

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Vol. 26 NO. 12 GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 15, 1962

Crucial Decisions

Next Wednesday morning the County Commissioners will make a series of decisions (unless they postpone action) on a group of rezoning petitions that will have a crucial effect on the future character of our community. Specifically, the combined effect of these petitions, if granted, would be to convert Greenbelt, now in the category of a rural planned community, into a huge apartment-shopping center complex similar to Langley Park or Prince Georges Plaza.

Already on the western fringe of Greenbelt the construction of a tremendous 4,500 unit apartment development will soon begin, and the first section of Beltway Plaza, planned as a regional shopping center, has opened. At least this part of Greenbelt is effectively separated from the privately-owned housing section of the city by four-lane Kenilworth Avenue (which will presumably be extended to Beltsville one day). Any further encroachments of apartments or shopping centers, however, will breach this wall and eventually overwhelm the city with citizens who will be non-taxpaying transients, plus hundreds of visitors clogging our roads each day.

As yet the petitions for apartment zoning have received no support. Both the city council and the Prince Georges County Planning Board have unanimously recommended against all of these petitions and the absurd request for commercial zoning adjacent to the Lakewood development has been similarly rejected. However, in the matter of the request for commercial zoning for the Triangle to build a regional shopping center there is less unanimity of opinion and a great deal of controversy. The city council by a 3-2 vote has recommended that the county approve the zoning for the shopping center, while the County Planning Board has unanimously rejected this zoning request as violating all concepts of good planning.

What is so desirable about a second large shopping center in Greenbelt? It might be argued that a sizeable increase in our tax revenue will result. The Kravitz Company, which plans to develop the Triangle as a regional shopping center, predicts that the 50-store center would bring in \$100,000 a year to the city in tax revenue. Even if the shopping center is completed as planned, however, such potential tax revenue would be several years away. Meanwhile, the first section of Beltway Plaza, which also aspires to be a regional shopping center, will bring in a substantial additional tax revenue this year and, if allowed to develop to its stated goal of 66 stores, may well equal the amount promised by the Kravitz Company.

Actually, what makes the second shopping center really attractive is the prospect of the beautiful 210,000 square foot E. J. Korvette discount department store, which the Kravitz Company has promised would be open in the spring of 1963 if the county commissioners grant its zoning petition on Wednesday. What is undesirable is not Korvette's but the attempt to develop a second regional shopping center in Greenbelt.

The fact is that major shopping facilities attract apartments like bears to honey, as in the case of Prince Georges Plaza. We greatly fear that with two such facilities in Greenbelt, one of them adjacent to the major residential area, developers will apply

(Continued on page 2)

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF
GREENBELT, MARYLAND
FEBRUARY 19, 1962

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes of Regular Council Meeting, February 5
4. Petitions and Requests of Citizens
- 4-A Requests by Councilmen for Additions to the Agenda
5. Written Communications
6. Manager's Progress Report
7. Advisory Planning Board Reports
8. Resolutions (6) - Second Reading - Charter Changes
9. Ordinance-Second Reading-Payment of Balance of Note (Parking Lot)
10. Resolution - Authorizing Signature on Agreement for Acceptance of Parcel 6 Land
11. Resolution-Authorization to Sign Agreement for 11 Acres Around Lake
12. Sidewalk on Gardenway Road
13. Rental of Offices
14. Disposition of Items Considered at GHI - City Council Meeting of November 15, 1961
15. Survey by Pepco of Street Lighting
16. Discuss Proposed New Items for Inclusion in Manager's Budget
17. Miscellaneous

Zoning Group Meets

Transportation arrangements and the outlining of a statement of purpose were discussed on February 12 at a meeting of citizens planning to attend the Greenbelt zoning hearings in Hyattsville on Wednesday, February 21.

A system of neighborhood volunteer phone centers, will coordinate the car pool.

A "statement of purpose" to be presented to the Board of Commissioners was accepted in outline, and Gordon Allen appointed to draft its final form. A petition will be circulated as a supplement to attendance at the hearing.

ZONING HEARING

Wednesday, February 21, 1962
at 10 a.m.

