

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Thursday, March 26, 1964

"UNALTERABLY OPPOSED"

To the Editor:

I was one of that "handful of citizens" who turned out for the first meeting of the city council in our lovely new municipal building. I was not aware, up until the time that I arrived at the meeting and picked up a copy of the council agenda for the evening, that one of the items on that agenda was a "letter from the Greenbelt Citizens for Fair Housing re: Proposal for a Human Relations Advisory Board." Because I feel that I must speak out against such a "board," and because I was unprepared to do so at this last council meeting, I have been prompted to write this letter. (I did not speak out against it when I had an opportunity to do so at the council meeting of December 2 because at that time I was still a member of GCFH).

I am unalterably opposed to the idea of setting up a Human Relations Advisory Board in the city of Greenbelt, and it was for this reason that I withdrew my membership from GCFH. I feel that there is no need for such a piece of governmental machinery to cope with the problem of integration in Greenbelt. Furthermore, I feel that the very idea is an insult to the intelligence of the people of Greenbelt. Our citizenry is, I think I can say with confidence, one of the most highly educated of any in the United States. If such an enlightened community cannot solve the "problem" without resort to governmental regulation, then I'm afraid that there is not much hope of settling it in Birmingham, Alabama, with or without such regulations.

Another reason that I am opposed to the formation of a Human Relations Advisory Board in Greenbelt is that I feel that our city government is already so overloaded with "advisory boards" that it can function only at a snail's pace. Ask yourself just how much the present city council has accomplished in six months in office and then ask yourself why they have not been able to do more to alleviate our problems here in Greenbelt. I think that part of the answer may lie in the fact that advisory boards, created to lessen

Good Friday Services

The Rev. Edward Birher of Greenbelt's Holy Cross Lutheran Church will be one of five Prince Georges County pastors participating in a special Good Friday service in the Capital Plaza Shopping Center Friday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The children's choir of the five churches represented also will take part.

Baptist Easter Services

In order to accommodate friends and members an 8:30 a.m. and an 11:00 a.m. service will be held next Sunday at the Greenbelt Baptist Church, Crescent and Greenhill Roads.

the burden of an overworked city council, have in reality added to that burden. Pressuring the poor council to create one more such board can only serve to further impair the efficiency of the city government.

After all, integration is not the only problem in Greenbelt. It might seem as if it was judging from the number of people who turned out for the council meeting of December 2. Where are these people when the council meets to discuss such matters as transferring \$2500.00 worth of city funds from parks and playgrounds to other departments within the city government which have run short of funds? This to my way of thinking was a very regrettable decision. We certainly need that \$2500 to improve the conditions of our city playgrounds and I do not like to see the condition of our playgrounds take a back seat to the real or imagined problem of integration. After all no inter-racial dispute ever has arisen in Greenbelt and in my judgment none ever will. Some people may say that I am unduly optimistic but I have a great deal of faith that the people of Greenbelt will take the matter of adjusting to a truly inter-racial community in their stride. After all most of us are products of the Judeo-Christian moral training. Let's make Greenbelt an example of what can be done to further the cause of integration in this country without governmental regulation.

Mary Fuller

FRUSTRATED DELEGATE

To the Editor:

May I correct a somewhat garbled news item of two weeks ago on the GCS Congress delegation election and then express opinions related thereto?

Greenbelt store members will elect five members of our 13-member area delegation to the GCS Congress — not six as was stated. The Co-op Congress is made up of about 100 delegates from the various store areas — not four delegates as stated. Each area is entitled to one delegate per 200 GCS Co-op members affiliated to that store. We have 13 delegates; other stores' delegations vary in size from two to about 30.

Members of the board of directors of GCS are not elected from Congress members as stated. Well, they are, too. But they needn't be under the bylaws. They are elected by the entire membership from those on the ballot. There are two ways of getting on the ballot — by nomination by the Congress and by petition. But so far, only Congress nominees have been elected, and only Congress members may be nominated by the Congress. So this statement in the story was true but may be misleading.

Now, my opinions. I do not think the majority of the Congress is right in refusing to advocate a bylaw change to permit the Congress to nominate non-Congress members. I do not think the Congress mythology is right that we GCS Congressmen have a monopoly of brains or enough knowledge of GCS affairs necessarily to be the best directors, or the best candidates. I vigorously disagree with the mythology that nomination by us necessarily is better informed than that by most members. We do have a greater superficial knowledge of more GCS affairs than do others. But this is superficial knowledge, because we are not told enough by the board about problems and decisions. We are supposed to advise the board, under our Congress rules, but we can't advise intelligently when we are denied the facts and most of us

DEFENDS GCFH

To the Editor:

Virginia Sanders has publicly expressed a viewpoint probably held by others. She is quite right that Greenbelt Citizens for Fair Housing as a group has stated that its purpose is to educate, not integrate Greenbelt.

And this is exactly what it has been doing in its public meetings, in many neighborhood coffees, and in its efforts to get residents of Greenbelt to recognize the need for a Human Relations Board.

