# Greenbelt Aeus Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 43, Number 17 P.O. Box 68, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 Thursday, March 13, 1980

# Bonding Company Sues School Board on ERHS; Walls Stable, But X-Rays Pose Problems

#### by Elaine Skolnik

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, opened in September 1976, has not yet been accepted into the Prince Georges County school system. According to school officials, certain corrections and certifications must be made before the building can be accepted and before there is final payment on the contract amounting to \$275,138.

Spokesmen for the general building contractor take sharp issue with this position. They feel the terms of the contract have been fulfilled. Seeking payment, the bonding company, Maryland Casualty Company, assignee for Glassman Construction Company, filed suit against the Board of Education last month.

Although differing on the necessity for further corrections and guarantees, several of the involved parties stated that the building at present is totally safe for students and staff.

"I would send my daughter to

Roosevelt," assured Frank Wilner of Construction Management Associates, Inc. (CMA). CMA was engaged by bonding company Maryland Casualty Corporation to fulfill the terms of the building contract after Glassman ran into financial difficulties and could not complete the project.

Dennis Madden of the architectural firm that designed Roosevelt said: "There is no concern in our minds about the building's present safety.... The concern is from a contractural requirement—is the building going to continue to do the job? Has anything been left undone that could cause problems 20 years from now?"

"The tests have been completed and the analysis made by the architect and his engineer have not changed our original belief that the building is safe at the present time," said Roy Parker, director of construction and planning for the school system. Madden Wilner and Parker noted that independent tests

taken by the civil engineering

firm of Bernard F. Locraft revealed there had been no movement of Roosevelt's exterior walls or physical signs of distress. Using sensitive surveying instruments, Locraft compared measurements taken in April 1979 against those taken in December 1979.

"Within the ability of a human being to measure, they (Locraft) did not find any change in the readings," Madden said.

#### X-ray Report

While there appears to be agreement that the walls are stable, the results of two sets of wall X-rays taken by Reliance Testing Laboratories have been questioned. According to Madden, they seem to indicate that the anchorage and reinforcement (reinforcement strengthens the brick wall and allows for expansion and contraction during the changing seasons) may not comply with the requirements.

In a letter to Glassman dated February 28, Madden asked for verification of the presence of See ROOSEVELT, page 6

# Council Hears Sikorski On Cable TV Options

by Leta Mach

Once a cable TV franchise is awarded, it becomes a monopoly utility. For that reason Robert Sikorski, executive director of the Prince Georges County Cable TV Commission, urged council at its January 7 meeting to consider the issue with great care.

As Sikorski outlined it, Greenbelt has three choices. The city may decide not to grant a cable TV franchise, to grant its own franchise or a joint franchise with a neighboring municipality or to join the county system. Joining the county system can be done now (which he did not advocate), after bids are taken by the county or after the county awards a franchise, when the city could make its own deal with the company awarded the franchise.

Sikorski felt there are three reasons to choose a county-wide system. These were: 1) economies of scale, 2) central expertise to oversee the system and, 3) provision of services. Since cable customers pay for cable services, the system with more customers can provide more comprehensive services. Although cable TV companies may have the technology for two-way service, Sikorski explained that few franchises actually have the twoway service because 100-150,000 households are .needed to make this economically viable. He added that two-way technology would be feasible for the county system.

Because the federal government has deregulated the cable franchise process, the city granting a franchise now, Sikorski noted, has to ask for services that used to be set by the FOC. However, the county already has informed experts to see that the most is gotten for the constitu-

#### Woman Drowns In Lake

Several Greenbelt citizens reported seeing the body of an elderly female floating on Greenbelt Lake on Monday, March 10 at about 1 p.m. The body was fully clothed, but no identification was found on it. The deceased was later identified as a 63 year old resident of Cheverly. Cheverly police had received a report that she was missing at 2 a.m. on March 9. The deceased reportedly was despondent, and the death apparently was a suicide.

#### WHAT GOES ON

- Sat., March 15, 9 a.m. noon Greenbelt Little League sign-up. Youth Center 10 a.m. - noon Boys & Girls Club Soccer Registration, Youth Center
- Sun.. March 16, 7:30 p.m. Meeting on Mary Bethune Jr.
- High, Municipal Building Mon., March 17, 8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal
- Building Tues., March 18, 7:30 p.m. Citi-
- zens For Greenbelt meeting, Munic:pal Building

#### **Citizens for Greenbelt**

The Citizens for Greenbelt will hold a general membership meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The main topic for discussion will be the zoning hearings on parcels 3 and 4. Members, interested persons and those who signed one petition opposing R-T zoning are urged to attend. ents' dollar. As for provision of services, Sikorski felt "local origination" and "access channels". did not do much good if they weren't used. In this regard, the Cable TV Commission sees its role as coordinating and encouraging local access to cable facilities by educational, informational and governmental agencies. The commission has already talked with U. of Maryland, Prince Georges Community College. Bowie State, fire and police officials, Sikorski stated.

Mayor Gil Weidenfeld asked about the city's access to local origination channels in the county system. Sikorski stated that the city, along with other municipalities, would have reasonable access. Further, the county has only set minimums for these channels and more could be added if they are needed.

In considering a cable company, Sikorski felt it was important to look at the actual service customers receive and not the capacity of the system. Although the systems have a capacity of 35 channels, the number of channels subscribers actually receive may be less. Finally, because the share of proceeds a city receives from cable TV will not be much, "a community should seek cable as a means of providing its citizens services at virtually no cost to the taxpayers (subscribers pay for cable), not as a major revenue source."

#### HEARING POSTPONED

The Prince Georges County Planning Board hearing to consider the rezoning applications for Parcels 3 and 4 scheduled for Thursday, March 20 has been postponed one week to March 27.



NOTE: This is a PRELIMIN-ARY AGENDA - subject to change.

# An Interview With the Principal of Mary Bethune Junior High School

#### by Sandra Barnes

No community has a lock on problems affecting a particular school. This seems a truism. Yet one has the feeling that when you consider the problem of busing, and busing kids out of the neighborhood in which they live, it is very likely that one would feel apprehensive about the new area, particularly if it is far away and little known. And if some problem occurs - a kid who you know gets hurt - well, it must be that school or that area that is somehow "bad" for kids.

It is not difficult to form these impressions of Mary Bethune Junior High School, on Addison Road near the District Line. Located among warehouses, factories, run-down housing projects, it seems more like an inner city school than the ones with which we in Greenbelt are familiar. The low L-shaped building sits on an island of concrete-stark and gray. Chain link fences converge on two sides. And on the day of my visit a policeman in a patrol car was parked in front.

Coming from Greenbelt where trees are sacred, there is something of a culture shock on approaching Bethune. Entering the school, one notes the drab interior, dimly-lit, institution gray and green. Except for the oil painting of Mary McLeod Bethune—a dark-skinned, roundfaced portrait—in the hall near the entrance, there is little to indicate a sense of spirit or identity to this school—to mark it as different from other schools.

The principal, George Anderson, is big and affable. He is eager to talk about his school, eager to dispel rumors, eager to have people visit. My first question to him is, "Why are parents apprehensive about Mary Bethune?" He nods his head knowingly. The question does not surprise him.

#### Bethune Meeting Sun.

Views and specific suggestions will be solicited from all parents attending the meeting on Mary Bethune Junior High School, Sunday evening, March 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Parents of current Bethune students, of students in the recent past, of elementary students contemplating Junior High, and especially parents who have chosen alternate schools for their children are encouraged to come and make positive suggestions on all aspects of the Bethune school experience. The discussion is sponsored by the Greenbelt School Committee.

There are rumors, he says, some based on fact as most rumors are, but most are blown out of proportion to the actual incident. Incidents that occurfights, harassment—these occur, he says, but they are not "everyday" occurrences. And when we find out about them, we notify the kids, the parents, and we suspend if necessary. "Are the kids safe here?" I want to know.

His answer is an unequivocal "yes." The school has the capac-The school has the capacity for 900 to 1,000 students; it is below capacity with 650 and has a staff of 40. It is 51% black, 42% white, 5% Asian, and 2% other. Most classes are under 30. Teachers are expected to monitor the halls as classes change-although they do not always do so, he admits. Teachers next to bathrooms have keys to the bathrooms and are supposed to unlock them during the 5-minute class change. Only the bathrooms on the first floor are unlocked all the time.

"Is Mary Bethune different from other junior highs?"

Probably not. Students come to Mary Bethune from the surrounding area, and are bused from Kentland, Cheverly and Greenbelt. The students from Cheverly and Greenbelt pose as many discipline problems as those from other areas, although the public image may be different, Anderson says.

