

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 35, Number 13

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 17, 1972

## County Health Officer Opposes Sewage Plant

by Al Skolnik

County health officer Dr. Perry Stearns this week became the second major county official to express opposition to the proposed temporary package sewage treatment plant for the Greenbriar and Glen Ora apartment projects. Last week county executive William W. Gullett told the county council that he did not see any urgency for permitting the use of a temporary treatment plant in light of the fact that a public sewer will be made available in a relatively short period of time.

In a letter to the county council, dated Feb. 14, Stearns said that he cannot give any assurances that a health hazard would not be created by the plant or that the plant would not represent an "ecological hazard." (Text of letter appears on page 2.)

The Greenbelt city council in a resolution adopted Feb. 7 had urged the county council to secure such assurances before adopting CB-45, an amendment to the County's Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plan which would permit the installation of a temporary plant for the Greenbriar project.

At the Feb. 8 county council public hearing on CB-45, councilman John Garrity backed up the city council's recommendation by asking Stearns to provide an evaluation of the plant and its risks.

After receiving the Stearns letter at its meeting of Feb. 15, the county council decided to postpone any further discussion until it could study Dr. Stearns' letter. It also felt that the developer, Alan Kay and associates, should be given a chance to comment on it. The item was placed on the agenda of the March 7 meeting.

### Content of Letter

Stearns in his letter stated that he had two major concerns over the Greenbriar proposal. The first was that the plant will enter into a stream bed which is dry a good part of the year. "This," he said, "completely eliminates the factor of dilution which has been one of the basic tenets of sewage treatment over the years."

"I have walked a mile of the stream bed from the proposed point of discharge and find it, at this time of year, to be a slow flowing stream whose character lends itself to ponding and stagnation," he said. This condition, he implied, boded no good from the ecological or health viewpoint.

His second concern was the lack of experience with this kind of plant. "I can categorically state that there is no similar plant operating in the State of Maryland," he declared. Under Maryland law, he said, it is possible for a sewage treatment plant to be approved by the State Health Department that is far below the standard needed for Greenbriar.

Stearns closed his letter with a list of 14 conditions that he recommended for incorporation into the plant if approval is finally given for it. "If these recommendations are followed," he said, "I believe that the plant will be as safe as is possible and will present a minimum danger to the public health."

Nevertheless, he remained opposed to the plant, stating that "no compelling, or existing need, for the plant has been presented."

Stearns' letter came as a surprise to many observers, because in his appearance before the Greenbelt city council on January 24, he had indicated that most of his concerns about the plant had disappeared as the result of the engineering refinements that were being proposed for it.

### Paper Pick-up Friday

Friday morning, February 18, is the time to have your bundled newspapers and magazines ready by 8:30 a.m. for pick-up.

Remember to follow these simple regulations:

1. Bundle papers.
2. Place papers at designated location for your area by 8:30 a.m.  
University Square and Springhill Lake - next to any yellow curb;  
Greenbelt Homes, Inc. - At the entranceway to the court;  
Lakeside North - at the Ridge Road entrance;  
Charlestowne North - in the central storage area;  
Charlestowne Village - Along Lakecrest Drive;  
Single Family Homes - Next to the curb by your driveway.
3. If inclement weather (rain or snow) papers will be picked up on the next collection date, March 3.
4. Papers placed in storage areas will not be picked up (except Charlestowne North).
5. If papers are missed, call 474-8000 and give location.

### SHL March of Dimes Results

Mrs. Muriel Weidenfeld, Springhill Lake's 1972 chairwoman for the March of Dimes, announces that SHL residents have donated a grand total of \$1,320 during the current campaign.

## Where Everybody Stands on Sewage Plant

Because so many public agencies have become involved in the proposed temporary package sewage treatment plant for the Greenbriar-Glen Ora apartment complexes, the News Review has prepared the following summary of the position of each agency as of February 15, 1972:

The Greenbelt city council has adopted a resolution advising the State Department of Health and Hygiene (SDHMH) of a series of safeguards that it would like to see incorporated in the treatment plant in case the State agency decides to issue a permit for its installation. Because of its concern over possible health and ecological hazards, the city council has also recommended to the Prince Georges county council that it should require an assurance from the county health officer that the effluent from the plant would not represent such a risk.

The county council, after holding a public hearing on Feb. 8, has scheduled consideration on March 7 of a proposed amendment (CB-45) to the County's Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plan to permit use and installation of a package treatment plant for the Greenbriar - Glen Ora apartments. At the request of councilman John Garrity, it requested the county health officer, Dr. Perry Stearns, to advise on the potential health hazard of the facility. However, council members Gladys Spellman, Winfield Kelly, and Francis White have emphasized that the county council has responsibility only with respect to land-use; that decisions on health

### WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Feb. 17, 8 p.m. SHL PTA Meeting. School Board Member Ruth Wolf speaks.  
Fri., Feb. 18, 8:30 a.m. City-wide Paper Pick-up.  
Tues., Feb. 22, 8-10 p.m. Hearing on GHI Election Procedures, GHI Board Room.  
Wed., Feb. 23, 8 p.m. Greenbelt Community Theatre Get Acquainted Meeting, SHL Community Room

### Recreation Review

The Recreation Center will be open Feb. 21, for roller skating from 9 - 10:30 a.m. for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders; 10:30 - 12 noon for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Open gym, bumper pool and table tennis will be available from 12 noon - 5 p.m. Men's Gym (21 and over only) will be held from 7 - 10 p.m.

At 3 p.m., a Free Throw Contest will be held. Trophies will be awarded to winners in three age groups; Seniors (18 & over), Juniors (13-17) and Midgets (12 & Under) for the best of 20 free throws. Sign up at the Recreation Department.

### Basketball Championship

The honors, this year, were won by the 'Pioneers' who rallied in the fourth period over their fine opponents 'Snaz' from a 13 point deficit. Congratulations to the 'Pioneers' for their successful effort and a sincere thanks to all the teams and players who participated. Truly you gave a fine performance and an exciting season highlighted with good sportsmanship.

### Tuesday Arts & Crafts

Arts & Crafts for 3rd and 4th graders will be held on Tuesdays from 4-5:30 p.m. instead of on Wednesdays. Along with the useful and decorative items the children create, beginner knitting will be offered. Needles and yarn will be all you need.. Come next Tuesday and find out all the 'goodies'.

### Pre-Teen Club

Due to lack of participation, this activity will be cancelled until after the Boys' and Girls Club basketball season. Watch the News Review for the new opening dates.

## COUNCIL NOT AFFECTED BY VALENTINE'S DAY

by Sandra Barnes

Valentine's Day did not bring an aura of sweetness and light to the continuation of last week's City Council meeting, held Monday, February 14. Councilwoman Rhea Cohen read into the record her formal "Dissent" of the council's resolution of last week regarding the temporary sewage treatment facilities for the Greenbriar and Glen Ora developments. Her main points were as follows:

1. The State Department of Water Resources approved the plant without first holding a public hearing, as is required.

2. By state and federal standards, the discharge would contaminate the stream bed.

3. Erosion or a rise in the water table may have a deleterious effect on the Greenbelt landfill in Parcel 1.

4. There is no assurance that the health department will impose more than the minimum standards which are inadequate for a facility serving a residential development.

5. Finally, Greenbelt's water pollution ordinance defines creeks and streams as part of the storm drainage system; therefore, Mrs. Cohen contended, the effluent from the sewage plant violates the city's ordinance, "and this cannot be ignored, as it has been in force since September 23, 1971. The City has a responsibility to enforce it and cannot evade that responsibility. The Greenbriar resolution violates the letter and the spirit of that law."

Mrs. Cohen's dissenting statement was accepted. Under the City's standing rules, dissenting statements cannot be challenged as the issue cannot again be rehearsed after the vote has been taken.

### Gun Control

Councilwoman Elizabeth Maffay asked council to go on record as supporting the gun control legislation being discussed by the state legislature. She moved that the city inform the Governor and the legislators that in 1969 the electorate of Greenbelt voted to strengthen the existing Firearms Control Laws 1276-717. Councilman Gil Weidenfeld seconded the motion, noting that there was more clout in expressing the desires of the residents of Greenbelt rather than the feelings of five officials.

The city solicitor, Emmett Nanna, also pointed out that the city has withheld passing all-inclusive gun control legislation because of its limited jurisdiction (being surrounded by so many communities without such laws, the city's ordinance would be ineffectual). The city, he continued, hoped for more com-

prehensive legislation from the state. It was pointed out, however, that the police will register guns on a voluntary basis.

### Talent Search

At the invitation of councilman Schwan, Al Herling explained the desirable benefits that would accrue to the city if a census could be taken which would assess the capabilities and talents of Greenbelt's citizens. The city could then call upon people with expert skills, thereby, benefiting the city and the people by increasing the citizen's participation in government.

Herling stated that he knew of no government body which has conducted such a search, and therefore felt that foundation money could be obtained for this kind of pilot project. "Greenbelt could set the standard throughout the county, state, and perhaps even the country," he enthusiastically proclaimed.

