Greenbelt Hews Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 45, Number 49 P.O. Box 68, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 Thursday, Oct 21, 1982

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Cable TV ... Storer Is Coming

by Bill Rowland

One of this country's rapidly expanding "consumer services" is about to be marketed in a major way in Greenbelt. The service: cable television. The provider: S t o r e r Communications, which holds the sole franchose granted by the city for this purpose. And the potential customers: At first, those persons living in something less than half of the 8000 residences within Greenbelt's city limits.

Those who decide to subscribe to Storer's cable service will be joining an exploding change both in the way Americans receive television signals, and in what they have available to watch. A nationwide survey in July found that one-third of the country's "television households" were hooked to cable, an increase of seven percent in just one year. Seldom does a week go by with-out at least one article in a Washington newspaper or in a national news magazine on another development in the big battle to grab the viewers.

Now it's nearly time for some of Greenbelt's citizens to start deciding whether it's to be OUT with the rabbit-ear or the rusting antenna on the roof, OUT with pictures that won't quite focus and stations that won't quite tune in, OUT with nothing to watch tonight but what the local television broadcasters happen to be offering-and IN with what is promised to be terrific reception of a mind-boggling array of up to 70 channels providing not only commercial and public broadcasting programming, but such additional choices as all-sports, all-news, all-movies, all-weather, all-educational, all-religious . . . and even your city council in action!

So, it's "cable." But . . . Do I want it? Do I need it? What do I have to do to get it? After I have it, what have I got? And if I don't like it, can I get rid of it? This article attempts to put a bit of nonjudgmental light on questions such as those before Decision Day arrives. The information, for the most part, has been gleaned from an interview with John Margeson, who is System Manager for Storer's operations in Prince Georges County; from materials published by Storer including formal written presentations used last year when it was competing for both county and city of Greenbelt franchises and its monthly program guide issued to subscribers; and from the city's cable ordinance and franchise agreement with Storer.

Who Is Storer?

Storer Communications of Md., Inc., is a subsidiary of Storer Broadcasting Co., which owns radio and television stations and operates about 400 cable television franchises in 20 or so states.

Late in 1981, just before Prince Georges County awarded Storer its franchise to install cable in the northern part of the county, Greenbelt's city council agreed to the city's own 15-year franchise with the firm. In becoming the seventeenth municipality within the county to reach such an independent agreement with Storer. Greenbelt assured itself of at least some degree of control over cable television service, programming, and subscription rates within the city-and also secured for the city's treasury a franchise fee to be paid by Storer at the rate of five percent of program revenues generated within the city. In addition, Storer is provide a start-up fund of to \$10,000 to promote communityaccess programming within Greenbelt, with additional contributions at the rate of one percent of program revenues. Storer will also provide video equipment and technical help to the city government and to citizen groups for use in providing local pro-

gramming. At least initially, Storer's cable service will come to Greenbelt from the firm's complex of antennas and engineering equipment in Hyattsville. The city's cable system is to be interlinked with the systems of the county and of other municipalities within the county.

Who Can Have Cable? Who will be able to subscribe to Storer's Cable? The answer should be simple, but it isn't. The city's legal agreement with Storer in effect both permits and obligates the firm to provide cable service to all who want it within the city's boundaries. But the ability of the city to gfant such an exclusive franchise to Storer is really based on only one factor: the legal power of the city to say "yes' 'or "no" when people. want to run cables or whathave-you on or across the city's public rights-of-way (e.g., streets). Despite the city franchise, Storer may not extend its cable onto private property without the permission of the owner.

Where freestanding homes are involved, there is no problem. Each homeowner decides individually whether or not to allow Storer to run a cable to the house. But the large majority of Greenbelters live in "attached" multi-unit dwellings - either apartments, condominiums, or some form of cooperative. To bring the cable into an apartment building, Storer must get permission from the building's owner. For condominiums and co-ops, the membership must approve letting the cable cross "common areas."

