Greenhelt Rews Review AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 38, Number 52

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, November 13, 1975

DEPENDENT ON VOLUNTEERS

NEWS REVIEW COMPLETES 38 YRS. OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

If you look at the masthead of today's Greenbelt News Review, you will observe the notation "Volume 38, Number 52." Simply speaking, this means that with this issue the News Review has completed 38 years of continuous publication. The first issue, then titled the Greenbelt Cooperator, appeared on November 24, 1937 and consisted of 16 letter-size mimeographed pages. The first families had organized themselves to issue the paper within six weeks of unpacking their household belongings.

Maintaining the continuity of the weekly newspaper has been a notable accomplishment in view of the fact that the paper is dependent on a continuous stream of volunteers. Much is owed to those early pioneers who recognized the immediate need for a news medium to keep people informed of local events and to provide a forum for the exchange of views. They laid down the principles that still guide the actions of the present News Review - a non-partisan nonprofit, cooperative endeavor whose aims are to print the news accurately and fairly and to reflect the Greenbelt "good neighbor" philosophy of life.

At first the paper was prepared at the homes of various staff members. In January 1938 the Federal Government (which owned Greenbelt at that time) made space available at the center, free of cost, and also loaned much-needed furniture, typewriters, and office equipment. From its original secondfloor quarters in the commercial center, the paper moved its offices four times before finally coming to rest in the present basement office at 15 Parkway.

With the withdrawal of the Federal Government from town, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Green-Development Corporation, belt continued the Federal policy of providing free office space, with the paper reimbursing the corporation for out-of-pocket expense.

Free Delivery

An important development in the history of the newspaper was the decision to deliver the Cooperator free of charge to every home in town, beginning with the issue of September 7, 1939. The additional cost of local distribution was small, and this radical change of policy provided larger circulation figures, which could be used as evidence of the value of advertising in the Cooperator, once its distribution had become community wide. The town government engaged more and more space for the publication of pending ordinances, budgets and the like The policy of free distribution remained unchanged until July, 1953, when the paper was forced by financial straits to go to a subscription basis - \$3 a year. The response was fairly encouraging, but the added cost of maintaining subscription records convinced the governing body that the additional income was not worth the additional workload. In January, 1955, the paper returned to city-wide circulation. Financial difficulties continued to plague the newspaper, and appeals were made to the businesses and organizations in town for funds. Finally, in April, 1959, the News Review resorted to a house-tohouse community-wide drive for funds. Organized by the drive chairman Elaine Skolnik, who was aided by 125 volunteer court collectors. the drive netted over \$1,500. It proved such an unqualified success that it was renewed again the following year.

no drives have been conducted since 1960; however, a fund drive was launched in 1966 by the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee to help the paper defend itself against libel charges.

Libel Suit

The libel charges arose out of the paper's publication of remarks by citizens at a public city council meeting regarding a proposal made to the city by a local developer, Charles Bresler. A Prince Georges County jury found the remarks libelous and a \$17,500 judgment awarded Bresler was later affirmed by the Maryland Court of Ap-The U. S. Supreme Court, peals. however, in May 1970, reversed and vacated the judgment, ruling that the News Review was "performing its wholly legitimate function as a community newspaper when it published full reports of these public debates in its news columns." To hold otherwise, the high court said, "would subvert the most fundamental meaning of a free press."

During the 4-year legal struggle, the Freedom of the Press Committee collected over \$30,000 from the community to help meet legal expenses and to pay the judgment in case of an unsuccessful appeal, (\$20,000 was later returned to contributors).

Staffing

The entire staff consists of volunteer workers, most of whom have joined the paper as their contribution to their community's astivities. Since March, 1957, nominal payments have been authorized to the editorial staff and to columnists-when finances permit, of course. There have been 39 changes in editorship during the paper's 38 years, attesting to the difficulty of this job: the position is at present held by Mary Lou Williamson and there are 31 staff members.

