

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 37, Number 18

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, April 4, 1974

GHI MEMBERSHIP MEETS APR. 17 TO CONSIDER FINANCING PLAN

by Al Skolnik

The latest correspondence from the Philadelphia office of the Federal National Mortgage Association indicates no change in its position that any temporary deferment of the mortgage held on Greenbelt Homes, Inc. by the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) will require repayment within the next three years — at the time the mortgage expires in 1977. The agency said, however, that it is referring the matter to its Washington headquarters (see accompanying text of letter).

FNMA representative James D. Grady also raised a question as to whether GHI would qualify for the deferment because its plans do not include a "viable increase in member carrying charges." Grady also thought the "membership could be called on to assume a larger share of the cost of the long-term improvements."

GHI is planning a special membership meeting for Wednesday, April 17, at 8 p.m. in the Center School auditorium to request membership approval of an increase in monthly charges effective June 1, 1974, to cover the cost of heating renovations of \$173,000 and the fuel oil deficit of \$41,300 incurred in 1973. Whether these actions if approved will meet GNMA's conditions is not known.

The box that GHI finds itself in is that it has practically no more uncommitted reserves that it could use for heating plant improvements and must therefore turn to borrowing funds. It sees its choice as borrowing from commercial banks at an interest rate of 9 1/2% percent or seeking temporary deferment of the GNMA principal payments at an interest cost of 4 percent (this is the interest contained in the mortgage originally negotiated in 1953).

GHI had originally hoped that it would be a simple deferment of one year so that the mortgage would expire in 1978 instead of 1977, thus creating no increase in monthly charges because of this item. GNMA, however, wants no change in the 1977 expiration date of the mortgage. This would require GHI combining 4 years of principal payments into 3, obviously causing a rise in monthly charges.

The GHI board at its March 28 meeting took some action to ease

the fuel oil price crunch by agreeing to buy 250,000 gallons of #2 fuel oil in bulk at 33.8 cents a gallon. It will seek further arrangements with the supplier to exercise an option to purchase additional oil under the same conditions later in the year. The current price being paid is 40c a gallon.

Resales

In other action, the board adopted a policy on subleasing homes to new members with an option to purchase in order to take account of current difficulties prospective members are having in obtaining financing. The new policy would make it easier for sellers to allow incoming members to rent with an option to buy.

Some of the major conditions would be

(1) the selling member's home must have been on the market and listed for sale for a period of not less than 30 days prior to subleasing.

(2) the selling member must indicate in writing that he will accept an offer at the appraised price, if such an offer had been made.

(3) the selling member must be willing to take back a deferred purchase money note and an assignment of a contract in an amount no less than 80% of the required down payment.

Boys and Girls Club

by Fred Ford

Special softball and baseball sign-up Sat., April 6, at the Youth Center 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Girls 9 through 17 and boys 13 through 17 may apply.

Coaches needed. Call Fred Ford, 474-8343.

Money from ticket sale due NOW! Contact your area chairman or call me.

Planning Board Decides To Keep "Cipriano" Road

The name will remain the same — that was the outcome of the public hearing on March 27 when the members of the Prince Georges County Planning Board decided to stick with the 1970 decision to extend the name Cipriano Road to the entire stretch of roadway between Greenbelt (Glenn Dale) Road and the Lanham-Severn Road.

Up to 1970 this roadway had two names — the portion from the intersecting Good Luck Road north was called Cipriano Road and the portion south of Good Luck Road was called Telegraph Road. In order to avoid the confusion caused by having two names for the same road, the Planning Board decided in 1970 to name the entire road Cipriano Road and to eliminate the name Telegraph Road.

This 1970 decision was popular with Greenbelters who felt it was an appropriate tribute to Joseph "Pop" Cipriano who as a pioneer settler was responsible for constructing the first passable roads in the area.

The decision, however, did not set well with some residents of former Telegraph Road who recently petitioned to restore the name Telegraph Road to that portion of Cipriano Road running south of Good Luck Road.

