

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 37, Number 10

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, January 24, 1974

County Council Tackles Greenbriar Zoning Issue Tuesday, As State Agency Approves Treatment Plant

by Elaine Skolnik

Herbert Sachs' Director of the Maryland Water Resources Administration (WRA), announced last week that WRA has signed the discharge permit for the on-site Greenbriar sewer treatment plant, thus clearing the way for approval by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene of a plant construction permit.

The WRA approval followed an exchange of letters between its legal offices and those of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) which apparently clarified the scope and meaning of the WSSC resolution of January 9 regarding its operation of the treatment plant. That resolution stated that WSSC shall not accept the responsibility for the operation of the plant until such time as WSSC is satisfied that the plant is capable of operating pursuant to the conditions of the permit.

WRA had hesitated approving the permit, according to its attorney Warren K. Rich, because of its interpretation of the State law that WSSC cannot unilaterally qualify or limit its responsibilities for the plant regardless of whether "satisfied" or not. However, both Rich and John B. Kenkel, General Counsel for WSSC, apparently agreed that a post-construction "breaking-in" test period would be desirable. Kenkel said that the WSSC resolution only intended that such a test period would be required in order to determine whether the permit requirements would be met, and that there was no intent for WSSC to erect its own individual test of satisfaction. On this basis, WRA signed the permit on January 16.

The City of Greenbelt has pending a request for WRA to reconsider its decision to approve a point of discharge for the plant.

NASA Pipeline

In another development, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Jan. 8 notified the National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) that since the WRA-approved discharge permit will meet the requirements of the 1972 amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, EPA will now begin processing the permit. It is expected that a public hearing will be required. EPA said that the issue of granting a piping easement across NASA property for the discharge of the effluent is separate from that of the discharge permit and must be decided by NASA itself.

City Dissents

At Monday night's meeting, the city council, with Mayor Richard Pilski dissenting, voted to advise NASA of the position the city took with respect to the sewage plant before the WRA hearing of November 21 at Greenbelt. This position essentially was that the council was not satisfied that a case had been made for utilization of an on-site sewage plant prior to the availability of a public sewer system anticipated in early 1975.

The Greenbriar developer, Alan Kay, told council that it would be costly for the project to await expansion of the Western Branch and hook-up with that system. He said that a year's delay would push his Greenbriar construction costs up by \$2.5 million due to inflation, whereas the sewage treatment plant would only cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

by Al Skolnik

The Prince Georges county council will attempt to cope with the controversial Greenbriar apartment project on Tuesday, January 29, in Upper Marlboro at 10 a.m. when it considers a revised site plan for the 1,193-unit project on the Smith-Ewing tract. Construction on the parcel containing the proposed on-site sewage treatment plant has been at a standstill since October 30 when the County Department of Licenses and Permits suspended the building permit on the grounds that the site plan accompanying the approved "bedroom-count" special exception in 1971 did not show the treatment plant (work on the other two parcels has continued). The subsequent inclusion of the plant on the third parcel, according to the County Office of Law, reduced the amount of green space on that parcel to less than the 70 percent required by the zoning code.

The proposed resolution provides for a revised site plan showing the on-site treatment plant and limiting the construction of Building No. 17 so as to meet the 70 percent requirement (see page 2 for text). County council approval of the resolution will pave the way for restoration of the building permit. Citizen comments must be submitted by January 28.

Brugger Requests Action

The action was petitioned by George A. Brugger, attorney for the Greenbriar developer, who argued that failure to include the sewage plant on the approved site plan was "purely a matter of mistake or inadvertence."

"This conclusion," Brugger said in his petition, "is buttressed by a review of the transcript of the special exception hearing where it is clear that the council-approved condition of construction in accordance with the submitted site plans was intended to insure that the development as constructed would be as luxurious and well-planned as the proposal indicated. The condition was clearly not imposed for the purpose of pre-determining the precise placement of every building and sidewalk in the project."

As for the sewage plant usurping required green space, Brugger noted that the developer last March agreed as a condition for Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission approval of the building permit to delay construction of Building 17 during the life of the temporary treatment plant or until the green space question had been resolved.