"What is the staff doing about the discipline problems?"

The school has an "activity area" in which a team consisting of the guidance counselors and others work with kids who have problems in the classroom. The student is taken out of the classroom—for an average of 3 weeks or more—and the problems are identified — emotional, school-re-See INTERVIEW, page 7 Page 2

# Greenbelt News Review

Virginia Beauchamp. MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$15 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office before 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway. (474-4131). The office is open Monday after 8 pm for display advertising; deadline is 10 pm. News articles and classified ads are accepted after 8 pm on Tuesday; deadline is 10 pm.

#### Policy on

#### Letters to the Editor

We have spelled out our policy on letters before, but every now and then it bears repeating. Accordingly, letter writers are reminded that letters must contain the name, address and telephone number of the writer.

We will withhold the author's name in some circumstances, but under no circumstances can we print a letter unless we know who wrote it. This means that the author's identity must be verifiable.

#### Some Sense of Values To the Editor:

I gather from reading the News Review that the city council seeks to deny use of the lobby of the former Greenbelt Theater to the local Credit Union, which has served the community in an outstanding manner for over 40 years. At the same time the council apparently favors use of the theater by a newly formed organization which is bringing pornographic movies to our community. Some sense of values. Ed Haviland

#### A Differing Opinion To the Editor:

I'd like to comment on the letter by Frank Gomez in the March 6 News Review. I too was in the Utopia Theater the night Amarcord was shown, and I am at a less to understand how Mr. Gomez could consider it "pornographic.'

Amarcord is a film by the Italian director Federico Fellini. In 1974, it won an Oscar for best foreign-language film and the New York Film Critics' Award for best picture of the year. The film is Fellini's affectionate and playful recollection of the town he grew up in. This is hardly the stuff of pornography!

Furthermore, the film was clearly advertised as part of the Cultural Arts Center's "Fine Arts Night" series of foreign films. Amarcord is Italian; it was not made with American audiences in mind. Certainly Mr. Gomez is free to dislike this film if he chooses, but crying "Satan" and defaming the character of the citizens who work hard for the Greenbelt Cultural Arts Center, and by implication, defaming the audience, is totally unwarranted. **Beatrix Whitehall** 

**Depressing Deterioration** 

When I first moved to Green-

belt in 1965, I was impressed by

this community designed for and

run by frugal, middle-class citi-

zens who seemed to realize that

To the Editor:

BICECHDELL BACLUS BACULEU AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ALFRED M. SKOLNIK, PRESIDENT, 1959-1977 Editor: Mary Lou Williamson, 441-2662 News Editor: Elaine Skolnik, 474-6060 Copy Editors: Barbara Likowski, 474-48433 Virainis Beauchamp STAFF Hally Ahearn, Alan Amberg, Sandra Barnes, Suzanne Batra, Edith Beauchamp, Sheri Beck, Clint Boushell, Linda Braun, Becky Brown, Margaret Butler, Carl Choper, Corinne Comulada, Joan Freeman, Judy Goldstein, Marion Harrison, Janet James, Bernice Kastner, Sid Kastner, Martha Kaufman, Katherine Keene, Dorothy Lauber, Loretta Levesque, Larry Levine, Leta Mach, Ray McCauley, Peggy Melley, Linda Orenstein, Ruth Powell, Will Scheitema, Lois Schrom, Pearl Siegel, James Simon, Denise Tann, Joanne Tucker, Jean Turkiewicz, Ottille Van Allen. Business Manager: Betty Aggson; Circulation Manager: Mike Jones; 441-2717, 474-6001; Springhill Lake Circulation: Barbara Clawson, 474-4541. News Review answering machine: 474-4131. Staff photographer, J. Henson. Published every Thursday by Greenbeit Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc. BORD OF DIRECTORS Pres, Elaine Skolnik; Vice Pres., Sid Kastner; Sec., Barbara Likowski; Treas., Leta Mach;

Pres., Elaine Skolnik; Vice Pres., Sid Kastner; Sec., Barbara Likowski; Treas., Leta Mach;

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> the "good life" is only found in the atmosphere of a simple, small-town community. At that time, I simply dismissed the criticisms I heard of GHI as not in keeping with what I saw. That

was fifteen years ago. Since then I have encountered more and more dissatisfaction on the part of my neighbors here in Greenbelt. The pattern seems to be one of benign neglect on the part of GHI which the member mistakenly assumes to be nonintrusive but diligent guardianship of the best interests of the membership. Then it happens. The member gets a first-class lesson in how insignificant are his rights and needs compared to the whims and wishes of GHI. . .

I began to suspect this abandonment of these high standards when, as a renter on Parkway, noticed how the area was allowed to deteriorate with accumulation of trash, loud partying, cars parked on the grass, fights, etc. All this could have been prevented by GHI demanding that higher standards be maintained by its renters. My own complaints were met by a letter remarking that such problems were indeed a violation of the renter's agreement. . . .

Cars parked in green areas, courts being used for auto repair shops, trailers parked in courts for months, townhouses painted four or more colors, bizarre alterations of members' units, strangers' cars parked in "GHIassigned" parking spaces, many garages used for purposes other than parking a car, tacky storage sheds of every description scattered all over town, etc. All these conditions and more are in violation of the letter, and intent of the GHI Rules and Regulations and could be prevented by strict adherance to these rules with a view toward preserving the quality of life in this small corner of the world. Why is this not done? These "whys" are beginning to pile up.

The oil crisis began in 1973, why don't we have electric heat by now? If it was possible to cut the budget two months ago, why was it not possible to cut it before then and save us all some money?

Why was a new member allowed to build a large, unsightly white addition on the garden side of a red-brick court with consequent adverse effect on the beauty of the court and on the property values of neighbors?

One of these parties is my parents and thus I am moved to warn others. Meanwhile, call us Denson's Rabble, or whatever: the number of disgruntled members continues to grow. Hopefully, we will prevent lovely little Greenbelt from becoming a characterless hodge-podge like Hyattsville or Laurel. Good luck!

**Donald** Archer

#### GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

#### THANKS

To the Editor:

We wish to thank all who helped make the White Elephant sale at Green Ridge Senior Citizen House on Saturday, March 2 a huge success.

This includes all the people who worked so many hours and all the people who patronized the sale. Also the generous merchants of Beltway Plaza who gave donations to the sale. The merchants who contributed are: Drug Fair, George's, Shoe World, Donuts 'n Things, Science Park Opticians, Basco, Bookland, International Bazaar, Computer Hut, Discount, True Value Hardware, A & P, Hobbycraft, Waxie Maxie, and Ben Franklin in Greenbelt.

White Elephant Committee Green Ridge House.

#### **Continuing Conservation** To the Editor:

GHI members' efforts to cut down on the use of oil have been effective. The results for January show a savings of over 50,000 gallons, compared with January of last year. That's right, over 50,000 gallons! Sure, this winter has been warmer than the last one; but over 33,000 gallons of this savings was because of conservation efforts. If GHI is to survive financially, we need to continue or even improve upon this excellent beginning.

Now that warmer weather is arriving, keep your radiators turned off as much as possible. And when you do turn them on, remember to turn them on only a "crack."

During the summer, the only way we will be able to save a significant amount of oil will be by using less hot water. Try to make a conscious effort to cut back. Use cold water whenever possible. Take fast showers. Wash only full loads of clothes and dishes if you use a dishwasher.

Read again the circular on energy conservation. If you need a copy, get one from the GHI offices.

> Wayne Williams, Vice-President,

**GHI Board of Directors** 

**Lion Belles Fashion Show** The Greenbelt Lion Belles will hold their annual fashion show on Wed., March 26 at St. Hugh's Grenoble Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be obtained at the door or from members of the Lion Belles. Proceeds will benefit Green Ridge Hcuse. For information call Stephanie Cornett. 474-9229 or Gudi

Mills, 474-2854. The 1980 Greenbelt Lion Belles installation was held on February 22 at the Rossborough Inn. Dinner, club history and awards presentation were followed by the installation ceremony. This year's officers are: Gudrun Mills, president; Natalie Reynolds, vice president; Rosemary Birchard, secretary; Mildred Kern, treasand Sherry Brubaker, urer; Golddigger.