Schwan stated that the city should approach the University of Maryland with the idea, and the university in turn would apply for the foundation grant since their skill in "grantsmanship is greater than ours."

All council members expressed favor with the idea, though Mrs. Cohen cautioned on the dangers of personal information on the citizens being misused. Herling commented that no very personal information would be sought. Nothing that he envisioned would infringe on anyone's private life. "The approach will be simple," he affirmed, "and this ought to recommend it."

From the audience, a doubting Thomas White stated that he felt in his 13 years of residency in Greenbelt that most of the good things come about from lay people, and most bad things from experts. In his opinion, "Greenbelt has had it up to here (appropriate gesture) with experts."

Nevertheless council unanimously agreed to direct the city manager to further pursue, through the University of Maryland, "methods by which we might assess the talents of Greenbelt's citizens."

### Redistricting

Council members expressed their dismay at the Governor's redistricting plan which, as outlined by city manager, James Giese, places Greenbelt with election districts from College Park, Adelphi, Beltsville, and Laurel for the election of delegates to the General Assembly, but with election districts from Lanham, Chelsea, Bowie and Seabrook for the election of a senator. This means, explained Giese, that if a resident of Greenbelt should run and be elected to the House of Delegates and should later aspire to become a State Senator, he would have to campaign with an entirely new set of voters except for those voters of Greenbelt, plus one or two other precincts. This puts a Greenbelt resident at a distinct disadvantage in the election process.

As council members speculated on how such a plan could be approved by the legislature without any amendments, Nanna commented that "Everyone has been placated . . . by preserving the district of those in office at the time." The plan goes into effect 30 days after the introduction of the legislation, which will be February 25, if no amendments are offered.

Although some citizens in the audience were not bothered by the plan, others expressed opposition. Said David Lange, people will work with one group for one candidate for the senate and with another group for the house candidate. See COUNCIL, p. 8, col. 1

**GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW**

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$6.50 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-1131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volume 35, Number 13 Thursday, February 17, 1972

**Text of Letter from Dr. Stearns**

Following is the text of a letter written by county health officer Dr. Perry Stearns at the request of the county council seeking his evaluation of the Greenbriar sewer plant and its risks.

February 14, 1972

The Honorable Winfield M. Kelly, Jr.  
Chairman, County Council  
Prince George's County  
Courthouse  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Dear Mr. Kelly:  
Councilman Garrity asked me to answer this specific question: Will the proposed Greenbriar Treatment Plant present a health hazard?

After listening to the expert testimony of Dr. Sidney Shifrin, and as the result of my experience with sewage treatment plants, I cannot with any intellectual or professional honesty assure you that a health hazard would not be created. It is entirely possible that a child at play could come down with infectious hepatitis, or other viral infection, as the result of contact with the sewage plant effluent. If this happened, I would be held responsible as Health Officer, and there would be little I could do about it after the apartments are occupied until a community sewage treatment plant became available.

No compelling, or existing need, for the plant has been presented. Therefore, I am opposed to the construction of the proposed Greenbriar Sewage Treatment Plant.

Mayor Pilski of Greenbelt also asked for assurance that the proposed sewage treatment plant would not represent an "ecological hazard". I feel that it is certain that the quality of the stream will be changed, probably for the worse, as the result of the presence of the plant effluent in a dry or intermittent stream bed. I have walked a mile of the stream bed from the proposed point of discharge and find it, at this time of year, to be a slow flowing stream whose character lends itself to ponding and stagnation.

As I pointed out at the hearing on February 8th, the health aspect of the sewage treatment plant is only one of many factors which should influence your decision to approve or disapprove a treatment plant.

Factors such as green space; population density; staging of development; surface runoff and its effect on streams and flooding; impact on highways, bus lines, schools and fire departments; as well as the economic value of the proposal should be considered by you as the people's enacted representative. Health and ecological effects have been given very high priority in the hearings concerning this proposal. The existing Public Health Laws in the County and in the State of Maryland do not touch on many considerations brought out in the hearings. As one instance, population density has a definite effect on the health of the public, but cannot be considered by me under existing laws in evaluating a sewage treatment plant.

More comprehensive Legislation is necessary if Public Health decisions shall be made from a strong legal basis rather than as the result of an individual Health Officer's personal opinion—no matter how well-informed the Health Officer is.

The problem of viruses in sewage effluent is one of relatively recent understanding. Methods for isolating viruses from sewage effluent are still being developed and have not been perfected for routine use in monitoring sewage treatment plants.

On the other hand, it has been conclusively proven that viruses, infectious to humans, do occur in sewage treatment plant effluent. That two (2) California plants appear to have been able to effectively remove viruses from the effluent is no assurance that the same will happen here. Both plants are large, heavily subsidized, research oriented pilot plants which have been changing and perfecting their methodologies and techniques over a number of years. They are not comparable to the small, privately financed plant proposed for Greenbriar.

I stated in the hearing that I have two (2) major concerns over the Greenbriar proposal. The first is that the plant will empty into a stream bed which is dry a good part of the year. This completely eliminates the factor of dilution which has been one of the basic tenets of sewage treatment over the years. Also, it is very likely that swampy areas, or stagnant pools, will develop which will turn septic if there is any organic material left in the effluent, or if the plant does not function up to developer expectations.

My second concern is the lack of experience with this kind of plant. I can categorically state that there is no similar plant operating in the State of Maryland. Landover Mall is similar in design, but has not been completed. As you know, I opposed the Landover Mall Plant. The Ocean Pines Plant is completed, but not operating due to unexpectedly low sewage flow. The Marlon plant is not comparable in design to the proposed Greenbriar plant. Since we have no experience with such plants, we are forced to rely on the engineers' estimate.

The Maryland Laws and Regulations governing approval of sewage treatment plants set minimum standards for treatment, not necessarily desirable standards. They require a percentage removal of B.O.D., not total removal, and they are reviewed for health implications by engineers, not by physicians or scientists. In view of the above, it is entirely possible for a sewage treatment plant to be approved by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that is far below the standard needed for Greenbriar, and below what the builders in public hearings have already indicated a willingness to provide. Again, let me remind you that the capability of pollution dilution is an underlying assumption of sewerage treatment law.

(There followed here a list of 14 conditions recommended to the State Health Department for consideration in case approval is given to the plant.)

If these recommendations are followed, I believe that the plant will be as safe as is possible, and will present a minimum danger to the public health. However, my position remains that the plant should not be built.

Sincerely yours,  
Perry Stearns, M. D.  
County Health Officer

**Statement by Mayor Pilski**

Following is a statement issued by Mayor Richard R. Pilski on February 15 concerning the proposed temporary Greenbriar sewage treatment plant.

Never before has there been an issue before the city council where a small but very vocal group has made such a concerted effort to obfuscate facts and technical data as has been the case in the consideration of the proposed Greenbriar temporary sewage treatment plant. This group's techniques have included character assassination, scare tactics, distortions, misinformation, and creating false or unrelated issues.

Never before has the council had before it such a wealth of information and expert testimony as was the case with this issue. Besides the developer's paid experts (who are eminently qualified in their fields of specialty), the council heard from such neutral sources as Dr. Perry Stearns, the County Health Officer, and Mr. William Chicca of the Maryland Department of Water Resources. There were also a number of citizens, some of whom were Greenbelt residents, who were qualified in this or related fields to varying degrees and who provided council with information. Further, the council had before it a variety of papers and reports which were referred to it by various persons.

The fact is that the technology of sewage treatment has advanced to the point that it is completely possible to build a facility which will discharge water of such quality that it will not be a hazard to the public health or detrimentally affect the ecology. Council received testimony that the quality of the water discharged from the treatment plant would be superior in every way to the quality of water in nearly every, if not all, public swimming pools. In California, the discharge from a treatment plant is the primary source of water for a man-made lake which is used for fishing, boating, and other recreational uses.

After receiving abundant information that a satisfactory treatment plant could be built, and the developer's assurance that he was prepared to build such a facility, four members of the council directed their efforts to making certain that every conceivable safeguard would be required of the developer if the plant was approved. In a lengthy resolution prepared by councilman Schwan, the council advised the Prince George's county council and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene of the requirements it felt were needed to assure that this temporary treatment plant would not endanger the public health or be detrimental to the ecology. Every feature and process which the developer or his consultant said would be incorporated in the plant, and every feature or process which the county health officer said should be incorporated into the plant were recommended to the State as requirements for the granting of a permit. Further, the council requested that the State Health Department consider requiring a variety of other features that might provide added safeguards. Further, the council clearly expressed its concern that such a facility might be a hazard and requested that it not be approved unless assurance could be given by the county health officer that it would not be a health or ecological hazard. Further, the council stated that the plant should not be approved if such approval would, in any way, circumvent the moratorium on public sewer connections.