As of mid-October, Storer was still trying to work out agreements with various of the apartment/condo/co-op developments in Greenbelt. Entry permission had been received from Charlestowne Village condominiums and from most of the apartments along Crescent Road and Parkway in the center part of the city. Greenbelt Homes, Inc., would need a membership meeting to decide the issue. Windsor Green's homeowners association

See CABLE, page 3, col. 1

WARNING!

A possibly rabid raccoon was picked up in Greenbelt yesterday. Residents are warned to avoid any possible contact with animals, especially raccoons, bats and skunks. Pets should be kept indoors or on a leash. Rabies clinics will be set up within the next few weeks. Owners should make certain their pets are vaccinated.



Candidates Express Views on Issues

by Barbara Likowski The Jaycees "Candidates Night" held Monday, October 11 in the Greenbelt Library was not the cut and dried affair such events can turn out to be. Starting a half hour later than planned because both candidates and audience meandered in gradually and facing an early cutoff time set by the library's new conservation policy, the evening was further cut up by candidates coming from and leaving for other forums.

Nevertheless, moderator Jaycee director Ed James managed to run a fairly smooth meeting. James had arranged for the federal candidates to speak first, followed by state and then county candidates. In spite of that, when he found that a candidate for one office had arrived after he had gone on to the discussion of another office James merely said, "I'm glad I'm not running for office," laughed and then deftly saw to it that that candidate had a chance to speak.

U. S. Senate - Each candidate sent a representative to speak for him. Larry Hogan, Jr. spoke for his father, Republican County Executive Larry Hogan. accused U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes of doing nothing while in office and further accused him of "giving away the Panama canal," having no legislation enacted into law and none proposed to help the unemployed, interest rates, poor and elderly. In contrast, he proclaimed that Larry Hogan has built up a record of concern for his constituents and of getting things done.

Speaking for Sarbanes, John Porter maintained that Sarbanes was for "putting this country back on track." He reminded people that Sarbanes had one of the highest voting records in the Senate, working every day the Senate was in session. Sarbanes has tremendous personal integrity, strong traditional values and is a high quality, hard working individual, he said.

State Senate

Republican Burt Oliver stated he was for jobs, education, completion of the 100-mile Metro system, including the Greenbelt station, immediate construction of a new state prison, Mandated minimum sentences for violent crimes, the elimination of the state property tax for people 62 years old and over and maintaining state services for the elderly. He would like the police to keep statistics on the age of victims as well as criminals and thinks that juveniles who commit violent crimes should be tried as adults. He proposed shared housing for the elderly.

Democratic candidate Leo Green thought that the most important question was what the national economy is going to do to the State of Maryland. He proposed that teamwork, a coalition of experienced people, would be needed to meet the coming problems. He offered his team to do the job. He also proposed aggressive jobs programs, services for senior citizens, and a revamping of the criminal justice system. His background in the General Assembly and as mayor of Bowie has prepared him on all levels, he said.

State Legislators

Sharon Metcalfe, Republican, said her background as a registered nurse, her compassion, common sense and ability to get the job done would provide the leadership needed in the House of Delegates. She suggested a repeat offenders court and prison work programs. Metcalfe stressed traditional family values. She mentioned that she had enjoyed walking through Greenbelt and had established a newsletter for feedback.

Democratic incumbent Joan Pitkin favored improved health care, safety from crime, and care for the elderly. Working on a task force for the aged, Pitkin was also for a bill-of-rights for lospice care. She would like to see a mandated sentence for handgun violations and for

drug pushers. She also favored bills for truck covering and for the protection of battered spouses. Pitkin says she has sponsored a whistle blowers protection act for state employees. Her rating with environmental groups is high, she said.

Incumbent Charles "Buzz" Ryan, vice-chairman of the state Education and Human Resources Committee, stressed the need for adequate funding for education. Federal cutbacks will affect us, he said, since there has been a 75% cutback in vocational rehabilitation and education. "Maryland is going to be severely impacted by the new federalism," Ryan said. This year Maryland is one of only nineteen states that ended the year in the black and also has an excellent bond rating. Gerard Devlin, Democratic in-

cumbent, is vice-chairman of the See CANDIDATES, p. 5, col. 1



- 13. Purchase of Road Salt in Conjunction with State of Maryland
- 14. Meetings

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

Greenbelt Rews Review

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, 474-8483 Virginia Beauchamp

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Thursday, October 21, 1982

Peace Committee Studies Relocation by Rebecca Wolf

What would citizens of Greenbelt do if Washington faced a nuclear attack? Would they have time to flee to the countryside? And if so, where would they go? Would Greenbelt policemen and firemen be expected to stay and provide services, while their families left?