At present over 5,000 free copies of the News Review are distributed weekly to homes in Greenbelt, including Springhill Lake and Green-

AGENDA **REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL** Monday November 17, 1975 8:00 P.M. I. ORGANIZATION

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Meditation Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- 4. Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 3, 1975 Minutes of Public Hearing, November 10, 1975
- 5. Additions to Agenda by Councilmen and Manager

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- 6. Presentation
- 7. Petitions and Requests
- 8. Administrative Reports
- 9. Committee Reports

III. OLD BUSINESS

10. Appointments to Boards 11. Stop Sign - Ridge Road and Eastway

IV. NEW BUSINESS

12. A Resolution to Proceed with a Housing for the **Elderly Project**

13. Holidays

V. MISCELLANEOUS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda - subject to change.

Solar Energy Lecture

On Wed., Nov. 19 at 8 p.m., the Greenbelt Library is offering an opportunity to learn more about practical applications of solar energy.

Harry Kriemelmeyer of the University of Maryland will present slides and a lecture contrasting present methods of heating using fossil fuel with the use of solar energy for heating buildings. The economics of such heating and its applicability to presently-constructed homes will be stressed.

Citizens Favor Ridge Road As Elderly Housing Site

by Jane Connolly

About 45 people attended a public hearing on site selection for a senior citizens housing project Mon. evening, Nov. 10 at the city offices. Mayor Gil Weidenfeld stated the purpose of the meeting was to hear citizens' views on which of two sites-Ridge Road Center or Hamilton Place opposite Greenbelt Homes, Inc. offices-was best suited to construction, or if both were unacceptable. Those attending favored the Ridge Rd. Center 29 to 4, and city council plans to proceed with further cost and feasibility analyses of the two sites.

City manager James K. Giese outlined the proposed project as a 100 unit, low rise building of small one-bedroom or efficiency apartments featuring a common dining area and recreational facilities. The construction would be financed by a state mortgage, and federal rent subsidies would be available for resident whose rent exceeded 25% of their income.

As was discussed at previous hearings, the city hired an architect consultant to analyze six locations for construction of such a project, resulting in the two sites now being considered.

City council members agreed that the primary concern was for a site which provided adequate housing for elderly citizens but did not crowd nearby development. There was some disagreement as to which location would best meet both needs.

Council Views

Councilman Charles F. Schwan favored the Ridge Rd. Center, if the existing building could be renovated. He called the building a "white clephant", but thought it might be made to serve both old and young people. He suggested that a day care center in the building would benefit the children of single working parents as well as elderly residents who could work with and teach the children if they wished. Schwan thought the Hamilton Pl. property could be purchased as park and recreation area to re-place the Ridge Rd. Center.

Local Schools Celebrate American Education Week

Prince Georges County Public Schools are emphasizing that American Education Week, Nov. 16-22, is an appropriate time for all parents and other citizens to recommit themselves to making America's schools better. Many schools will offer specialized programs and demonstrations to mark the observance's theme, "Our Future Is in Our Schools."

Schools are open for visitation at any time during the week. However, elementary schools prefer a more organized visit and specify which day. Students will be making invitations for their parents.

Center, North End and Springhill Lake schools will have Open House Tues., Nov. 18; Oakcrest's Open House is Wed., and John Carroll's is on Thurs. John Carroll will have a special program at 9 a.m. At Oakcrest student council bers in period costume will mem greet parents and usher them to the proper classrooms. North End asks parents to visit the library for special media displays, Student demonstrations will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Center School students will have displays of learning materials in the auditorium. At Mary Bethune Junior High School, Greenbelt Junior High and Parkdale Senior High parents are invited to visit any day, preferably in the morning before the hectic lunch hour begins.

Councilmen Thomas X. White and Richard Castaldi preferred the Hamilton Pl. site because they thought the existing Ridge Rd. center unusable as housing, and that removing it from the site would add greatly to the overall cost of the project.

