

Media Advisory

Comptroller Franchot to Visit Greenbelt Businesses on Thursday Afternoon

Locally owned hardware store has served community for nearly 40 years; Co-op cafe serves as city's 'living room'

WHO: Comptroller Peter Franchot

WHAT: Comptroller Franchot will present proclamations to two Greenbelt businesses on Thursday afternoon. He'll start at Beltway Plaza Hardware, a small shop serving the community for almost 40 years that specializes in key creation and copying, as well as window fixtures and repairs.

The Comptroller will present a proclamation to owner Alejandra Ramirez, who was an employee for 20 years before taking ownership four years ago. The business closed for four months during the COVID-19 pandemic, and survived due to Ramirez's commitment to her customers, as well as a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan and a grant for small businesses from the City of Greenbelt.

Afterward, the Comptroller will visit the New Deal Cafe, named for President Franklin Roosevelt's Depression-era public works programs that created the City of Greenbelt as one of three federally planned communities.

The cafe is a member-owned, volunteer-run, not-for-profit cooperative that serves as Greenbelt's living room. From humble beginnings in a room at Greenbelt's Community Center in 1995, the New Deal Cafe has grown into a premiere music and art venue, serving delicious food along with craft beer and wine.

WHEN: **Thursday, March 10, 2022**

WHERE: **4:00 P.M.** **4:45 P.M.**
 Beltway Plaza Hardware New Deal Cafe
 6214 Greenbelt Rd. 113 Centerway
 Greenbelt, MD 20770 Greenbelt, MD 20770

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