**Lousy Reason**

To the Editor:  
Miss Keene's letter praising city council for weighing the "evidence," and her reference to "reality" and to "proof beyond a reasonable doubt" that the sewage plant will function as promised ("drinking water quality effluent") are a beautiful demonstration of the way some people have been taken in by the developer. At no time did the developer ever present any hard technical facts about this particular plant. The only hard fact was his statement that he would build whatever he was required to build. All the rest was promises, none based on any tangible evidence, and some based on arguable assumptions.

Although it might be theoretically possible to build a fairly safe plant, here's what we really know about the plant proposed for Greenbriar:—it has not yet been designed, and the safeguards it will incorporate are therefore not known.

—the specifications it must meet have not yet been laid down, —it will cover an acre of land required under the law to be reserved as open space, and so not legally available,

—it will dump effluent on which no adequate tests can or will be performed, and for which no adequate standards of quality now exist,

—its effluent will flow into an intermittent stream for which no water quality standards have been set, presumably because dumping effluent into such a stream is so unthinkable,

—permission to dump this effluent was granted by the State Department of Water Resources without the required public hearings, and without setting up any standards for the intermittent stream.

On the basis of the facts at hand, I fail to see how any sane and honest person could rationally predict that this plant will be safe, or that the state will require adequate safeguards. Yet our County Councilman, Francis W. White, co-sponsored a resolution approving the plant, subject to some nearly meaningless conditions. County council, in passing that resolution prior to the public hearing, served notice on the public that its mind was made up before we could confuse it with facts. Apparently the only important fact in this matter is the developer's unwillingness to wait his turn for public sewer hookup.

What a lousy reason for trying out a sewage plant on Greenbelt!  
Nancy M. Neupert

**Community Church News**

At Greenbelt Community Church the pastor, Rev. Robert L. Field, is giving a series of Lenten sermons on releasing religious feeling through art. These sermons are a part of the regular Sunday worship services at 11 a.m. Subjects include "Artists with insight", Feb. 27; "Freedom of artistic license," March 5; "Maturity as an artist," March 12; "The artist as a clown," March 19; "The path of the artist," March 26 (Palm Sunday); and "Artistic life does not die," April 2 (Easter Sunday).

The church, which is affiliated with the United Church of Christ, is at Crescent and Hillside Roads, and all are welcome.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Md. Telephone 474-9410  
Rev. Clifton Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-3381  
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.  
(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00)  
Church School (Kindergarten through adults) 9:30 A.M.

9:45 A.M.	Sunday School	6:00 P.M.	Training Union
11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship	7:00 P.M.	Evening Worship
7:30 P.M. Wednesday		Midweek Service	

**GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Crescent & Greenhill Rds. S. Jasper Morris, Jr., Pastor 474-4040

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, diseases of the heart and blood vessels are responsible for more deaths than all other causes combined, causing widespread suffering and often creating serious economic hardship in homes and business, and

WHEREAS, the Heart Association carries forward a relentless fight against these diseases through its program of research, education and community services, as made possible by public contributions to the HEART FUND, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that I, Richard Pilski, Mayor of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, do hereby proclaim the month of February as HEART MONTH in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, and do call upon all our citizens to support this worthy drive of the HEART FUND with their gifts and voluntary services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, to be affixed hereto this 10th day of February, 1972.

RICHARD R. PILSKI, Mayor  
City of Greenbelt, Maryland

**Dangerous Gully**

To The Editor:

I noted several months ago that we, the residents of Woodland Hills, have an extremely dangerous gully of broken concrete and asphalt chunks on a football field—baseball diamond behind our yards. These chunks fill in what was once a crevasse that was caused by creek erosion. The crevasse was considered by many to be a hazard to children who played there. I must agree with that thought, but I feel the way the city filled it in is not at all adequate. It was not carefully thought out, and it increased the danger of injury.

The city took the concrete that was the old Southway road and dumped it in the creek in an attempt to stop the erosion of the soil. They may have stopped erosion, and that's fine, but they also created a menace to anyone who happens to wander near. The cracks between the cement pieces are large enough to catch a foot, hand, or leg; and there is always the threat of a loose chunk shifting position and falling on someone.

I shudder to think of myself chasing a baseball and putting my foot in a crack, or stepping on a loose chunk. I appeal to the city to fill this gully in properly before someone gets hurt.

Joel Kastner 6th grade

**ORT**  
is coming to Greenbelt  
on February 21st  
For information call  
474-6974

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**



6905 Greenbelt Rd.

**Worship Services**  
8:30 and 11:15 A.M.  
**Sunday School 9:50 A.M.**  
Edward H. Birner, Pastor  
Phone 345-5111

# .... And Still The Letters Flow In ....

## On Waste

Reasonable men and women may differ on issues, and controversy on issues can be productive. However, to cloud the issues with biased versions of council meetings and totally false accusations is entirely counter-productive.

Thomas X. White, through letters to the editor in the News Review, has told his versions of city council meetings to Greenbelt citizens. And those people who have attended meetings are aware of his inaccuracies. As Miss Katherine Keene commented on Jan. 20 in the News Review, "While Mr. White and I undoubtedly attended the same meeting (Greenbelt City Council) some other incidents that he (Mr. White) comments on seem to me to have happened other than he reported." The material in the parentheses and the emphasis are mine.

Thomas White, in a letter to the News Review on Feb. 10, quotes me as saying, "Why! If someone came to my door with this petition I would sign it too. It doesn't prove anything." However, in the News Review account of the same council meeting, Al Skolnik reported the following: "Mr. Weidenfeld protested the language of the petitions, which he said misrepresented the situation by implying that raw sewage would be discharged into a local Greenbelt stream. 'If I had been approached with this petition, and not knowing the true situation, I would have panicked and signed it also,' he declared." The latter is the true text of my statement. Mr. White's version would make it appear that I do not respect the signers of the petition. This is not true. What I do not respect are those who would misrepresent the situation to Greenbelt's citizens.

Leonard Cohen's allegations—that councilman Schwan does not have the ability to prepare the five-page, "properly worded," resolution stating a carefully considered position on Greenbriar—that I am not capable of doing "impressive" research on modern waste treatment—that we had help from the developer—are based entirely on Mr. Cohen's not choosing to acknowledge our abilities, not on our lack of abilities. Mr. Cohen's unfounded aspersions on the integrity of city council members, predicated on their presentation of a "properly worded resolution," and "impressive" research is without parallel in my experience in Greenbelt.

At the end of Mr. Cohen's letter, he asks, why all the sudden research? Here are the facts: In a council work session on Jan. 31, councilwoman Cohen presented a report of hers stating that traces of heavy metals are present in domestic sewage and that their discharge into a stream would be harmful to the ecology. When questioned as to how these heavy metals were introduced into the waste, Mrs. Cohen said she did not know, and for me to ask a chemist. Consequently, I did, indeed, look into the matter of heavy metals and gathered every bit of information I could find, in addition to what information council already had. Through a technical librarian, employed by a federal agency, I was able to contact two chemists with experience in the area of waste treatment, and also to locate some recent texts on waste treatment. All of these sources revealed no heavy metals in domestic waste, other than those found naturally in our rivers and tributaries. The text also contains a section on viruses in waste. The footnotes in this section led me to additional source material on viruses in domestic waste. The names of the individuals mentioned are available upon request.

I ask you to consider, for a moment, all of the waste involved in my having to write this letter, the waste involved in the letters to which this is a response. How much of my time, how much of other citizens' time, time which could have been used constructively, to positive ends, has been wasted forever. Greenbelt has some tangible prob-

lems, real situations into which its citizens can invest their efforts to constructive ends. The tearing down, the name calling, the efforts to frighten—all are irretrievable wastes.

I call on the members of the city council and on all the citizens of Greenbelt to join with me in an effort to achieve a constructive atmosphere in which we can all work together.

The heritage of Greenbelt is far too valuable to waste.

Gil Weidenfeld,  
City Councilman

## Council Resolution Praised

I would like to congratulate the members of the city council for their long, thorough and honest deliberation on the Greenbriar sewage treatment plant. While citizens may honestly disagree as to the final resolution that city council passed, the great majority of citizens realize that what was done, was done with integrity.

Some citizens, a small vocal minority, continue to personally attack members of council, rather than debate the issues. Mr. Leonard Cohen implies, in a letter to the February 10 News Review, that the Greenbriar developers were behind the resolution passed by the city council. One of his reasons for believing this is that the resolution was so "properly worded" it seemed to have suggested the "collaboration of attorneys." Mr. Cohen goes on to state that "One can't help wondering whether City Solicitor Nanna or any of the developer's advisors were party to the writing." I presume that Mr. Cohen figured that more than one "whereas" required a lawyer. However, it really isn't that difficult to write "whereas" more than once. Mr. Schwan's background shows he is entirely capable of authoring such a resolution; in fact, he did author the resolution. Of course, should he have needed a lawyer, he could have called on one of his fellow council members, specifically Gil Weidenfeld. Mr. Weidenfeld, besides having an engineering degree, has a law degree. How about that! Yes indeed Mr. Cohen, Gil Weidenfeld was entirely capable, as you stated of doing the necessary research on the treatment plant. In fact, Mr. Cohen, Gil Weidenfeld did an awful lot of research on the plant. That was obvious from his detailed presentation of February 7.

