

Greenbelt News Review

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GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, January 6, 1966

Proposed Tax Revision Means More City Revenue

Under proposed revisions in Maryland's tax structure, there could be an increase in State aid for Greenbelt of \$4,600. According to the *Evening Star*, this would be part of a \$10.7 million gain to Prince Georges County, resulting from changes recommended last week by a Maryland legislature fiscal committee, headed by State Senate Majority Leader Harry R. Hughes. The fiscal measure will be submitted to the General Assembly convening Jan. 19.

Residents in Prince Georges, however, would be required to contribute an additional \$14.7 billion through a proposed 3 to 6 percent graduated income tax. Maryland now taxes income at a flat 3 percent. Citizens of Montgomery and Baltimore counties would also find their tax increase exceeding the revenues returned to their respective counties. Residents of Baltimore City would especially benefit by the new plan.

City manager James K. Giese, Mayor Edgar Smith and Councilmen William Hoff and Richard Pilski will represent Greenbelt at a Baltimore meeting of the Municipal League tomorrow at 2 p.m. to consider the Hughes Committee recommendations. A luncheon meeting of the League will precede the hearing.

The Hughes Committee recommended a new formula for distributing a portion of each county's state aid among its municipalities. Aid to towns would be based on the amounts of their local taxes and expenditures for road construction. Each municipality would be assured that it would receive at least as much as it now gets in State help, plus local business property taxes.

Other local Prince Georges county towns that would stand to benefit would be Bowie (\$46,000), Glencarden (\$2,000), Eagle Harbor (\$300), and Edmonston (\$100).

Curiosity and a Killed Cat

Behind the wail of the ambulance siren lies a human drama that is sometimes more comic than tragic.

One day last week, according to City Manager James Giese, a lady was driving to S. Klein's department store to return two dresses. On the way she ran over a cat and killed it.

Much distressed, she pulled off the road and examined the unlucky feline, but it wore no identification tag. She thereupon transferred it to her car — perhaps hoping that later investigation might reveal the name of the dead pet's owner—and packed it in the S. Klein's box from which she had removed the dresses.

She parked near the store and went to do her errand, leaving the box on the front seat. When she returned, a crowd had gathered around the car and an ambulance was standing by with flashing lights.

A female thief, noticing the box, had broken into the car. Before making off with it, her curiosity overcame her. She peeked . . . she shrieked . . . she fainted dead away.

Bystanders called an ambulance, and the cat was out of the bag.

Young Adults' Ski Trip

Reservations with a small deposit for the Poconos ski trip on the weekend of Feb. 4, will be accepted until Jan. 16 by St. Hugh's Young Adults Club. Lodgings and main meals will be furnished at a moderate price for the three days. All members are asked to attend the General Meeting in the Church Hall at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 16, for further information; call Steve Smith, 474-4247.

The Police Blotter

Two young children were taken to Prince Georges Hospital during Christmas week suffering from accidental poisoning. One, an 18-month-old boy, drank liquid glue; the other, a 20-month-old boy, consumed an underdetermined number of aspirin tablets. Both were released after their stomach had been pumped.

Five Greenbelt police officers and a clerk graduated Dec. 14 from Hyattsville's In-Service Training School for Police Officers, which they had been attending since Sept. 28. They are: Sgt. Austin Green; Officers Joseph Fuca, John Krob, Ralph Bennett, and Carl Goodwin; and Clinton G. Davis, clerk.

Police Officer Paul Reamy recovered a stolen automobile last week for an owner who hadn't realized it was missing. The owner, a Riverdale man, had left it with the keys, at a service station for repairs. When it disappeared from the station, the attendants assumed the owner had picked it up.

The car was abandoned on Hillside Rd. when it ran out of gas. No damage was reported.

The Strange Case of the Missing Wig. Police were baffled by the mysterious disappearance of a lady's wig from the wig box in her closet. There were no signs of breaking and entering, and the victim stated she had not entertained any large groups lately. The wig, valued at \$250, was described as champagne blond, handmade, and long.

"This looks like a tough one," stated Police Chief William Lane. "It's pretty difficult to go around snatching at people's hair to see if it comes off."

Hair today, gone tomorrow? In this case, Crime appears toupee.

Woman's Club News

The monthly board meeting will take place Thursday, Jan. 6, at the home of Mrs. Edwin Riggs at 8 p.m.