These questions were raised at the last Greenbelt Peace Committee meeting, following its presentation on federal and county Nuclear Crisis Relocation Plans. Speaker Bert Donn pointed out that the strategy of "crisis relocation" was revitalized under the Carter administration, when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was created to see that municipal and county governments in "high risk" areas develop evacuation plans. President Reagan has shown considerable support for crisis planning by asking Congress to budget 4.2 billion dollars to FEMA over the next seven years.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness of Prince Georges County is responsible for devising new evacuation plans for county municipalities. Its planning efforts are, however, presently "on the shelf," according to its director, Hal Silvers. Silvers said that until the federal government takes responsibility for providing shelter, food, and water for the host areas, he thinks no plan can be pragmatic. He does not believe it is possible for localities in different states to coordinate planning.

Under current evacuation plans, Greenbelters will go to two different "host areas." Most will either drive their own cars or be transported to Louisa County, Virginia, about 85 miles south of Washington. But essential workers, like fire, police and medical personnel, would go to Westmore-land County about 60 miles southeast of Washington, so that they could continue providing services before and after an attack.

Criticizing the safety of host areas, Donn said, "One needs to be realistic about the error rate in hitting a target. It is very likely that the countryside the host areas - would be hit by bombs blanketing the D.C. area.'

Bible Study Starts

A new opportunity to find out more about the Gospel of Luke in ecumenically oriented study begins in an area home Thurs., Oct. 28, 7:30-9:30 p.m. This study is under the aegis of Foundry United Methodist Church but is open to all. Call Jean Smith at 474-0543.

Jay-Cee Women

The Jay-Cee women will meet Oct. 26 at 8 at the JC's Club house. For information, call Barb Barber at 441-1010.

Another speaker, Jim Cassels, pointed out that evacuation "rests on the premise that the U.S. would have advance warning of an attack. It would take at least three days to evacuate to the host areas and more time if there were traffic jams, public hysteria, or bad weather, but it would take an enemy 15 minutes to redirect their missiles to host areas."

Following the presentations, attendees met in small groups to discuss their thoughts about crisis relocation plans. All agreed that present plans were impractical; most felt that nuclear war was not survivable, and that tax money should be used in areas to improve living standards.

The attendees stated they wanted relocation planning opened up to public input. They agreed to approach the Prince Georges County Council when it reconvenes in January and ask that it form a citizen's committee to study existing FEMA plans for the county. They also agreed to contact Greenbelt's representative on the Council of Governments, Richard Castaldi, to learn his stand on the issue.

Castaldi told this reporter that he wants to further study the plans to learn if they are effective and how they would be financed.

The Greenbelt Peace Committee will meet again on this issue Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. in St. Hugh's Grenoble Hall. Public invited. For info. call 474-6265, 474-1353.

At the Library

Sat., Oct. 23: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., "Rain or Shine" Booksale.

Mon., Oct. 25: Looking Good With Color, 8-9 p.m. Judy Delaney, independent certified color analyst and beauty consultant with Beauty For All Seasons, will explain the concept of personal color analysis.

Tues., Oct. 26: Outreach Storytime. Ages 3-5. 10-10:30 a.m. Program held at Springhill Lake Community House.

Wed., Oct. 27: Financial Planning For Women. 7:30 p.m. Conclusion of the series on the basics of managing money and planning investments which has been presented by Cindy Lee of Ferris & Co., Inc.

Thurs., Oct. 28: Halloween Films. Ages 2-8. 4-5 p.m. Win-ter of the Witch; Where the Wild Things Are; Three Robbers; Ghosts and Ghoulies; Georgie.