Any attempts to encourage integration inside and outside of Greenbelt have been strictly those of individuals (who may or may not be members of GCFH which has no machinery whatsoever for such activity). Like myself they may be members of Suburban Maryland Fair Housing (no official or organizational connection), operating successfully in Montgomery County since November 1962. A Prince George's Section of SMFH is presently operating a free Housing Information Service and will become a separate organization in June of this year.

As a member of the executive boards of all three organizations (GCFH, SMFH, & PGFH) I know of no efforts to "force" integration anywhere — in fact I don't know how it could be done if we were interested. The implication that "illegal means" are used is ridiculous on the face of it.

Greenbelt Citizens for Fair Housing has not changed its purpose, has not "forced" its views on others (rashly or otherwise), and has no wish to split itself from the remainder of Greenbelt. We don't know what the "majority sentiment" is — we only know what we feel is the moral issue (religious, if you prefer) involved and hope others can be persuaded to look to their consciences and not to baseless fears.

A meeting of GCFH in the Co-op Community Room, Wednesday, April first, will discuss future plans for such activities. The public is invited.

Bruce Bowman

lack free access even to board minutes. Indeed, some of the biggest board decisions are made and then announced to us without our being asked for advice. For example, one night we were told that the next day all the GCS stores not already on a discount basis were to become discount and the name would be changed in the ads — and our advice had not been solicited. I understand that three weeks ago it was decided to remove the delicatessen counter in the Greenbelt store — without our knowledge or advice — and out it went last week.

If the board and management were perfect, I'd still object to poppa-knows-best policies about the members' business. But they aren't perfect. As a result of past errors, in which some of our present leaders and staff participated, and which still cost us hard money (long-term real estate commitments we weren't told about at the time, for one), we consumers pay dearly. We don't get patronage dividends, and this year even the stock dividend is to be smaller than the traditional 5-percent, because of these errors. So I say, open the people's business up to the membership.

I'm a candidate for reelection to the Congress and I hope you vote for five other candidates unless you agree with this fight I've been making, with precious little help from most Greenbelt GCS delegates.

Mat Amberg

APPRECIATIVE

To the Editor:

Linda and I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the many kind gestures of sympathy expressed by our friends and neighbors on the recent death of my husband.

Mrs. Viola L. Keer

Easter Church Services

The Community Church tonight at 8 p.m., will hold a service of Holy Communion and Vigil of Maundy Thursday, with the Methodist Church Minister and members participating. The Chancel Choir will sing "The Seven Words of Christ from the Cross" by Schuetz, with Mrs. Edan White, Soprano; Mrs. Hufendick, Baritone. The Rev. Jeff Chapman, Alto; Mr. Kenneth Keeney, Tenor; and Mr. Harold Lyle Harper and the Rev. Kenneth Wyatt will conduct the Communion Service.

The Annual Good Friday Service will be held beginning at noon and ending at 3 p.m. Service of Preaching on "The Seven Last Words" will be conducted by seven local ministers. This Service is conducted with the understanding that persons may feel free to come and go throughout the course of the Service.

On Easter Sunday, at 9:30 a.m., A Dramatic Service adapted from several medieval liturgies will be held. The first part of the Service will be conducted outside the closed front doors of the Church. The second part of the Service, after the congregation has come into the Church, is adapted from an ancient litany expressing penitence and humility. The last part of the Service depicts the three Marys and the disciples coming to the open tomb. Mrs. Kenneth Wyatt will direct this medieval drama.

The Easter Worship with sermon by Mr. Wyatt will be at 11 a.m. The Chancel Choir and soloists will sing choruses from Handel's "Messiah." There will be a coffee hour following the 11 o'clock Service served by the college age Young People.

MOWATT MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to

CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Provided by E. Harper, pastor
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Community Church

Rev. Kenneth Wyatt Minister

Good Friday: Three Hour Service of Preaching on The Seven Last Words of Christ starting at 12:00 noon with 7 ministers participating. 6:00 p.m. - Young People's Supper and Service.

Easter Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Family Service with drama. 11:00 a.m. Easter Worship with sermon by Mr. Wyatt - Nursery provided.

Tuesday: 7:30 p.m. Board of Christian Stewardship Social Hall.

Thursday: Evening Service Group at 8:00 p.m. in 2-B Hillside.

(Affiliated with United Church of Christ)

Community Easter Sunrise Service

CAPITAL PLAZA MALL
6:00 A.M.

(Capital Plaza Theater if it rains)

PRINCE GEORGES PLAZA
6:45 A.M.

(In front of Hecht's Store)

Discover, as Easter dawns, that He is Risen as He said.

Baptist Jubilee Revival

MARCH 29 - APRIL 12

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Crescent & Greenhill Roads

7:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday
11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays

EASTER SERVICES

8:30 a.m. - Pastor's Message
11:00 a.m. - Dr. C. Frank Pittman
Nursery Provided

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

22 Ridge Road

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday 7:30 p.m. Service with Holy Communion. "This do, in remembrance of Me."

Good Friday 7:30 p.m. Service of Darkness.

Easter Communion Service 8:30 a.m. (Members are requested to announce in advance.)

Easter Festival Service 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Classes. 9:30 a.m.

The Church with the flower-bedecked cross.