At the March 27 meeting the Planning Board considered three alternatives and turned them all down:

(1) rename the entire road to Telegraph-Cipriano;

(2) rename the entire road to Cipriano-Telegraph; or

(3) leave the name Cipriano Road as is north of Good Luck Road and restore the name Telegraph Road to the road south of Good Luck.

This failure to choose one of the alternatives was, in effect, a denial of the petition by residents for restoring the Telegraph Road name to that portion of Cipriano Road between Good Luck Road and Lanham-Severn Road.

The staff of the Planning Board had recommended that the petition be denied for the following reasons:

(A) The right-of-way running north from Lanham-Severn Road to Greenbelt Road should have one name only to avoid the confusion which existed prior to name change effected in 1970.

(B) The majority responding to the questionnaire object to having that portion of Cipriano Road running north from Good Luck Road to Greenbelt Road changed to Telegraph Road.

(C) Occupants in 10 of the premises fronting on that portion of Cipriano Road running north from Lanham-Severn Road to Good Luck Road object to changing the name to Telegraph Road. This is the portion of Cipriano Road which was under consideration for change to Telegraph Road.

(D) Occupants in six of the premises fronting on Cipriano Road have changed their minds since signing the original petition for change of name to Telegraph Road.

(E) Of the 344 signators on the original petition for change of name to Telegraph Road, occupants in only 31 premises front on that portion of Cipriano Road which was under consideration for change.

Hearing Highlights

Cipriano's representative stated that the family, while empathizing with those residing on Telegraph Road, felt any change in name would cause confusion, such as in postal matters. "There was no magic in the name Telegraph," he said, and cited Mr. Cipriano's role in the growth of the area.

Mrs. Loretta Doreen, initiator of the petition and others referred to

NO APRIL FOOL JOKE

Council Gets First Glimpse At Increased 1975 Budget

by Sandra Barnes

There were no joking matters as the city council convened on April Fool's day. Looks of consternation passed among council members as they listened to city manager James Giese forecast a 32c increase in the city's tax rate — from 92c to \$1.24. The final budget document is yet to be completed, but Giese was able to inform council of his recommendation because final totals have been made.

Another item causing much chagrin was the tearing up of the newly-laid sidewalk in the Center Mall in front of the Ben Franklin store. It appears that the owner of the building refused to replace some of the plumbing while the area was under construction; he told the city such replacement was not necessary for several more years. Council stressed that they did not want a "patchwork" job in the replacement of the sidewalk.

Giese reported that the plumbing contractor had posted a bond which was more than the cost of the sidewalk work, and that Public Works director, Buddy Attick, was overseeing the work very carefully to make sure that the bomanite portion of the mall was not damaged.

Greenbriar Boilers

Former councilwoman, Rhea Cohen, asked council to look into the emissions of three boilers which will be used to heat the Greenbriar apartments. She stated that she had learned that these boilers would be using #6 oil, a grade which contained heavy metals and emitted more pollution into the air than grades #2 and #4. She pointed out that GHI had been required to switch to #2 and then #4 to meet the state's air quality standards and asked the city to notify the Health Department of Greenbelt's concerns. Council thanked Ms. Cohen for bringing the problem to their attention and promised to look into the matter further.

An ordinance to revise city standards for new road construction and thereby bring them closer to county standards passed 4-1 with Councilman Richard Castaldi dissenting. Castaldi wanted the law enacted with provisions for bicycle paths. Other members of council felt it was necessary to gain more information on bikeways — which they all favored — and decided that passage of the ordinance at this time did not preclude future plans for bikeways. It was also pointed out that both the Advisory Planning Board (APB) and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) were coming up with reports on bikeways.

Council discussed the fees charged by the city to vendors and hawkers who might go door-to-door selling items or might set up stands along city roads. The city manager was asked to determine whether these fees were adequate in light of what the administrative costs for issuing permits might be.