Reaction of county

Upon receipt of Brugger's request, the County Office of Law advised that the county council sitting as the district council could correct the special exception if it could find that on the date it granted the special exception it knew that it was the intention of the developer to build his package sewage treatment plant on that parcel. "Such a finding," the county attorney said "would permit the district council to accept the site plan in accordance with conditions six and seven of the special exception." These conditions involve a requirement that construction be in conformity with the site plan at the final approval level.

See GREENBRIAR, page 4, col. 1

The council was advised that NASA expects to publish in a week or so its environmental impact statement. There will be sixty days after that in which persons or organizations can make comment.

Council Agenda Has A Few Items Besides Greenbriar

by Al Skolnik

Aside from Greenbriar matters (see accompanying articles), the city council at its Monday, January 21, meeting passed three ordinances, considered a budget for Greenbelt CARES, received a report of bikeways, and made several appointments to boards and committees.

Greenbelt CARES

The first ordinance enacted provided for a reduction in the amusement tax on coin-operated machines from 10 percent to 2 percent, following an action taken recently by the county council for nonincorporated areas. Representatives of the coin vending business pointed out that unlike other amusements they could not easily change the coin slots to add on the tax, so it was a burden borne entirely by the business. Passage was unanimous, though Councilman Charles Schwan and Gil Weidenfeld preferred at 4 1/2 percent tax.

The second ordinance revised the qualification for tax credits for homeowners who are disabled so that persons receiving disability benefits as Federal employees would qualify. Previously only persons receiving social security or railroad retirement disability benefits qualified.

The third ordinance provided for the issue of a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$60,000 to cover the costs of the Center Mall improvement project.

The council authorized the submission of an \$81,212 budget for Greenbelt CARES Youth Services Bureau to the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. The city's share of the cost of this program would be \$5,279 or 6.5%. City manager Jim Giese cautioned that if the Governor's Commission did not authorize the full amount, the city would have to pick up the difference or possibly abandon the project. Greenbelt CARES has indicated that it could not realistically pare its costs below the \$81,212.

Bikeways

Council received Report 1-74 from the Park and Recreation Advisory Board outlining a basic trail system for bikeways within the city. The proposed trail would be approximately 4 1/2 to 5 miles in length and include a bike crossway over the Beltway, at a cost in the area of \$125,000 (\$25,000 for the overpass). This would provide asphalt or concrete trails approximately 8 feet wide. The overpass would be approximately 10 feet with an 8 foot barricade. It is hoped that Federal and State money could help fund the program.

PRAB chairman Joseph Wilkinson observed that rights of way would have to be secured from (1) Springhill Lake, for trail from proposed recreation center to overpass; (2) the state, for bike crossing over the Beltway and along exit ramp to light at Crescent and Kenilworth; (3) GHI, for land owned in back of homes on the north side of Northway and along Northway extended to the dump; (4) NASA, for use of their overpass to cross the B-W Parkway. Also Board of Education property might be involved.

The city's Advisory Planning Board, in commenting upon the PRAB report, suggested that surveys be made to determine community needs and preferences and possible sources of funding, that criteria be developed for route placement, and that discussions be had with other agencies regarding connecting trails in neighboring areas.

Appointments

The council made the following appointments: James O'Sullivan, SHL, and Ronald G. Clark to the APB; Sue Modzelewski, Boxwood, to PRAB; and Vincent Palacino, Charlestowne Village, J. S. Kennedy, Boxwood, Carol Ann Breyer, Lakeside, Mary Lou Raynes, Hillside Rd. and Tom Greer, SHL to the Cable Television Committee. It also reappointed for three-year terms Darwin Beck, Al Cousin, and Katherine Keene to the Community Relations Advisory Board. Also appointed was Jeffrey M. Davis to the Human Resources Committee of the Council of Governments.

Doris Cottington Honored By City

by Sandra Barnes

Next Thursday, January 31, the city will honor one of its long-time employees, Doris Cottington. Coffee will be served in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Bldg., at 3:30 p.m., and anyone wishing to offer his or her regards is invited to attend.

For 30 years Doris Cottington and her husband, Robert, have lived in Greenbelt — and for 20 of those years Doris has worked for the city of Greenbelt.

In 1953, when her husband faced a possible lay-off at the Bureau of Standards, Doris went to work for the police department which, at that time, consisted of five or six police officers. There was no staff member on duty during the early morning hours and Doris remembers one time when she was summoned out of bed at 3 a.m. to go down to the police station, then located behind what is now Greenbelt Realty (and which used to be firehouse) to take testimony.