Both said that the possible additional costs of solving the sewer and soil problems at the Hamilton Pl. site would still be less compared to the expense of tearing down the Ridge Rd. building and starting from ground level. In addition, White and Castaldi said the 4acre area at Hamilton Rd. offered more space than the 3-acre Ridge Rd. plot, and that a building at Hamilton Pl. would not crowd nearby housing. White pointed out for the record that the Hamilton Pl. site is not a considered site for park and recreation.

Two Ask For Referendum

Two citizens called for a referendum on the elderly housing issue before proceeding with selection of In a letter to council, Euna site. ice Coxon called for a referendum and Viola Keer was present to ask that one be held. Mrs. Keer said she was not against an elderly housing project, but questioned whether the need exists in Greenbelt

Mayor Weidenfeld said there has been strong support for elderly housing but only two requests for a referendum; not a significant show of opposition to the issue.

Audience Comments

The majority of citizens present favored the Ridge Rd. site as being closer to the Center for shopping and meeting friends. Katie Basinger of the Golden Age Club said she wanted to be "where the action was", and another did not want to be "stuck back in the woods" on the Hamilton Rd. location.

Proximity to the bus line and other homes were other factors in the Ridge Rd. choice. Leo Gerton, 9-C Parkway, thought the Ridge Rd. Center should be refurbished and used for housing which would save money. Many people thought the sewage and soil problems at the Hamilton Pl. site would make the project too expensive.

Those leaning toward the Hamilton Pl. property thought it more pleasant and had more room for expansion and gardens. Louise Mac-Diarmid, 1-A Westway, believed the distance from the Center not too far to walk. Most of the Ridge Rd. opponents thought the present building too unsightly to live in.

The yield from these drives was sufficient to meet the needs and

briar.

Parent's Forum

Prince Georges school board is sponsoring a forum on education for parents whose children attend schools in District 6. Schools affecting Greenbelt include Mary Bethune Junior High School, John Carroll Elementary and Oakcrest Elementary.

The Nov. 17 meeting will be held at the Central Area Administration Office, 6501 Lowland Dr., Landover, at 7:30 p.m.

Members of the superintendent's staff will be at the forum to answer questions from citizens as well as provide information on the various school system educational programs and services.



Since Greenbelt Homes Inc. has in progress a pilot solar heating project being engineered by NASA. this is an opportunity for the community to learn more about the realities of solar heating.

Lutheran Women's Bazaar

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6905 Greenbelt Road, will hold a Bazaar on Sat., Nov. 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Many hand crafted and home baked items will be for sale.

Greenbelt Homemakers

"Accidents In The Home" will be the topic of discussion on Wed., Nov. 19, 8 p.m. at the home of Marie Wnuk, 5127 Lackawana St., College Park. A Mystery Hostess Party will be held after the meeting. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Mary Ann Baker 474-1706.

Principals ask parents to remember that school doors are open to them all year, "Stay involved in your child's education."

Other comments from the audience were a call for strict safety measures in the building and careful soil analysis of the building site.

Council members summed up their response to the hearing as showing a clear desire for an elderly housing project. White said council should now bring out a resolution on the matter giving the community another opportunity to respond to the issue.

Mayor Weidenfeld said council would now seriously study the pros and cons of both sites to decide which one best meets the needs of the elderly and the city

50% REFUSE COLLECTION CREDIT

Elderly homeowners who meet the following qualifications are eligible for a 50% refuse collection credit:

1. Qualified for tax credit under Circuit Breaker or 60 years of age or older;

AND

2. Gross family income from all sources of \$5,000 or less. Applications available from City of Greenbelt Finance Department or by calling 474-8000.