Surplus Land

The city has been informed that eleven acres of Agricultural Research land are being declared surplus along the south side of the Capital Beltway in the vicinity of the B & O Railroad. Nine acres of this land lie on the College Park side of the B&O Railroad track and two acres lie on the Greenbelt side — but not within the city limits. Whether to purchase the land was referred to APB and PRAB. Mayor Richard Pilski seemed to echo council's sentiments, however, when he said he was all in favor of getting land rather than worrying about its development in 10-25 years.

PRAB chairman Joe Wilkinson advised council of its report on the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. PRAB recommended immediate construction of the center, air conditioning, hardwood floors, breezeway to connect the two parts of the building and a dumpster situated nearby for easy and sanitary refuse pick up.

Other

The city voted to support the Lion's Club health screening program by taking out a half page ad in the News Review. They also voted to send a letter to Metro authorities advising them of the city's support of better transportation for Greenbelt. A resolution honoring retiring Fire Chief John Crisman was approved. Robert L. Hardie, Michael D. White and Robert J. Crowley were appointed to the Council of Government's citizen advisory boards on Land Use, Public Safety and Health, and Environmental Protection Policy Committees. The auditing firm of Lee, Hendricks & Company was engaged to perform the audit on the city's financial records for FY 1973/74.

What Goes On

Mon., April 8, 7:30 p.m. Parkdale Senior High Musical Review, Greenbelt Junior High

Tues., April 9, 7:30 p.m. Mary Bethune PTSA Meeting.

8 p.m. Meeting on Master Plan for Agricultural Research Center, Greenbelt Library.

Thurs., April 11, 6 p.m. Woman's Club Meeting, Co-op Hospitality Room

7:45 p.m. GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Pl.

Children's Programs

Registration for the story programs for pre-schoolers is Tuesday, April 9. The programs will be on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., April 23 to May 28, for three year olds and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. April 24 to May 29, for three and four year olds.

Unregistered story programs will take place every Thursday at 2 p.m. in the children's program room. Registration for story and craft programs for young children aged four to six is Tuesday, April 9. The program will be held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. from April 25 to May 30.

Gasoline Hotline

Operation Oasis, the Prince Georges County government's energy crisis program reports over a thousand calls a day to its gasoline hotline, 779-1150. A call to that number brings information on where gasoline stations are open and, in many cases, their regular hours of operation. The phones are manned by staff of the county's Office of Civil Defense and Emergency Preparedness, Mon. through Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Pictures Needed By Festival Committee

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee is planning to develop a history of the Labor Day Festival from its beginning in 1955 up to the present. They are in need of pictures and other items covering the past festivals, especially the earlier ones. Albums have been started and are being housed in the Tugwell Room of the library. Any Greenbelt resident or friends who have any materials covering the festivals and would like to help with this project, please see Emory Harman at the Post Office or turn materials into the library.

the history of Telegraph Road. Telegraph Road, she said, was the only name appearing on the 1861 Prince Georges County map. The road marked the route of the service lane for the old telegraph lines that ran from Washington to Bowie.

Persons opposed to the change noted the inconvenience that would be caused by changing credit cards, deeds, and notification to relatives and others of the change of address.

Mrs. Doreen criticized the city of Greenbelt for taking a position and suggested that the city name one of its streets to honor Mr. Cipriano. (The city council went on record apposing the renaming of Cipriano Road between Greenbelt Road and Good Luck Road.)

FNMA Letter to GHI

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

March 25, 1974

Mr. Royal D. Breashears
General Manager
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.
Hamilton Place
Greenbelt, Md. 20770

Dear Mr. Breashears:

We have received and reviewed the information provided in your letter of March 14, 1974 concerning your actions to meet the steps prescribed by Mr. Woodward Kingman's letter of January 25, 1974.