County Commissioners' Hearing Room

County Service Building

Hyattsville, Maryland

Zoning applications to be considered:

- A-4237 - R-P-C Zone to R-18 Zone
- A-4238 - R-P-C Zone to R-18 Zone
- A-4239 - R-P-C Zone to R-18 Zone
- A-4240 - R-P-C Zone to R-18 Zone
- A-4241 - R-P-C Zone to R-18 Zone
- A-4242 - R-P-C Zone to C-2 Zone
- A-4243 - R-P-C Zone to R-10 Zone
- A-4244 - R-P-C Zone to R-10 Zone
- A-4245 - R-P-C Zone to C-2 Zone

GHI Is Not Committed To Motel, Manager Says

By Al Skolnik

Replying to a petition signed by 45 members of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. and a letter signed by Larry Fink, 20J Ridge, protesting the construction of a motel on the vacant land adjoining their homes, GHI manager Paul Campbell stated that the board is still studying all aspects of the problem and has not committed itself to a motel on the site.

Spring Hill Apartment Road Grading Starts

The first permit for road construction issued by the city of Greenbelt following the revised procedures established by ordinance was granted recently for two roadways in the Spring Hill subdivision near the Greenbelt Junior High School. One road which will parallel the Beltway, is to join Edmonston Road. The other connects with the first at right angles, and leads to the center of the projected development.

Only the first stage grading for elevations-will be completed at present.

Potential drainage problems also may be detected during the early grading and corrected before the final paving is laid.

According to the terms of the permit, the contractor must post a bond guaranteeing to complete the roads according to certain specifications and to maintain the completed roads for one year. The ordinance requiring the issuance of such a permit grew out of city experience after the construction of the Lakewood subdivision. It is thought that the drainage problem in Lakewood might have been avoided by such a requirement as the present one.

Brotherhood Week

Joint services in recognition of Brotherhood Week will be held by the Mowatt Methodist Memorial Church and the Jewish Community Center of Prince Georges County. On Friday, February 16, at 8:15 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center, Rabbi Morris Gordon will officiate with the Reverend Lyle C. Harper of the Methodist Church delivering the sermon. On Sunday, February 18, at 11 a.m. in the Methodist Church, the Rev. Mr. Harper will officiate, with Rabbi Gordon delivering the sermon. The two congregations will also make exchange visits.

Legal Journal Article By Howard Chasanow

Howard Chasanow, son of local attorney Abraham Chasanow, has made his first mark in the legal world. Young Chasanow, now studying law at Harvard University following his graduation from the University of Maryland last June, is the author of the leading article in the current issue of the Maryland Law Review.

In a letter addressed to the petitioners, through Fink, which appears as a paid advertisement in this week's NEWS REVIEW, Campbell gave assurances that the Board would not consider plans which would be detrimental to a segment of the membership. He emphasized that the major concern of the board is to make proper use of the vacant land and to secure an income from the land that could be utilized to relieve members' monthly charges.

In fact, Campbell said, discussion of the merits of a motel at this time is premature, since no detailed plans have been prepared, pending a decision of the city as to its willingness to exchange McDonald Field (Little League) for other property. The city-owned ball field bisects two pieces of GHI-owned property, which by themselves are too small for development. In return, GHI has offered to give the city a piece of land on Northway beyond 44, 46, and 48 Ridge for the construction of another ball field.

The petitioners, residents of 9, 11, and 13 courts of Southway and 18 and 20 courts of Ridge, stressed the fear that a motel would detract esthetically from the appearance of their homes, would result in the lowering of their property values, and would increase safety hazards.

Campbell requested the petitioners not to prejudge the issue until all the facts are in. For example, he said, planning by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission calls for a new road to be placed through the vacant land so as to provide an access to new construction on Parcels 1 and 2 (land between GHI North End properties and Washington - Baltimore Parkway).

Such a road in any event, Campbell declared, would probably doom the Little League Field and require the giving up of some woods and houses along Southway. It would only be good planning, he concluded, to have such a roadway integrated with other plans for the site.

The GHI board at its meeting on February 8 directed management to proceed with negotiations for the land swap regardless of the eventual purpose used for the land. The board felt that it would be advantageous to have its properties in the form of large parcels, rather than in the form of small, isolated parcels. The board also agreed, in light of the petition, that there was no point in polling the residents on the motel, as requested by the city council.

All friends
of
Mrs. Winfield McCamy, City Clerk
are invited
to
a reception in her honor
at the Greenbelt Youth Center

Sunday, February 18
2 - 5 p.m.

Greenbelt City Council
and
Administrative Staff

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Published every Thursday by Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Ass'n. Inc.
Greenbelt, Maryland

Delivered each week to every home in Greenbelt

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vertising and news articles may be submitted by mail (Box 68, Greenbelt),
deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Savings and Loan Office or delivered
to the editorial offices in the basement of 15 Parkway (GR. 4-4131), open
after 8:30 p.m., Tuesday. News deadline 9:30 p.m. Tuesday.

