



## GVHC Appropriates \$15000 For Defense Home Hot Water Lines

By Russell Greenbaum

Defense Homes, which have been plagued with a lack of hot water for many different periods of the day, will find the situation considerably improved upon the completion of a project authorized by the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corp. Board of directors.

An initial amount of \$15,000 was voted by the board to begin the job of removing the galvanized steel pipe of the hot water return system and replacing it with copper tubing and copper sweat fittings. The work is expected to get underway before the end of December.

Replacement of the hot water lines has become necessary because a deposit has built up in the galvanized pipe to the extent that there is not a complete circulation of hot water. It now takes very extensive drawing of water to pull heated water into the homes from the boiler room.

This means that several hot water taps must be turned on before hot water is drawn along the line to the homes at the end. If there are only a few taps turned on, they must run quite a while before hot water is obtained. When only one tap is on, as may happen during the day, it often means that no hot water at all is obtained.

The deposits, which have caused this trouble, do not build up in copper tubing. The latter material was not available for use in the original installation because it was then on the critical materials list. Copper tubing finally became available about a year ago.

The work is to be performed by the Standard Engineering Co. of Washington, which made the original installation. The company claims that its familiarity with the Greenbelt water system makes it possible for them to do the work at a lower cost than would ordinarily be the case. The work will be performed on a cost-plus ten percent overhead and ten percent profit basis.

The extent of the work to be done will depend on the amount of pipe that has to be replaced. The half-inch pipe, which is believed to be causing the immediate problem, will receive attention first. Replacement of pipe will start at the end of the line in each of the four boiler rooms where the half-inch pipe is located. Work will proceed along the line toward the large three-quarter-inch pipe, stopping at the place where circulation can be restored.

### More Money Needed

It will not be known whether all of the half-inch lines will have to be replaced until the pipe is actually examined during progress of the work. It may also prove that the three-quarter-inch pipe is practically closed and will need replacement. The eventual cost of the job may run between \$35,000 and \$45,000, which will be charged to the account of the Defense Homes.

It is anticipated that additional replacement of pipe will be necessary over the next few years since both the hot and cold water supply lines are also of galvanized pipe. The condition of the entire hot water return system will govern future replacement.

So far there has been no complaint of a serious drop in the hot water pressure, which indicates that deposits have not yet built up to the point of creating a problem. However, there is every reason to believe that they are building up and will in time present a problem of supply. The cold water supply lines have not yet given any indication of trouble.

### OTHER CURRENT EVENTS

Monday, November 30 - Boys Club banquet.  
Wednesday, December 2 - GCS quarterly membership meeting, Takoma Park. Navy Athletic Club elects officers. Wives meet, 18-F Ridge. GVHC membership meeting, theater, 8:15.

## McDonald Presents Budget Message Recommendation To City Council

By I. J. Parker

City Manager Charles T. McDonald presented a budget message to the city council Monday night, which requested integration of some services with the county and consideration of integrating other services. He asked for salary raises for many city employees, an "assistant" manager, and a charge for sewer service of 4 cents a thousand gallons. He also recommended a charge for trash collection from Center businesses. His recommended budget included an estimated figure for real property tax revenue, since the new appraisal of land and buildings in the county has not yet been announced. As a result, no tax rate should be even "guessed", McDonald declared.

### Appraisals

Since the city council has been aware of duplication of county services for some time, McDonald stated, he submitted appraisals of the duplications. Most important were:

**Police Department** - The county police are undermanned, can offer no assistance enforcing local ordinances or traffic problems. Local police provide 24-hour service, are close-by at all times, and know the area and its residents.

**Fire Department** - Elimination of the local fire department would make the city dependent on the Berwyn Heights squad. Greenbelt has an abnormally low fire loss, the only fire alarm system in the county, and a small cost. A volunteer organization could not receive funds from the state until after the state legislature meets in 1955.

**Public Health** - The county needs nurses desperately. Greenbelt's immunization clinic is a duplica-

tion that could be replaced by the county, which has a more extensive program. The city health officer "screens" elementary school children, and a nurse visits schools daily. The county Board of Education's health advisor recommends complete physical examinations, with parents' approval and in their presence. McDonald recommended a reduction in the public health service, providing only part-time health nurse service and a "fuller participation" in the services offered by the county health department.