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Chorles Cookson

Charles Cookson, long time resident of Greenbelt, died on March 8 at the age of 95. Husband of the late Ella M. Cookson, he had been living at the Greenbelt Convalescent Center. Mr. Cookson was a member of St. Hugh's. He was an engineer for the heating system at the time the government operated the housing development (now GHI) and continued as a GHI heating engineer until he retired. He is survived by a daughter, Mary Helen Hollinger. four sons, Charles T., John P., Robert C. and Wiliam "Pete", 26 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

#### **Transcendental Meditation**

A free public lecture on Tran-scendental Meditation (TM) will be given Monday, March 17. at

7:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt library. The lecture will be given by Mark and Pauline Stickels, two Greenbelt residents and TM teachers. The topic will be. 'A Stressfree Life in a Stressful Society." TM practitioners who would

like to learn more about Greenbelt's free TM follow-up program are invited. For more information call the Stickels at 441-9398.

#### MOWATT MEMORIAL

**United Methodist Church** 40 Ridge Rd. 474-9410

Church School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Rev. Ira C. Keperling, Pastor

474-1924

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	Worship services	11:00 am &	7:00	$\mathbf{pm}$	
	Mid-week Prayer service (Wed.)		8:00	pm	
For	bus transportation, call Church offic	e			

8:30-12:30 weekdays.

#### **Greenbelt Community Church**



#### NOW Meeting The Northern Prince Georges NOW chapter will be holding a

meeting on March 19 on Assertiveness Training for Men and Women. It begins at 8 p.m. in the Greenbelt library. Roseann Greco will lead the discussion and demonstration. The public is invited. For more information, call 794-7532.

#### **Chamber Chorus at** Mishkan Torah

"Musikanten," a small chamber chorus, will perform an a capella program of psalms and madrigals at the Mishkan Torah Sisterhood meeting on Thurs., March 27 at 9 p.m. The social hour starts at 7:30 p.m. followed by business meeting at 8 p.m. The public is invited.



Rev. John G. Bals, Rector 422-8057

H.B. Owens Science Center DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Wins National Recognition

The Howard B. Owens Science Center on Greenbelt Road near Goddard Space Flight Center has been selected as a national example of successful public education in energy conservation by the White House Office for Consumer Affairs and the Office of Education.

After a national search requested by President Carter and directed by his assistant for consumer affairs, Esther Peterson, the Center was selected because of several solar and wind energy programs aimed at elementary and secondary school students.

Director of the Science Center, H. B. Lantz, said that the "Sun Power" program was one of the projects which received national recognition and was selected by the Maryland State Department of Education as a model nationwide for other schools to consider.

Lantz said that the Center aims at three target populations: students of public schools in Prince Georges County, teachers who attend state approved workshops, and adults who attend evening planetarium programs.

He said that the Center has programs for elementary school students and junior high but have not yet been formalized for senior high school students. Also there are one-hour evening classes opened to the public.

At present, however, there are not specified hours where the Center is open to the public. "We're not a museum but a science center that provides instructional programs that will complement and enrich existing science programs in the schools," Lantz said.

A new program based on space travel will be added to the existing seven programs keyed for different grade levels. Called the "Loneliness Factor," the new program begins March 4 and will continue every first and third Tuesday of each month.

Lantz, director since Oct. 1978, said that the Owens Science Center is unique not only because of national recognition but also because he knows of no other school districts in the country that own their science center. The planetarium is one of the largest and finest on the east coast and the Center is geared for "our school students in the area." "We get excellent reports from teachers and students," said Lantz. "I feel very, very good about what's going on here."

## V. Lasworth Named Volunteer of Year

Virginia Lasworth, 14-D Hillside, was named the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club Volunteer of the year for 1979. Mrs. Lasworth was the recipient of the Greenbelt Recreation Department's award in recognition of her continued dedicated efforts in enhancing youth programs for the residents of Greenbelt.

Mrs. Lasworth was elected club president for 1979. Previously, she had served in a variety of positions with the organization, including membership, registration and ways and means committees. She is presently on the Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors and is active in many other community programs.

The Volunteer Awards Program was initiated to recognize the efforts of outstanding individuals serving city organiza-

# Boys & Girls Club

#### by Ernest Varda

The Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club is organizing an intramural spring soccer program for children born in 1971, 1972, and 1973. The intramural program is designed to introduce young people to the game of soccer and practice soccer skills, without the pressure of county-level or intercity competition. Small teams will be formed within Greenbelt, giving everyone a chance to play; and all games will be played at Roosevelt Senior High School. The season will run from the end of March through the middle of May.

Participants must join the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Clubthe registration fee entitles members to full participation in all club activities throughout 1980 (including the 1980/81 basketball program). Previous soccer experience is not necessary; experienced players who participate in any other organized, competitive-level soccer program this spring are ineligible. A special registration for spring soccer will take place at the Youth Center on March 15 from 10 a.m. to noon.

For further information, please contact Bob Spear, 1A Ridge, 441-1063. Adults and teenagers are also needed as coaches, assistants, and referees. Please call Bob Spear or come by the registration desk on Saturday.

Our 18-year-old-boys Basketball Team won the Youth Franchise League. The 12 year old boys are leading their division by one game. Both Jeff Cumberland, 18-year-old-boys coach, and Mike Giden, 12-year-old-boys coach are to be congratulated. The Board of Directors thanks e ach county and intramural coach for the sacrifice of their time to promote sportsmanship and character building in our youth.

March 17 through 21 is 9 and 8 year old double elimination tournament week at the Youth Center. All games will start at 6:30 p.m. under the direction of Bill Barron, intramural commissioner. The 12 year old intramural boys teams will hold their All-Star Game on Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m.

There are 5 county teams entering the Berwyn Heights Tournament on March 17 at Greenbelt Junior High.

The 1980 club year starts on April 1 and ends on March 31, 1981. Present members registering for the 1980 club year will be contacted by mail. Any present member not registering by May 1, 1980 will be expected to pay a late fee in addition to the membership fee.

New members may register on March 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 at the Youth Center and from 12:15 to 2 p.m. at SHL Rec. Center.

The club still needs a coach for the 14 year old boys and 11 year old girls. Call 474-2397 if you can help.

tions, which symbolizes Greenbelt at its best—"The Spirit of Community Involvement." The annual 24th District Legislative Dinner will be held Monday, March 24 at the James Senate Office Bldg., Room 400, in Annapolis.

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There will be cocktails (Open Bar) at 6 p.m., hors d'oeuvres, and buffet dinner at 6:45 p.m.

The evening session of the General Assembly begins at 8 p.m. See your legislators in action and enjoy a delightful dinner in Annapolis.

For ticket information, contact Dorothy Rothgeb at 441-1096 before March 17.

# GVFD & RS 608-78

by John Krob

During the past 2 weeks members of the Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., responded to 35 fire calls and 28 ambulance calls.

Preparations are being formulated to celebrate the department's twenty-fifth silver anniversary.

During the bitter-cold weather more and more pcople use heating appliances, mainly electric. Many fires are caused by placing a heater too close to a combustible. Remember, hot water heaters are heating devices too.

Liquid fuel burners are often found in homes with additions or garages. They can be hazardous, not only from the fire potential, but unsuspected deadly toxic gases. Always turn the heater off before going to bed. Always refill the fuel tank of the heater or stove outdoors, and clean the outside of the tank in case of spillage.

Fireplaces, chimneys and furnaces should be inspected and cleaned at least once a year. A fireplace without a suitable screen is like building a fire in the middle of the room. Ashes should be put in a metal container and isolated completely from combustible materials.

Electric blankets are safe as long as they have the UL label and are in good condition. If worn, get rid of them in the trash, first cutting away the cord.



#### CALL JOSE' 345-2244 OR CONTACT

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# **Council Authorizes GHI's Use of Tax-Exempt Revenue Bonds for Phase II Programs**

#### by Mary Lou Williamson

A letter of intent on the part of the City of Greenbelt to the Department of Housing and Urban Development to permit use of city tax-exempt revenue bonds by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. was unanimously approved by the city council at its March 3 meeting. The bonds would be used for financing a portion of GHI's capital improvements program.

GHI has not started its multiphased rehabilitation program because the financing of Phase I. a \$6.4 million loan at 3 percent interest committed by HUD last October has yet to be finalized. Among the remaining unresolved issues is the requirement by HUD that GHI show a commitment of financing for Phase II-further capital improvements. These are primarily electrical rewiring and heavy-up (\$3 m.) and correction of water problems in the frame erawl spaces (\$1.8 m.) and ineluding some reroofing and weatherstripping. Phase II work is being required by Prince Georges County to bring the homes up to current standard. Code violations must be eliminated.

At the time GHI members approved Phase I and II of the rehabilitation program, last August, the estimated cost for Phase II was \$5.2 m. Now, with inflation, bond costs and required reserves, the price tag is \$7.4 m. Thus GHI members will be asked to approve the additional \$2.2 m. of work which the county requires to be completed within five years.