CRUCIAL DECISIONS

(Continued from page 1)

great pressure to build apartments on our vacant land rather than individually owned homes. They will insist that no other zoning or type of residence is practical or interests them. Even without the approval of a second shopping center, the council will have to exhibit great courage and determination to resist the blandishments we can expect from now on.

It would be nice if we could have our cake and eat it too. It would be nice if we could have huge shopping centers including Korvette's, on the fringe of the city while the completely separated residential area is developed as a haven of privately owned homes. Reality, however, suggests something quite different. We may well end up with two moderate-sized shopping centers with neither one able to develop into a regional shopping center--unless major apartment developments can be brought in to spur the growth of business. It is difficult to ignore the possibility of such an eventuality when everywhere we look we see massive rows of apartment houses that have sprung up around major shopping areas.

The question is--and it is a responsibility that the city council must face squarely--is this to be the future fate of Greenbelt? Is this what people mean by progress and growth? The crucial decisions of the County Commissioners on the zoning petitions may either start us in that direction or allow us to continue to hold the line--at least for a while.

"Misguided"

TO THE EDITOR:

Through the efforts of a small group of individuals and the News Review the issue of rezoning the "Triangle" has been distorted beyond recognition. Not only do I believe you are not speaking for the majority of the citizens of the city, but your misguided beliefs could result in a city in which ten years from now you or I would not care to live.

Let us look at the facts:

FACT I. The "Triangle" is not suited for residential zoning. No matter how much we want the owners to use the land to build homes, its location between three major highways is just not suitable for a residential district. The only alternative is to let the land remain unused. The arguments used concerning noise and traffic are simply not valid since the "Triangle" will not only be separated from the remainder of Greenbelt by the Capital Beltway, but will be serviced by three dual lane highways.

FACT II. It is true that competition between the two shopping centers could conceivably hurt both, but who can predict that just the opposite will not happen? Is it valid for the City or County Government to restrain this competition? The chances of a large Washington Department Store locating at Beltway Plaza are,

at best, optimistic. So why should Greenbelt put all their 'eggs in one basket', when wider opportunities are available.

FACT III. But by far the most important factor, which you have

virtually ignored, is its long range effect on the city and its people. Each year which we waste in not expanding the economy of the community results in a higher tax rate which makes the city less attractive for development. We are in a spiral now which can only lead to a future Greenbelt of progressively higher taxes and progressively lower land assessment which can only mean a city in which you and I will not want to live. The results of this spiraling effect can be seen by looking at older sections of other cities.

I am of the belief that time is "running out" for Greenbelt.
(Continued on page 4)

Kravitz Affidavit

TO THE EDITOR

I read with great interest the letter written by Mr. Al Skolnick, which was published on page 5 of the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW of Thursday, February 8, 1962.

I think that the proposal made by Mr. Skolnick is an excellent one and I heartily agree with it.

It is not our intention to bring anything to Greenbelt which would be undesirable. To the contrary, we intend to bring to Greenbelt the finest and most attractive regional shopping center in the area.

I am enclosing herewith an affidavit to demonstrate our intentions and good faith in the matter. Despite the fact that the City Council recommended approval of the zoning we requested, we want the people of Greenbelt to be assured of our good intentions and are therefore willing to bind ourselves to give you the necessary assurance.

Very truly yours,
THE M.A. KRAVITZ CO., INC.
Arthur L. Powell,
Vice-President
(ED. NOTE: The affidavit mentioned above is printed on Page 4)

Bouquets for Franck

TO THE EDITOR:

The Greenbelt Seminar of Twin Pines Savings and Loan deserves bouquets for its initial presentation on February 1 of Isaac Franck on "Separation of Church and State." Although I consider myself quite knowledgeable on this subject, I found that Mr. Franck gave a masterful yet moderate presentation of the subject. While I am a deist and he's a theist, I found myself in unanimous agreement with Mr. Franck in both method and application.

Children should be taught religion in the home and in the churches and synagogues and in their ancillary schools. Our public schools should not confuse the child by teaching him concepts of the deity which may be in conflict with those taught by his particular denomination. The public schools should teach the history of religion, and its development through the ages into its modern forms. The latter would be appropriate for the senior year in the high schools where the course in "Problems of Democracy" should emphasize our Constitution and the Bill of Rights as well. Messrs. Seymour Kaplan, Bruce Bowman of the Twin Pines Education Committee and Albert Herling, the moderator, deserve a vote of thanks for getting this community service program off to a fine start. Next month I hope everyone will attend to hear one of the leaders of the cooperative movement, David H. Scull speak on "Cooperatives in India." He will also present a twenty minute sound film on the subject prepared jointly by AID and the Cooperative League, U.S.A.