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW An ADDEPENDENT NEW SPAren Editor: Mary Low Williamson, 474-900 Asociate Editor: Sandra Barnes 474-5310 STATE Manuel Market Market State Asociate Editor: Sandra Barbar, Solit Mary Clarke, Inne Konnoly, Mirinam Cornelius, Thereas Cowley, Judy Goldstein, Bernice sature, Sid Kastner, Martha Kaufman, Barbara Lane, Sue Lange, Dorothy and the State of the State of the State of the State of the State asociate Editor: Sandra Barbara Lane, Sue Lange, Dorothy and the State of the State of the State of the State of the State asociate State of the State of the State of the State of the State and State of the State and State of the State and State of the State of

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Handwriting on the Wall

To the Editor:

As a former member of the TAA Sub-Committee, I am all for the proposed capital improvements program that is outlined in the proposed GHI Budget for 1976. For at long last many of the long-needed preventive maintenance programs are included in the budget!

I am also in complete agreement with former board member Nat Shinderman, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, when he proposes the creation of an "assist-ant manager" position.

Yes - I do agree with the contention that we should be preparing a successor to take over the manager's position. However, I do not agree that the work load of the general manager's office is such as to require the services of a general manager and an assistant general manager on a permanent basis.

It is my contention that this "assistant manager" position should be on an interim basis to assist in the transition to a new general manager and once the transition is made that the position should be abolished

While I agree with the inclusion of a comprehensive capital improvements program in our budget and the establishment of an "essistant manager" position, the assumption cannot be made that I do agree with the budget as a whole and/ or some of the recent recommendations coming from management and/or the Board

Insofar as the situation of the frame home owners is concerned, the point has been reached where needed repairs and rehabilitation eannot be delayed any further simply to keep the increase in monthly charges raising each year at a low percentage rate!

When we as a corporation are having to buy up units because they are unsalable due to rot and termite damage, the handwriting is already on the wall as to what could be the fate of other frame units! And because of our historic stand against increases, the needed repairs and preventive maintenance are going to be indeed costly due to the present situation insofar as our national economy is concerned!

The time is long past when we can cry out again against the proposed increases and at the same time do nothing about correcting the situation! We as a corporation especially the members-at-large must get together and plan our fuand establish our common ture goal!

Critique on Sites To the Editor:

The council meeting to select the site for THE OLD AGE HOME just adjourned and all I can say is that I hope and pray that it will never be necessary to have to depend upon it if the present attiude continues. It could be a fine program and truly it could be of tremendous help to many of our beautiful elderly people. However, if we are just grabbing at it because HUD indicates we could have a hundred units in our area to be financed by the state at low interest, and to be subsidized by the federal government if it would cost more than 1/4 of your total income to live there, all kinds of

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problems could open up Emphasis was laid upon the fact, with regret, that groceries would have to be carried up-hill for a long steep climb to either of the two sites in question on Ridge Road. The suggested remedy to this trek was to walk to Southway and Crescent, up Southway to Ridge, and then on Ridge to your "HOME". Ridge incidentally has no sidewalks here. If you are lucky enough to dodge the cars you are bound to be exhausted; if not, you do not belong there in the first place. You don't have to be a student of geriatrics to understand the potential problems. Why aren't we more concerned??? Why select an area close to "where the action is" if you have to go three times the necessary distance to get there and back, or at least back?

There seems to be a complete lack of empathy for the elderly and it was surprising that in their eagerness to get together-where they understand each other better-they really didn't seem to digest the potential hardships that would be cast upon them.

Since Greenbelt has long been an example of "unique" community housing I see this challenge as a golden opportunity to select a good and proper site with plenty of elbow room, indoors and out, convenient to those things that make a location desirable, and-to be a showcase of appreciation for our SENIOR CITIZENS. I think this would be much more humane than shoving them back somewhere so they can be hidden and not effect too much the surrounding neighborhood. Crescent Road near the lake would be an ideal spot and second choice would be the area between Crescent Rd. and Parkway which is now overgrown with weeds and debris, known facetiously, as a "Green Area". Until tests are made we won't know for sure if there are problems with building at the lake area. Make note that some of the most desirable homes are on the opposite shore and the hi-rise certainly overcame any hydrology problems that may have existed and I am convinced we could too and probably much cheaper than constructing a sewer pumping station as would be necessary on Hamilton Pl., also cheaper than the white elephant on Ridge Road Center either being destroyed or reconstructed. What a beautiful spot the lake

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job site

Thursday, November 13, 1975

Frames: A Word of Caution To the Editor:

Seven years ago, in 1968, I voted for a \$282,500 capital improvement loan. Today, seven years later, the frames are still paying on that loan, renewed in 1974, \$254,000.