Council was pleased with the extensive documentation presented for its perusal by the GHI

#### LITTLE LEAGUERS

The final Greenbelt Little League baseball sign-up will be held on Sat., March 15 at the Youth Center from 9 a.m. to noon.

#### Rehabilitation Funds Available

Certain Greenbelt residents meeting qualifications set forth below may be eligible for state sponsored housing rehabilitation loans.

The Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. administered by the Maryland State Department of Economic and Community Development ,is available to owners of freestanding homes and condominiums whose family income is within the guidelines set forth below:

Number in Fa	amily Income Limit
1	\$21,050
2	21,850
3	22,650
4	23,450

Over 5 Add \$800 per person The loans carry a below-market interest rate of six percent (6%) for terms up to 20 years.

A maximum loan of \$25,000 is available for a single-family home. Funds can be used for a wide variety of purposes, including new roofs, heating system improvements, insulation work, storm windows or a combination of activities designed to bring a home up to current code standards.

Applications and further information can be obtained from the City's Housing Rehabilitation Loan Specialist, at the Greenbelt City Offices, 25 Crescent Road, phone -474-8000 management. Council members had received an 18-page "Request for Revenue Bond Financing for GHI Rehabilitation" bolstered by an inch-thick book of appendices.

#### More Information

Councilman Thomas X. White suggested, however, that GHI should have included "a range of monthly charges" and projected cash flow for the next five years. But Ken Kopstein, GHI's deputy general manager, argued that by nature GHI bookkeeping does not provide exactly what White is looking for. "There is no cashflow," he said. "The information you want is in the budget. We don't project a surplus. Our business is not one which would accumulate a surplus." A ripple of laughter around the room was a friendly reminder of GHI's perennial problem of getting its members to approve budget increases of more than 10 percent. "Budgets are fragmented," White insisted. "At some point in talking with investment bankers, you're going to have to break out cash flow."

The repayment of the bonds, Kopstein pointed out, is based on the members' providing the funds through monthly charges and the security is the value of the property held by GHI and the investment in GHI by its members.

White also asked for a detailed chart projecting typical monthly charges to be paid on various sized frame and masonry homes. Letter Approved

Schwan moved acceptance of a letter drafted for council by GHI's attorney, Al Ginsburg. A few additions offered by council were readily accepted by Kopstein. The short letter, sent March 5 to the HUD area office indicates that the city is "presently structuring the details of the financing" of "a portion of the rehabilitation program of . . . (GHI) . . . estimated to be about 5.2 million dollars."

Council also authorized City Manager James K. Giese to seek the services of bond counsel and financial advisers in the development of a bond issue.

Kopstein would have liked council to go one step further and make a commitment on financing the remaining phases of the rehabilitation program: the additional \$2.2 m. of Phase II; Phase III - structural repair work on brick homes - \$1.1 m; Phase IV - conversion of heating system - \$4.7 m.; the refinancing of outstanding loans (currently at high rates of interest) - \$1.2 m.; and bond costs (\$700,000) and required reserves (\$1.8 m). The total bond issue could range from the \$5.2 m. already approved by the members to \$16.9 m., depending upon membership approval. The entire program will be presented to GHI members at a special meeting tentatively scheduled for May 28. But council was reluctant. "You'd have to get your ducks

in a row and come back to us," Councilman Richard Castaldi told Kopstein. "That's what we've done," Kopstein explained, referring to the

stein explained, referring to the fact that the request and documentation council had received detailed the entire program, not just the part of Phase II for which the HUD letter was needed.

"We want feedback from the community and from the financial advisors," countered Castaldi. "By May 28 you'll get your 'go' or 'no go' decision."

"This is a chicken and egg situation," rejoined Kopstein. "We get far better support from our membership when we can identify the financing."

Council, however, was not ready to take this further step. But Pilski responded in a positive manner when he said, "From this meeting tonight you can see that the intent (on the part of council to cooperate with GHI) is there." He predicted that, if all went well, "city council would look favorably on such a request. But I couldn't vote on that tonight." Weidenfeld and Schwan agreed with Pilski, but also with Kopstein on the need to develop a dialogue and get back to GHI before its May membership meeting.

"The best thing that can happen to GHI prior to May 28 is for the HUD financed Phase I to start flowing," said White. If Phase I has not yet begun by then, White predicted a "high degree of frustration. You'll get a lot of gnashing of teeth."

#### The Member Relations Committee

of Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association says . . . MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS !!!

#### at the

23rd Annual Meeting of the Members

8:00 p.m, Tuesday, March 25, 1980 City Council Meeting Room, City Office Building Elections Annual Reports

#### Refreshments

Members are encouraged to attend and vote, or to vote by mail. Information regarding proxy voting, including a mailed ballot, is included in a mailing which should reach members' homes sometime this week.

The Twin Pines Annual Meeting is a unique opportunity for members to participate in operating one of the most important financial insitutions in our community.

The Member Relations Committee hopes that each member will use this opportunity fully by attending the meeting. If that is not possible, exercise your franchise by carefully using the material that will be mailed.

> Member Relations Committee Muriel Weidenfeld, chairperson

#### **Recreation Review**

Pass Policy

All persons entering the Greenbelt Recreation Centers are required to have a Centers Pass, except for special programs. City residents have priority use of facilities at all times. County residents will be admitted to the centers on a limited basis and by paying a daily or yearly fee. Only city residents and Prince Georges County residents are permitted to use these facilities. Passes are free to all city residents, good for one year only from the date of issue. All persons 16 and over must show a valid ID (driver's license or picture ID) along with their Centers Pass when entering. Persons under 16 years of age must show only their Centers Pass.

#### **Open** Gyms

There are other area gyms that are open to the public on the following schedule: Greenbelt Junior High School—Sun., 1-5 p.m.; Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School—Sun., 6-10 p.m.



- **OLD GOLD** That's what this custom built 4 BR 2½ bath home in Old College Park is. You'll agree the custom magnificent woodwork in this fine home is fitting for the home and the academic atmosphere that pervades the **Univ. of Md. area. Complete with professor's den.** Oh, yes, there is an attached garage and the lot is large and wooded. ASK FOR DON OR LANCE. 441-9511
- **SOLD! SOLD!** That fine 4 BR, 2 bath home advertised last week. If you want your home sold fast ask for Don or Lin when you call 441-9511.
- BOXWOODIANS or, would be Boxwoodians, do you have a relative or friends that would like the nicest 4 BR 2½! bath CAC home in town? Let me tell you about this fine home! Nice family room opening out onto patio and large level lot (You can plant your own garden). BIG WALK-IN CLOSET OFF MASTER BEDROOM! CARPORT! Clean and NEAT! Ask for Don or Lin when you call 441-9511
- FANTASTIC is the only way to describe this 3 BR 1½ bath CAC Split level home in Berwyn Heights. CUSTOM built kit. LOTS of Storage! Carport that is nice enough to be a room if you want it enclosed. NEAR EVERY-THING! Call 441-9511 and ask for KATHY.
- HORSE TRADERS will welcome the three acres + that go with this 3 BR 1½ bath CAC custom built home. Many other features including fireplace. Just the place for you if you want to get away from it all.
- **CLOSE TO** THE PRESENT OWNER'S HEART is this very fine 4 BR 2½ bath split level with a 2 car garage. Fabulous, Florida Room. Finished to a "TEA" if you want to have one for your friends. There is an added feature to this house that will please many people. Call 441-9511, ask for Don or Lin.
- **IN THE FIFTIES** you could buy a 3 BR home for \$6000. We are here to tell you that in the 80's you can still buy a 3 BR home for approx. \$6000 Down, that is. And the house is in the 50's price range. Super assumption near Chesapeake Bay on this all-year home. Completely fixed! Big jalousied porch! Ask for LANCE OR KATHY WHEN YOU CALL 441-9511.
- "EL BIGGO" is the only way to describe this HUGE HOME with over an acre of wooded lot. Imagine! florida room with brick fireplaces. Speaking of FP's, this big home has four of them! Curved dramatic stairway! 3 BR's, 2½ bath with ARTIST'S LOFT! Rec room with barnwood siding. Of course there is a garage — or if you want — a stable. Call 44-9511. Ask for Kathy or Lance. You can assume this loan.
- DING DONG Here is your opportunity to ring the bell for a fine 3 BR, 2 bath home in Montgomery County for under \$70,000. Nice rec. rm. with fireplace. Ask for Kathy or Lance 441-9511

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CALL 441-9511. ASK FOR DON & LIN McCAUGHEY OR KATHY CRAWFORD & LANCE WHITNEY. WE'RE PROFESSIONAL TEAMS THAT CAN MOVE YOU FAST!



