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# SILKE POPE

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## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES BY THE GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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Silke Pope served on the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) for nine years until election to council in 2009. During her tenure leading PSAC, the city saw improvements in safety including installation of security cameras at the Spellman Overpass, emergency call boxes on Metro Drive and in Franklin Park. Silke is council liaison to both the PSAC and the Senior

Citizen Advisory Committee and she continues to be a strong supporter of public safety and quality of life initiatives.

Silke has served on state and national committees including the National League of Cities Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee and the Small Cities Council, which she chaired in 2016.

Silke earned a fellowship from the University of Maryland's Academy for Excellence in Local Governance. This provided Pope with a thorough understanding of the functions of local municipalities and a strong understanding of governmental policy and ethics. Additionally, Silke completed workshops at the University of Maryland's Academy for Excellence on Leadership and Human Cognition; Economic Development and Leadership; and Negotiation, Government and Civility.

Pope has experience in international business relations and banking where her bilingual ability, attention to detail and organizational skills were critical. Pope has been employed by Prince Georges County Public Schools for 21 years, first at Greenbelt Middle School and currently at Springhill Lake Elementary.

Silke Pope has lived in Greenbelt for 23 years. She came to Greenbelt with her family from Germany after her husband, Joseph, retired from the United States Army. She originally lived in Springhill Lake (now Franklin Park) and currently resides in Belle Point. Her natural tendency is one of engagement and activity in the community, taking on numerous volunteer roles and accruing accomplishments in Greenbelt over the past 23 years. When not attending council meetings and events, Silke walks her Greenbelt Animal Shelter dogs, Chip and Bambi, around the lake, and spends time with her grandchildren.

Before proudly earning U.S. citizenship in 2006, Silke became involved in several community groups in Greenbelt. A member of St. Hugh of Grenoble Church since 2000, Silke has been involved in numerous fundraising efforts, the most notable being the annual Oktoberfest where she is best known for her authentic German dishes. She served on the Belle Point Homeowners' Association from 2006 to 2019 and joined the Charlestown Village Condominium Association in 2019. She is also a member of the American Legion, Post 136 Ladies Auxiliary.

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