Henry R. Fields Henry R. Fields, 110 Greenhill Road, died Monday, October 18, at age 38, of an apparent heart attack. He was an employee of the U.S. Postal Service, and was active in the Boys and Girls Club, the Boy Scouts, and the Community Church.

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He is survived by his wife, Susan G. Fields, his daughters, Diana and Darlene, and his son Henry, Jr., all of Greenbelt, his parents, Juanita and James T. Wheeler of Wilson, N.C., and a brother and five sisters.

Friends may call at Gaschs' Funeral Home, 4739 Baltimore Avenue, Hyattsville, from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21. Funeral services will be conducted at the funeral home at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 22, the Reverend Harry Taylor officiating.

Slipcovering Class at SHL

Professional techniques for slipcovering furniture can be learned by taking the course, "Slipcovering: Chairs and Sofas 7-9 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Springhill Lake Shopping Center's Community Room, 9246 Springhill Dr. Classes begin Oct. 26 and end Nov. 16. For information, 322-0875.

Hymn Sing Sunday Night

There will be a hymn sing at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church on Sunday, October 24 at 7 p.m. The public is invited to participate in an evening of singing and fellowship.

Flea Market Oct. 23

The flea market on October 9 was so successful that the Greenbelt Cultural Arts Center plans both a flea market and bake sale on Saturday. October 23, at 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. As usual, they will be held in the Center mall. For table rental information, call the Pisanos at 474-7841.





Mowatt Memorial

'The source of all learning is

the knowledge of God, exalted

FALL BAZAAR SAT., OCT. 23 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WHITE ELEPHANT, CRAFTS, PLANTS CHRISTMAS GIFTS, CHILDREN'S TOYS, BAKE SALE, GAMES, ETC.

LUNCH (11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Corner of Hillside & Crescent Roads)

CABLE Con't from page 1

was expected to give approval. But the Springhill Lake, Lakeside North, and University Square apartment complexes already have their own cable systems, as do Greenbriar Phases I II condominiums. These and small systems (three channels in the case of Springhill Lake, one channel each for University Square and Greenbriar) are fed from dish-type antennas located on the properties. Because no cables cross city streets, the city has no control over these competing systems now available to half of the city's total residential units; and Storer is, at least initially, blocked from the potential market included within these developments. Storer officials hope that the much greater number of viewing choices offered by their 70-channel system, together with their pricing structure, will eventually lead to enough clamor from apartment renters and member/owners to let condo Storer get in the doors.

When Will Cable Arrive?

When will Greenbelters be able to get television reception via Storer's cable? That answer also is still a bit vague. Part of the problem of timing is in the necapartment/condo/co-op essary agreements described above. But another difficulty that has Storer officials somewhat frustrated has to do with getting its cable strung on utility poles in order to reach potential subscribers.

For those older sections of the city not served by underground electrical and telephone cables, Storer is renting space on the utility poles. The three sets of electric, phone, television cables--must be kept at specific distances from each other. PEPCO is taking longer than Storer had expected to shift wires-and in some cases replace entire polesto make room for the TV cable. Storer officials are thinking about starting sales and installation on a piecemeal basis rather than waiting to use the more orderly section-by-section approach they would prefer. The Municipal Building and some nearby residences would be first on the hook-up list. What Storer Offers

Storer offers three levels of service, with up to 70 channels, including six "premium" channels:

"Universal" level, installation charge but no monthly subscription fee. Provides 12 channels, including the three commercial network channels in both Washington and Baltimore; "access" channels for programming by local government, educational institutions, and the public; and "Senior Citizen Community Loop.' '

"Economy" level, free installation during first 45 days, a monthly subscription fee. Provides the 12 channels of the "Universal" level plus 25 more channels for a total of 37 channels. Included are PBS and independent UHF channels Washington, Baltimore, Annapoand Northern lis. Virginia; choices among three "premium' channels (Showtime, Cinemax, and the Spanish-language Galavision) each costing an added monthly subscription fee; AP news; two religion channels; and "access" channels for schools and colleges, Boys & Girls Clubs, interfaith, and health.