Policy atering the Green-

#### **Police Blotter**

A residence in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Lane was entered and property valued at over \$2,900 removed; a residence in the 6100 block of Springhill Terrace was entered, and property valued at \$1,100 removed; in addition, a residence in the 9300 block was entered, and property valued at \$500 was removed. The above cases are presently under investigation.

At around 3:17 a.m. on March 6, Pfc Michael D. Craddock stopped a vehicle with adult male non-residents exiting from Glen Oaks Apartments at the 7500 block of Mandan Road. A wanted check indicated that two of the occupants had outstanding warrants for breaking and entering, burglary, robbery with a deadly weapon, and carrying a dangerous weapon. Sgt. Phillip R. Coombes and Pfc Thomas R. Justin assisted with the arrest. Two loaded handguns were located in the vehicle, one stick of dynamite and one blasting cap. Explosive technicians from the fire marshall's office were summoned to the location and disposed of the explosives. The occupants were charged with transporting handguns in a vehicle and possession of explosives and were incarcerated in lieu of bond.

Two female juveniles were the victims of an indecent exposure that occurred in the 7600 block of Mandan Road on March 6. The suspect is described as a white male, mid 20's with black collar length hair, mustache and sideburns. He was operating a medium size maroon vehicle with red interior, black dashboard and steering wheel.

The Pizza Villa located in the Springhill Lake shopping center was broken into early morning March 8. Assorted change and food items were removed. The case is under investigation.

While on routine patrol in Springhill Lake, Officer Terrance M. McGrath recovered a motor cycle before the owner was aware it had been stolen.

Pfc Daniel P. O'Neil recovered a vehicle reported stolen from Laurel, Md. The vehicle had been involved in an accident.

A robbery by force (PBS) pocketbook snatch occurred at Beltway Plaza in the parking lot by the Drug Fair. A lookout has been issued for a suspect, and a vehicle.

The 1976 Datsun pick-up truck reported stolen from Kay Construction has been located in a rock quarry in Montgomery County.

Residents are requested to report any suspicious activities, or persons to the police department.



TWO-ACRE FARMETTE—Plus 4 bedroom, 2 full bath house. Also offering plenty of workshop area, barn, and much more including country setting with lots of ranch-style fencing. Located in the Bowie area just off Rt. 301. Don't be late on this one. Call 345-2151.



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**COLLEGE PARK ESTATES**—Better than a model home, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, separate dining room, fireplace in rec room, excellent location. Also central air conditioning, and wall-to-wall carpet throughout Hurry, this home is a real beauty. Call 345-2151. Screened porch could be carport.



THE BEST YOU'LL SEE—And you can choose from either of two real fine 3 bedroom towhouses. Both offer wall-to-wall carpet, fenced yards and are completely remodeled throughout. If you are considering a home in Greenbelt, you must see these 2 beautiful homes.



FIREPLACE AND TWO-CAR GARAGE—Nice home, nice street, very convenient location. Two or 3 bedrooms, large separate dining room, and rec room in basement. No loan to qualify for, no credit check, just put down \$7,500 and take over FHA loan. Call 345-2151 for details.



SILVER SPRING — TWO FIREPLACESS, GARAGE are only 2 fine features in this solid brick 2-story home. Also separate dining room, remodeled kitchen, full basement and huge expandable 2nd floor. Buy this home with only 5% down payment. \$73,500. Call now, 345-2151.



GLENNDALE HEIGHTS IS OFFERING this 4 bedroom. 2 full bath home in immaculate condition. Featuring large country-style kitchen, real nice rec room, central air conditioning. You will not find a better home for the money. Nice-size bedrooms, nice location. Nice yard with trees. Don't let this one get away. Call 345-2151 for appointment to see.



GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

# ROOSEVELT WALLS continued from page 1 he anchorage and reinforcement could penetrate the density of

the anchorage and reinforcement before the walls (in particular the high walls of the gymnasium, cafeteria and auditorium) can be accepted as structurally adequate.

Madden wanted "physical evidence that both (anchorage and reinforcement) . . . have been properly provided in the high masonry walls which were built out of plumb . . . (or) a profes-sional engineer's certification" that the walls were constructed in accordance with contract re-"This certificate," quirements. he continued, "would also have to be acceptable" to the Prince Georges County Department of Licenses and Permits (DLP),

Physical evidence would involve cutting away specific blocks at strategic places to determine if the steel was installed.

Madden's letter also stipulated: "Since there is evidence that a substantial portion of the horizontal joint reinforcement is missing, a special extended warranty should be provided, covering those walls against the possibility of cracks recurring, or solid evidence submitted proving beyond doubt that the reinforcement does exist as required."

#### **Technique Questioned**

Wilner argued that the "X-raying of buildings is a new technique. There is no assurance there is correct lighting. . . Much is dependent on light and joints behind the walls. . . Many things can cause deflection. .

DLP Chief Building Inspector Arthur Brown observed that because the technique of X-raying masonry walls is novel, it cannot be stated positively that the method is "fail-safe." Brown viewed the films and in some instances saw that reinforcement was present; in some, it was not.

"I feel X-rays may not be the perfect tool, but they are so close to being the answer that we do not know what to do next short of tearing the wall down," said Parker. The problem posed by the technique, observed Par-ker, was whether the X-ray materials, but we do have films, he commented, showing reinforcements are present in some instances.

Other work that the contractor must perform before the Board of Education will close out the project includes correcting of the bridging anchorage and cracks in the west wall, repairing hollow-tube, fixed window sections and obtaining a final Occupancy Permit from DLP that meets all plans and specifications.

Richard Duffy of the bonding company (MCC) protested the need for the corrections and certifications spelled out in Madden's letter.

He argued, "We should have been out of there two years ago. Since the school has been operating we have done a hundred things with not too much complaining and some with no complaints. . . I don't think after four years windows are our responsibility. . . We tried to placate them because it is a political body."

Wilner opined: "One-half the buildings constructed in this country would show construction imperfections if examined as closely as Roosevelt was. Construction is not a perfect science and for these conditions to occur is nothing adverse."

#### Early Complaint

In June 1978 a formal complaint alleging unsafe construction was brought by Jack Steiffer, former Greenbelt resident and former Roosevelt teacher. He charged that the building was "literally tearing itself apart as it shifts in three directions on the clay horizon it's built on."

A subsequent series of inspections and reports by county and state personnel disclosed various deficiencies in the construction. but no immediate hazards that would affect the safety of the students and the staff were found. However, they recommended that the building be monitored to verify their findings that there are, in fact, no structural problems.

#### GHI NOTES

The Board of Directors meets tonight at 8 p.m.; the joint LRP and the E&M committees meet March 18, 8 p.m., Board Room.

Because of Prince Georges County budget cuts, the Youth Community Conservation Im-provement Project at GHI has been cancelled as of the end of March. In this program, young people 16-19 years old were hired to perform specific jobs among which were helping senior citizens with yard work, painting the interior and exterior of homes, erecting court signs, landscaping common areas, painting boiler rooms and striping parking courts. Although this program will end, GHI has been awarded another CETA contract to hire three persons under the Public Service Employment program. GHI expects to employ trainees in grounds, structures and auto mechanics. Persons 18 years old or older who might be interested in these or other CETA jobs may call the PSE Unit at 439-1380 for further information on how to qualify. There are income guidelines.

The Board of Directors approved conversion of the heating system to electric heat at its meeting on March 6. Members will be receiving specific information on the conversion as well as the additional rehabilitation work planned, by the end of March. Court meetings and information meetings will be scheduled. Any member interested in hosting a court meeting in his/ her home in April or May, please contact Sandra Barnes, Coordinator of Member Services, 474-6682. A Special Membership Meeting is expected to be held May 28 with the annual membership meeting on June 30.

Because of increased demand, GHI has experienced a delay in converting its gasoline-fueled maintenance trucks to propane. However, it is expected that all maintenance trucks will be converted to propane fuel within the next month and GHI will have a pollution free fleet in service.

Members who have persistent problems with roaches may obtain from GHI-free of cost-a container of roach power which GHI is trying out on an experimental basis. Members who request the powder must sign an agreement that they will follow directions on the label and report back to GHI on the effectiveness of the product. Those wishing the product, please see Sandra Barnes, Coordinator of Members

#### LEGAL CLINIC of DOUGLAS I. MALCOM

Divorce, Uncont.	200.00	FREE INITIAL	
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Hourly Rate	\$ 35.00	474-8808	
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2 br. brick home - very nice loc., appliances included -\$36,600.

Large 3 br. masonry, corner location - near shopping center; library; sep. dining room; \$45,000.