Leonard A. Baron

Church Supper

The second session of the Community Church Family School of Missions will be held this Sunday evening from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

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11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

7:30 p.m. Wednesday Midweek Service

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Crescent & Greenhill Reverend S. Jasper Morris, Jr. GR. 4-4040

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

22 Ridge Road

Church Services 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Edward H. Bimer, Pastor

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invites you to

CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided at Service Lyle E. Harper, pastor
GR. 4-7293

The Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Kenneth Wyatt, Minister

Hillside and Crescent Rds. GR. 4-6171

OUR TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

FRIDAY: 4:00, Fellowship 78, Fellowship Center. 6:30, Cub Scout Blue and Gold Dinner, Social Hall.

SUNDAY: Morning Worship at 9:00 and 11:10 with Mr. Wyatt preaching. Church School at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:10. 5:30-8:00, Second Session of Family School of Missions. 8:00, Budget Meeting, Board of Trustees.

TWIN PINES



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FEB. 15 - Educational TV - Co-op Hosp. Room
FEB. 25 - Family Funday, Youth Center
MAR. 1 - "India's Co-ops; America's Challenge."
MAR. 20 - Twin Pines Annual MTG., Youth CTR.
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CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN 30 DAYS ON NEXT THREE SECTIONS OF BELTWAY PLAZA

GRAND OPENING OF FIRST SECTION WELCOMED BY AREA AND PUSHES AHEAD PLANS FOR NEXT THREE SECTIONS

Ground breaking will take place within 30 days for the next three sections of Beltway Plaza. Because of the overwhelming reception given to the Plaza in its first few weeks, plans are being pushed ahead to construct the next 18 stores in this regional planned center.

The plans for these three sections include a W.T. Grant variety type junior department store with over 32,000 square feet plus a high quality junior department store of Julius Garfinckel class with over 60,000 square feet. Plans also include a ladies clothing store, a men's clothing store, a number of chain shoe stores, an auto supply store, a haberdashery, a jewelry store, an optical center, a gift shop, a florist, a bakery, shoe repair, an electrical appliance store, a hobby center, a children's wear store, a chain candy store, and others. These will be open by the end of this year.

FIRST STAGE REPRESENTS ABOUT 10% OF \$10 MILLION PLAZA NEXT SECTIONS WILL MAKE PLAZA ABOUT 40% COMPLETE

As a result of the completion of the first section of Beltway Plaza the tax base of Greenbelt this year will expand by over \$500,000. The tax revenue accruing to the City of Greenbelt this year will be enough to reduce the tax rate by about 10 cents per hundred.

As each new section is completed enough will be added to the tax base to reduce the tax rate by about 10 cents per hundred. With the full value of the Plaza over \$10,000,000 and an assessed value of over \$5,500,000 the income to the City of Greenbelt will be about \$100,000 per year. This revenue will be over and above any charges made for refuse and trash collection which are billed on a separate fee basis. Also any outside area maintenance work, if requested at all, would also be on a fee basis as it currently is in the existing Greenbelt Center. Police protection will involve no more than any other place in Greenbelt.

You have been promised similar tax advantages by another developer who is seeking commercial zoning. It would be a fallacy to assume that if another site is zoned for a regional shopping center at this time that it would double the tax base. As a matter of fact the uncertainty that would be created in the minds of prospective tenants would delay and impede and possibly destroy the tax base being created by Beltway Plaza at this very moment as well as the tax base from the promise of a competing developer.

AREA'S ONLY REGIONAL SHOPPING CENTER WITH COVERED MALL

Fountain, reflection pool, lush landscaping, decorative grillwork, will greet the shoppers at Beltway Plaza when they visit the completely covered mall which will be air conditioned in the summer and heated in the winter. The enclosed mall is expected to be a reality when the next three sections are completed this year. There will be many other features built into the completed truly regional center.

Lathrop Douglass, world renowned shopping center designer is known for his genius for producing the unusual but yet practical design in today's shopping facilities. As architect for Beltway Plaza he is producing a new, much expanded design that will be unveiled in the near future. His firm has designed some 30 shopping centers as architects and has been consulting architects on another 15 including Prince Georges Plaza and Wheaton Plaza.

**ENCOURAGE YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TO VOTE AGAINST THE ADDITIONAL
COMMERCIAL ZONING IN GREENBELT AT THIS TIME**

BELTWAY PLAZA

Greenbelt, Maryland

Siren Notes

The Greenbelt Rescue Squad was one of several emergency crews summoned to the scene of an accident on the B-W Parkway on February 10. Two carloads of teenagers, a group of girls and a group of boys, had parked without lights on the Parkway shortly before midnight, when a third car came along. Before it could stop on the slippery road, it hit the parked cars. The two Riverdale girls, both 16 years old, were injured. One was thrown from the car by the impact. The boys' injuries were not known to the Greenbelt men, since a crew from another area carried them to the hospital. None of the occupants was known to have been fatally injured.