Mr. White's letter of February 10 to the News Review is made up, as usual, of nothing but personal attacks on the council members. Mr. White really deserves as much comment as his comments are worth, i.e., nothing.

And, how about those petitions that were passed around? How misleading to ask residents to sign a petition (implying) that construction of the sewage treatment plant will mean raw sewage flowing through Greenbelt. The purveyors of that petition somehow knocked on my neighbors' doors, but didn't knock on my door. Do you suppose it was because I would have asked them what raw sewage they were talking about? That certainly would have been an embarrassing question for them to have answered.

The council resolution was a good one. The resolution had many safeguards including a recommendation that county council's approval be contingent upon approval of the safety of the plant by the county health officer and the State Department of Health. As Mr. Schwan stated, city council members were "pseudo-experts" on the matter of the plant. They were deferring to the real experts.

Again, congratulations to the council members. Most of those in disagreement with the treatment plant, and with your resolution, realize that you put a lot of hard, earnest effort. The personal attacks should not mislead you. Greenbelt is lucky to have such dedicated and energetic persons serving on council. Keep up the good work ladies and gentlemen - Greenbelt citizens support you!  
Richard M. Alpher, President  
Springhill Lake Civic Association

## Character Assassination

I gather from reading the news reports and the Letters to the Editor in the News Review that the Children of Light are at war with the Children of Darkness in the present controversy surrounding the sewage disposal problem of the projected Greenbriar and Glen Ora Garden Apartments.

The heat generated by this conflict has already caused a dangerous level of thermal pollution in the Greenbelt atmosphere and I believe the time has come, if it is not long overdue, to suggest cool heads, rational debate and mutual respect.

Surely, we ought to be able to disagree without becoming outrageously disagreeable?

These are the kinds of things which move me to write on this subject:

I am appalled that so-called adults, who appear so absolutely certain that they are right, apparently have so little faith in the rightness of their cause that they indulge in unbridled hate and character assassination. I find it difficult to justify the circulation of a petition which in essence charges that the developments in question are planning to dump raw sewage into a stream. Those who circulated that petition knew better. Could it be that the truth would not have created the atmosphere of fear and worry that the writers of the petition desired to encourage?

I had hoped that the technique of the "big lie" was so discredited that people with even a minimum of ethical standards would refrain from using it. Is it not evident that the circulation of an untruth is self-defeating? Can it be that those circulating a lie have really little or no respect for the people they urge to sign such a petition? Is this the way to work for the public good?

Then there is the technique of character assassination reminiscent of the Joseph McCarthy era. Such techniques are certainly unworthy of those who are currently using them. I like to believe that these people are better than that...

This was the nature of the attack on county council member Francis White. The list of charges against him contained in a letter published widely in the county was incredible—it was lacking only in a charge of wife-beating and complicity in the crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth.

Equally to be deplored are the attacks on the capabilities of city council members Schwan and Weidenfeld to engage in their own research and in preparation of their own materials.

I can not believe that the only member of the city council capable of such detailed preparation is council member Cohen. I think that she has set a high standard and a good example in the manner in which she has prepared materials for these matters in which she is concerned. But what is a virtue in one case ought not to be described as a sin when others do likewise. I think that we should all feel proud and reassured that the members of the Council are capable, are studious, and are certainly not functional illiterates.

For only one member of the city council to be possessed of all virtue and all ability is truly a burden which the community could not stand.

I should think that council member Cohen would want to disassociate herself from those who are harming her campaign by circulating untruths and indulging in character assassination. If she has any influence with those who fancy themselves her supporters, she should demand that they halt such ugly tactics which only serve to destroy what sense of community exists in our city. The people are not served well nor are causes conceived as good by their proponents served well by such brutal and soul-destroying means. If the means and ends are not consistent then surely the ends will be corrupted.

I suggest that the reasons for the current unreasonableness may be

that it is not a question of how sewage is to be treated and deposited after treatment. I suggest that the larger issue may be a question of development or no development. If that is the basic issue let it be fought out on that ground with rational argument. But whatever the issue, the use of distortion and character assassination should be stopped immediately.

Albert K. Herling

## Intelligent Thinking Needed

When making up your minds as individuals, try to concern yourselves with the issues rather than a decision because Francis White thinks it's a good idea, or Rhea Cohen disapproves of it. There are too many personality clashes here. Respecting people and listening, courteously to those of opposing viewpoints should guide each person's conduct whether he is a private citizen or public official.

Francis White is personable. He has spent many years serving the people. He deflects barbs aimed his way with amazing affability. I have not heard Rhea Cohen speak as often. Yet each time I have, I was impressed with her sense of decorum and the intelligent questions she poses. Let's not take pot shots at these people. But don't make decisions based on who's your buddy or friend!

I was dismayed at some of the charges made at city council meeting, as well as disheartened by the conduct of business at the county council hearing. Such shenanigans may dissuade enlightened industrial developers from bringing their business to this county. They may persuade thinking citizens to reside elsewhere if they haven't already formed a love for their community as I have.

Based on what I've read, I signed the petition against the proposed plant for what I considered are five valid reasons:

1. not enough research was conducted to render a sound decision;
2. not enough specific information concerning the proposed plant was disseminated to the public;
3. location of other successful plants of this nature (such as Lake Tahoe) do not have a similar topography, population density and watershed as our area;
4. in the past, citizens have become irate when sewage disposal methods have not functioned as planned;
5. there is no urgent need for this plant at the present time.

If you as an individual are disenchanted or disgusted with politics and do not wish to attend meetings or hearings, there are ways for you to make your views known. If you feel very strongly about an issue after giving it careful consideration, write or call your local and county representatives. They don't need crank calls—there have been enough childish antics here in the past—but they do need your views in making their decisions. Francis White reported that he received not a single phone call opposing the proposed sewage plant! Yet everyone living near me expressed strong disapproval of the proposed plant.

Perhaps what is needed is an Advisory Board for Social Concerns that could make recommendations for better communication between public officials and the citizenry. Hopefully, people serving on this board would be above politics. Their aim would be to ascertain what the

## Truth and Perspective

Judging from the letters to the editor, some serious questions have been raised as to the integrity, professional ability, and temperament of councilman Charles F. Schwan.

Being supporters of Charlie, and at all events just as cantankerous as the councilman himself, we will not attempt to enter him in the walking-on-the-water contest currently in vogue in Greenbelt politics. We do not consider criticism of him to be any act of heresy. However we would like to register a few points of fact in the interest of truth and perspective.

To suggest that Charlie Schwan, the author of several pieces of Federal legislation such as the Water Resources Planning Act, an amendment to the Atomic Energy Act and the Federal Boating Act, needed any help in writing a municipal resolution is incredible.

The attempt to tag him with a pro-developer label would appear equally as foolish. Mr. Schwan has been fighting developers since before it was in style and before it was safe. His six years as GHI president helped to hold the line on disorderly development until we could get a more responsive county government. When one looks at the road system around us and realizes we have still have some green space and a reasonable environment, it should be obvious that people have been working on this problem for many years and not sitting back waiting for a Messiah.

Those good citizens who were dragged through the courts defending Greenbelt as a planned community know that Charlie was there, leading the fight. His critics are apparently unaware of this because when the going was rough, they weren't there.

Kathrine M. Gough  
Gerald F. Gough

## SOCC Lament

I fear that SOCC has lost its sock; Its wallop's watered down. It's calling quite unpleasant names To those who lead our town. Alas that SOCC has lost its sock; It really is a pity. It stoops to doubt the aims of those Who govern our fair city. Oh SOCC, dear SOCC, have you not heard That good men disagree? It is not nice to question your Opponent's honesty. Ah SOCC, poor SOCC, if you had stayed With issues, you'd be great. You've lost your punch by calling names— You never win with hate! I could put it to music. Anyone want to sing a dirge?  
Janet M. James

silent majority is thinking about the needs of Greenbelt, perhaps through the conduct of random samples, objective in nature

We need discipline, not disorder; wisdom, not wisecracks; democracy, not disdain; respect, not rhetoric in our assemblies.

If you feel certain officials do not reflect your views of the time, regardless of your own personal like or dislike for them, remember this in future elections.

Joan Conway

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# Sewage Plant Arguments Pro and Con

by Al and Elaine Skolnik

Persons attending the Feb. 8 county council hearing on amending the County's Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plan to permit the use and installation of an on-site temporary sewage treatment plant for the Greenbriar and Glen Ora apartment complexes got a full run-down of the major arguments for and against the proposal.

Several members of county council emphasized that the responsibility for making decisions on health and ecological aspects properly belongs to the State Health Department and that the county council makes decisions with respect to land use only. Nevertheless, most of the hearing centered on the question of possible health and ecological risks. Other issues involving zoning, planning, and open-space matters received secondary considerations.

As has been the case in previous hearings, the proponents asserted that a temporary sewage plant employing the most technologically advanced tertiary treatment processes and incorporating built-in safeguards will produce effluent (liquid discharge) that will present neither health nor ecological risks to local residents.