At present the States Attorney of Prince Georges County has forwarded my charges to the chief of the screening and investigative division for review. Considering that fact and its possible consequences, the board is not in a position to escalate the members' debts. Not without an accounting of the 1968 capital improvement hoax, the moratorium monies, and the necessity of a 30% hike in payments for the frames since 1975.

Only with the following check points should the frames consider another blanket capital improvement loan: The Suburban Trust monthly statement of loans, new loans, compare with the work tickets, the invoices to cover same, the signed contracts.

This I call open books.

The only necessary expense at present is the boilers and we have the moratorium money to cover that.

Martha Hutzler

A Correction To the Editor:

As President of the Greenbelt Golden Age Club, Inc., I feel that I have an obligation to its members to correct some statements made by Mrs. Viola Keer in her letter published in the News Review of November 6. To begin with. over 200 members of the Golden Age Club are residents of Greenbelt and it is now a requirement that all new members be local residents.

Also the Greenbelt Golden Age Club is not a Prince Georges County sponsored organization but it is a group affiliated with the Greenbelt Recreation Department and it is under their supervision.

Charles T. McDonald

Amahl and the Night Visitors to be Shown

The Greenbelt Choral Arts Society, directed by Douglas Freeman will perform Amahl and the Night Visitors by Gian Carlo-Menotti in conjunction with the Ft. Meade Music Theatre on Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Center School auditorium.

Plan now to bring the entire family to see Amahl and the Night Visitors, a fully staged Christmas opera. The City of Greenbelt extends an invitation to all residents of the community. There will be no admission charge. The Greenbelt Choral Arts Society is sponsored by the City of Greenbelt Recreation Department. For more information call Patricia Martone at 345-5871.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

A children's Book Week program will be held at the Center School library media center on Mon. morning Nov. 17. The lives of famous men and women who have contributed to history will be acted in a program called "Dolls For Democracy." Media specialist Thelma Wacks will have a display of biography books of the dolls called "Books Come Alive!".

Frances Crosman

Mrs. Frances A. Crosman, 56-B Ridge Rd., a resident of Greenbelt for many years, died on Saturday, Nov. 8. She is survived by three children: John M. Foster of Bowie, Md.; Mrs. Marilyn Fischer of Strongville, Ohio; Thomas Wilson of Charlotte, N.C. and by ten grandchildren.

She is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Althea Linsenmayer of Florida, and by two brothers - Robert Benner of Texas and John Benner of California.

A memorial service will be held on Sat. Nov. 15 at 4 p.m. at the Berwyn United Presbyterian Church, 6301 Greenbelt Rd.

Mishkan Torah News

Professor Samuel Joseloff of the University of Maryland will be the guest speaker at services at the Mishkan Torah Congregation on Fri., Nov. 14 at 8:30 p.m. He is the author of "A-Time to Seek," an anthology on Contemporary Jewish American Poets.

A Book Fair on Sun., Nov. 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. will also highlight Jewish Book Month at the Mishkan Torah.

Frost Poetry Reading

The Maryland Poetry Society will sponsor a reading from the works of Robert Frost on Thurs., Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Greenbelt Library. An open poetry reading will follow the speaker presentation.

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Attractive rancher in excellent condition. Living room, dining room, fully equipped kitchen with breakfast area, four lovely bedrooms, two baths. Finished recreation room with glass sliding doors to patio. Large fenced lot beautifully landscaped. Central air conditioning. Wall to wall carpeting, many other ex-Priced to sell at \$55,950, tras. VA/FHA or conventional.