Beautiful cond. 3 BR masonry, many improvements; "likenew" appliances; has large first floor addition - \$42,000.00.

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Good parking in large court - 2 br. frame with nice yards; improvements; remodeled bathroom - \$21,550.00

Attractive, neat 2 br. frame with lg. yard; ra/refg/washer; new bathroom - selling for a low \$19,500 or best offer.

Other 1, 2 & 3 bedroom properties listed starting at \$13,000 Monthly payment covers HEAT/TAXES, water & sewer; structural Mtn. & Ins., trash & garbage removal.

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GREENBELT, MD.

#### Valentine Party by Blanche Lee

Seventy-nine youthful Golden Agers and guests gathered at the Youth Center Wednesday, Feb. 13 to celebrate Saint Valentine's The Hall was decorated Day. Valentine decorations and with the theme was carried out on the tables with hearts and flowers. Decorated cakes were served with ice cream after a light lunch. Ann McDonald, past president, presided over the short business meeting that followed the luncheon. Other past presidents, the Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Baker, Katie Basinger, Bob Dove, and Charles McDonald were introduced. Committee chairmen were called on to give their reports. The meeting closed with a "story" by Charles McDonald, who was wearing a conspicuous, huge red heart fastened to the lapel of his coat.

v Lombardo hostess Ro looking like a veritable Valentine herself, arranged the program which included songs by Helen Oring: "Forever And Ever" and "The Sweetest Story Ever Told". Frank Colea sang the lovely Italian song "Sorrento", "Mona Lisa", and "Let The World Go By". Lucille Lushine accompanied Colea on the piano.

Door prizes, passed out by the Hospitality Committee, concluded the celebration. Rosemary and her helpers received a big hand for their efforts in making the party a heart-warming occasion.

#### At Greenbelt Library Ireland: The Shamrock Shore-Sat., March 15, 2 p.m. A slide

travelogue in observance of St. Patrick's day, traditional Irish music and refreshments.

Book Discussion - Thurs., March 20, 10:15 a.m. Thomas Flanagan's Year of the French, a novel of Ireland.

#### BOOKS

Your Job Search, a guide to information in the Prince Georges County Memorial Library System for career-planners and job-seekers, is now available. This free pamphlet lists books of interest to new graduates and those returning to work as well as the person switching careers.

The Greenbelt Library has a special display of books and pamphlets on choosing a career, preparing resumes, interviews, and occupational training The brary also has important reference books for the person in search of the right job or career.

#### La Leche Meeting

The Greenbelt La Leche League will meet at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 17 at 18 Woodland Way.

Discussed will be the Baby's Arrival; the Family; and the Breastfed Baby. For information call 345-2670.



#### GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

# INTERVIEW WITH MARY BETHUNE PRINCIPAL con't fr. p. 1

the student keep up with classwork as well as to deal with personal problems.

"Does it work?"

Well, Anderson replies, we don't have any statistical evidence that it works. We are considering the detention centers which seem to be effective in other schools, he continues.

One gets the feeling of a big grey area like "Why Can't Johnny Read?" and the answer is complex and the educators-the people who are supposed to know-can't really tell you. It's an uncomfortable feeling. Because, if they don't know, who does?

"What about school spirit? What is being done to promote Anderson brightens. Here it ?" is an area he feels the school is having some success with.

Without interscholastic athletics, lack of school spirit has been a problem, he says. But Bethune has an intramural program with games played during school hours. It also has special programs such as Student Day in which students take the jobs of teachers and other school personnel; Activity Day with special classes such as disco dancing, cooking; a Faculty-Student Basketball game; a Talent Show; and a Science Fair.

Academics

"How does Mary Bethune compare with other junior highs academically?'

Anderson is glad I asked that question. He whips out his computer printout chart and I try to figure out what all the numbers mean. Mary Bethune is not the best, but it certainly is not the worst. Scores for kids are improving, a little better than what was expected in some areas, only slightly lower than what was expected in others. And, the principal asserts, our best and brightest kids leave at the end of eighth grade to go to Roosevelt. Between 12 and 20 kids leave Bethune each year to attend Roosevelt. "Our scores would be higher if those kids were included," he states emphatically. Since Greenbelt kids attend Roosevelt in the 10th grade, there is a push among parents to get them to enter the Technical Center in the ninth grade, more pressure than other kids experience who come from other areas, he feels.

Anderson is proud of his teaching staff, especially the reading teachers who he thinks are particularly dedicated. The school

Greenbelt

Cultural

Arts Center

in the fall to use in the reading classes. There is a "Word of the Day" which teachers emphasize throughout the day to encourage vocabulary build-up.

"From time to time we hear horror stories about Bethune-a teacher is assaulted, thefts from cars, break-ins. Students urinating in the halls. Are they true?"

"I invite anyone to come and see for himself. I can't guarantee they won't happen. These things do happen from time to time. But, on a daily basis, you won't see anything except the normal activities of a junior high school." he replies.

Not long ago, someone did try to break into the school and was shot by the police. But he was not from the area, Anderson states. And what he was doingtrying to get some money from the coke machine in the teacher's lounge-well, it could have happened at any school. "We don't need that kind of publicity," he almost groans.

Safe? "Are people safe here? Is the area safe?"

Anderson says he is safe. Teachers walk to the METRO. the nearby Deanwood station. The school nurse walks from her home a few blocks away. The school is used nightly by the Rec reation Department. There is a security guard on duty full-time during the day. Yes, he says, the school is safe. The area . well. there are some very neatly kept houses around here,

"Is there a drug problem?" No, he says. The school has more of a problem with regular tobacco than marijuana. If drugs are suspected, he calls in the "narc dog," the police narcotics dog, who goes through the halls sniffing. This is done two to three times a year, he says. There is no evidence of hard drugs in the school. Neither the "narc dog" nor the staff has sniffed out any drugs; of course, the dog is not permitted to sniff the students.

"Would the situation be improved if the junior highs were converted to a seventh-eighth combination-the so-called middle school concept-with the ninth graders absorbed into the high schools?"

No question about it, Anderson remarked. Junior highs are organized around the ninth graders because of the credits they have to earn toward their high school graduation. Schools adjust the teaching schedule, the classes, the length of periods.

would be a lot of flexibility to introduce new programs, provide team teaching, adjust schedules to suit individual needs. There is a vast difference between the seventh grader and the ninth grader, he asserts. Anderson also decried the emphasis placed on junior highs to be pseudo high schools with yearbooks, rings, proms. The junior high period was never meant to be like high school-it is a time of adjustment-physical. emotional and intellectual for the student. "Given the situation, what is

Page 7

the school doing to handle problems?'

#### Guidance

The county provides one counselor for every 350 students. Bethune has two guidance counselors. The counselors try to meet with the students regularly, go to classes, provide group guidance as well as try to deal with individual problems, he states.

One has the idea that no one is fooled into thinking that two guidance counselors serving 650 can provide really students meaningful assistance to any more than a handful.

I spent two hours in the school. I saw one change of classes with students hustling through the halls, some whistling, some showing off an item crafted in the industrial arts class perhaps. The principal stands beside me, big and kind of overpowering and I think that if physical strength alone were an answer, he would have it.

Later he shakes my hand good bye and he exudes warmth and confidence. I leave the building. About ten girls are in the hall practicing cheers and bubbling with laughter. The stu-dents have gone, the building is locked. The custodian lets me out.

I have a bewildering sense of "What happens now?" I think few in Greenbelt would shed a tear if Mary Bethune Junior High School were to be closed in the next year or two. Yet are the problems at this school very different from other junior highs? Is the school a microcosm of society? Do the students bring their problems to the school or does the school create additional problems? Magnify problems that already exist? One thing the principal has stressed-problems straddle all economic and social sectors.

Who cares about Mary Bethune Junior High School? And, if we care, what are we willing to do about it?



Others wishing to join or those who have not received forms in the mail should call

Mr. Varda 474-2397

Echo Mime Company

**Tom Nicotera** Lin Murphy

Saturday Night Coffeehouse

March 15 9 p.m.

CHARTER MEMBERS SENIOR CITIZENS

CHILDREN UNDER 12

**Donation \$2** 

"NIGHT WATCH" TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE THEATER

#### **CITY NOTES**

The building maintenance crew is continuing to work on the renovation of the Police Department. The new floor tile was installed in the processing room and hallway, and the floor in the squad room was refinished. Drywall work in the men's shower room has been completed and is ready to be painted. Plumbing access doors are being constructed for the men's shower room. The crew also refinished the floor in the Council Room.

The general crew worked on truck repairs. One member of the crew fashioned markers for the perimeter trail in the Northwest Park. Potholes were patched at various locations in the city.

