the Mutual

Relief, Bounty and Pension Association to demand reparations relief for formerly enslaved workers. Olivia Hooker, a survivor of the Greenwood, Tulsa, Okla., race massacre was the first African American woman to join the U.S. Coast Guard and earned a doctorate degree in psychology. She did not dwell on the past but still demands reparations for the destruction of her family's home and business from the 1921 White Riot. Read about Greenwood, Tulsa, Okla., 1921 and learn why it was called the Black Wall Street.

Repair and redress are demanded for 250 years of enslavement; 100 years of laws, policies and disenfranchisement during the Jim Crow era; racist behaviors that destroyed many towns established by African Americans and the 4,400 documented racial terror lynchings.

All our nation's history needs to be learned – the good, the bad and the ugly. Remember, the first person to die for American independence was Afro-Indigenous man Crispus Attucks. Will he too be erased?

So, while I empathize with Mr. Crenwelge and learned about the immigrant massacres during the Civil War, I think there are parts of our nation's history concerning African Americans that are still not known, taught or understood. African Americans are determined to strive forward, but we are very clear about how white supremacy ideology continues to impact our lives and the lives of all Americans.

*Emancipation Day Review*

# Just Another Bombing?

by Leo Casalini

It's 2 a.m. on February 16, 1964, in Jacksonville, Florida, and the house is silent as Iona King leaves the cake she's stayed up into the early hours baking and heads for her bed. An hour later she will be shaken awake as an explosion rocks her house on its foundation. Iona's son Donal Godfrey, who was six at the time, remembers being thrown into the air by the blast.

Iona and Donal were one of the many Black families during the fifties and sixties who were subjected to acts of racially motivated terror. Just Another Bombing?, a short film that played at the Greenbelt Cinema on Sunday, November 3 as part of the city's Emancipation Day programs, tells their story which had previously gone untold for decades. The film's director, Hal Jacobs, lived in the same town as Iona and Donal during his childhood, just four blocks from their house, even sharing Donal's age. Yet despite the proximity of their lives, he only learned of the bombing a few years ago. The film was a response to Jacobs' question of "Why didn't I know this story?" and a chance for Iona and Donal to finally provide their account.

In 1964 it was deduced through an FBI investigation that members of a local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan were responsible for the bombing. William Rosecrans, aided by five others, planned the strike and delivered the bomb to Iona and Donal's home. Luckily the bomb was placed on the side of the house opposite to where the family slept so everyone escaped unharmed. However the same was not to be said for the house, and Iona and Donal were homeless. Rosecrans would later reveal in his confession that his reason for committing the act of terror was to try to get Donal to unenroll from Lackawanna Elementary School.

Lackawanna Elementary School was an all-white school a short distance from where Donal and his family lived on Murray Hill. On his first day there, he recalled the mothers of white children screaming obscenities at him and his mother as they made their way to the school. Ten years after the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education verdict made segregation in public schools illegal, schools in Florida were still either mostly white or Black. Iona, seeing the chance for a better education for her son, took it readily. "The government says we can go. So we went."

Iona started working at age 9, making three dollars an hour as a maid. She worked for a family of inherited wealth, and because of this was privy to things other people of color were not. Even knowing that she would never

be able to reach her employers' level of wealth and stature, she saw no reason why her son could not, and did her best to put him in situations which forced him to better himself. She introduced him to parts of the world that had for the longest time only been inhabited by whites, and Lackawanna was only the beginning.

In the film Iona recounts taking Donal to a predominantly white movie theater, and her own mother's anger at this seemingly reckless behavior. Donal explains that so many Black people during that time lived in a box. What they could and couldn't do structured how they thought and acted. He thanks his mother for thinking outside the box and giving him experiences many others of his race didn't get during that time period.