In 1958 Doris went to work for Winfield McCamy, who served the dual role of city clerk and secretary to city manager Charles McDonald. The city offices were above the Ben Franklin store where they remained until 1964 when the Municipal Building was erected with part of the funds derived from the sale of Center School to the Board of Education. In 1960, the jobs of city clerk and secretary were divided and Doris became McDonald's secretary. When James Giese replaced McDonald in 1962, she continued her role for the new city manager.

Doris marvels at the way in which the city has grown over the past 30 years. When she first came here there were no subdivisions, no Youth Center, no traffic problems. Buses left the Center every half hour and she and her family often boarded one to Mt. Rainier where they transferred to a street car to take them into the District of Columbia. Her husband can remember seeing deer in the wooded area which is now Kenilworth Avenue and the Beltway.

Reflecting over the past 20 years, Doris sees her job as one of performing a public service. She has enjoyed getting to know a lot of people and helping a number of them with their problems. Some problems however, remain perennial — the complaints about garbage pickup and dogs running loose.

Doris sees some change in the

attitudes of people over the years. "This used to be a clean city," she muses, "but now people will just throw their trash on the sidewalk when a receptacle might be only two feet away." But she still believes that Greenbelt is a particularly good place to live — especially for families. Her own three children have been raised in the community; one daughter now lives in Connecticut, one in Gaithersburg, and a son, who has worked at the Youth Center, is a recent graduate of the University of Maryland with a degree in recreation, lives at home.

City Manager Giese is not eager to see the retirement of the only secretary he has had in his eleven years here. "She knows a lot about the city and the city organization . . . and it will be difficult for someone else to acquire that same knowledge," he stated. "But she wants to retire — and I couldn't talk her out of it."

Doris and her husband look forward to her retirement, seeing it as an opportunity to be free to travel, particularly in Europe, and to see some of the things there never seemed to be enough time for — like sewing. So, on January 31 Doris Cottington will end her 20 years of dedicated service to the community of Greenbelt.

WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Jan. 24, 8:15 p.m. PRAB meeting, Conference Room, Youth Center
7:30 p.m. GHI Board Meeting - Hamilton Pl.
Thurs., Jan. 31, 3:30 p.m. Coffee for Doris Cottington, Municipal Bldg.

School Calendar Changes

Prince Georges County public schools will be open on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, originally scheduled as "Professional Days", and Feb. 18, George Washington's birthday. These three days will provide the necessary minimum of 180 pupil days as required by state law. Schools will return to their pre-Christmas schedule of a six and one-half hour day on Mar. 11, ponenig 1/2 hour earlier.

Child Abuse Program Cares Will Sponsor

Dr. James W. Prescott of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development will show slides and a film and lead a discussion on child abuse Wed., Jan. 30 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the social room of Community Church.

The program is sponsored by Greenbelt CARES and there is no admission charge, though donations will be appreciated.

The regular Wed. evening counseling period will be from 8:30 to 9:30 that night, but all clients must attend the earlier program in order to participate in the counseling. For more information please phone 345-3456.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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Thursday, January 24, 1974

It Won't Wash

The latest effort to rectify the alleged zoning deficiency in the Greenbriar case will not wash with the people of Greenbelt. This deficiency arises out of failure of the final site plan adopted at the time of the "bedroom-count" special exception in 1971 to show an on-site temporary sewage treatment plant.

In order to support a finding that this omission was merely a mistake or an oversight, the Prince Georges County Council has before it a resolution stating that it had knowledge from its records, at the time it adopted the special exception, that the project required the installation of a temporary treatment plant.

This resolution places the county council in an impossible position. If the county council adopts this resolution, it would be admitting that it concealed such information from the public and the city of Greenbelt at the time it was considering the special exception.

For at no time during the public hearings in July and August 1971 was there any mention of the need for an on-site treatment plant to service the Greenbriar apartment complex. In fact, the distinct impression left by the representatives of Greenbriar was that sewage would await the hook-up with the regular public system.

Furthermore, it is fair to say that had the Greenbelt city council known of the intention of the Greenbriar developer to utilize an on-site sewage plant, it never would have supported the request for the special exception.