**Public Library** - Greenbelt's library is second to none in the area or the state. "No argument about quality or quantity of service available" on a per capita basis. If dollars were the sole basis of measurement, the budget would be reduced by \$10,700. But McDonald doubted whether the county could adequately meet the standards which Greenbelt people have heretofore enjoyed, since it has become such an integral part of living in Greenbelt.

**Recreation** - The budget reflects certain savings based on coordinations with the county recreation program.

### Salary Increases

The budget message asked for an emergency item which would cover salary increases for city employees in case federal employees are granted a pay-raise next year. It is the practice to follow the government's lead in cost-of-living increases. However, McDonald pleaded for special cases: a raise in pay for the city clerk because of additional duties involved in time-consuming meetings with purchasers, developers, planners, loan agencies, and groups interested in the history and development of the model community. A similar raise for the Director of Public Safety was requested. Now that the police department is in the same office, the police chief can be given added responsibility in the administration of the city. He would relieve some of the burden on the city manager, and be given a new title. The city treasurer has also had additional responsibility due to the new water utility and new taxpayers, McDonald stated.

Additional money for members of the city council to attend conferences was requested. McDonald considered the money well-spent. Money was requested for painting the community building exterior, the warehouse exterior, and for fans and portable air-conditioners for the city office. An activated promotion campaign was recommended with money for printing the charter and a report to the citizens, and a motion picture film. Other items requiring funds are a trailer for a pump, now resting in the warehouse, to be used in civil defense; a "mud-jack" for raising sidewalks; a larger sewage recording meter; a replacement item for band instruments which the city owns; for the library, a new typewriter and blinds; and a new public address system.

## The Great Debate

### Library Transfer - No! Library Transfer - Yes!

It seems that the move to transfer the library to the county's jurisdiction is gathering momentum, although no one seems to know who is pushing it. Certainly the city council cannot seriously favor such a move, especially since all the council candidates went on public record as opposing the elimination of any of the city's services. (This at a meeting sponsored by the Lions Club a week before the election.)

Consider the service which the Greenbelt Library offers. In 1952 the library loaned 41,256 books for home use. This total was comprised of 5,528 adult non-fiction books, 10,649 adult fiction, and 24,852 juvenile books. There were 3,146 registered borrowers, about evenly divided between adults and children. Books for children, it is evident, provided approximately 65% of the total circulation.

From January to October, 1953, the library circulated 32,614 books; and most interesting of all, during the year over 27,000 people dropped in to use the library. But all these impressive statistics are meaningless unless they are interpreted.

Almost one third of the people in Greenbelt belong to the library, a remarkable showing considering that almost one third of the city is composed of newcomers. Yet the city spends only about \$10,000 a year for this purpose, not much more than a dollar a year for every man, woman and child in town. Contrast this with \$57,000 for physical recreation, much closer to ten dollars a year per capita.

Now what would the city save, tax-wise, by transferring the library to the county? Approximately five dollars a year per home. Deduct this amount from the city's tax rate, and it would hardly show up at all.

The addition of Greenbelt to the county's system would entail increased expenditures on the county's part - which would probably result in increased county taxes to offset any possible decrease in city taxes. That is, if the county spends money on its library system at all, and judging by the trend in county expenditures this seems unlikely. As a matter of fact, when the Mt. Rainier branch was opened a year or so ago, the county refused at first to appropriate enough money to insure the continuance of this latest addition to its library system. Mt. Rainier had to raise havoc with the county commissioners before they reluctantly allocated funds. Hardly a good recommendation.

Everywhere we turn, people are quick to react to the threat of a library transfer. The library, they are quick to point out, was a gift of the federal government - and after one year of independent operation, Greenbelt wants to give it up. For what? In fact, judging by the profound contribution which the library makes to the cultural life of the community, it would seem much more logical to expand its services - to double

it is about time the city of Greenbelt started taking advantage of county services. Services that we pay for in tax dollars and for which we receive no benefit. If it must be the library, which I cherish and would not consider being "eliminated" then so be it! Over \$10,000 can be saved by integrating with the county system.

Is it really so terrible? What would we lose. The library would stay in the same place, the books would be there for the most part (they would be returned in-toto if we wished to withdraw later, I believe,) and we would save tax money which could be used elsewhere. (See, I'm not favoring reducing taxes, just using our tax money, both city and county more wisely!)

We might not have as good a librarian, but I think we could expect adequate service from county employees. All we supply is the place, heat, light. We would get more convenient hours, including Saturday hours. We might get recent editions sooner, even if we pay for them by the day. It would be pleasant to get a late book without waiting months, even if we paid for them.