Opponents simply did not believe this proposition. The arguments mustered against the proposal can be summarized as follows:

## Specifications

(1) There are no assurances that the plant will be built in accordance with the specifications laid down by Dr. John Thomas Cookson, Jr., a University of Maryland professor of civil engineering who has been employed by the developers as a consultant on the design of the plant. No engineering plans have been submitted, the opponents asserted, "only a set of lines and circles on a piece of paper."

The developer Alan Kay testified that he would include all the safeguards and standards requested by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, which has the final say on approval of the plant.

Greenbelt councilwoman Rhea Cohen, who led the opposition to the plant, stated that there are no "effluent quality" standards in the State of Maryland. "Existing state health and water quality standards omit references to viruses, heavy metals, nutrients, chlorine, and other loadings," she asserted. "Thus, present standards are especially insufficient for sewage plant discharge into intermittent streams."

(The effluent from the Greenbelt plant will be discharged into an intermittent stream, which is dry on occasions, thus providing no dilution of the effluent.)

## Performance

(2) There are no assurances that the plant will perform as designed, the opponents say. County health officer Dr. Perry Stearns stated that if the plant incorporates all the conditions specified by Dr. Cookson and if it is operated properly, it will be safe. However, he acknowledged that the existence of an intermittent stream has him worried since at this point he honestly does not know what will happen if someone comes in contact with the stream (which is accessible to residents).

"Theoretically," Stearns said, "it is possible to build a plant that can produce an excellent product, if you spend enough money and put in enough components. 'But,' he added, 'we haven't had the experience in the State of Maryland and I don't know if it will function as well as they say.'"

Cookson dismissed the concern about an intermittent stream because, he said, "the effluent from the plant will be of better quality than the water now coursing through the stream"

## Lack of Experience

(3) Lack of experience was a theme reiterated by many speakers. Package plants are great on paper, but there has been no long-range testing," said Betty Styers of Berwyn.

Cookson disputed the contention that the Greenbriar plant represented new or pioneering processes. He stated that tertiary treatment processes directed at health hazards have been adapted from the technology of drinking water purification, a technology which has been successfully applied for over

50 years.

"When the field work in tertiary waste water treatment was begun about five years ago," Cookson said, "it was not a matter of inventing new processes from scratch. It was a matter of using the technology of secondary waste water treatment, drinking water purification and industrial water treatment and combining all into a single continuum. The field work quickly led to successful results, so that it can be said that the entire process which is supposed to be incorporated into the Greenbriar-Glen Ora plant is now so well established as to be foolproof."

Cookson then referred to the Lake Tahoe plant in California, which, he said, "uses the same processes which will be incorporated into the proposed . . . plant." This plant, he said, has frequently tested its effluent for viruses and has discovered none.

Dr. Sidney Shifron stated that the plant at Lake Tahoe is permanent and very expensive; therefore he did not consider it comparable. (The effluent from that plant, which has a capacity of about 7.5 million gallons daily, is not discharged directly into Lake Tahoe, but is piped for some 28 miles to a man-made lake that is used for irrigation, swimming, boating, and fishing.)

Werner Neupert said, "We have been asked to accept a pig in a poke." The Save Our Community Committee asserted "there is no plant like it in existence. Can Greenbelt afford to be an experiment in sewage?"

Mrs. Cohen summarized the position of the opponents. "The trouble is that there is no working model for the Greenbriar plan, operating at the same projected capacity under the same conditions and made by the same manufacturer. No matter how well components may work individually, they have to be tested together and then put into use on an experimental basis. . . . Even the Landover Mall sewage treatment plant is not comparable to the one planned for Greenbriar."

## Breakdowns

(4) Many opponents stressed that once the plant is built and it breaks down, it could not be shut down. "Legal precedence has been set that once these facilities are built, the court will not shut them down," said Beverly Stone.

In reply, Cookson reiterated that the plant has so many duplicating features and automatic safeguards that any assumption of a breakdown affecting the quality of the effluent is simply unrealistic. "The fact is," he said, "technology has advanced to the point where potential problems can be anticipated and the risks can be eliminated through proper design."

Typical of the reaction of the op-

ponents was the comment of Mrs. Judy Comparetto, representing the College Park Ecological Association, Inc. "Surely we are all aware that no mechanical device is completely free from defects and that the possibility of an accident is one of the facts of life."

Mrs. Cohen further asserted: "Even assuming that the plant were to be built to exact specifications, inspected conscientiously, and made the subject of rigid review so that any violations were reported immediately and all laws and regulations were strictly enforced . . . still the performance of such a plant would depend on the man on the spot, the plant operator."

## Viruses

(5) Opponents were not convinced that the tertiary plant will necessarily produce high-quality effluent. Their concern was with virus hazard, both waterborne in sewage effluent and airborne as a result of the sewage plant's aeration process. Dr. Shifron said, "It takes only one virus to cause an infection."

Cookson replied that through lime clarification, mixed-media filtration bed, and chlorine disinfection process 99.9995% of the viruses will be removed. He asserted that the concentration of viruses in the effluent that will be expelled by the Greenbriar plant will be 1/200 of that found in ordinary community swimming pools.

Opponents maintained that as long as there would be no tests for viruses, one could not be sure. Cookson, however, responded that while virus tests are expensive, there are indirect ways of assuring the needed virus removal through other kinds of tests that can be incorporated into the operation of the Greenbriar plant.

## Ecology

(6) Opponents expressed concern about the ecological effects downstream. Dr. Robert Mueller of the Prince Georges Environment Coalition charged that in addition to the threat of virus infection, the increase in pH, added chlorine and other toxic constituents such as pesticides and heavy materials in the effluent would have a profound effect on the aquatic and other wildlife and vegetation downstream. "The increase in pH (alkaline content) would degrade the stream bank and flood plain vegetation," he said, ". . . shrubs such as blueberries, laurel, holly, and many other woody and herbaceous plants require acid soils in the pH range 5 . . . The effluent soaking into the soils (would) kill many plants by raising the pH".

Dave Murray of Ben Dyer Associates, engineers for Greenbriar, said that after the high pH has acted to remove the phosphates and kill the viruses it will be neutralized before being discharged from the plant by the addition of controlled amounts of acid.

Mueller was joined by Dr. Phillips W. Foster in expressing fear that the high chlorine content of the effluent would threaten animal life in the stream. Foster suggested that a lagoon be constructed to

hold the treated sewage for a 24-hour period so as to give the chlorine a chance to dissipate into the atmosphere.

Referring to the chlorine hazard, Cookson explained that it is the chloramines (formed by combining chlorine with ammonia) that are toxic to fish. "In the tertiary treatment proposed for the Greenbriar-Glen Ora plant," he said, "ammonia is eliminated, so that chloramines cannot be formed. The free chlorine which remains in the effluent presents no real problem, as it will dissipate quickly. However," he added, "if it is desirable to remove the free chlorine entirely from the effluent, that can be done by a very simple process."

## Flooding

(7) Another facet of the plant that concerned Berwyn and Riverdale residents was the possibility of adverse downstream effects, such as flooding. It is expected that the plant would have a flow in excess of 700,000 gallons per day.

Mueller said that during low flow conditions, the volume of effluent from the plant would increase the flow of the downstream by 16% at Riverdale. Murray, however, calculated a 3 1/2% increase under average conditions. Betty Styers of Berwyn asserted that the problem of flooding would be compounded if perchance the effluent were not up to standards.

## Moratorium

(8) Turning to non-health factors, opponents charged that the temporary sewage plant would be a circumvention of the State-imposed moratorium on sewage hookups. Greenbelt Homes, Inc. and the Prince Georges Civic Federation charged that approval of the plant would be setting a serious precedent for disorderly development and poor planning. Mrs. Cohen noted that it would also be discriminatory and unfair" in that only wealthy developers can pay their way around the sewer ban."

Richard Schifter, attorney for the developer, denied that the plant was a circumvention of the moratorium since the effluent would not be going into the permanent WS-SC system — the overloading of which prompted the moratorium in the first place. He also noted that

the county had included Greenbriar and Glen Ora in Area 3 of the Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plan (immediate priority — first two years.)

## Temporary?

(9) Opponents were also concerned that the "temporary" plant would need to continue operation for several years. Dr. Alfred Machis of Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission testified that present plans call for the Western Branch expansion of the permanent system to be completed by late summer 1973.

## Open Space

(10) Finally, opponents claimed that the on-site treatment plant will violate open-space requirements by using up about an acre of land that is needed for the project to meet the 70 percent open space requirement for the tract.

Schifter, however, stated that the treatment plant will be dismantled before the last batch of apartments are constructed so that no open-space violation is involved.

## Marathon and 2-Mile Races

by Larry Noel

A number of Greenbelters will compete in two long distance races on Sunday, Feb. 20, at Beltsville Farm and spectators may want to see it.