The parks crew continued trimming trees on the road sides. The new picnic tables have been painted. With the assistance of several members of the general crew, the crew rebuilt the bridge across the stream at the Springhill Lake Golf Course.

New signs warning "Deaf Child Area" were installed in the area of 23 Court Ridge Road. Also, a handicap parking stall was placed in the reserved area of the Lake parking lot.

Various members of all the crews worked from the afternoon of March 8 until the morning of March 9 on snow removal. Cleanup activities continued through the early part of this week.

The regular trash crew and special trash crew were on schedule last week without any problems

PEPCO has started changing the incandescent lights to high pressure sodium lights in the Springhill Lake area. The new lights have been changed on Edmonston Road, from Greenbelt Junior High to Springhill Drive

# **Greenbelt CARES Start Parent Discussion Group**

by Jim Holmes Raising children, especially adolescents, can be frustrating. Drug use, unwanted pregnancy, chronic truancy, and an assortment of other issues can easily reach crisis proportions in any family. In these situations, the young person's inability to hear parental advice or follow mandates helps escalate the conflict. Before long, parent and young person are not communicating effectively about anything. The generation gap becomes an ocean of anger, rejection, threats ,and tears.

Greenbelt CARES is now accepting applications for a Parent Discussion Group to begin April The group wil be co-led by Jim Holmes and Wendy Wexler, CARES' Family Counselors, and will meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for eight weeks. Single persons or couples are welcome to apply by calling Greenbelt CARES at 345-6660. There is no fee.

Although some formal presen tations and exercises will be offered by the leaders, this will not be a counseling or therapy group. Simply stated, a discussion group draws on the collective knowledge, skills and experiences of its members. Through sharing ideas and brainstorming strategies, parents can help one another increase their effectiveness. This format has been highly successful in the past.

The tentative agenda for the group includes such topics as communication skills, drug abuse, sexuality, and chronic truancy. If demand exceeds limited space, other groups will be organized. Closing date for applications is March 25.

and Springhill Drive to Spring-Lane



pendence Day fireworks display. Supplier is responsible for delivery of all materials to be furnished including furnishing for set pieces and mortars for aerial displays. City personnel will be responsible for firing the display and set up at the display site. Alternate proposals will be accepted for the supplier to set off the arrayal. Total cost of proposal shall not exceed \$3,000 F.O.B. Greenbelt. Bid information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 (Phone: 301-474-8052). Bids must be received not later than 2:00 P.M., April 2, 1980.

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No job too small. Rates much lower than commercial establishments,

And my workmanship guaranteed for as long as you live in your home!

474-1750 after 5 pm; Ask for "Electric Service."

#### **House for Sale** Silver Spring **Great Potential Open Sunday** 1:30-5:30

ALL BRICK: Two story home, vacant & newly remodeled; featuring 2 fireplaces, sep. din. rm, new kit., full basement, garage, workshop; gas hot water heat. Upstairs could be additional very large bedroom, den, and bath. Full basement w/fireplace and exit, could be large rec. room. Only 73,500 on VA terms or conv. terms w/5% down. Owner may help with closing costs. Excellent location near downtown Silver Spring, 2 minutes from Beltway. ACT NOW; this home won't last long.

Directions: Beltway to University Blvd; east (toward Langley Park) 2 blocks; right on Franklin Ave, 2 blocks; left on Biltmore to 9408. Call: KASH REALTORS 345-2151



Thursday, March 13, 1980



An admirer pays homage to the 1980 Sweetheart of Green Ridge House — Mrs. Tillie Norris.

#### Volunteer Summer Jobs For Teens

Volunteer summer jobs for teens are being offered by the Prince Georges County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Interested teens over the age of 13 can work for no pay in a variety of fields offering valuable work experience: caring for people in hospitals, day care centers and nursing homes; helping the handicapped; working with disaster teams; and many office and clerical job opportunities. Volunteers are able to set their own hours.

Teens may contact the Youth Programs Office at 559-8500 before May 1.

# P.G. Philharmonic Concert

The Prince Georges Philharmonic will present a special concert for young people on Sun., March 16 at 2 p.m. at Northwestcrn High School. There is a fee.

#### St. Hugh's Track Practice

The first track practice for St. Hugh's boys and girls track team will be on Tuesday, March 18 at 5:15 p.m. behind St. Hugh's church. Practices will be each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:15 p.m. for ages 9 through 15 years. For further information call Larry Noel at 474-9362.

#### VALENTINE'S PARTY AT GREEN RIDGE

On Saturday, February 16, a Valentine Party was held at the Green Ridge House where residents, their friends and relatives enjoyed an evening of fun and laughter. The festivities included a song and dance with music ranging from the 20's to today's disco. Guests attending were attired in dresses and suits of red and pink. The dining room was similarly decorated with many hearts and streamers.

The main event, however, was the election of Green Ridge House Sweetheart 1980, Tillie Norris, who was presented with a gift and serenaded by Green Ridge's own Jerry Brown.

Also attending the party was Ruth Hendricks, who is recovering from an accident that occurred last month. Usually one of the leading dancers at Green Ridge, Ruth was restricted to watching the others dance.

Green Ridge's favorite partner, Michael Caruso, grandson of Mrs. Norris, was in attendance to dance with the ladies.

dance with the ladies. Refreshments included two cherry sheet cakes donated by Mrs. Norris' son-in-law, Jerry

#### Durkin, as well as punch, candy and nuts. Chorale Presents Mozart Requiem

The Greenbelt-Lanham Chorale will be presenting the Mozart **Requiem** at Good Samaritan Lutheran Church, 10110 Greenbelt Rd., Lanham, at 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 16. The work will be sung by the 40-member group with organ accompaniment. There is a donation.



GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

# **Open Letter to Greenbelt**

The following information was presented to the City Council by the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union on March 3, 1980. The *News Review* in its issue of March 6 combined this presentation with reporting on an earlier discussion between council and Credit Union. In the process, some confusion resulted. We ask that our presentation of March 3 be published for the record and for the information of interested parties:

MR. MAYOR: My name is Joe Comproni, 13-A Ridge Rd. I am here as manager of our local credit union. With me are members of our board of directors Jim Rice, Secretary; Rev. Kenneth Buker, and Jerry Anzulovic. We want to discuss our efforts to obtain additional office space with which to serve our 5,000 members and the frustration of these efforts, mainly by the city council.

For over a year we have been negotiating with the owner of the local shopping center, George Christacos, for larger quarters. Recently, Mr. Christacos asked us if we were still interested in obtaining office space. We confirmed that we were and he suggested space in the local theater, which had closed. After considerable negotiation, we agreed on the lobby of the theater building. We were assured of space, given a key to the building, a draft lease, and permission to provide access for our achitect and builder. During this period Mr. Giese, City Manager, called me and wanted to learn about our arrangements with Mr. Christacos. I advised him that we were interested in the lobby of the former theater and were proceeding toward its acquisition for office space.

Subsequently, Mr. Christacos visited my office and advised me that he would have to withdraw his offer of theater lobby space for the credit union. Naturally, I asked him why. He said he was under pressure from the city not to proceed with the arrangements we had made. When I remonstrated, he said he was vulnerable from several angles and did not feel that he could proceed in view of the city's pressure. Now, Mr. Christacos called it pressure - but there are more pungent descriptions of this activity by the city council and the city manager.

Following suspension of our negotiations with Mr. Christacos, the board of directors of the credit union was invited to meet with the city council - which meeting took place on February 26. During the meeting we discussed the credit union's needs for space, receiving from the mayor the assurance that the council and the city administration wanted to be as cooperative as possible in helping us to relocate in the center. The mayor mentioned the post office space, if and when it becomes available. To the best of our knowledge, the post office space is not a viable option at this time. While we appreciate the council's sentiments, we observed that we were succeeding quite well in our own efforts until the city intervened and literally meddled in not only the credit union's affairs but in the affairs of the owner of the center as well.

Meanwhile, it appears that the city is bending every effort, if not committing taxpayers' money, for alternate uses for the very building which the owner is trying to convert to productive real estate.

We might point out that during our negotiations with our architect and the builder we were continually confronted with the need to bring this and that up to code. This adherance to code raised the projected cost materially. Yet it appears that the building can be used for events which are designed to attract large numbers of people without the need to bring it up to code.

Now, gentlemen, as a non-profit cooperative financial organization we have but one mission and that is to serve our members. We ask, therefore, that you reconsider your objections to our use of the theater lobby for office space.