The membership meeting will be held Jan. 13, at 8 p.m. in the social hall of the Community Church, Hillside and Crescent Roads. An illustrated talk on Hawaii will be given by Mrs. Bernice Fink.

On Jan. 20 at 8:15 p.m. the Fine Arts Department will sponsor a film on French and Italian foods, presented by Mr. Taylor of the Washington Gas Light Co. This meeting will be held in the Co-op Hospitality Room.

Bottles & Papers Needed

The newly chartered Cub Pack 202 will have a collection drive for empty soda bottles and newspapers this Saturday, Jan. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please put items on back porch (service entrance) for collection. The Pack is desperately in need of funds in order to operate their program. Thirty-eight boys comprise six dens with Jim Linkenhoker (474-4766) serving as cubmaster.

WHAT GOES ON

Sat., Jan. 8, 10 a.m. - 12 Ballet Registration, Youth Center
Gymnastics Registration, Youth Center

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 202, Collection Drive

Mon., Jan. 10, 8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

Tues., Jan. 11 - 8 p.m. - Meeting of the Citizens For A Planned Greenbelt, Municipal Building

Wed., Jan. 12, 1:30 p.m. 'Cake Decorating' Co-op Hospitality Room

Thurs., Jan. 13, 7:45 p.m. G.H.I. Board Meeting, Hamilton Place

8 p.m. Woman's Club Membership Meeting, Social Hall, Community Church

Fri., Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge, Co-op Hospitality Room.

City Notes

Virtually all complaints concerning the city's special trash collection service have the same refrain: pickups are much too slow in coming. So City Manager James Giese did a doubletake the other day when a complaint of another sort came in: the pickup was much too fast. Seems a citizen had a large accumulation of trash to dispose of. He was in the process of transporting it from the rear of his house to the curbside. He had already carried two armloads around and was in the rear to get the third. But while he was there, the trash truck stopped, picked up the deposit by the curbside, and whisked out of sight before the homeowner returned with the third load.

City workers were busy on Monday removing Christmas decorations from the official tree and from the front of the municipal building.

A contractor engaged by Charles Burton Builders, developers of the Lakecrest subdivision, has been patching the pavement and making alterations and repairs to curbing on Lakeside, between Lakecrest Circle and Maplewood Ct. All aspects of road construction in private developments must meet city standards. The current alterations along Lakeside are to bring the road into conformity with these standards.

No new developments have occurred in the process of getting the traffic light installed at the entrance to the Giant Store on Greenbelt Rd. The next step is for the Giant Corporation to negotiate with the State Roads Commission, which will install the light. If the experience with the traffic light at the Edmonston Rd. intersection is any precedent, two months may elapse between the notification of approval for the light and its actual installation.

In the meantime, city officials are expecting to meet soon with representatives from Berwyn Heights to discuss whether that city will participate in the maintenance costs for the light.

City Manager Giese was the only city official to take an extended leave during the holiday season. He spent about ten days with his parents at their home in Elm Grove, Wisconsin.

CFPG Committee to Meet

The Steering Committee of the Citizens for a Planned Greenbelt will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building. The public is invited. The committee meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Prince Georges Legislators Faced With Crowded Agenda

When the Maryland legislature reconvenes on Jan. 19 for its annual 70-day session, Prince Georges senator and 10 delegates will face a busy time. In a series of 4 public hearings held Dec. 6 - 9, 1965, the county's citizens presented the delegation with a long legislative list, ranging from anti-blockbusting laws to free kindergartens.

In the first hearing, held in Laurel, the County Commissioners presented their requests for bond issues for 1967. All such bond requests have to be approved by the legislature. The request amounted to \$30 million, of which 25 were allocated to schools, 3 for highways and 2 for library expansion, including \$680,000 for a library in Greenbelt. Two weeks later the commissioners added \$2,900,000 to their request, to cover the county's share in land acquisition for the George Washington Memorial Parkway between Wilson Bridge and Fort Washington. This year's bond issue, authorized in 1965, amounts to \$38.1 million of which 25 are for schools, 6 for recon-

struction of the Prince Georges Hospital and 3 for highways.