Two elderly Greenbelt men were given emergency transportation to P.G. last week.

Three fire calls in one day had the men and equipment on the run last Thursday. A house fire in Greenbelt, confined to a bed and the wall near by may have been started by children playing with matches. Damage was estimated at about \$25. Later that night, within minutes of each other, two small fires were reported: a grass fire near St. High's RC Church and school, followed by a fire in a trash barrel near the tennis courts on Braden Field.

"MISGUIDED"

(Continued from page 2)

"Fall" is approaching and our greenery could turn brown. We cannot keep rejecting valid and reasonable development offers, for soon we will have none. We can give one loud cheer for those members of the council who had the forethought to face the facts squarely and not be blinded by the few who refuse to see the need for change until it is too late.

George W. Neumann (ED. NOTE: We are always happy to print the views of Reader Neumann, who usually strongly disagrees with us. We would like to point out, however, that the NEWS REVIEW in its editorials on zoning has not claimed to speak for the majority of the residents.)

Bus Service

The Greenbelt Bus will operate on its regular schedule on Feb. 22, Washington's Birthday.

Police News

The police investigated last week a complaint from a resident of 9 Parkway reporting the loss of some articles stored in a basement locker. They found evidence that a number of lockers had been tampered with, and several lockspriedoff.

A number of nuisance phone calls have been reported this past week. Chief Williams advises persons receiving such calls simply to hang up before the conversation becomes bothersome. This may discourage further calls.

Vandalism was reported when the owner of a 59 Buick found that the trunk of her car had been scratched and the tire flattened while it was parked near 35 Ridge.

New Scout Leaders

Bernard J. McDonnell, 2-J Northway, is the new scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 202, sponsored by Greenbelt Community Church.

McDonnell, long active in Greenbelt Scouting, accepted the post following the resignation of Mr. Barry Coggins, twice Scoutmaster of Troop 202.

Gilbert Blaine, 7-K Crescent, will serve as assistant Scoutmaster and chairman of the Activities Committee. He has a background of 20 years of scouting experience.

Other key members include: Harold Hufendick, 15 Greendale Place, Acting Troop Committee Chairman; Sam Cress, Advancement; Joseph T. Haslinger, Treasurer; Mr. Yontz; and Henry Brautigam.

On Thursday, February 22, a Court of Honor for all boys and parents will be held in the Social Hall, Greenbelt Community Church. The next Troop Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15 at 8:30 p.m.

To Fete Mrs. McCamy

Members of the city council and the administrative staff of the city of Greenbelt will hold a reception on Sunday, February 18, in honor of Mrs. Winfield McCamy, who is retiring as city clerk after many years of service.

The reception will take place in the Youth Center from 2 to 5 p.m. A musical interlude by members of the Greenbelt band is on the program. All friends of Mrs. McCamy are invited to attend.

Join Your Local National Guard Unit. - Call the Armory.

GR. 4-6412
or
Sgt. Austin Green
GR. 4-5864

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Feb 15-16-17-18-19
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Thur-Fri-Sat. -- Feb. 22-23-24
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STARTS SUNDAY FEB. 25
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City of Philadelphia
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State of Pennsylvania, ss:

I, ARTHUR L. POWELL, Vice-President of The M. A. Kravitz Company, Inc., being first duly sworn according to law, on oath, depose and say as follows:

If the commercial zoning which has been requested for the tract known as Parcel 14, Greenbelt, Maryland, is granted by the County Commissioners of Prince George's County, I hereby affirm and guarantee that said land will be developed as a regional shopping center and for no other purpose or purposes.

The M. A. Kravitz Company, Inc., further agrees that it will execute such covenants or other agreements to the City of Greenbelt as may be necessary to guarantee to said City that we will not construct anything except a regional shopping center on said site without the consent of the City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my hand and seal this 12TH day of February, 1962.

Arthur L. Powell (SEAL)
Arthur L. Powell, Vice-President
The M. A. Kravitz Company, Inc.

City of Philadelphia
County of Philadelphia
State of Pennsylvania, ss:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12TH day of February, 1962.