The data presented do sufficiently demonstrate that a full use of reserves is being made or otherwise planned. However, your plans do not include a "viable increase in member carrying charges" inasmuch as they do not specify what the amount and the timing of an immediate increase would be. As your statistics have depicted them, those charges have increased but the absolute amount of the individual charges remain substantially below that of comparable housing. It seems reasonable that the membership could be called on to assume a larger share of the cost of the long-term improvements which are planned for them. Regarding the matter of the deferment itself, we have reviewed the previous correspondence and can find no evidence to support the interpretation that GNMA had instructed or intended an extension of the term of the mortgage. Therefore, your present plans should be reevaluated in terms of our observations in this letter.

We ask that you consider this an interim reply to your latest request as the entire matter has also been referred to our Washington headquarters.

Sincerely yours,
James D. Grady
Loan Representative

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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Thursday, April 4, 1974

No Discredit on GHI

To the Editor:
 The other day, when I received my monthly bill from PEPCO, I noted that with it came a leaflet telling about the "fuel cost adjustment"—why the rate is up. The thing said that "in 1973 PEPCO's cost per ton of coal went up 69%, and the cost per barrel of our basic fuel oil went up 212%." I thought I'd look into that one, so I phoned PEPCO.

Tonight my reply came in the mail. I'll share it with you, in full (if the editors let me):

"As promised during our phone conversation on March 29, here is PEPCO's year to date fuel cost from January 1973 to January 1974. Please bear in mind that these are average prices per ton of coal and barrel of oil based upon an aggregate of our suppliers.

OIL	January 1974	\$9.93
	January 1973	3.16
Dollar Increase		\$6.77
Percentage Increase		214%
COAL	January 1974	\$22.16
	January 1973	13.20
Dollar Increase		\$ 8.96
Percentage Increase		68%

I trust that this information will be of benefit to you."

And it is signed by D. B. Owens, Public Information Representative. I might add that he indicated to me during the conversation that this was a mix of #2 oil and #6 oils (same as is used by GHI except perhaps a different percentage of each). He also indicated that the foreign oil went up a lot. (You will note that the percentages are a little different than in the leaflet. Different base year, I guess.)

So then I looked at the published blended cost of GHI of its oil during the Jan. 1973-Jan. 1974 period and guess what? GHI's cost went up from an average of 13.08c per gallon to 33.80c per gallon — an increase of 158.4%.

Oil cost us more per gallon at GHI than at PEPCO (a barrel is 42 gallons, so the PEPCO cost translates as rising from 7.5c to 23.64c). Maybe this big utility has more buyers on its staff, or some suppliers whose supply is domestic and the prices for that didn't rise as much. But over-all PEPCO went up more than GHI, percentage-wise.

This doesn't cast discredit on GHI's management.

At a GHI membership meeting some months back, one of the ladies who write letters to Congressmen told us that she'd written to U. S. Rep. Hogan asking about whether the prices GHI paid for oil weren't too high. According to what she told us, he replied it was too high. I don't recall her saying anything about her asking him to help us get more reasonably-priced oil, or his offering to help. That would have been constructive.

I don't recall Hogan ever fighting for a national, TVA-type oil company, to exploit unused resources in federal lands and to create a "price yardstick" as TVA did for the utilities. I don't recall Hogan fighting to cut oil-corporation profits. I do recall him voting against a price rollback of domestic oil prices. So I wish people would stop using him as a yardstick — or a club with which to beat GHI.

Mat Amberg

Clark Green

Tile Linoleum Carpet Installations & Repair

FREE ESTIMATES

Land Up For Grabs

To the Editor:
 Nine thousand acres of Federal land in northern Prince Georges County are up for grabs, declared surplus by the President's Property Review Board. The major portion of the Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Maryland, it is the open space that protects the Patuxent Wildlife Center. It is also a valuable source of clean air for the Washington-Baltimore corridor and an important part of the Patuxent watershed. This and the remaining 2000 acres are the subject of a new master plan which is being prepared by the Agricultural Research Center.

As for the "surplus" land, do we choose to slice it with freeways — or parcel it out for private development — or turn it into a Bicentennial tourist attraction — or keep it in perpetual open space? Can we prevent disposal of the land? On the acreage slated to be kept, what development do we want?