Anti-blockbusting Law
At the same meeting, Mrs. Hedy Harris of Greenbelt, Secretary of Prince Georges Citizens' Council, along with several other speakers, asked for the enactment of a state law prohibiting "blockbusting" - pressure tactics used by some realtors to promote panic selling in integrated neighborhoods. The measure is strongly supported by Delegate Meyer M. Emmanuel whose community, Ray Park (Chillum) had been subjected to this practice. Last summer, when his neighborhood was "flooded by solicitors who appealed to homeowners' fears and prejudices", Emmanuel asked the county commissioners to enact a local anti-blockbusting ordinance. In answer to a question at the Laurel meeting, Commissioner Gladys N. Spellman stated that while she was in favor of such an ordinance, the matter was still to be studied.

Extension of Sewer and Park Authorities

At the second session, in Hyattsville, the bi-county Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission asked for authority to raise a \$10,000,000 bond issue. It also requested that the area served by it in the county, now 340 sq. miles, be extended to cover all of the county's 436 sq. mile area.

A similar request was voiced by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission at the third meeting, in Upper Marlboro. They asked that the area for which the MNCPPC provides parkland and recreational facilities, by means of a special tax, be increased from 266 sq. miles to include the entire county except for the incorporated areas of Greenbelt, Laurel, and District Heights, which maintain their own parks and have therefore been exempt from the tax. In addition, they requested that the present ceiling for the park tax - 22 cents per \$100 assessed valuation - be lifted. The Commission's Chairman, William J. Stevens, also urged the repeal of the 1965 zoning reform law, but Delegate Royal Hart, leader of the delegation to the assembly later said that in his opinion such a repeal was unlikely.

Other Recommendations

Representatives of incorporated communities voiced their requests at the last hearing, in Forestville. Greenbelt Mayor Edgar Smith submitted a long list of recommendations intended to give municipalities a greater part in rezoning of land within their boundaries. Smith asked that the recommendations of municipalities be included as a major part of the record in rezoning cases, to be overridden only by a two-thirds majority of the board of commissioners. At this hearing, too, Mayor William W. Gullett of College Park requested the establishment of a commission by the Maryland General Assembly to define the areas of responsibility of cities and of the county which, he claimed, overlap at many points and thus cause costly duplication.

Other recommendations included that of Delegate William J. Goodman to make all the commissioners serve full time - rather than the board's chairman alone, as is the practice now - increase their salary and also increase their number to 7 or 9 (a point strongly opposed by the commissioners); the establishment of a "windfall profits tax" on the increase of a property's value resulting from its rezoning; the provision of free kindergartens in the county; and finally extension of the annual session of the State Legislature from 70 to 120 days. In view of the legislators' long agenda, this may well be one of the proposals to be adopted.

Auto Inspection Starts

Maryland's new motor vehicle inspection law goes into effect on January 1, 1966. The new law provides for inspection, by licensed stations, of used cars before they can be sold and re-registered and calls for correction, within ten days, of cars with defective equipment that are stopped by police.

Lt. Colonel George E. Davidson, Chief of Operations of the Maryland State Police, pointed out that if certification by a licensed inspection station of the correction of the defect is not received by the State Police within thirty days, the car owner will be reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles for immediate suspension of registration.

Greenbelt Winter Swimming

Greenbelt Winter Swimming will hold the last session of the first series this coming Sunday. The next series—consisting of at least 12 swimming hours—starts Sunday, Jan. 16, at the indoor pool of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park. Duff Marquardt is coaching, assisted by Richard Willes who takes care of the 8 year old and younger swimmers. Registration is with Leonie Penney (474-6315) and Jeanne Jones (474-6001); the registration fee is due the week of Jan. 9.

Lecture on Jewish Poetry

Mollie Kruger will present a lecture on "The Golden Age of Jewish Poetry" on Monday, January 10, at 8:30 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center. For information call Hendel, 345-8966.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Mon., January 10, 1966

- I ORGANIZATION
 - 1 Call to order
 - 2 Roll call
 - 3 Minutes of Regular Meeting December 20, 1965
 - 4 Additions to Agenda by Councilmen and Manager
- II COMMUNICATIONS
 - 5 Petitions and Requests
 - 6 Administrative Reports
 - 7 Committee Reports
- III OLD BUSINESS
 - 8 Request Not to Surface Ivy Lane
 - 9 School Sites
 - 10 Traffic Signal Beltway Plaza
- IV NEW BUSINESS
 - 11 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinances Nos. 18 and No. 30, providing for Establishing Rules and Regulation for the Operation of a Greenbelt Hospital
 - 12 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance Providing for Reports of Contagious Diseases to the Public Health or Office of Town Manager

Recreation Review

by Richard Stevenson
Director of Recreation

Roller Skating

Roller skating is scheduled each Monday at 4 p.m. for the 1st and 2nd graders; Wednesday for the 3rd and 4th graders and Friday for the 5th and 6th graders. Junior High skating is held on Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the Junior Teen Club activities. See you there.