Martin L. Schubert
Notary Public

Notary Public, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co.
My Commission Expires February 15, 1965

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VETERAN'S LIQUOR
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For reasons of Health, we will be
CLOSED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY
We wish to thank you for your past and future
patronage

**American Legion Baseball
Benefit Dance**

Greenbelt American Legion Post Home (#136)
Saturday 17 February 1962

Dancing from 9 to 1 for \$3.00 per couple

Music by the "Hi-Tones"
Help support the American Legion Junior Baseball Team.
See Bill Clark, GR. 4-6075 or Dave Begg, GR. 4-4141 for tickets

Ground To Be Broken For Greenbelt Plaza Within 90 Days After Approval By Your County Commissioners

1,500 NEW JOBS AND 1½ MILLION INCREASED INCOME TO LOCAL RESIDENTS

With the approval by your County Commissioners, ground will be broken within 90 days for the development of the areas largest, most modern and complete shopping center.

Greenbelt Plaza will be partially opened by Easter, 1963, the E.J. Korvette mammoth department store with certainty, according to the builders, the M.A. Kravitz Company, Inc., nationally known authority on shopping center design and development. Greenbelt Plaza will be the 10th center to be erected by the Kravitz Company who attributes much of their success to the pleasant relationships they have with the various communities they serve.

E.J. Korvette, the nation's No. 1 discount department store, will be the first store to open on the 750,000 square foot Plaza which will locate 50 stores on 57 acres. Korvette's store in Greenbelt will be the largest of all Korvette stores, occupying 210,000 square feet. Korvette will provide a self-service food center, large furniture department, complete clothing department and appliance section, current best selling books and phonograph records at lowest discount prices. All departments of the store will carry brand name first-line merchandise.

J.C. Penney, Hot Shoppes, Edison Shoes and Woolworths are some of the many reputable firms to locate in the new Plaza not presently operating in the Greenbelt area. When completed, Greenbelt Plaza will feature as large and as complete a line of goods and services to be found almost anywhere.

To further enhance Greenbelt's beauty, the Plaza will boast a colorful, shrub-decked center Mall and the entire center will be in a setting of year 'round plants, shrubs and trees. A perimeter plot of trees and shrubs will surround the shopping center.

MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION TO BECOME INTEGRAL PART OF GREENBELT COMMUNITY

The Merchants Association of Greenbelt Plaza, comprised of the managers of each of the stores located in the Center, will be organized for the promotion of the shopping center and maintaining close liaison with the community in which they will live.

NEW SHOPPING CENTER TO AID IN DEVELOPMENT OF GREENBELT

With the approval of your County Commissioners, the erection of Greenbelt Plaza, a \$10,000,000.00 project, it will mean better living for all the residents of Greenbelt and Prince George's County.

It will mean 1,500 new jobs and an estimated annual increase in income to Greenbelt and Prince George's County residents of about 1/2 million dollars each year. Better Service, Better Merchandise and phenomenally Lower Prices will be additional benefits to consumers of your area. Your new shopping center neighbors are interested in cooperating and participating in the development of the planned community of Greenbelt.

**URGE YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TO VOTE FAVORABLY ON ZONING
FOR THE NEW GREENBELT SHOPPING CENTER**

Little League

The Greenbelt Little League preparing for the 1962 baseball season announces that on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 9 till 12 noon, at the Youth Center, the Managers will give contracts to boys from the ages of 9 to 12.

Legion Dance Sat.

The Greenbelt American Legion will hold a dance for the benefit of the American Legion Junior Baseball team Saturday, February 17, at the Legion Post Home on Greenbelt Road. Dancing will be from 9 to 1 a.m.

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Bd of Commissioners Zoning Hearing
Wednesday, Feb. 21
leave 8:30 - 9 AM

AREA	CALL	GR. 4-
8 Ridge	Mrs. Simonson	9349
9 Ridge	Husik	9162
9 Ridge	Emisse	6746
20 Ridge	Fink	8237
39 Ridge	Kastner	7129
50 Ridge	Mrs. Drake	8997

for information.
Greenbelt's future depends
on you.

Paid Advertisement

PETITION AGAINST REZONING FOR COMMERCIAL AND APARTMENT USE

PLANNING starts with an idea, Zoning should be the result of planning. The idea behind Greenbelt dates to 1935 when Greenbelt plans were first made. Since then there have been MODIFICATIONS in the original plan as changes demanded. Nothing, however, has occurred that demands a BASIC revision of these plans by rezoning 375 acres of Greenbelt land.

We, Citizens of Greenbelt, therefore respectfully petition you, the Prince George's Board of County Commissioners to reject all nine (9) applications and in particular the applications (4242 & 4245) for C-2 (general commercial) zoning because the announced use of this land will be to construct additional shopping centers. We are of the firm conviction that the 70 acre site of Beltway Plaza, planned as a regional shopping center, is more than sufficient commercial zoning to serve both Greenbelt and a major regional area.