In a News Review editorial of January 27, 1972, the statement was made that "As the Greenbelt city council understood at the time it approved a special exception for the Greenbriar complex, the development was to take its turn along with other pending requests for permanent sewage hookups."

We prefer to think that the true situation was as described by Richard Schifter, Greenbriar attorney, who is quoted as saying in Jan. 1972 that the matter of the package treatment plant was not raised during the hearing because the developer planned to interchange sewer permits between parcels of land he owned, and it was felt there would have been no need for the package plant. Schifter went on to say "It wasn't until October (1971) that a final decision was made to go with the package treatment plant. That was long after the special exception had been granted." (Prince George's Sentinel, January 13, 1972).

The following resolution has been proposed for Prince Georges county council consideration on Tuesday, January 29, 1974,

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
 SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL
 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A Resolution to amend Resolution No. 157-1971 approving Special Exception No. 2469 to provide a revised site plan showing a temporary sewerage treatment plant and limiting construction of Building No. 17, as shown on the site plan, until the treatment plant is removed or the green space question is otherwise provided for.

WHEREAS, the District Council on November 17, 1971, did adopt Resolution No. 157-1971, approving application number 2469, setting forth a condition that the project be developed in accordance with a site plan subject to final review and approval; and,

WHEREAS, the District Council did at the time of adoption of the resolution, have knowledge from its records that the project required the installation of a temporary treatment plant which it presumed could be included in the site plan at the final approval level; and,

WHEREAS, the District Council believes that it has authority under the mistake rule as authorized by Section 28. 16A of the Zoning Ordinance and under the authority to revise the final site plan where there are conditions in the special exception calling for a final site plan, therefore,

Be it Resolved by the County Council of Prince George's County, sitting as the District Council, that the Council accepts for record in Special Exception No. 2469, a revised site layout plan dated November, 1973, and stamped January 14, 1974, showing a temporary sewerage treatment plant and restricted construction of Building No. 17, until the treatment plant is removed or the question concerning green space requirement is otherwise resolved.

Tax Form at Library

It's income tax time again and Greenbelt residents may receive an assist from their library which will supply tax forms to any interested citizen.

The library will supply the following: instructions for filling out 1973 Federal Tax forms 1040 and 1040A; Federal Tax forms 1040 and 1040A plus schedule A; and Maryland Income Tax packets for 1973.

For more information, call 779-9330, extension 31.

Wine Tasting Party

Congregation Mishkan Torah (J-CC) is sponsoring a wine tasting party at 8:30 p.m. Sat., Jan. 26. This kind of party affords an opportunity for tasting and comparing a variety of wines without the need for buying a bottle of each, in a pleasant social atmosphere. Cheeses, coffee and fresh bread will also be served. Tickets will be available at the door.

Resolution Outrageous!

To the Editor:

Mighty offensive reading—that is what I call the Greenbriar resolution which county council chairman Francois put on the agenda for Jan. 29. The resolution says that the county council knew at the time they granted the special exceptions, in 1971, that a package sewage treatment plant was planned for the apartment project.

They knew, all eleven of them, and they kept it a secret—or so the resolution reads. Did the county council members join in some kind of plot to deceive the City of Greenbelt into approving the special exceptions?

Outrageous. So is the purpose of the resolution: to sweep away three years of broken and bent laws which resulted in a sewage plant on open space, to declare it all legal, without even a public hearing.

That the developer concealed his plans is perhaps no surprise, but what about our public representatives? I asked repeatedly during the 1971 hearings before the Greenbelt Council, the Prince Georges Planning Board and the County Council, "What about sewer, isn't there a moratorium?" If anyone—developer or official—knew the answer then and did not speak up, he or she betrayed the public.

When I found out a few days after the special exceptions were granted, I petitioned the county council to reconsider. Four months later, without hearing or inquiry, they voted six to one not to reconsider. Only Reeder wanted to reconsider, and Bogley, Spellman, Kelly, Burcham, Callow and White did not want to. Francois, Garrity, Potts and Hart were absent at the time of the vote.

If that decision was wrong, this resolution is even more so. Before the record of this "proceeding" closes on Jan. 28, I urge all Greenbelt citizens to call the members of the county council and ask them for the truth, and to express their opinions about the Greenbriar cover-up. Letters should be sent to the Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland, 20870.