When the bombing took place it was a national sensation, but barely made ripples locally. No first responders arrived on the scene to aid the family in dealing with the devastation, simply a scattering of journalists in their yard the next morning. On April 17, 1964, Rosecrans pled guilty to the bombing of Iona and Donal's home, going on to serve a seven-year sentence. The other five were acquitted, each by an all-white jury.

Iona now lives in Washington, D.C. and Donal in Ghana. Filming the project was the first time either had been back to Jacksonville since they had left decades prior. "Sixty years is a long time," Iona said as she addressed the crowd in Greenbelt's theater, "and you learn to appreciate life and the fact that things are a lot better now."

*Leo Casalini is a senior at Northwestern High School writing for the News Review.*

**City Notes**

Community Center and Recreation staff assisted with election setup, promoted and facilitated Emancipation Day events and took seniors to a play at Goddard Space Flight Center.

Arts staff and approximately 30 workshop participants helped construct the new public sculpture installed at Motiva apartments. Arts also offered an autumn leaf-themed Artful Afternoon at the Community Center and at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted Pre-K Bilingual Storytime.

Code inspectors attended the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference.

Parks/Horticulture planted two memorial trees and prepared for Bradford pear replacement on Hanover Parkway. Public Works did roadwork at the police department.

The Aquatic & Fitness Center launched the Toys for Tots drive and Park Rangers welcomed Cider Ride cyclists at the lake. Current Animal Shelter residents are two dogs and a cat.

CARES' GED training program announced two more GED graduates.



**Greenbelt Farmers Market**

**Stock Up on Farm-Fresh Ingredients for Thanksgiving!**

**Sundays 10a - 2p**  
Southway and Centerway

[GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org](http://GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org)



## News Review Abroad



PHOTO COURTESY MARGARET BENEFIEL

Margaret Benefiel was in Pisa, Italy, in October, before leading a retreat about two Franciscan women in Assisi for the Shalem Institute. She is the executive director of the Shalem Institute.

## The Bus

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BLITZ continued from page 1

1941, leaving a million houses destroyed or damaged in London and 40,000 people, many of them civilians, dead. The bombing didn't stop then but diminished, only to be followed by the V1 and V2 rockets later in the war.

**Sylvia's War**

The News Review was curious about Lewis' experiences living only five miles (as the bomber flies) from Stepney Green, where the movie is set.

Her home suffered bomb damage and the house immediately behind hers took a direct hit one night when she and her family were sheltering in the cellar. Her elementary school (catty-corner to her home) was flattened and the school she was moved to was in turn bombed out. When she came home vomiting after a tainted lunch at her third school (housed in a church), her parents sent her to school with two "older ladies" who were teaching a small group of children in their home.

**Bomb Shelters**

When the bombs started falling, she and her brother slept every night in the cellar, under the stairs, where the house framing provided the most protection. They had an Anderson Shelter (made of a curved piece of corrugated iron buried under a layer of soil) at the bottom of the garden but felt safer in the house.

This contrasts with the movie, which emphasizes the public shelters that were eventually opened at Underground stations – a realistic difference because Stepney's housing was closely packed and often without a basement or yard so public facilities were essential. Lewis' East Ham home was a couple of steps upscale: still rowhouses but with small front and longer back gardens. Lewis notes that her mother was afraid of the public shelters because of possible molestation so the family never went to one.

When the air raid sirens went off during the school day, children were marched (NO running) to the air raid shelters built on school grounds – long tunnel-like shelters with benches along the length of each side. In the shelters, the teachers led communal singing and comedy acts performed by the children.

Lewis also noted (and the movie does too) that the radio was an important element to home life. The nine o'clock news with Alvar Liddell was a must-listen and at 8 p.m. a nightly radio variety or comedy show drew a wide audience – generating many catch phrases that survived long after the war was over.