> Joseph D. Comproni, Manager Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

> > \*\*\*\*\*

(paid advertisement)

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for more information call 632-7542 (days) or 345-9369 (nights)



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\$1.50 for a ten word minimum, 10c each additional word. Submit ads in writing, accompanied by cash payment to the News Review office at 15 Parkway before 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication, or to the News Review drop box in the Twin Pines Savings & Loan office before 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. There is no charge for listing items that are found. BOXED ADS: \$4.50 minimum for a 11/2 inch, 1 column box; \$1.50 each additional half inch. Maximum ad for this section is three inches, and all ads must be prepaid.

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**PEOPLE NIGHT** Councilman Prince Georges Frank P. Casula will hold a People

meeting on Thursday, Night March 20, 7:30-10 p.m. in the Greenbelt City Council Chambers. Casula initiated these sessions so that constituents can voice their opinions directly to their county council representative. Citizens can bring any questions or problems. No prior registration is required.

#### **Thanks to Patrols**

Greenbelt Unit No. 136, American Legion Auxiliary, paid their respects to the school patrols and crossing guards recently by serving donuts and hot chocolate to St. Hugh's, North End, Center and Springhill Lake Elementary School Patrols. It was the Unit's way of saying "Thank You" to these children for protecting and teaching younger students. There have been no school crossing accidents or fatalities in Greenbelt for many years.

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Thursday, March 13, 1980

#### Our Neighbors

Dr. and Mrs. Till Bergemann are the proud grandparents of a baby girl, Celine Anne Montagnon, born in France on March 5. She is the first grandchild of the Bergemanns, who will visit new baby Celine, mother Jill (Bergemann) and father Philippe in September.

Former Greenbelter Charles M. Cormack, Jr., of Seabrook, retired from the Naval Air Systems Command (NASC), Washington, D.C., after 33 years of federal service on February 29. Cormack, an electronics engi-

neer, was head of the Design Safety Section at NASC. Cormack, who attended the

University of Maryland and Duke University is the recipient of several Outstanding Performance Awards, Letters of Appreciation and a Sustained Superior Per-

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

#### formance Award.

Cadet Joseph P. Lepanto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Lepanto of Springhill Court, has been named to the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He will wear a silver star insignia in recognition of this outstanding performance.

Suvendoo Kumar Ray, Hanover Parkway, a freshman in engineering at Purdue University received distinguished - student rank for the fall semester of the 1979-80 school year. To qualify for this rating, a student must earn grades of at least 5.5 (B+) of a possible 6 (A) in no than 14 academic credit less

GREENBELT

hours, with no grades below C. Mun K. Hong, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sun Ku Hong of Mandan Road is currently a member of the production staff of the Senior Class Film Series at the Johns Hopkins University. A 1978 graduate of Largo Senior High School he received honors in scholarship, math and soccer.

Page 11

Mun has been active in a number of student organizations at Johns Hopkins: Pre-health Society, Blue Key, Korean Students Association, Delta Phi Alpha, German Honor Society, International Students Association, Undergraduate Science Bulletin and Zeniada, the campus magazine. A pre-med student, Mun has been named to the Dean's List.

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend A Dinner Honoring Royal D. Breashears, General Manager **Greenbelt Homes, Inc. On the Occasion of His Retirement** Sunday, March 30, 1980 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Greenbelt** American Legion Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased at GHI offices week days, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Deadline to reserve tickets is Friday, March 21, 1980 For further information call Sandra Barnes, 474-6682



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Steve after 4 p.m. 441-9155.

INCOME TAX PREPARATION in your home, reasonable rates. Call James Cantwell, CPA. 441-2412.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MAN-AGER-1,600 unit housing cooperative, suburban D.C., seeks innovative administrator. Responsibilities include: policy development with committees, supervising internal operations of maintenance, sales, rehabilitation, fiscal department and negotiating with government agencies. \$5 million budget, 53 employees. Broad and responsible administrative experience in public or private sector, preferably in housing or related fields. Beginning salary in mid-20's. Send resume to General Manager, Box 182, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. E.O.E.



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# Emily Nutku's Reflections of Everyday Life During herTwo-year Stay in Poland

#### by Linda Orenstein

So many Greenbelters are involved people who participate in community life and seek out and immerse themselves in new experiences. Emily Nutku is no exception. This past August she returned from a two year stay in Poland on a Fulbright exchange professorship.

Nutku's route to Poland began when she received her bachelor's degree in English and French from San Jose State College. Her Master's Degree from the University of California was in the same area of study. In 1958, after having had three children, she returned to the University of California. She received her Ph. D. in English language in 1966.

Nutku spent two years at the University of Maryland as an instructor teaching composition and elementary literature courses. She progressed to an assistant professorship, giving courses to English teachers and introductory classes in linguistics. When her contract with the University of Maryland was due to expire, Nutku decided to apply for a Fulbright. She received her professorship and was assigned to the University of Silesia. She was to teach at the language institute in Sosnowiec, a place about the size of College Park.

Nutku arrived in Poland unable to communicate with those around her because she spoke no Polish. The forty-four Fulbright professors attended a three week seminar which included lectures, trips and general information. They then traveled to their respective posts and Nutku found herself in a town with few forcigners. Her position required that she carry a teaching load of four classes, which was increased to six during the second year.

Nutku's housing was provided by the university and consisted of two rooms, modest but comfortable. The main campus of the university was located in Katowice, a much larger town, about an hour away via public transportation.

Only the Institute of Philology which included all language classes was situated in Sosnowiec. The campus was very small and some students commuted for three hours to attend classes. They

Greenbelt

Cultural

Arts

Center

used the library, she recalls, frequented a student club and that was the social aspect of student life. She found that college-age students shared the universal interest in popular songs. They entertained themselves outside their cramped quarters by engaging in sports and frequenting the parks.

Nutku finds it difficult to put her experiences into words. "The life there is hard to explain," she says. Although she did not feel restricted, the business of everyday living was frustrating. Her Polish colleagues were delightful, enthusiastic and helpful, but at the same time overworked, pressured and extremely tired. "Polish life is very family centered," observes Nutku, "and no activities were purely social."

Frustration is a word that Nutku uses a lot when referring to Polish life. She notes that not all products were readily available and shopping entailed standing in lines. The state runs the stores and most shops carry the same goods. It was difficult to find out about anything since the bureaucracy only complicated things. Everything seemed unreliable and the rules changed from day to day. Life was frustrating and the horizons bleak.

"The normally active American felt tired all the time," says Nutku, and likens the feeling to that of having mononucleosis. She explains that for the first few months an American was upset at not being able to count on anything. The tendency was to do less to alleviate these feelings.

The Polish student has no elective courses to choose from and follows the prescribed courses. Studies are rigorous and the "lockstep" program makes it hard for anyone to feel that he or she is achieving. According to Nutku, Poles express individuality in their different modes of dress.

Nutku's observations are serious, but fascinating. She seems to be ambivalent about some aspects of her stay in Poland, but by no means unhappy that she seized the opportunity. She found that Poland, although still connected to Russia, was one of the most western of the socialist countries. Professors travel back and forth between Poland and other countries. One quarter of the students are allowed to visit outside Poland.

Religion is a strong force in an otherwise fairly dull life, states Nutku. The election of a Polish Pope brought great excitement and rejoicing among the people. Poland has huge churches attended weekly by the predominantly Catholic population. Church life is full and active.

Nutku participated more fully in Polish cultural life during the second year of her assignment. "The arts are treated like businesses under the socialist system" says Nutku. Each woiwod or county has its own opera and ballet companies and very often its own symphony. The arts are government-supported and therefore reasonably priced.

Nutku is taking the year off to vacation and to simply relax. She may return to teaching but would like to take stock and decide what to do next.

#### **Recreation Review**

**Kite Flying Contest** 

The time is Sat., March 15, 12 noon on Braden Field. Get kites ready for the strong March winds. Prizes will be awarded in various categories. Rain date is Sat., March 22. For further information, call 474-6878.

Spring Class Registration Plan now to register for the Eccreation Department's Spring Leisure Time Activities on Mon., March 24, 7-8:30 p.m. at SHL Rec. Center; Tues., March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.; and Wed., March 26, 3-5 p.m. at the Greenbelt Youth Center. For further information, call 474-6878, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. CPR

Take a FREE course in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. The City of Greenbelt has an on-going CPR Program held in two of the city's elementary schools. Preregistration is required; a nominal fee is charged to non-Greenbelters. Call 474-6878 and register. Donate 6-8 hours time and learn how to save a life! Time is from 7 p.m.-10:30 p.m. both evenings.

Spaces are available for the following classes: Center Elementary—April 8 and 9; May 6 and7; June 10 and 11; SHL Elementary—April 23 and 24; May 21 and 22; June, summer recess.

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