- "Basic" level, also free initial installation but a bit higher monthly subscription fee. Provides all the channels of the two lower levels plus 33 more for a total of 70 channels. Included are three independent commercial channels in Atlanta, New York, and Chicago specializing in reruns and movies; choices among three additional "premium" channels (Home Box Office, Spotlight, and The Movie

Channel); a wide variety of made-for-cable programming channels including focuses on made-for-cable news, sports, children, consumers, religion, and weather; two "information & entertainment" networks; a Top-40 channel; and "access" channels for colleges and women.

The Premium Channels

The six added-cost or premium channels offered by Storer carry mostly unedited movies, some of quite recent vintage, as well as some made-for-cable specials that will not be shown on regular "broadcast" channels. Ratings include G, PG, and R, and Storer's monthly program guide includes advisory information about the nature of any possibly "offensive" content. Storer officials say their cable offerings include no "soft porn" that is, no "hard R" or X-rated material. A lockout device is available from Storer for a onetime purchase cost, to let parents control access by children to the premium channels.

How to Subscribe

When Storer is ready to offer service in a given part of the city, the firm will announce the fact by postcards to all residential units there. The cards will be followed by door-to-door visits by salespersons wearing orange shirts with Storer labels. In addition to giving sales pitches and published material about Storer programming and costs, the salespersons will be able to answer questions or get the answers to questions. Salespersons will also be able to accept initial subscription payments (cash, check, or money order-no credit cards), and to schedule installation (usually within about one week). Residents who want to "think it over" will be able to mail initial payments to Storer's office in Hyattsville.

If no one is home at a residence when the salespersons visit, the published material will be left at the door, and the residents will be able to phone Storer if they want more information.

Subscribers do not sign any kind of a contract with Storer. They are required to sign receipts for the converters installed by the firm.

Storer's monthly subscription rates range from \$5.95 for the Economy level of service with no premium channels to be received, to between \$40 and \$50 for the Basic service plus all six

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Pomp and Circumstance

Pictures at an Exhibition

March No. 1

Symphony No. 2

premium channels. All subscription fees are payable monthly in advance. During the first 45 days that service is available, installation will be free for up to three television sets for those who elect the Economy and Basic levels, but those who want only the lowest-level (Universal) service will be charged for installation. Storer also makes additional monthly charges if a residence has two or more tele-

vision sets hooked to the cable. Subscribers may change or discontinue service at any time, usually without installation The exceptions as to charge. installation charge are if the subscriber wants to have an additional television set connected to the cable, or if the subscriber wants to make an "even trade" of one premium channel for an-(for example, dropping other Home Box Office and adding Showtime).

During the introductory period in Greenbelt, Storer's salespersons will be pushing a package deal that includes the top-level "Basic" 70-channel service plus three premium channels (Home Box Office, Showtime, & Spotlight), with a ten percent discount on the monthly subscrip-tion rates for the three premium channels. Storer officials expect to make a large number of sales with this discount incentive.

Storer's experience in other PG County communities shows that about 50 to 60 percent of the residents contacted do sign up for cable service, with almost all of those selecting the top-level (Basic) service. Very few elect the lowest (Universal) service, and virtually none opt for the intermediate (Economy) service. The average subscriber adds on two or three of the premium channels.

Installation

Installation of cable television for a subscriber involves running a cable into the residence and to the one or more television sets to be served. At each television set, the cable is hooked up to a "converter," which is about the size of a shoebox, has channel selector switches on it, and is programmed inside to allow reception of all regular and premium channels included in the subscribers' choice of service. The converter in turn is connected to the television set. The method for routing the

Elgar

Sibelius

Moussorgsky/Ravel

cable to, and inside, a residence

will vary, depending on such factors as whether utilities are aboveground (on poles) or underground; whether the residence is freestanding, or connected to others, apartment, condo, etc.); and where within the residence the one or more television sets to be served are located.

Installation for Storer is being done under contract by a firm called Excaliber Cable. Installer's uniforms and their vehicles show the Excaliber name, Installation is normally done only during regular weekday business hours. and a resident must be home when installation is being done.