**Bomb Damage**

Lewis' mother, Rita Kelsey, wrote of the family's experience of being bombed in 1941. She describes the night of the attack as they sheltered in the cellar, "It was impossible to sleep ... as there was not a clear five minutes from either AA barrage, bombs, from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. So, we took it in turns to sing to drown the racket." She continues, "Around 2:30 a.m. our roof sailed



PHOTO BY JOHN KELSEY

Sylvia shown with family members. From left is Sylvia's mother Rita Kelsey, holding Sylvia. Next is a friend, followed by Sylvia's sister Joan and two friends. In front, from left, are two of Sylvia's four brothers, David and Ken (Ian was elsewhere), with sister June. Her oldest brother John was the photographer.

away with the remaining windows and doors, etc. so I sang all the louder." When someone suggested a "nice cup of tea" she went upstairs (with the raid still going on) and "groped around in the dark and made an extra big pot." The next morning, Kelsey saw that the majority of houses all around them were uninhabitable. She says that nearly 600 men had been sent in to repair the homes and that "one by one they were filling up again."

Kelsey also recounts that the only flowers in the garden were on the earth over the air raid shelter. Everything else was vegetables or space for "22 chickens and 14 rabbits."

**Relating to the Movie**

Lewis could not relate the movie to her own reality. She wasn't part of the night-time exodus to the Underground station and she felt that the movie had a surreal, Dickensian and very dark view of how life was and that reality was sacrificed to caricatures – particularly the looters – and that there was little nuance in the overall picture presented.

The movie does weave in tragedies of the time – a West End nightclub in 1941 that was in full

swing when it was bombed and looted and the tragic flooding of Balham Underground Station in 1943 when a bus fell into a bomb crater, severing gas and water mains and drowning people in the tunnels below. Dramatic license, of course, allows these inclusions but Lewis felt that it was overdone and that the result was a frenetic and unrealistic addition to a reality sufficiently poignant on its own.

Lewis hoped the movie would show more of ordinary life – how the sense of normalcy was retained and how life went on despite the disruption. Though there were some scenes of domestic tranquility, singsongs and shared moments of quiet and listening to the radio as a family, she felt that these were swamped by reprehensible behavior: looting, racism and exploitation that were not the norm.

Perhaps the fairest comment is that it's a movie – and nobody should confuse it with reality.

*(With thanks to Sylvia Lewis for sharing her family's history. There was so much more that could be told of an ordinary family living a life in the target zone.)*

News Review Holds Annual Meeting and Dinner Occasion



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Back row, from left: Maurice Crawford, Michael Zeliff, Peter Reppert, Carol Griffith, Tom Jones, Dibya Ghosh, Diane Oberg, Jerry Bonnell and Letty Bonnell. Second row from back, from left: Angie Gordon, Christine Doran, Deanna Dawson, Lola Skolnik, Laura Bonkosky, Pat Scully, Sandy Rodgers, Donna Hoffmeister, Elisabeth Kevorkian and Peggy Higgins. Sitting, from left: Jenny Jurling, Anne Marigza, Anna Bedford-Dillow, Linda Lucas, Michael Hartman, Mary Lou Williamson and Joan Estenson. On the floor (proving they have young knees), from left: Rasheeda Childress, David Shapiro, Cathie Meetre, Jan Wolf, Lesley Kash and Erica Johns.

On Sunday, October 27, the staff of the Greenbelt News Review, a workers' cooperative, gathered for their annual meeting and dinner. Thirty-two members were present.

In addition to the members, 27 carriers and a delivery maestro are instrumental in getting the newspaper out to the community each week, as they have done since 1937 – 87 years without a miss. Because the newspaper's members work different shifts through the production cycle, some members of the group rarely encounter others during the week. The annual meeting provides a chance to catch up with

old friends and make new ones.

During the business portion of the meeting Erica Johns was elected as a new board member. Outgoing President Cathie Meetre received special recognition and is leaving the board, though not the paper. The other members of the board were re-elected and Pat Scully was selected as president. Other members include: Deanna Dawson (secretary), Carol Griffith, Tom Jones (treasurer), Diane Oberg (vice president) and Sandy Rodgers. Ex officio members are editor Mary Lou Williamson and managing editor Anna Bedford-Dillow.