(the above petition is now circulating around the city. Those who wish to sign it should contact any of the following: Larry Fink, GR. 4-8237, Gene Husik, GR 4-9162; or Sid Kastner, GR. 4-7129.)

WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY SPECIALS

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Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Members

The Board of Directors has requested the printing of the following letter in order that all members be informed with respect to premature discussion which has taken place about the motel project. The General Manager was requested to send a direct letter to all signers of the petition.

Hans Jorgensen, Secretary

February 8, 1962

Mr. Larry Fink
20-J Ridge Road
Greenbelt, Maryland

Dear Mr. Fink:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter and of the petition signed by many families in your neighborhood, the purpose of which is to protest against a motel placement on the undeveloped land beyond your homes. Your petition and viewpoint will receive full consideration at the time that the relative merits or faults of a motel in that location are evaluated.

Up to now, the only action has been to learn from the City of Greenbelt whether or not the City would be willing to exchange the Little League Field for other property. This was considered a first step, without which commitment there is little point in giving serious consideration to the idea. The possibility of the acquisition of McDonald Field by GHI was not intended to obtain an expression from the City government as to whether the idea of a motel was desirable or not—that all would come later after the idea was soundly developed and there was an opportunity for all interested objectively to weigh just what would be planned. As it is now, there can only be a pre-judgment of plans which do not exist.

The idea of a motel is not new. The request itself for the City commitment is now nearly a year old. I can recall motel discussion in that location dating back to 1953 and 1954. I can recall "feelers" made to the Board of Directors by outside interests to buy Southway property for that specific purpose. I can assure you that the only purpose the Board of Directors has in mind in exploring the possibilities is to serve the GHI membership through creating what holds promise of substantial outside income to relieve members' monthly charges.

With this objective, the Board is not going to consider plans which would be detrimental to a segment of the membership. There does seem to be the possibility that plans could be so designed

that a motel would not only be unobjectionable, but would even be an aesthetic contribution over that of many possible other uses of that land. If the Board of Directors had no concern over the welfare of a segment of the membership, it could long ago have sold off property just for substantial financial gain.

Whenever one buys a home adjacent to undeveloped land, there is always the possibility that the land will have to be put to use. The ideal situation, of course, is to have parks created of such land, but the economics of supporting extensive parkland can be an important factor. Most sound planning today tries to provide as much park area as the adjacent land can reasonably carry, consistent with the most desirable land use.

In this particular location, planning by our planning body, the Maryland - National Capital Park and Planning Commission, calls for a new road to be placed through that area which your petition would leave untouched. Such a road will be inevitable to carry the traffic load to other newly developed areas. Ridge Road will be inadequate by itself. Where the road will intersect Southway is not permanently fixed. I, personally, cannot see where this is possible without the removal of one or two buildings.

It was the advent of the road, which will in itself destroy the Little League Field, that initiated thinking along the lines of swapping land with the City and reactivating the motel idea.

Is it not better to think in terms of good planning and use for the entire area which might affect the road location rather than just to let the road be fixed without thought of the highest use of the land? The road might very well serve as the initial buffer. Attractive and thorough screening facilities would be a requisite in even exploring the motel idea.

In any event, would it not be better to let the idea be explored from all aspects and let each individual see the possibilities before condemning it? It may prove that a motel under any circumstances would not be the most desirable use, all factors taken under consideration. On the other hand, it may be that the members in that neighborhood would consent to an attractive, high quality motel, tastefully landscaped, especially if it would benefit all through the tax income and corporate income to use against monthly charges.

Would you mind conveying the message of this letter to the signers of the petition.

Sincerely yours,
Paul M. Campbell

General Manager

Classified Ads

Classified rates are five cents per word, fifty cents minimum. Ads should be submitted in writing, accompanied by cash payment, to the News Review Office at 15 Parkway not later than 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication. If accompanied by cash payment, ads may be deposited in the News Review box at the Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association.

CALDWELL'S WASHER SERVICE: All makes expertly repaired. Authorized Whirlpool dealer. GR. 4-5515.

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PAINTING - Interior and exterior, Louis B. Neumann, 8-C Research. GR. 4-6357 after 6 p.m.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - Band and Orchestra Olds, King, La Blanc, Gibson, and Martin rentals three months with option to purchase. Equally low rates on new Lester, Hanes, Estey, Starck, and Chickering pianos and Conn and Thomas organs. Many excellent used organs and used pianos from \$100 up. Low down payment, up to three years to pay. Phone c/o Ken Keeney GR. 4-5312 or Phone collect Kenney's Piano & Organ Center 161 West Street, Annapolis, Md. Colonial 3-2628.