Two styles of converters are available. One is designed to perch on top of the television set. The other, called "portable," connects to the television by a cord and is designed to be placed on a nearby piece of furniture. Service Problems and

Complaints Storer gives all subscribers a

phone number to call when there are service problems. The firm has a policy of responding within 24 hours, and usually on the same day, during weekends. Response on weekends depends on the nature and severity of the problem. According to its officials, Storer makes every effort to be sure the problem is not in its system before pinning blame on the subscriber's television set. Storer does not charge for service visits unless it finds a subscriber is making frequent calls and the problem is abuse of the cable or converter.

The city's cable ordinance provides that the city council will resolve disagreements between Storer and its subscribers. In cases where Storer "has not satisfactorily responded to complaints of service failures, poor service, inferior audio or video signals," the city council has the power to order adjustments. The city's procedures for dealing with subscriber complaints have not yet been developed.





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Melodrama at Utopia

tory Theater will perform the Gay Nineties melodrama, "Caught in the Villian's Web" (or More Sinned Against than Sinning). at the Greenbelt Cultural Arts Center (Utopia Theater) on Friday

and Saturday, October 22 and 23 at 8:30 p.m. Portions of the proceeds will be donated to the Kilby Easter Seal Center. Don't miss this op-

portunity to participate in a

great evening for the whole fa-

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

GHI NOTES

The GHI Board of Directors will hold a special meeting at 8 p.m. on Thursday, October 21 in the GHI Board Room. The Board will discuss a Prince Georges County Housing Authority bond issue which could provide resale financing for GHI homes.

The GHI Board will meet in regular session on October 28 after a short GDC Board meeting scheduled for 8 p.m. The GHI Board will discuss the proposed 1983 budget. Kerosene Heaters Illegal

FOR INSURANCE CALL

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members not to purchase kerosene heaters. Kerosene heaters are illegal in multi-family dwellings. Furthermore, the heaters are not recommended for singlefamily homes.

One day this week, the rehab office responded to over 100 calls about baseboard heaters which were not working. However, no mechanical problems were found.

If baseboard heaters appear not to be working, check to see that the circuit breaker in the panel box is on. Also, the thermostat needs to be set higher than the indoor temperature in order for heaters to come on.

Last month, GHI workers said a fond farewell to Mary Barb, who had worked for 13 years in the Fiscal Office.

by Paula Lipman The Maryland Traveling Reper-

mily and at the same time support a worthy cause. For information call 474-7763. **Joe's Place Greenbelt Pizza** 12-Pack Cans of Coke, Tab, Sprite, or A & W Root Beer FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND TUESDAY Extra Cheese Pizza Day **107** Centerway



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* 14 cu. ft. Westinghouse deluxe Frost Free Refrigerator \$459.95



927-4555

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. Wed. Eves Till 8 p.m.



Oct. 23 1982

7 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

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CANDIDATES, Con't fr. p. 1

House Ways and Means Committee. He pictured himself as part of a team and urged support for that team - Green, Ryan, Pitkin, Devlin and Castaldi. He promised to continue effective representation.

Republican Don McBride pro-claimed that "one-party dictatorship is not good for the people and the budget." McBride said he had waited four years (since the previous candidates' night) to tell that to Gerry Devlin. That time, he said, Devlin had inferred that a two-party system was not necessary. McBride told the audience that name recognition is very important to the campaign and he felt that he was gradually becoming known. He claimed he found that many people did not recognize his opponents' names but voted Democratic anyway. He hoped to change that this time. People are going to vote on local issues, how does their (Devlin and Ryan) leadership on committees mean any-thing to us, he asked? "It doesn't fix potholes." McBride doesn't want Democrats to make the decision on how to be taxed.

County Council Richard Castaldi, Democrat, listed his priorities as (1) zoning and development; 2) high quality education and (3) public safety. His background includes, 20 years experience in zoning and planning, 10 years on the city council and community block grant committees. He wants to use that knowledge and expertise, he said.