Competition in a 26-mile Marathon will start at 1 p.m. at the Log Cabin off Powder Mill Road on the Agricultural Farm. The 2-mile race starts at noon and trophies will be awarded to all finishers. Both races are sponsored by the Beltsville JAY-CEES and have an entry fee. This is one of the largest marathon fields held in the east and a 3:30 time (3 hour and 30 minutes) will qualify for Boston Marathon. Come one hour early to register. Call Larry Noel for information 474-9362.

## TRAFFIC TIPS

Tailgaters are too close for comfort. Following too closely is a major cause of rear-end collisions. Whenever possible, stay at least one car length behind for every 10 m.p.h. of speed. That's close enough for comfort . . . and safety.

When driving, you need to be good enough to allow for the errors of others as well as your own. You may drive safely, but others don't always. Give yourself plenty of margin for everybody's mistakes on the road.

## PUBLIC HEARING

### Lake Park-Braden Field — Staff Master Plan

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will hold a meeting to record citizen comment concerning the proposed staff plan for park development.

Thursday, March 9, 1972 8:00 p.m.

Municipal Building - Council Room

# Paper Pick-up Friday, Feb. 18

Have your papers in the designated pickup area by 8:30 A.M. In the event they are missed, call the City Offices, 474-8000. Please be sure that the papers are well bundled to prevent blowing. In case of rain, save your papers until the next collection date.

## CITY OF GREENBELT

25 Crescent Road

## CONTRACT GR 72-01

## STREET WIDENING ON WESTWAY

## GREENBELT, MARYLAND

## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland invites sealed proposals for Street Widening on Westway as specified in Contract documents and drawing GR72-01 available at the office of Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc., 6715 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, Maryland. This construction includes approximately 230 LF of concrete curb and gutter, 130 SY of asphalt paving, 230 SY of concrete sidewalk and 250 SY of sodding. Bids will be received at the Greenbelt City Office until 8:00 p.m. E.S.T. March 20, 1972, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Plans and Specifications may be picked up at the office of Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc. upon a deposit of \$5.00, which amount is not refundable.

Gudrun H. Mills  
City Clerk

# Sewage Plant Arguments Spill Over Into GHI Board

by Alexander Barnes

"Fraud!" and "Liar!" were the epithets directors Thomas White and Katherine Keene hurled at each other to bring the Feb. 10 meeting of the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board meeting to a chaotic close. The exchange centered around the Greenbriar sewage treatment plant. That topic first came up when chairman Nathan Shinderman read a letter from county councilman Francis White responding to the board's letter objecting to the plant.

The letter, which was received on Feb. 9, suggested that members attend the public hearing (which was held on the 8th) during which he would raise with the responsible public agencies the problems cited by the board.

When Shinderman moved onto the "Members" item of the agenda, Thomas White demanded to know why Miss Keene had not included in the GHI NEWSLETTER of which she is editor, that the board was going to inform the city council at their joint meeting of their opposition to the temporary sewage treatment plant. The newsletter had, he pointed out, covered the other items to be discussed, but this one item, the only one on which the board had passed a formal motion, had been left out.

Miss Keene responded that the topic was included implicitly under the general heading of "environmental matters."

It was at this point that White lost his temper and was followed quickly by Miss Keene in their exchange of descriptive terms.

## Management Audit

Among those in the audience witnessing the fracas was Louis Knapp of Cresap, McCormack, and Paget, (CMP) the firm doing the management audit. Upon being introduced, Knapp reported on his plans and progress. He has begun by setting up interviews, which will be held with all members of the board and Audit Committee, key members of the corporation staff, and selected members of the corporation.

In addition, the firm will request views of all members of the corporation by mailing out a questionnaire on several specific subjects and on improvements which they would like to see made. The survey, to be conducted over a two-month period, will include an examination of GHI's financial management, cost accounting systems, lending program and equity and reserve policies.

The "Visitors" item on the agenda was quieter than usual, probably because there were fewer than five present. Gordon Allen 65-H Ridge, presented the board with a challenge to provide "... ample, provident reserve funds, in full." Mrs. Martha Hutzler presented on behalf of Mrs. Eunice Coxon, a request for copies of tax reports the board has provided to the state since 1968.

## Fence Exception

The board also spent a substantial amount of time discussing the request for an exception on a fence. While it was generally agreed that the house should be allowed to be sold with the current fence, even though it did not conform to the fence regulations, an extended debate was carried on as to whether or not that exception should be provided as part of the sales contract so that the next time the house was sold the exception would automatically be provided for. The exception was made, but the "continuation" provision failed, being supported only by White and Donald Volk. Volk has consistently opposed enforcement of any regulation.

## Working Capital

GHI treasurer James Smith presented a Finance Committee report written to explain to the members the new method of "Increasing GHI's Working Capital." Beginning with sales after April 1, 1972, the corporation will require working capital equal to 3% of the sales price on each home. When the homes are sold the new members will receive credit for the previous working capital assessments and will be assessed the difference between the previously paid-in capital and 3% of the current sales price.

The board struggled with two questions: (1) whether the document would be considered as only explanatory or whether it would

be considered a statement of the board's policy as well; and (2) whether the effect of the new policy was going to be a cost to the seller or the buyer.

This discussion was sparked by Shinderman's objection to a short paragraph in the document which explains that "where sales prices are controlled . . . a slightly different procedure will be required." Smith explained that in spite of the "slightly different procedure" the effect would be the same as for all the other homes.

The report was passed as written as a policy statement and will soon be mailed to all members.

## GHI Management Audit

The Board of Directors of Greenbelt Homes, Incorporated has selected the management consulting firm of Cresap, McCormick and Paget Inc. (CMP), Washington, D.C., to conduct a management audit of GHI. The three month study project, which commenced on February 9, 1972, will focus on the overall policy-making and organization structure of the Corporation, but will also give due consideration to means by which its operational effectiveness and efficiency can be improved.

The consultants will spend the next two months conducting interviews with members of the Board, officers of several member Committees, and selected members of the administrative and engineering staff. In addition, they will examine the Corporation's financial management including its bookkeeping and cost accounting systems, lending program, and equity and reserve policies. At the conclusion of the study, a report outlining opportunities for management improvement will be prepared.

An important part of the study will be to determine current views of all members of the cooperative regarding how well GHI is governed, how its operations can be improved, how its financial affairs are managed, and how its future is planned. A confidential questionnaire is being prepared for mailing to the membership within the next few weeks; this questionnaire will solicit member opinions on several specific subjects, and give each member an opportunity to suggest other areas in which they believe improvements could be achieved. All members are encouraged to complete the questionnaire and return it promptly to the consultants' office in a postage paid envelope which will be furnished with the questionnaire.

The CMP consultants presently assigned to the project are: Mr. E. J. Bofferding - Vice President, Mr. V. K. Heyman - Project Manager, Mr. L. H. Knapp - Senior on-site consultant.

Their address is: Cresap, McCormick & Paget, Inc., 1776 K St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006. Phone 833-8350.

## BOOK REVIEW AT JCC

Dr. Samuel Joseloff of Georgetown University will review "Mr. Sammler's Planet" by Saul Bellow Friday night at the Mishkan Torah. Services begin at 8:30 p.m.

## Medical Ethics Panel

The Sisterhood of Mishkan Torah will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 22, at 7:45 p.m. at the building, Ridge and Westway Rds. The program for the evening, which will start at 8:30 p.m., feature four doctors whose topic for the evening will be "Medical Ethics." The audience will have the opportunity to question the panelists. The public is invited to attend.

# Hearing On GHI Election Procedures

The Nominations and Elections Committee of GHI will hold a hearing on election procedures on Tuesday, Feb. 22 in the GHI board room from 8 to 10 p.m. All members who wish to discuss possible changes in the present election procedures are invited to testify. Those who feel the present system is adequate may also state their views.

At their meeting on Feb. 1 the Nominations and Elections Committee voted on the following rules for conduct of the hearing:

1. Each member will have an opportunity to make his point.
2. Comments should be brief. They will be limited to 3 (three) minutes on any one item.
3. If time allows after members have made their comments the floor will be open for general discussion. The hearing, however is not meant to be a debate.

4. The members of the Nominations and Elections will not enter into the testimony or discussion. The purpose of the meeting is to listen to the views of those attending.

The testimony of members will be taped so that the committee will have accurate information to discuss at future committee meetings.

Members of the committee are Ed Burgoon, Jule Churchill, Cathy Foster, Barbara Likowski, and Jackie Shabe.

# Everyone Invited! TWIN PINES ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 22nd, 8 p.m.  
at the Greenbelt Library

- Reports
- Elections
- Discussion of Mutual Savings Bank
- Refreshments

TWIN PINES SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN.

OPEN MONDAY 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Closes Tuesday at 2 p.m.



# Twin Pines Newsletter

TWIN PINES SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN.

GREENBELT SHOPPING CENTER GREENBELT, MD., 20770

February, 1972

## TWIN PINES TO HOLD 15th ANNUAL MEETING

Everyone is invited to the 15th Annual Meeting of Twin Pines Savings & Loan Association to be held at the Greenbelt Library, Tuesday, February 22nd at 8 p.m.