Rhea Cohen

Wants Residential Treatment Center for P. G. Adolescents

To the Editor:

The neglect of drug education in years gone by has resulted in the epidemic of today's drug abuse. Too many are unwilling to bring the problem into the open.

Many community programs are effective approaches towards education and prevention, but rehabilitation has been disturbingly ignored.

The government has funds available for rehabilitation. The people who live with illicit drugs recognize the need for action.

The young are more vulnerable to all mind altering drugs and their bad side effects, yet there is no residential treatment available for them in P.G. County. Montgomery County offers residential treatment, the most effective and successful treatment for this chronic disease, to their adolescents, so does Washington, D. C. The military provides residential treatment centers not available to civilians; Anne Arundel county is projecting residential treatment. Prince Georges County has an excellent adult residential center. Are children less important than adults? The many youngsters who get emergency help in the "De-tox" unit of P.G.Co. Hospital if they live, are refused the needed rehabilitation because residential treatment simply is not available. The abusers of mind affecting chemicals need the "drug free" protective environment, possible today only in a residential treatment center. Past national experience has proven that in the area of drug abuse, rehabilitation residential treatment is far more effective than out-patient counseling.

A petition endorsing the establishment of a much needed residential treatment center for the youth of Prince Georges County will be distributed through the city of Greenbelt. By signing this petition, and accepting our responsibility, we will be taking the largest step toward solving the problem.

Bettie L. Clark

Urges Citizen Action

To the Editor:

Throughout the nearly three years of the Greenbriar development saga, it became quite obvious that the county council was willing to do anything to satisfy the unusual requests of the project's developer. It also became obvious that in confronting the fragmented responsibilities of the various agencies with approval or disapproval authority for onsite sewage treatment plants, the citizens of Greenbelt and the city government were seemingly powerless to control the events that would directly affect them. It had long ago become obvious to any objective observer that the tactics used by the developer were self serving and obfusatory. But the most recent efforts involving the illegal sewage plant have shown us a new low in responsible government and even for Prince Georges County, the ultimate in political chicanery.

At the behest of the Greenbriar developer, the chairman of the P.G. county council has introduced a resolution which will be taken up very quickly on January 29. The purpose of the resolution is a bold face attempt to correct the zoning deficiencies and illegalities of Greenbriar by legislative fiat, carefully designed to avoid a public hearing and the usual official, advertised notice for zoning actions. This blatant attempt by our so called county councilors is scheduled two days prior to a court hearing on the zoning violations and, I suspect, was calculated to subvert that litigation (the court case was prompted by a 9 months effort of the Greenbelt S.-O.C.C.).

I urge all interested and concerned citizens to call or write the 11 members of the P. G. County Council and vigorously request that they reject this callous attempt to deny due process to the City of Greenbelt and its citizens.

For your convenience and information here is a listing: Francis B. Francois, Chairman, 628-1368; Francis White, 627-3000; John J. Garrity, 627-1080; Charles E. Callow, UN 4-4433; Royal Hart, 577-8500; Winfield M. Kelly Jr., 894-5782; Samuel W. Bogley, John B. Burcham, Jr., Lucille B. Potts, Ronald R. Reeder, and Gladys Noon Spellman at 627-3000.

Thomas X. White

No Bridge this Week

There will be no duplicate bridge game this Fri., Jan. 25, at the Co-op Hospitality Room. The next game will be held on Fri., Feb. 8, at 8:30 p.m.

St. Hugh's Sponsors A New Scout Troop

St. Hugh's will sponsor a new Scout Troop. The church already sponsors a Cub Scout Pack, No. 1746. The new scout troop is open to all boys of scouting age. Boys in the 6th grade or eleven years old are eligible. A scoutmaster has been found and many of the men of the parish have expressed a willingness to help promote the program.

Until the organization is completed, registration forms may be obtained from any of the three Greenbelt area Scout Commissioners, Ralph Noble, 474-9369; the Rev. Kenneth Buker, 474-3644; and Charles H. Tompkins, 474-3835.

Kenneth Berger at JCC

Kenneth Berger, a senior student at the Reconstruction Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, will visit Greenbelt this coming weekend and lead the Sabbath services at Mishkan Torah. He represents the Reconstructionist movement, an active part of the Jewish Conservative movement (to which Mishkan Torah belongs) with accent on creative innovation in the spirit of traditional Judaism.