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PIANO LESSONS FOR beginners, Carol and Marilyn Morris, GR. 4-5031.

PAINTING --- Interior, exterior, Free estimates, reasonable rates. C. H. Copeland, GR. 4-6953.

Male - part-time, evenings Monday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Ten Pin Luncheonette - -GR. 4-4074.

WANTED: Ride to Goddard for two. Wayne Williams 10-H Laurel Hill.

WILL BABY-SIT on Saturday nights. Call GR. 4-6787.

CARPENTRY CONTRACTING on apartments and houses - top superintendents and foremen. Experienced crew, trucks, and electric tools. No job too large. Donald R. Smith Contractors Corp. Inc. Parkway 5-1379.

Let the Fire Department's Auxiliary CATER YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS GR. 4-6457.

WANTED: Administrative Secretary. Send resume to P. G. County Civil Defense Agency, Greenbelt Armory, Md. Annual salary, \$3,200.

ALTERATIONS: Prompt, reasonable service. GR. 4-6405.

STENOGRAPHER: experienced to serve as city clerk, take and transcribe minutes of city council meetings, to keep election records and assist city manager in other duties. Apply City Manager.

Agnes R. Tonker

Mrs. Agnes R. Tonker, 54, of 7-K Southway, died on Tuesday, February 6, as a result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. Mrs. Tonker, who retired last year after 15 years with the National Security Agency, is survived by her husband, Frank T. Tonker, 53, her daughter, Mrs. Nancy Fox.

Our Neighbors

By ELAINE SKOLNIK Granite 4-6060

Six tables of bridge players braved the snow last Friday night to compete in the Greenbelt Bridge Club's semi-monthly duplicate game. Al Skolnik, teaming up with Elsie Holtzclaw, gained North-South honors for the second game in a row, beating out runners-up Margie and Rick Thompson by 3 points. The veteran team of Dale Frese and George Kaufman celebrated their return to the fold by taking East-West honors, 1-1/2 points ahead of Sid Barnett and Tony Pisano.

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kosisky, 2-E Laurel, who recently celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. A surprise party in their honor was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brooks, 16 Lakeside, with all the family attending. And a very happy birthday to Mr. Kosisky, who was 73 years old on February 9.

A happy-happy birthday to Jeffry Schwarz, 51-J Ridge, who will be four years old on February 17.

Our deepest sympathy to Ben Rosenzweig, 4-E Crescent, who lost his mother last week.

Greenbelters were saddened when Mrs. Agnes Tonker, 7-K Southway, died as a result of injuries from an automobile accident. We offer our condolences to her family. Mr. Frank Tonker is still in Prince Georges Hospital suffering from serious in-

juries, and we hope he will soon be on the road to recovery.

Best wishes for a happy birthday to Jimmy Damico, 6-P Hillside, who celebrates his fifteenth birthday on February 18.

Birthday greetings to Charles O. Link, 9-L Southway, who was three years old on February 10. His little friends, Debby Cross, Patty and Harry Finley, Jeanie and Marty Marceon, Mary Ann and Kevin Kolbrecht, Maureen Callahan, Steven Murray, David McDaniel, and Mitchell Block helped him celebrate.

Seen at the 22nd birthday party of the Greenbelt Woman's Club were former Greenbelters Mrs. Jo Rogers of Takoma Park, Mrs. Sophie Rogers of Wheaton, Mrs. Margaret Mullady of Mayo, Maryland, Mrs. Jo Goghrop of Annapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wain-scott, 24-D Ridge, have just returned from Newport, Rhode Island, where they witnessed the commissioning of their son, Charles, Jr., as an ensign in the United States Naval Reserve.

On February 10, at the Francis Scott Key Hotel in Frederick, the Summit Singers, High Point choral group, presented an hour-long performance for the Maryland Music Education Association meeting. Jim Lushine and Tom Ritchie are members of the choral group.

Paris-Runnion

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Paris of 2-L Research announce the marriage of their daughter, June Carole, to Paul Runnion, the son of Mrs. Helen Cary of Tokyo, Japan and the late Mr. Runnion. The wedding took place February 10 at the Greenbelt Community Church. The bride was attended by Miss Marie Hennessy of 16-Y Ridge and the best man was William Sauls of Greenbelt. After a two-week trip to Miami and Nassau, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Runnion will live in Greenbelt.

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