The agenda includes reports, discussion of a mutual savings bank, elections, and refreshments. Elections will be for positions on the Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee and Nominating Committee.

## Candidates for Board Of Directors

The board has five carry-overs: Jones, Karlander, Lathom, Vanderzon, Webb. Four will be elected this year. The two receiving the highest number of votes will serve three years; next two will be alternates for one year.

**Peter J. Watters, B.A., J.D.,** 102 Rosewood, Greenbelt resident, lawyer, employed by Library of Congress in management planning and analysis; Married, 3 children. Active in St. Hugh's CCD, CYO; director Library of Congress Federal Credit Union; Greenbelt Community Relations Advisory Board, Knights of Columbus, coach Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club; member program committee Library of Congress Professional Assn.

**John Ungar, B.A. Chem. Eng.,** 14 Lakeside, Greenbelt resident 9 years. Married, 4 children. Employed at Goddard Space Flight Center. Civic activities: city & county fair housing, Metropolitan Washington Fair Housing Conference, Housing Opportunities Council, Co-op Nursery School, Sitters Club, men's softball league.

**Howard Laster, Ph.D.,** 3 Lakeside Dr., Greenbelt resident since 1956, member of Twin Pines since inception, has served on various committees. Chairman, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Univ. of Maryland. Member Governor's Science Advisory Council.

**Leo Gerton,** 9C Parkway, Resident of Greenbelt 19 years. Twin Pines board member 6 years. Franchise Manager, High's store in Greenbelt. Past president, Greenbelt

## Candidates for Supervisory Committee

The Supervisory Committee has only one carry-over because of the resignation of Harvey Geller. The carry-over is Jack Szafran. Four will be elected this year. The two receiving the highest number of votes will serve for two years, the next two will serve as alternates for one year.

**Muriel Weidenfeld,** 6206 Breezewood Dr. Greenbelt resident, 6 years. Twin Pines member, 5 years. Husband, Gil, 2 children. Statistician. Civic activities: Greenbelt Cooperative Nursery School, Springhill Lake Elem. School PTA, Labor Day Festival, Greenbelt Indoor Swimming Pool Committee, Springhill Lake Civic Association, SHL March of Dimes Chairwoman 1972, Community Coordinator, MNCPPC 1971 Summer Recreation Program SHL.

**Charles H. Tompkins,** 1 A Northway, Greenbelt resident 3 years. Married, 3 children. B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Maryland. Teacher in Columbia, Md. Howard County faculty representative for Bryant Woods Elementary School. Twin Pines member.

**Daniel R. Dambruskas,** 11 Greenway Place. Greenbelt resident 17 years. Married, 3 children. Bachelor of Commercial Science, Strayer's Business College. Deputy Associate Director, Office of Municipal Audits, Dept. of Finance and Revenue, D.C. Member of the Federal Government Accountant's Association and the Institute of Internal Auditors. Active member, St. Hugh's Catholic Church.

**Ronald Toussignant, B.A. (Philosophy), A.B.A. (Accounting),** 8 Pinecrest. Married, 6 children. Moved to Greenbelt July 1971. Employed as accountant and auditor in Mass., Ohio, Washington, D.C. Now Sales Associate with Riverdale realtors.

Shopping Center Association; past member, Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board; past member and chairman, GHI Zoning Committee; former city councilman.

## Candidates for Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has three carry-overs: Churchill, Lange, McDonald. Four will be elected this year, the two receiving the highest number of votes will serve for two years, the next two will serve as alternates for one year.

**Leatrice B. (Peg) Wainscott,** 1 D Northway. Greenbelt resident 30 years. Business Assistant and Director of Faculty Services for University College, Univ. of Maryland. With Univ. College, 14 years; Univ. of Maryland, 18 years. Past president, Woman's Club of Greenbelt. Member, Lion Belles of Greenbelt. Member of GHI & Twin Pines. Married, 3 children; 7 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild. Education, high school graduate and graduate of Metropolitan Business College of Seattle.

**Leonie Penney,** 127 Northway Rd. Resident of Greenbelt since 1957. Married, three children, B.S. and M.S. in Economics, presently graduate work in Computer Science, Univ. of Maryland. Occupation: Computer Specialist, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service. Three years Twin Pines Nominating Committee, member City's Indoor Pool Committee, Board member Aquatic Booster's Club, Board member, Friends of the Greenbelt Library, former Board member, Greenbelt Co-operative Nursery School.

**Henry Fisher,** 7E Southway, Greenbelt resident 10 years, President, Greenbelt Lions Club, member American Legion 22 years. Employed as licensed stationary engineer, GHI. Served three years as alternate on Twin Pines Nominating Committee. Married, 2 children, 5 grandchildren. Post Legion Commander, Zone Chairman 22-C International Lions Clubs.

**Vincent Caruso,** 9 H Southway. Greenbelt resident since 1942. Retired from Veterans' Administration 1971. Civic activities: Greenbelt Band & Majorettes, Boy Scouts, first chairman of Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, Golden Age Club; Athletic Director, Mormon Church in the Washington area. Has studied real estate and prepares income tax returns.

### Chairman Gerton Stresses Local Heart Fund Benefits

Leo Gerton has been appointed District chairman for the 1972 Heart Sunday door to door campaign. He will coordinate the Greenbelt-Berwyn area. Working with Gerton in Greenbelt are area Chairmen, Mrs. Virginia Moryadas, Daniel Minster and Mrs. Leonard Bodenhamer. Hundreds of blockworkers will call on their neighbors February 27 to receive funds to help the fight against Heart Disease - the No. 1 cause of death and affliction in our Nation.

Gerton stated that for every hour spent by a volunteer for the Heart Fund, 120 people will die from heart attack, stroke or other blood vessel diseases. The Heart Association recently conducted a local heart screening program in the Southern portion of the County.

Over 1,600 people took advantage of the free service which included a cardiogram, blood pressure reading and height-weight ratio. Preliminary returns show that at least 25% of these people will be referred to their physicians for further examination. Also, in the last year over 2,000 Prince Georges County citizens have been trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. Rheumatic fever victims continue to receive their medication at a reduced rate through the Heart Association.

Gerton said that these are only some of the local continuous programs of the Association which are in addition to research projects. He urges all the residents of this area to welcome their Heart Fund volunteer on February 27th.

### MISHKAN TORAH DANCE

The Sisterhood of Mishkan Torah will sponsor a Square Dance, to be held at the Mishkan Torah building, Ridge and Westway Rds., on Saturday, February 26, beginning at 8 p.m. The caller is Charles Govsky. A late supper will be served. For information call 277-5673.

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Center

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\$1.00 for a 10-word minimum, 5c for each additional word. Submit ads in writing, accompanied by cash payment, either to the News Review office at 15 Parkway before 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication, or to the Twin Pines Savings and Loan office.

There is no charge for advertising items that are found.

**CALDWELL'S WASHER SERVICE.** All makes expertly repaired. Authorized Whirlpool dealer. GR 4-5515. 103 Centerway.

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**MALE,** University of Maryland student wishes room in private home for semester. Can supply reference. Call 434-2484.

**LOST:** - Gray male "Tabby" type kitten, approximately 4 mos. old. Was wearing a green collar with bells attached. Last seen in Laurel Hill Northend school area. REWARD. Phone 345-1706.

**GHI HOME OWNERS** (Brick & Cinderblock) - Install powder rm. on 1st fl. \$749., complete with medicine cab., elect. work, & tile on floor & wall \$1,000. INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CO., Mr. Snell - 459-5888.

**FOR SALE:** - 17 foot Old Towne canoe, paddles. Needs repairs. Cash. 474-9231 7:30-9:30 p.m.

**EXPERIENCED TYPIST** will type thesis papers, etc. in my home. 459-6337.

**WOMAN** to clean apartment 1/2 day each week, \$2. per hour. 474-9225.

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**FOR SALE:** - Maytag Porta-Dryer 115V \$45. Phone 474-8355 after 5 p.m.

**MUST SELL:** - Full box spring & mattress with two new sheet sets - \$20. 345-7128.

**POSTER, Books, Buttons, G. W. Birthday Sale.** Mon., Feb. 21. Big 20% to 50% discount on all items. 10 to 6 p.m. 133 Centerway, above theatre. Capital Library Service.

**FOR SALE:** - Mesh playpen, carbed, eating/play table, gate - \$18. 345-1452.

**SPACE AVAILABLE** at Mishkan Torah, Ridge & Westway, for organizations, classes, social events (arrangements for kitchen available.) For rates call 474-4223 or 776-4349.

**FOR SALE:** - Early American maple rocker \$40, and blue chair \$35. 345-5172.

**FREE TO GOOD HOMES:** - Cute, 1/2 Siamese kittens - 7 wks. box-trained. 474-2538.

**WANTED** - Person for janitorial services in Greenbelt, 2-3 hours on Sunday afternoon, clean & maintain 8 classrooms, call 776-4349, 474-4223.

### Kick The Habit

Want to kick the smoking habit? It may not be easy but a "Five-Day Plan" clinic to be held at Greenbelt may help you.