But the main advantage, I think, is a start to making the county aware that we are asking for services which we rightfully should get. This is a start. If the county commissioners see municipalities pay for services themselves, they will cut and eliminate services rather than improve them. By demanding that Greenbelt be given the same privileges as other county areas, we are letting them know that Greenbelt belongs in the community of county municipalities and is not a classy snob.

The county gets state assistance for libraries through special taxes. They even get money for Greenbelt citizens, even if we don't get the service. So we pay for a library three times: by county taxes, by special state assessments and for our own library. Figure the cost of our library on that basis and see what you pay per citizen.

I would like to see the library and every other service expanded, but if it duplicates a county service, our cause, our fight, our energies should be directed to the county authorities, and this could be the beginning. It's just too bad we have to begin with the library - but there are volumes written about causes fought for at great sacrifice. Here is one that takes no great sacrifice, only common sense.

the budget, and add to the staff - rather than cut it and quietly succumb to the insidious commercialism of television.

Next Monday a representative of the county library is scheduled to speak to the city council. It would be only good sense for interested residents to attend that meeting and find out just what kind of service the county offers.

## Council Meets Monday To Consider Budget

The city council will meet Monday to consider the budget presented by city manager Charles McDonald. At this meeting council will approve or disapprove the manager's recommendations and approve a tentative budget. The following Monday, December 7, a public hearing on the budget will be held, at which time the citizens can express their thoughts on the budget.

The Cooperator will publish the results of Monday's council meeting, including the tentative budget, and copies of the budget will be available at the city office so that citizens can acquaint themselves with the budget before the public hearing.

Another public hearing will be held if the first one is not sufficient. After the public hearing, or hearings, the council will meet December 21, the deadline, and approve a final budget.

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GREENBELT?

(Answers on page 4)

1. What assistance does the City give the Boys' Club program?
2. What is the relation of the Recreation Department to the Little League program?
3. Does the money collected at baseball and softball games at Braden Field go into the City treasury?
4. What recreation programs has Greenbelt received from the County Recreation Department?
5. Why doesn't the County Recreation Department operate the youth center in Greenbelt?

# GREENBELT COOPERATOR

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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No. 16

## Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time of feasting and merriment, a time of reverence and remembering. As we assemble around our tables this year it would be well for us to call to mind those who celebrated the first Thanksgiving in this land, those who had endured much and worked hard, who had reaped a harvest and paused to thank their God.

They had travelled far across stormy seas in ships that by today's standards were far from adequate for such a journey. The new land to which these pilgrims came was a wilderness and hardships and strange terrors awaited them on its shores. Yet their faith was strong and their hearts were filled with the promise of a new world in which they could build new lives. They were a stern people - yet for all their severity they dreamed the most magnificent dream that any men have ever dared to envision.

Their Thanksgiving was an expression of gratitude for material favors. But it was more than that. It was a way of thanking the Creator for the greatest blessings He can bestow on any men - freedom and the chance to shape their own destinies.

Today, as we sit in comfortable houses, surrounded by the conveniences and luxuries that we take for granted, it is well for us to remember how it all started and to realize that of all the things passed on to us by our predecessors perhaps the most enduring is the faith which sustained them. So long as we hold on to that dream which refused to perish in the wilderness, that thrived on hardship and emerged triumphant from its trials, we will be blessed with freedom - the priceless gift.

## G. V. H. C.

### QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday, December 3, 1953 - 8:15 p.m.

GREENBELT THEATRE

Shall we change the order of business?  
Shall we change our manner of voting?  
Shall we allow pets?

## NOTICE

### SEALTEST ICE CREAM

will not be available at the

Greenbelt Drug Store

after November 30, 1953

For your convenience it can be purchased at the following stores nearest your home:

**Patrick's Pharmacy**

Riverdale, Maryland

**Wayside Inn**

6003 Greenbelt Road

**Johnson's Grocery**

Branchville, Md.



By Dorothy McGee, phone 8083  
Ted and Ruth Taylor, 7-G Crescent are enjoying a visit from her mother, Mrs. Myrtle Duncan, who has come from Iowa to stay for several weeks.

Charles Fogg, 15-A Ridge, accompanied by his four year old son Chip, returned last weekend from a ten day trip "back home" to Berlin, New Hampshire, to enjoy the hunting season. The pair proudly brought back a deer, which has been deposited in a freeze locker.