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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred November 4 - 10, 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](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

### Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported six domestic incidents, two with arrests; three mental health diversions, one involving a missing person report; an additional missing person report involving an adult woman; three sexual assaults, one involving Child Protective Services; and two death reports.

### Warrant Arrest

On November 7 at 8:06 p.m. near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a woman was seen lying on the ground, and a check revealed that she had a warrant with the Sheriff's Office. She was taken into custody.

### Ghost Gun Arrest

On November 7 at 12:09 a.m. near 9007 Breezewood Terrace, a man had fallen off his scooter and was lying on the ground bleeding from the head. When officers arrived, he was walking away, still bleeding, with a handgun in his hand. Officers instructed him to put the gun down and lie down on the ground. The loaded firearm was a ghost gun with no serial number. He was arrested and received treatment for his injury.

### Racist Comment

On November 8 at 7:55 p.m. near 7501 Greenbelt Road, an officer was flagged down by a citizen to report a racist comment. While driving through the parking lot, he almost struck a pedestrian and tried to apologize, but the man cursed at him with racial and antisemitic verbiage.

### Break In

On November 5 at 5:29 p.m. near 6104 Breezewood Drive, a man reported his door lock was broken, his belongings disturbed and his video game and some cash stolen.

### Indecent Exposure

On November 9 at 11:20 a.m. near 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, a man exposed himself to a woman, then fled.

### Fraud

On November 4 at 11:44 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a store received a counterfeit \$50 bill; the FBI was notified.

On November 6 at 4:08 p.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, someone wrote fake prescriptions using a local doctor's information; the DEA is involved.

On November 8 at 10:59 a.m. near 7300 Mandan Road, someone's Social Security number was used to open a cell phone account.

On November 10 at 11:38 a.m. near 6510 Lake Park Drive, a food stamp card was used without authorization.

### Theft

On November 8 at 7:43 p.m. near 7427 Morrison Drive, a delivered package was stolen.

On November 10 at 1:51 p.m. near 6040 Greenbelt Road, a phone was taken from a diner.

### Shoplifting

On November 5 at 8:35 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, suspects stole items and fled on foot.

On November 6 at 11:25 a.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a woman was stopped after stealing items from the store; all items were returned and she was banned from the store.

On November 7 at 3:38 p.m. near 7429 Greenbelt Road, two women stole items.

On November 8 at 1:15 p.m. near 7583 Greenbelt Road, multiple suspects attempted to steal from the store before fleeing in a black Infiniti.

On November 10 at 3:27 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man stole merchandise; at 3:31 p.m. near 7495 Greenbelt Road, a family entered the store and stole merchandise, then fled towards Rt. 193 onto the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

### Vandalism

On November 6 near 6228 Greenbelt Road, and on November 8 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, graffiti was spray-painted onto buildings.

### Vehicle Crimes

#### Stolen Vehicles

Seven vehicles were stolen: on November 4, near 7710 Hanover Parkway a black 2024 Honda Civic (Md. 4FR6877), near 9314 Edmonston Road a 2024 Black Honda CR-V (Md. 2GG7902), near 7704 Cloister Place a 2017 Honda Accord (Md. 4CZ6324) and near 7812 Hanover Parkway a 2025 Honda CRV (Md. T1991050); on November 8, near 8017 Mandan Road, a 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan (Md. 8Z3724); on November 9, near 7900 Good Luck Road a gray Hyundai Sonata (Md. 7FL0493)

and near 7921 Mandan Road a blue 2018 Hyundai Tucson (Md. 2EH3320).

### Stolen Vehicles Recovered

On November 6 near 7764 Mandan Road, officers located a vehicle stolen from Prince George's County, with a broken window and steering column.