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist church is sponsoring the clinic to be held in the Hospitality Room, above the Co-op store in the Greenbelt shopping center, Feb. 28 to March 2.

The "Five-Day Plan" is a program using group therapy, a special diet to help relieve withdrawal craving, and exercise to help eliminate from the body the poisons accumulated from smoking. For information, call 589-8800.

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**BILL BOARD** by the drab homes he has seen? Show him this handsome, better than new, brick rambler with lovely landscaping, large rec. room with bar in basement, large professional in-ground pool in back yard, woods to rear of property. This fine home, near NASA, is really priced to move at \$33,000. and can be had with a total outlay of \$5500 including closing cost. Hurry, Hurry.

**CLOWN** around all you please, but each year you want to buy a home, will increase the price you pay for it! Let us get you started in home ownership with this beautiful 2 bedroom brick townhouse in best location near Greenbelt Shopping Center. It is fully furnished, including dishes & silverware, and even a supply of food. Steprightup folks and let us show you this little gem at \$19,500 total.

And here's the premium attraction, high up above all other Greenbelt Homes. We want you to see the dazzling beauty of this immaculate 4 bedroom townhouse lavished upon with loving care, steps from the shopping center with all the extras you want, including a beautiful fireplace, picture window, and many others. We have HIGH hopes you'll WALK into Kash Realtor, and SWING the greatest purchase of a lifetime. You can, at a drastically reduced price of \$32,000.

If you plan on just LION around this week-end, you'll stand a good chance of missing out on this 2 bedroom masonry end home in Greenbelt, sep. din. room, wall to wall carpet, washer and dryer, fenced yard and lots more for a total of only \$18,000. Possession in 30 days.

Do you get the feeling of being CAGED up in your apartment? Well, this 2 bedroom end frame can un SEAL that TRAP-EZ, large fenced yard, well kept, with plenty of improvements, only \$12,000. Possession in just 30 days.

No LION about it, this fine home in Hollywood has 3 bedroom sep. din. room, wall to wall carpet, washer & dryer, new modern kitchen. Separate 20x20 foot cinder block building, located on a large level fenced yard. House is clean and well kept. \$24,900.

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**COUNCIL from p. 1**

ognizing that there was little time for any changes to occur, council nevertheless went on record as being in favor of having their state and house legislatures elected from the same district.

**Written Memo**

Councilman Schwan proposed an amendment to the Standing Rules which would mean that any member of council would provide the city manager with a written memo describing the item he wishes to include on the agenda in time for inclusion on the printed agenda. Emergency items could still be added at Monday night's meeting.

Mrs. Maffay and Mrs. Cohen dissented. Maffay felt some of the council's best decisions came as a result of items put on the agenda at the last minute. Mrs. Cohen felt she would be too constrained by the amendment. Weidenfeld felt, however, that background information is most helpful to the council, while Mayor Pilski jocularly suggested that any additional information would make council seem more intelligent on a subject than perhaps they really were. The motion passed 3-2.

**Housing**

Housing for the elderly was discussed, and Giese was asked to present council with the entire range of possibilities open to the city with respect to such housing. James Cassels, representing the Senior Citizens Housing Cooperative, said his group was still operating, but saw no available land other than city-owned land and commented that good financial assistance was no longer available. He welcomed council's renewed interest in the project.

Council is also interested in hearing more about the Fair Share Housing Formula for Metropolitan Washington from the Council of Governments and will invite a member of COG to a special meeting on the subject. The formula is designed to allocate to several jurisdictions their "fair share" of low and moderate income housing units.

Council will also get together with COG to discuss the Year 2000 Plan for the metropolitan area. COG is holding meetings with various citizens' groups to discuss the implications of events and changes expected by the year 2000 and to inform citizens and officials of the range of alternatives available.

**Future Meetings**

Council will hold its second meeting with citizens interested in protecting the environment on Wednesday, March 1 at which time council and the citizens will decide what kind of group will most effectively work toward protecting the environment. A public hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 13 to air the report of the Indoor Swimming Pool Committee in spite of PRAB's protest that it has not yet offered its comments to council on the subject.

A resolution was read expressing council's best wishes to Hans Jorgenson who recently retired as superintendent of parks. Under Jorgenson, who served the city from 1969-1971, a separate parks crew of the public works department was organized. Jorgenson also planned and directed the landscaping of Southway, and planned or was connected with many beautification projects within the city.

**Theatre Club Open House**

The Greenbelt Community Theater will hold a get-acquainted meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 8 p.m. in the Springhill Lake Community Room. The group has planned a program which should be of interest to all area thespians, including a demonstration of stage makeup and a comedy reading. Refreshments will be served, including beer and pretzels.

The Greenbelt Community Theater recently changed its name from "Springhill Lake Players" to encourage membership from a wider geographic area. Future events will be held in various locations in and around Greenbelt.

The SHL Community Room is located on the balcony above the SHL Pharmacy.



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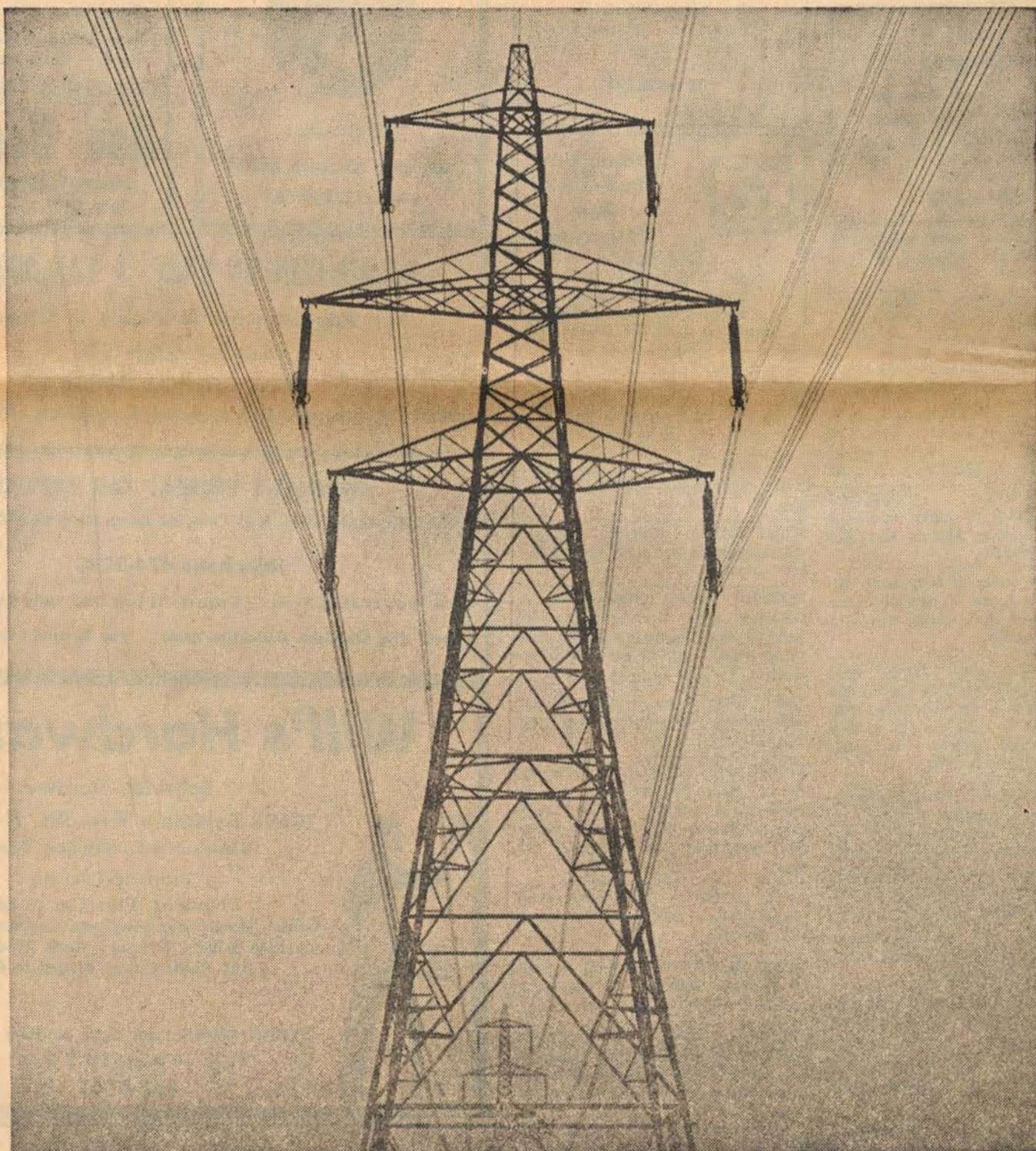
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ers whose lots are adjacent to our transmission lines may, by request, use some of the right-of-way as an extension of their yards — or for vegetable or flower gardens — as long as they don't fence them in.

As for property value, we found there's no significant difference in selling price between houses built next to the rights-of-way and comparable ones elsewhere.

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