Harry and Opie Stage, 6-T Hillside had as their weekend house guests his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Stage of Warwick, New Jersey.

The James I Mundy family have

moved from 4-E Southway to 21-A Ridge. Their new phone number is 4541.

Miriam and Morris Solomon and their children are spending Thanksgiving with relatives in New Jersey.

Ann Ferguson, 15 year old daughter of Bassett Ferguson, GCS assistant general manager, was one of two winners in Montgomery County's "Voice of Democracy" contest, broadcast over radio station WGAY. The winners competed with six other high school finalists in reading a 5 minute essay, "I Speak for Democracy." Both essays will be entered in the Maryland finals on December 12.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. The City helps the Boys Club program through their use of equipped athletic fields here. Last summer the City paid transportation expenses for coaches for Greenbelt Boys' Club games played away from Greenbelt.

2. The Little League program was developed by the Greenbelt Recreation Department. This year, the Little League has been managed by a board of commissioners, most of whom are coaches, headed by Bill Moore. The recreation director, Donnie Wolfe, attends all of the commissioners' meetings and helps to coordinate their activities. The Little League baseball diamond is equipped and maintained by the City. Bats, balls and uniforms are provided by sponsoring firms.

3. The money collected at games at Braden Field is used to pay the umpires and to meet miscellaneous expenses of the teams.

4. Last summer the County Recreation Department sponsored the arts and crafts program.

5. Greenbelt has not requested the County to operate the youth center. As County funds are limited, youth centers of other communities are open only one night a week, compared to Greenbelt's three.

## DOG QUESTION

The health officer stated that dogs in Greenbelt would be a real danger. If you don't want your children to be afflicted with intestinal parasites, vote against dogs at GVHC meeting, December 3. In addition to several dangers, they cause harassing gripes and hatred between neighbors.

Individuals who are considerate enough to refrain from causing such disturbances are also usually slow to report a violation against our rights.

If dog owners are beginning to torment the people now, just think what would happen should GVHC relax.

GVHC Member.

## THANKS

I would like to give my great thanks to the Housing Corp. for the opportunity to have my own home according to my age and income. I wish and hope such projects could be build over the United States. It would make the people who need it very happy and would be less trouble for them.

Thanks again to the Coop. I am going to have a real Happy Thanksgiving Day.

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## GREENBELT BAPTIST CHAPEL

Meeting in Center School

Sunday, November 29 - 9:45 a.m., Sunday School, J. S. Stewart, Superintendent, classes for all ages. Notwithstanding widespread sickness, attendance last Sunday - 50. 11 a.m., Morning Worship service, sermon "Friends of Christ" - Dr. Crowder. Nursery for babies and small children is maintained during Sunday School and Morning Worship hours. 7 p.m., Baptist Training Fellowship for the entire family, Mrs. J. S. Stewart, Director, story hour for small children. 8 p.m., Evening Worship service, message - "The Face of God" - Dr. Crowder.

Thursday, 8 p.m., religious movie "Dust or Destiny", Center School auditorium, the public invited.

## VOTING METHODS

Re your article stating that the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation board is proposing substitution of plurality voting for proportional representation:

Many unsuccessful attempts have been made in the past to eliminate PR from GVHC and Greenbelt Consumer Services. Since attacks based on "logic" have failed so consistently, the current effort introduces a new wrinkle - the charge that PR is illegal in a Maryland corporation. Evidently the GVHC board, which presents this contention, doesn't take it very seriously; for if it did, it would have to state that it was itself elected illegally, and is consequently without power. As a result it would have called for a new election as well as for a by-law amendment. The board could hardly argue that PR was legal for past elections but would be illegal for future elections.

The board is probably well advised not to take the illegality charge seriously. The GCS by-laws, including PR, were carefully reviewed and approved by numerous lawyers for the Federal Government, Consumer Distribution Corporation, and the Co-op, and the PR provision has been in effect without legal question for 13 years. GVHC's by-laws were also reviewed by several sets of lawyers. The point raised by the one lawyer who has questioned the PR provision might well be answered by providing that the ballot instructions (not the by-laws) be changed so that voters are advised to vote for no more than the number of candidates to be elected.

Under its definition of PR, the Encyclopedia Britannica states: "The case for the system is fundamentally the case for representative government." If the board believes in representative government it should be prepared to defend PR in the courts if necessary.

Walter R. Volckhausen.

## THANKS

To all the people who bought raffle tickets from me, thanks a million.