Services begin Fri. at 8:30 p.m. and Sat. at 9:30 a.m. On Fri. night Rabbi Berger will discuss the "New Year's day for Trees" — a traditional Jewish observance corresponding to Arbor Day — which this year occurs on Feb. 7.

Mishkan Torah Sisterhood

A paid-up membership dinner sponsored by the Mishkan Torah Sisterhood will be held on Tues., Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. Arthur Borsky, musicologist, will entertain.

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 Church



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8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

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Edward H. Birner, Pastor

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Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-3331

Sermon: "Personality TRANSFORMED"

Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00 A.M.)

Church School (Nursery through adults) 9:30 A.M.

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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Church Training 6:00 p.m.

Rev. James O. Duncan

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YARD SALE IN WINTER? 7860 Lakecrest Dr. 474-4427, Sat. 9-2.

Bachelor needs occasional light housework, shopping, errands, write Box 353 Greenbelt.



Greenbelt

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Sunday, Jan. 27

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Three bedroom masonry remodeled kitchen and bath - new appliances. Tip-Top condition. \$23,700.

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Two Bedroom Masonry Home with den and garage close to shopping and elementary school. Immediate occupancy. This home is in excellent condition. Modern kitchen, washer, dryer, patio, and in wooded area. Call to show.

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CREDIT UNION

Thursday, January 31, 1974

8:00 P.M.

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AESOP'S FABLES say many things but Kash Realtor has a very fine 3 BR Brick Rambler in Riverdale with all major appliances, lge. patio and freezer. Offered on FHA/VA terms. \$37,950.

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BE ON THE IN with this peach. A 2 BR END home with W/W carpeting A/C's, paneled liv. rm. fenced yard. Fast possession! \$13,500.

THE HORSE AND THE LION found the best scheme has a kickback, but Kash Realtor has a fine 5 BR 2 1/2 bath Cent. A/C home in Good Luck Carrollton Area plus all major appliances, W/W carpet, and carport on a lge. lot. FHA/VA terms \$59,900.

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THE WOLF AND THE LAMB say no matter how difficult it is to buy, start this year and get out of that apartment that has been giving you all those rent receipts. SEE this 5 BR 3 Bath, Cent A/C home (builders home) in Hillmeade Area. So much to tell you! Reduced to \$55,950.

POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC says stormy weather ahead if you do not buy this home or one similar to it - call 345-2151 about this 3 BR 2 bath Cent. A/C home near upper Marlboro with lots of trees and a very private yard. All major appliances 1 year old. \$41,000.

THE MAN AND THE SWALLOW say to look carefully at all homes but we feel confident you will like this very fine 4 BR 2 1/2 bath home located in Laurel area. It is HUGE and has a very fine rec. room in basement. Another special! \$61,950.

PROMISES, PROMISES Kash Realtor has given you a synopsis of many fine homes over the nearby Washington Area. One will fit your needs! LAST BUT NOT LEAST we have a very fine lot on LAKESIDE DRIVE! 29% down and owner will hold balance. \$11,990.

345-2151

Greenbriar from pg. 1, c. 2 Confusion

The question of whether the district council or the public in general knew at the time the special exception was approved in 1971 that an on-site package treatment plant was being contemplated is confusing because of uncertainty as to just when the special exception was approved.

The sequence of events was as follows: At the conclusion of the public hearings on August 10, 1971, the district council by an 8-2 vote approved the special exception and directed its Office of Law to prepare the official language of approval, incorporating the conditions laid down by the district council.

Subsequently on October 6 the district council adopted the language of approval prepared by the Office of Law. Then, because the document as approved inadvertently left off some of the conditions specified by the district council on August 10, a revised special exception was prepared and adopted by the district council on November 17, 1971.

City Council Reaction

City council reaction to these developments was immediate at its regular meeting last Monday, January 21. In the first place, it felt that the October 6 date was controlling as far as the approval date was concerned. "If, at that time, county council was aware of plans for an on-site treatment plant," said councilman Charles Schwan, "it was sure not sharing this information with the Greenbelt city council or the general public."

What council was certain about was that there was no mention of an on-site treatment plant during the testimony given before the district council in August, 1971, or during the hearings conducted during the preceding two months by the Greenbelt city council. There was general agreement that the first time that the general public heard about a proposed on-site sewage plant was in mid-October 1971.