Concert Band

Do you play an instrument? Then the Greenbelt Concert Band is for you. Rehearsals are scheduled each Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Youth Center. See Mr. Carle, the band conductor.

Basketball

Tonight, the Men's "A" League resumes league play with two games at the Center Elementary School Gym. Goddard Space Flight Center tangles with Colonial Real Estate at 7 p.m. and National Security Agency plays Government Printing Office at 8:15 p.m.

Monday night, in the "B" League, the Bullets moved into a commanding lead with an overtime victory over the Knicks 55-48. The Lakers moved into second place with an overtime win over the Celtics 67-66. League standings are as follows:

	W	L
Bullets	5	1
Lakers	3	3
Celtics	2	4
Knicks	2	4

Next weeks schedule: Celtics vs Lakers at 7:30 p.m. and Bullets vs Knicks at 8:30 p.m. These games are held at the Youth Center, admission free, everyone is invited.

Boys' Club

The Greenbelt Boys' Club teams in the Prince George's County League play their home games each Wednesday evening at the Youth Center. Come on down and support our teams. Let's show them we back them.

Girls' Basketball

Last call for girls 15 and under to sign up for the Greenbelt entry in the County League. All girls interested in playing, come down to the Youth Center Saturday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m. for practice.

Ballet and Gymnastics Registration

Registration for Ballet and Gymnastics classes will be held Saturday, Jan. 8, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Youth Center. Classes will run for 10 sessions beginning Saturday, January 15th. Miss Susan Ellerin will instruct Ballet and Mr. Alan Christy, Gymnastics.

Greenbelt Grab-bag

by Punchin' Judy

Dear Judy:

When I was adding up my income tax return I used my push button touch-tone telephone instead of the adding machine. Do you think I will get a tax refund?

Sorefinger

Dear Sorefinger:

I dunno, but you could try phoning Internal Revenue on your adding machine.

P. J.

Dear Judy:

According to your name, it seems to me we two are in the same business. What is your favorite punch?

C. Clay

Dear C. Clay:

Pineapple and grapefruit.

P. J.

Dear Judy:

I read in one of those columns that egg cartons are good for storing Christmas decorations, but my tree is too big to put in an egg carton. What can I do?

Thrifty

Dear Thrifty:

Have you tried ostrich eggs?

P. J.

Dear Judy:

Do you think the New York transportation strike will spread to Greenbelt?

Commuter

Dear Computer:

Well, if it does, we'll be without a subway.

P. J.

1966 Charter Kick-off

Albert K. Herling will speak at a joint meeting of the Prince Georges Home Rule Charter Committee and Project Marlboro Home Rule Charter Committee on Monday, January 10, at 8 p.m., at the Pepsi Cola Building near Kenilworth Ave., Cheverly.

Vietnam Freedom Rally

To demonstrate to the Nation and the world that the overwhelming majority of the American people are behind our fighting men in Vietnam, the International Youth Crusade for Freedom in Vietnam is sponsoring a patriotic rally in Washington's Constitution Hall on Jan. 8, at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

Major speakers at the rally will include Sen. Thomas Dodd (D.-Conn.), Sen. Karl Mundt (R.-S.D.), Rep. Armistead Selden (D.-Ala.), Rep. William Brock (R.-Tenn.) and Adm. Arleigh Burke (Ret.).

Masons to Install Officers

The seventy-fifth annual installation of officers of Birmingham Lodge No. 188, A.F. & A. M., will be held at the Masonic Temple, Powder Mill Road and Edmonston Road, Beltsville, on Monday evening, Jan. 10. Prior to the installation, a dinner will be served by the ladies of Birmingham Chapter No. 26, Order of the Eastern Star, commencing at 5:45 p.m. Lodge will open at 7:30.

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