!! ATTENTION !!

Residents of

- SPRINGHILL LAKE APARTMENTS
- GREENBELT PLAZA APARTMENTS
- G. D. C. APARTMENTS
- CRESCENT ROAD APARTMENTS
- PARKWAY ROAD APARTMENTS
- LAKECREST HOMES
- LAKESIDE HOMES
- LAKEWOOD HOMES
- WOODLAND HILLS HOMES
- G.H.L. HOMES

You are a resident of the CITY OF GREENBELT. Please be sure you report this on your state INCOME TAX and AUTO LICENSE application forms so that a portion of YOUR TAXES will be RETURNED TO THE CITY for local improvements.

City of Greenbelt

Recreation Review

by Richard Stevenson

Easter Holiday Schedule
 Friday, March 27 - Good Friday - Building will be closed all day
 Saturday, March 28 - Regular Saturday activities
 Sunday, March 29 - HAPPY EASTER
 Monday, March 30 - Easter Egg Hunt (meet in front of Swimming Pool)

9 a.m. - Preschoolers
 10 a.m. 1st & 2nd Graders
 11 a.m. 3rd & 4th Graders
 12 noon 5th & 6th Graders
 1 - 2:30 Teen Skating, ping pong, record hop, table games
 2:30-5 - Basketball, ping pong, record hop, table games
 Tuesday, March 31 - 9 a.m. Kite Flying Contest on Braden Field and roller skating for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Graders

10:30 a.m. - Kite Flying Contest on Braden Field and roller skating for 4th, 5th & 6th Graders
 12 noon - Kite Contest for teens
 1 - 2:30 - Teen skating, ping pong, record hop, table games
 2:30-5 - Basketball, ping pong, record hop, table games.

Easter Bunny Visits Greenbelt

Mr. Bunny has just informed the Recreation Department that he will visit Greenbelt on Monday, March 30th. He will be looking for you in front of the Swimming Pool during the time scheduled above. We also hear that Mr. Bunny will have candy for all who come to the Easter Egg Hunt.

Arts and Crafts

The Arts and Crafts sessions will be held as usual over the Easter holiday. Sessions are from 3:30 - 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Cost is only for the materials used.

Baseball Films

The Babe Ruth League invites all baseball enthusiasts to view some interesting films which will be shown on each Saturday in April and May at 2 p.m. at the Youth Center. The films cover World Series Thrills, All-Star Games, Hall-of-Famers and instruction tips. Watch this column for more details.

Babe Ruth League

Boys 13 - 15 years, are you interested in a program in physical fitness, sport skills, leadership training, democracy inaction AND fun? If so, sign up to join the Babe Ruth League. All the above features and more are stressed in the summer baseball program for boys.

License Plates

Don't throw away your old license plates. Boxes have been placed in the Co-op Grocery Store and Gas Station by the Junior Teen Club. The club wants to use them in a future project.

Girl Scout News

On Saturday, March 7th, Junior troops 95 made a trip to Explorer's Hall in the National Geographic Building. After the tour we attended the Tailwaggers Course at the Animal Welfare League to help us learn how to care for our pets and other animals.

On Easter Monday we are going to the Children's Center in Laurel to help with the egg hunt and to put on a paper bag skit we have prepared.

We wish to thank all of the Greenbelt residents for their generous response to our Cookie Sale Campaign. The proceeds will be applied to camping expenses. The top salesman in Troop 95 was Karen Bond. Our thanks to Mrs. Bernard Sisco and Mrs. Don Conrad who were cookie chairmen.

City Notes

Saturday's snow storm brought misfortune to Sgt. Austin Greene's squad car on Crescent rd. near Boxwood. His car skidded off the road, hitting a telephone pole, in order to avoid an approaching vehicle. Damage amounting to about \$1000 is covered by collision insurance—there were no personal injuries in the incident.

City crews began the job of winter repair on the 3 ball fields — the Little League ball park and the hard and soft ball fields on Braden field. A part-time college student will be hired to keep the fields in good shape through the playing season.

One of the city's two refuse trucks has been in the repair shop this week, it is hoped the truck will be returned to service by this Friday.

Extensive electrical work has been done to find short circuits in the lighting of the west parking lot in the center and to connect the parking lot system to that of the new municipal building.

Crews also cleaned the concrete swale between Lakewood and Woodland Hills, took down the police antenna above the old city offices and spread fertilizer and lime on Braden field and the park land around the center.

The litter gitter is "gitting" all leaves left within 10 feet of the road.

High Point Band Wins

by Elaine Lewis

The High Point High School Symphonic Band took top honors at the Prince Georges County Festival last Saturday. For its performance the band was awarded a "superior" rating, the highest attainable. Several soloists and ensembles from the school also were singled out for high honors.

This musical competition is an annual event among County high schools. It features the judging of soloists and ensembles throughout the day's activities.

Fire Prevention Award

Maryland's Governor J. Millard Tawes has presented Prince Georges County with an award of "special recognition" for its work in fire prevention. The award came after the County Fire Marshal's Office received "recognition for superiority" in the National Fire Protection Association's annual contest.

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Anthony M. Madden

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