Brugger, however, pointed out that the county council knew as early as April 1971 of an application filed by Greenbriar Associates with the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (SD-HMH) for a point of discharge permit for an on-site sewage plant. According to the News Review files, county executive William Gullett on May 18, 1971 responded to this request negatively and the SDHMH on May 25 informed the developer Alan Kay that it was suspending its processing of the request. Kay then sought to get pre-moratorium sewer rights transferred from another parcel he owned but when this was unsuccessful, he resumed his quest for an on-site plant in mid-October 1971.

The files also show that Richard Schifter, Greenbriar attorney, at that time, said that no mention was made of the on-site plant during the hearings because the intent was to transfer sewer rights from another parcel of land.

Record Reviewed

Glenn T. Harrell, Jr. of the County Office of Law in a memorandum dated January 4, 1972, observed that the developer and his representative had failed during the August public hearings to allude to an intent to utilize an on-site package sewage disposal plant.

"At no time in the course of the public hearings," Harrell said, "did the applicant represent that it intended to accomplish this, even when the opportunity to discuss the issue presented itself. Mr. Kay skirted the issue on at least three occasions (T. 116, 123, 148). Mr. Leslie A. Smith, applicant's land planner, omitted reference to the intended package plant, when addressing himself to the sewage issue (T. 171-172). In fact, the applicant represented to the council that it apparently could not build Greenbriar until the sewer moratorium was lifted, and Greenbriar could hook-up to public sewer (T. 460)."

Harrell went on to say that "merely because an application (for discharge permit) is a matter of public record, as the applicant alleges his sewer permit application is, it does not automatically become ac-

Boys and Girls Club

On Friday, Jan. 11, at Sarto Hall in Forrestville, Mike Miedzinski and LouAnn Raley received a plaque for Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club boy and girl of the year. Archie Milhollen also received a plaque for Distinguished Service at the Prince Georges Boys Club Installation Service. Chuck Hinton, former Washington Senator and now baseball coach at Howard University and E. "Jack" Jackson, coach of University of Maryland baseball team, were the main speakers at the affair.

There will be intramural basketball practice Sat., Jan. 26 at the St. Hugh's gym for boys 8 thru 11 at 11 a.m.

Basketball games will be Tuesday and Thursday at the Youth Center starting at 6 p.m. and Saturday beginning at 11 a.m.

Anyone interested in playing in the winter soccer league between the ages of 10 through 18 please call Fred Ford. 474-8343

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tual common knowledge, especially if actively or passively nondisclosed."

City Council Objects

At Monday's meeting, city council members were particularly indignant that the proposed county resolution left the impression that the city knew all about the treatment plant at the time the special exception was being considered.

Councilman Gil Weidenfeld declared that the route being taken to correct the situation may be legal but it was not right and abused the law. Councilman Tom White thought the county was acting "with impropriety".

Councilman Richard Castaldi stated that the resolution compounded the "mistakes" and declared that the proper procedure for correcting the zoning deficiency was to file a new application for modification of the site plan. This approach, he said, would provide another public hearing. Brugger replied that what is being sought is not a modification of the site plan but a fulfillment of the conditions laid down by the district council.

"All we are seeking," Brugger said, "in a quick expeditious manner is a final site plan that was once before cleared by the county executive and MNCPPC who later backed away."

The council then unanimously adopted a resolution urging the county council not to approve the county resolution because at the time of the special exception hearings, "neither the city of Greenbelt nor the public in general had knowledge that the installation of a temporary treatment plan was required." The city also asked that a procedure be followed for modification of the site plan that would permit a public hearing.

Christian Montecino, born January 31, 1946, died in Santiago de Chile, October 20, 1973.

Raised and educated in the Washington metropolitan area, Chris made his home at 7-F Research from his marriage in 1967 until late 1971. He was a quiet neighbor, enjoying his family, his painting and his music, his work as a photographer for the International Monetary Fund and the company of friends.

A journal of his adventures along the Pan American Highway was to have been published in the near future.

During a brief stay in Santiago last fall, he was taken into detention in the course of the repressions which followed the military coup. No formal charges were necessary under martial law. Chance information permitted his family to recover his body from the city morgue a few days after.

He is survived by his parents, a brother, his wife, Maria, and two sons: Chris, Jr. and Marco.

— Gordon Allen

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