On November 10 near 6027 Springhill Drive, District Heights Police located a stolen vehicle with the help of Greenbelt Police, and the occupant was arrested.

### Theft from Auto

On November 10 at 4:27 a.m. near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, a witness called to report people breaking into cars at the Motiva apartment complex. The complainant was able to provide a vehicle description of a blue Honda with Maryland tags fleeing the area prior to arrival. Officers found 11 vehicles had been broken into.

Items were stolen from vehicles on November 6 near 7807 Mandan Road; November 7 near 9006 Breezewood Terrace; November 9 near 9184 Springhill Lane; and November 10 near Ora Glen Drive and South Ora Court.

All four wheels were stolen from vehicles on November 6 near 6520 Lake Park Drive and near 7801 Mandan Road; and on November 8, near 9148 Edmonston Road, near 7806 Hanover Parkway and near 7728 Hanover Parkway.

On November 5 near 7713 Ora Court, a registration sticker was taken from a vehicle.

### Vandalism to Auto

Vehicle windows were damaged on November 6, near 9112 Edmonston Road, near 9262 Edmonston Road and near 5823 Cherrywood Lane.

On November 10 near 7200 Hanover Drive, an officer observed four vandalized vehicles in a hotel parking lot while performing area checks. Case reference cards were left on the cars, and the hotel staff was notified.

# Award Recipients

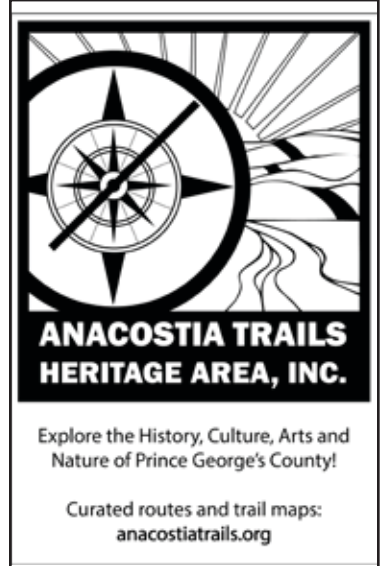


PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Three officers from Greenbelt were honored at the Third Annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Awards Ceremony in Hunt Valley, Md., on November 6. Officer Kipke (left) has received this award for three consecutive years, while Officer Ordaz (not pictured) has been recognized for two years. This is the first time that Officer Skibicki (right) has received the award. The event featured officers from various jurisdictions.

## Free Tech Support

Marylanders Online is currently offering free one-on-one tech support in English and Spanish for Maryland residents. Technicians can help with devices, including software and hardware, internet service and digital skill classes. Anyone can sign up for an online or in-person session online at [marylandersonline.umd.edu/get-help/schedule-appointment](http://marylandersonline.umd.edu/get-help/schedule-appointment) or call 301-405-9810 or toll-free 1-866-206-9467. In-person meetings are held at 8400 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 104, College Park. Online appointments are held on Google Meet.



## PRELIMINARY AGENDA Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on November 21, 2024

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

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) Member Matters
- c) Exception Request for Member

### GDC Closed Meeting – starts after GHI Close Meeting- closed to members and visitors

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) 2025 Water Treatment Contract

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

- a) Statement of Closed Meeting held on November 21, 2024
- b) Approval of Minutes
- c) 2025 Budget - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- d) Tree Planting Proposal
- e) Member Handbook Enforcement
- f) Discussion Concerning In Person Meetings
- g) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on December 5, 2024

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

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) 2025 GDC Budget
- c) 2025 GDC Management Agreement

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtd-uuqzoiG9XHGq9rswP\\_N9LZj33gbi9r](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtd-uuqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33gbi9r)

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



PHOTO COURTESY JEFF DONN

A fantastic group – who have lived in Greenbelt from the past to the present day – on their yearly one-week trip to the Outer Banks, hold the Greenbelt News Review. This year they were all in the same house, on the beach in Kitty Hawk. Back row, from left, Doug and Amy Mangum, Shirley Pray, Kathy Fominaya, Bill and Eileen Osborne, Larry Wildoner, Bridgett Osborne, Barbara Wildoner, Kevin Foster, Larry Voigt, Betsy Callahan and Jeff Donn. Sitting in the front row, from left, Bea McCarthy, Cindy Donn, Gail Voigt and Kathy Reynolds. They're all looking forward to going in 2025. Greenbelt is GREAT, even in Kitty Hawk, OBX.



# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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**NOTICE**

**INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE** – Nov. 16, 2024, 9 am - 1 pm @ GVFD - 125 Crescent Road. Table reservations: one \$15, two \$25. For further information, please call Kathy 301-474-4372. Food and beverage available for purchase. We are handicapped accessible.

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BOXED: \$10.90/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$16.35). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.  
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DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).  
ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.  
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# PHONOPHOBIA continued from page 1

preparation – Keffer recalls that the trio did “two rehearsals ... both in the week of the recital” – the performance went well. The lineup was finalized when Gallardo, a classmate from Keffer and McComb’s freshman geometry class, agreed to join the band after eight months of persistent requests from Hough. “And now he’s so happy with us,” Keffer joked.

Phonophobia transitioned from jazz to rock around their performance at the ERHS Fall Coffeehouse in 2023. The band felt that rock better matched their interests and resources. It was through this transition that their positions were finalized: Keffer on guitar, Hough on vocals, McComb on drums and Gallardo on bass. It wasn’t a smooth transition, as the original trio went on hiatus after the Tri-M performance until the summer of 2023 when Gallardo joined. Despite this, Gallardo feels that rock matches his vibe much better, reflecting that “if they told me we’re playing jazz, I would not have joined them.”

The climax of their journey thus far was the Rising Stars showcase, which was a last-minute decision. Phonophobia applied just hours before the deadline.

But the moments before the performance weren’t all smooth sailing. McComb recalled that the band didn’t have parking near the Greenbelt Community Center – the venue where the showcase was held – “so [they] had to haul [his] drum set a quarter mile.” Furthermore, his bass drum “kept running away” during the first half of their set because there wasn’t a rug for the drum set to keep it from slipping.

Phonophobia’s powerful performance also heavily contrasted with the mellow performances of earlier acts, so they weren’t sure if the audience would receive the music well. Luckily for them, the audience complimented how well they did, and the band ended up winning first place.

So what’s next? Phonophobia is currently working on original music and will eventually release a Spotify and a YouTube account, per a suggestion from Hough’s deacon. “I got out of church, and the deacon was like, ‘How’d your band go?’ I said, ‘Oh, it’s on Instagram.’ He was like, ‘I don’t have Instagram, you should post on YouTube,’” he recalled. For the future, the band has plans to go independent after high school, joking about bankrupting a label

in the process. But for now, one can follow Phonophobia on Instagram at @phonophobia.band, and contact them at phonophobia.band.official@gmail.com.

*Njeri Kamenwa is a junior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School writing for the News Review.*



## Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at [greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org](http://greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org).

## 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.

## Call for Sports News

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# Greenbelt's Fifth HUG Walk Brings Residents Together

by Leo Casalini

On Sunday, October 20, an hour or so past noon, Greenbelt's fifth Annual HUG (Help Unite Greenbelt) Walk kicked off from the Indian Spring Trail in Greenbelt West. The event, the brainchild of longtime Greenbelt resident Robert Goldberg-Strassler, had its first installment in 2019, a brief hiatus in 2020 due to Covid, and has been going strong ever since.

Goldberg-Strassler, volunteering as the head of RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) at Greenbelt's National Night Out in 2018, was struck by the division he witnessed. A strong believer in the power of community, he started the HUG Walk to try to reach across the hurdles between Greenbelt East, West and Central. The goal is to pluck people out of their comfort zones and put them down on pavement with an activity and a goal: to walk and get to know each other. It seems simple, and it is. Over the five years it's been held, turnout and sponsorship have grown tenfold.