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Holy Cross Lutheran Church 6905 Greenbelt Rd. Worship Services 8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Sunday School 9:50 A.M.

Weekday Nursery School 9:00 - 11:30 A.M. Phone 345-5111

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

MISHKAN TORAH

Ridge & Westway Rds.

RABBI KENNETH BERGER

Fri., Nov. 14, 8:30 p.m. Prof. Joseloff, U. of Md., "A Time To Seek" Sat., Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m. Sabbath Services Sun., Nov. 16, 10 a.m. "Philosophy of Reconstructionism" - Lecture Sun., Nov. 16 11 a.m. BOOK FAIR

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(United Church of Christ)

Hillside and Crescent Roads - Phone 474-6171 (mornings) Sun., - 11 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School

Infant Care at 2-B Hillside

Thurs. - 7 p.m. "Women in the Bible"

Rev. Harry Taylor and Rev. Sherry Taylor, Ministers

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Mowatt Memorial

40 Ridge Rd., Greenbeit, Md. 474-9410) Church School 9:30 A.M. (For ALL Ages)

Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.

Sermon: "Money as our Idol"

Nursery Care for Infants through Kindergarten

Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham (474-3381 474-9410)

Take time to laugh . . .

Take time for your family . . .

Take time to read . . .

Take time to say "thank you", also

Take time to worship God.

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH 474-4212 Bible Study for all ages (Sun)

9:45 am

474-4223

No longer can we sit at home unconcerned about our collective future when we have been asked to gather and discuss our problems! Yes - the time is long past when

we can let management build up an administrative emporium at the expense of letting the plant deteriorate!

Yes - all the complaining done while sitting on a bench at the Center will accomplish nothing, but constructive criticism at the meeting you stayed away from would have accomplished something if you had taken the time and trouble to attend!

Ben A. Hogensen

area could provide! I'm sure there are those who would rather say it would interfere with the lake park where visitors litter, use, and abuse our hospitality at our expense both literal and visual. I love you, respect you, and want the best for you. To do less I personally would never agree to and I hope you won't either. IT'S MORE IM-PORTANT TO LIVE WITH DIG NITY THAN TO DIE WITH IT! Charles D. Kendall, Sr.

Greenbelt

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FOUNDLING KITTEN needs good home, Grey tiger, m. 10-12 weeks. Healthy, alert, engaging personality. We would like to keep him, but our cats won't accept him. Anne Meglis, 345-7067. Evenings.

YARD SALE Saturday, 9 - 3, 10-D Laurel Hill old Philco radio, works. Sunlamp, crash helmet and miscellaneous.

2 Bedroom Townhouse for sale, remodeled kitchen, washer, dryer, tiled bath, paneling, w/w, a/c, PRICED TO SELL, 345-8355; 245-1366; 523-5835.

YARD SALE: 128 Greenhill Rd., Sat., Nov. 15, 10-4.

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CHILD CARE: Experienced, dependable, references. Call any time. 577-1505.

FOUND - Small orange tiger kitten 11/11 nr. Edmonston Rd.? male 474-2538.

FOR SALE: Bennington Pine rocker recliner - \$50; 3 girls bikes -26" 24" 16" each \$10; bike frame -\$2 - 474-0425 after 5:30. a group with us. And obtain comprehensive coverage regardless of the condition of your health. We want to make quality health care benefits available at reasonable costs to as many people as possible. That's why we developed our new Mini-Group Program. It gives small

companies broad

The Mini-Group benefit package includes 70-day Blue Cross protection, the new Blue Shield Plan "i" program, a diagnostic program and a \$25,000 Major Medical program.

So even if there are as few as two people in your company, you can now get comprehensive Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage. To find out all about it, call 301-494-5100 or your nearest Blue Cross and Blue Shield office.

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Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maryland



but this split-foyer home does have parquet squares in the



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