Republican Kenneth Powell said he was running because "our leaders have failed us." His opponent says he has experience, Powell said, "and where has it gotten us?" He pointed out that Metro goes to the Beltway in Prince Georges County and stops. It should go to Bowie. In Montgomery County it goes to the county seat. Powell claimed to have the answers to some of the problems. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a degree in government and politlcs with a minor in economics.

County Executive

Speaking for Democratic candidate Parris Glendening, Ron Schiff said his Department of Aging will be responsive to Senior Citizen needs. Glendening is committed to making the streets safe (more patrol coverage). Arriving later in the evening, Glendening emphasized his intereset in education, saying that "we abandon the future if we abandon public education." He promised professionalism-his appointments will be made on the basis of merit, not politics. He is for full construction of Metro and its early completion.

Republican Ann Shoch, a 20year resident of the county and a commissioner at MNCPPC is seeking office because "it is time for a change." She opposes the Trim Plus 4 amendment and also her opponent's other issues. Redistricting eliminated women from the county council, Shoch pointed out. Many independent Democrats beat their old-line opponents this time. showing that others, too, are "very tired of what is going on," Shoch said.

Questions

Nuclear Freeze: Hogan, Jr. was asked whether his father would support a nuclear freeze. While Hogan had left, the other candidates agreed that they would support a freeze. McBride insisted that it be on both sides.

Interest Rates: The incumbents were asked how hard they had fought to protect consumers on interest rates. Devlin said it was a "Hobson's choice," keeping interest rates down would drive the money out of the state. Pitkin opposed raising interest rates. Ryan voted for interest rate deregulation. Metcalfe thought the state should get out of the lending and borrowing business. McBride would not raise interest rates.

Traditional Family Values: Asked what was included in "traditional family values," Metcalfe said anything that has to do with the family, health care, crime, etc.

Metro: Powell was asked where Metro should go in Bowie and where the money would come from to pay for the construction. He replied that he would institute a county-run bus system. When reminded that he hadn't answered the question, Powell admitted he hadn't looked at where Metro should go but said he knew "the roads were clogged."

Professionalism: The final question came from Shoch who asked Glendening why, if he believed in using professionalism in appointments, the county council hadn't awarded the cable TV contract to the first choice but gave it instead to the company owned by a former county executive. But Glendening had gone on to another forum and Schiff did not attempt to answer the question for him.

OPEN HOUSE OCT. 22

National Community Involvement Month will be celebrated at the Greenbelt Nursing Center on Friday, Oct. 22 from 3-6 p.m. The Center will hold an open house to celebrate this event. The public is cordially invited. For further information call Cynthia Farley, 345-9595.

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City to Amend Ethics Law

by Mavis Fletcher

At its meeting on October 4, city council voted to amend the city ethics ordinance, adopted city last February, which governs con-duct and conflicts of interest of city employees. A letter from the Maryland State Ethics Commission had been received advising the city that in one instance the city ordinance was not in compliance with state requirements and expressing concern about certain other provisions. In order to meet these concerns, council decided to require department heads to file annual reports of gifts received from persons doing business with the city. However, as City Manager James K. Giese pointed out, another city ordinance prohibits employees from accepting such gifts. Council decided to extend such reporting requirements specifically to department heads to meet any possible concerns of the state commission and to avoid discrepancies in the definition of gifts. Other minor changes were made to satisfy all the Commission's concerns.

Symphony Concert

Among citizen petitions brought before the council was one presented by Albert Herling in regard to the November 10 appearance of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in concert at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. As Herling explained it, the Baltimore Symphony will be paying its respects to the ERHS Symphony Orchestra for their fine showing against world-wide competition. A feature of the evening on November 10 will be a presentation by the Greenbelt Arts Trust of an award honoring Dorothy Pickard, director of the ERHS orchestra

Herling appealed to council to allow the city finance office to sell tickets to the concert. Council agreed and will also consider a declaration to honor the ERHS orchestra.

Council voted to reappoint Mike Shepherd and Jeffrey Gallagher for another term on the Advisory Planning Board. Council also accepted the resignation of W. A. Meister from the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB).

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