"Pop" Gallagher.

## COMMUNITY CHURCH PROTESTANT

Eric T. Braund, Pastor (On Leave)  
Robert C. Hull, Acting Pastor  
Elizabeth Goetze  
Minister of Music

Sunday, November 29 - 9 and 11 a.m. Morning Worship, Mr. Hull preaching "A Pharisee's Thanksgiving". Coffee hour following 11. Church School Classes at 9 and 11 for Kindergarten and Primary; at 10 for Juniors and Adults - Men's Bible Class and Fidelis Class for Women. Nursery at 9 and 11, Nursery Room, Fellowship Center. 5 - 8:30 p.m. Junior and Senior Fellowship.

Monday, November 30 - 8 p.m. Christmas Pageant planning committee.

Thursday, December 10 - 8:15 p.m. Discussion group, home of Mrs. T. E. Ritchie, 4-C Ridge.

## MOWATT MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

C. R. Strausburg, Minister  
Harry B. Miles, Associate

Sunday, November 29 - Session of the Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Mr. Richard Hoffman, superintendent. Classes for all ages. Worship service 11 a.m. Special music by the choir. Rev. Harry B. Miles, Associate Pastor, will preach the sermon. All Sunday services are held at the North End school.

## ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Baptisms: Sunday, 1 p.m. Please contact Father Dowgiallo beforehand.

Wednesday: Miraculous Medal Novena devotions at 8 p.m., followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Thursday, Dec. 3: Confessions from 4 to 5 in the afternoon and before and after the holy hour at 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 4: First Friday of the month. Mass at 7 a.m. with Holy Communion distributed before and during the Mass. Devotions in honor of the Sacred Heart after the Mass.

November 30 to December 8: Novena prayers in honor of the Immaculate Conception will be offered each day after the Mass.

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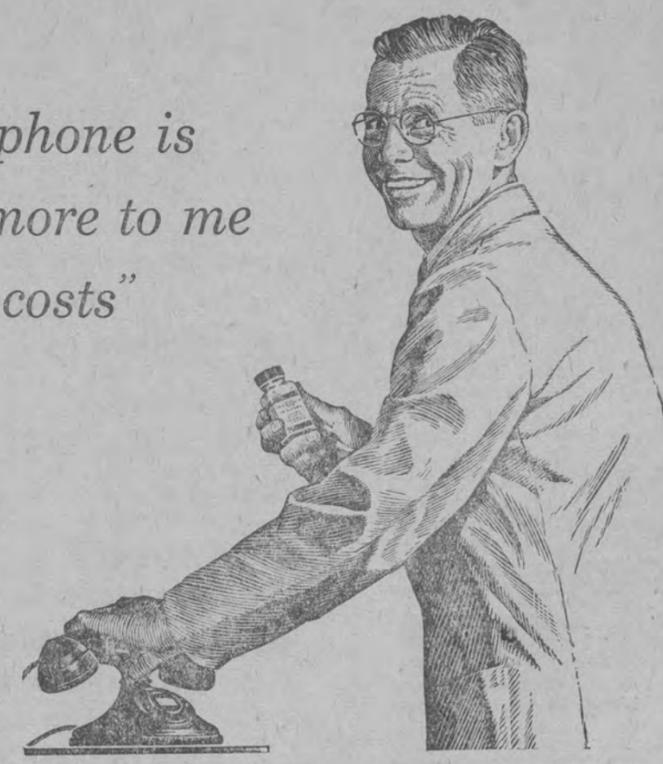
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YOUR TELEPHONE BILL includes Federal excise (LUXURY) tax in the amount of 15% on local service and calls under 25c, and 25% on calls of 25c or more. Do you consider your telephone service a LUXURY?



The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City

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**SPECIALS**

<p>FOOD</p> <p><b>YES!</b> Have your steaks and chops cut to order! Quality Our Motto</p>	<p>WINE SPECIAL</p> <p>Gallons - \$2.94 plus tax fifths - Champagne \$2.99 plus tax Beer Thro'aways Old Bohemian \$2.89 cs.</p>
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FULL LINE OF TOYS FOR CHRISTMAS  
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WE CARRY ALL THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED FOR DAD and HOUSEWARES FOR MOM  
FREE DELIVERY SERVICE - OPEN EVERY SUNDAY 10-2

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Complete Line Children's Clothing FROM TOTS TO TEEN AGE AND SUNDIAL SHOES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY  
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