Greenbelt resident Larry Hilliard, with whom I spent much of the first half of the walk, was a big advocate of meaningful conversation. We traded questions and stories in turn, and I came to learn that Larry was recently retired from Goddard, staying on as a part-time consultant, the founder of Greenbelt New Year, which he headed in 1997 and 1998, and a tennis fan, showing me a picture of him with Frances Tiafoe, after I told him I live in Hyattsville, where the tennis star grew up. As we neared Roosevelt Center, where Larry planned to stop, he sought to bring home his point that meaningful conversations are something people of all ages should engage in, especially the young, and events like the HUG Walk are perfect opportunities for such discourse.

By the time I said my good-byes to Larry, the group had left Roosevelt Center and I raced to catch up. The first person I reached was Officer Nick Powell, who was bringing up the rear. As I fell into line beside him, we got to talking and I discovered this was his first event as a community outreach officer. He just completed his training in June. He told me about his experiences so far and how he'd found the city surprisingly welcoming and helpful. When asked why he chose his career, he told me about his dream of renewing the

tenuous relationship between cop and citizen saying, "Even if I arrest them, I'm still going to ask them if they want the air conditioning on or the radio turned up." Touching at last on the matter at hand, he seemed to agree with the message of kindness promoted by Goldberg-Strassler and the HUG Walk, saying that an increase in community outreach and encouraging a sense of togetherness are key.

As the group neared Schrom Hills Park, I finally got a chance to pick Goldberg-Strassler's brain, and I found that he likes it better if you don't. "Actions speak louder than words," he said to me after mentioning he doesn't like to be interviewed. I will keep this short because I think he'd

like me to, but I wanted to pay a quick tribute to the man who seems to bring a smile to the faces of all who encounter him. I found his selflessness and congenial personality endearing and enjoyed listening silently as he talked and joked with the other participants.

Perhaps it's the fact that I don't live in Greenbelt, but I couldn't tell where people lived in the city until they told me. Regardless, I think Goldberg-Strassler was onto something when he said that actions speak louder than words, because sometimes all you need is a HUG.

*Leo Casalini is a senior at Northwestern High School writing for the News Review.*



From left, Mayor Emmett Jordan, Robert Goldberg-Strassler, a member of Greenbelt Police and Councilmember Kristen Weaver pose with their signs at the HUG Walk.



Participants in the HUG Walk pose with butterfly puppets and signs.



Participants in the HUG Walk pose with their signs.

- Photos by Robert Goldberg-Strassler



# Monarch Butterflies Honored by Flash Mob At the HUG Walk

by Nicole DeWald

This year's HUG (Help Unite Greenbelt) Walk on Sunday, October 20, celebrated the seasonal migration of monarch butterflies to Mexico with a puppet flash mob. Over 50 fluttering butterflies were made by children and adults in workshops at the Community Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center facilitated by Nicole DeWald (project designer),

Tyrique Abiodun, Adam Campanile, Ana Fernandez-Napp, Xavier Heron, Creed Jackson, Mary Ann Lipovsky, Nicole Medina, Caitlyn McGillen and Felicia Wheeler. The workshops were sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program and the HUG Walk was sponsored by RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness).



Monarchs at the HUG Walk. From left, Laura Bonkosky, Bob Rand, Dorrie Bates and Amanda Larsen pose with their butterflies. This year's walk on Sunday, October 20 celebrated the seasonal migration of the monarch butterflies to Mexico with a puppet flash mob! Some of the puppets are shown here at the Recreation Center during the HUG Walk. The workshops were sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program, and the HUG Walk was sponsored by RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness).



Butterflies alight at the Three Sisters Garden at the Community Center.

- Photos by Judy Goldberg-Strassler