Have we any choice? Come to the Greenbelt Library at 11 Crescent Road, on Tuesday April 9, at 8 p.m. and ask Dr. Paul A. Putnam, Assistant Director of the Agricultural Research Center. Dr. Putnam will show slide projections to explain the draft master plan and the federal planning process.

The public is invited to the program, which is sponsored by the Prince Georges Environment Coalition. Rhea L. Cohen, Land Use Committee Chairman, Prince Georges Environment Coalition

Stair - Shawaryn

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Stair, 106 Lastner Lane, announce the marriage of their daughter Debra Lynn to Eugene T. Shawaryn, Jr., son of Mrs. Catherine Franklin of Paulsboro, New Jersey. The ceremony took place on March 9, at the University of Maryland West Chapel. The Reverend Paul W. Kinsel of The University Park Church of the Brethren officiated. A reception followed in the Grand Ballroom Lounge on the University campus.

The bride attended the University of Maryland and was a member of the Sigma Kappa Sorority. She is presently employed as a Special Nurses Aide by Manor Care Inc. The groom, a graduate of the University of Maryland, was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity, and is presently a Graduate Research Assistant working on a Master's degree at the University. The couple will reside in Beltsville, Maryland.

GHI Budget Can Be Cut

To the Editor:
 In setting up the 1974 GHI budget, the general manager asked for a 19% increase over the 1973 budget. When reviewed by the board, a 15% increase was asked for. But, when put to a vote of the membership, a 9.9% increase was approved!

The immediate task of the general manager and the board was to now revise the budget so that it met the limits set by the membership! But, the article "GHI Calls Members' Meeting To Consider Rise in Charges" which appeared in the March 21, 1974 issue of the Greenbelt News Review states that GHI will have a deficit of some \$20,000 to \$25,000 for the first three months of operation — or a deficit of some \$80,000 to \$100,000 for the year. Therefore it is quite apparent that neither the general manager nor the board revised the 1974 budget so the mandate of the membership-at-large was met! Instead, they have been working on plans to up-date the heating system that will require additional funds!

The question now is: Could the general manager or the board make further cuts in the budget so the mandate of the membership-at-large was met? The answer is yes!

... what we should consider is a complete revision of our budget and business practices!

Our board and general manager would be fulfilling their obligations as employees of the membership-at-large — or the stockholders if you prefer — by presenting a revised budget that was within the limits set by the membership-at-large — or their employers if you prefer — at the forthcoming membership meeting. The presenting of a plan to increase monthly charges does not fulfill their obligations!

Now — our board and general manager may say it is not possible to further revise the budget. So, may I remind them that they have been granted a 19.8% increase in the budget since December of 1972 and that the Federal government has only granted a 4% increase in monthly charges to renters of houses and/or apartments during this same period!

When you consider that the Government says one-fifth of our increase in monthly charges should be sufficient for the period of December 1972 to the present, isn't this an indication of how poorly our management is tending to the business of operating GHI? Think that over ...

Ben A. Hogensen

PASSOVER OBSERVANCES

Congregation Mishkan Torah (JCC) will usher in the Passover holiday by services of "the great Sabbath" which precedes it, beginning Fri. April 5, at 8:30 p.m., and Saturday April 6, at 9:30 a.m.; on both occasions, cantor Donald Weisman will chant the service. On Sat. the Bar Mitzvah of Tod Chernikoff will be celebrated.

On the first day of Passover — Sun., April 7 — services will begin at 10 a.m. Cantor Weisman will officiate and Dr. David Stern will speak about "the three names of Passover."

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Board and Committee Vacancies

The City Council is seeking resumes from Greenbelt residents interested in serving on any of the following Boards or Committees —

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE

Interested citizens may call the City Clerk, Tel.: 474-8003 for further information.

Gudrun H. Mills, City Clerk

Amberg - Dimas

Rose and Mathew K. Amberg are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Ruth Rebecca to Nicasio Dimas of San Antonio, Texas. Ruth will be completing her Master of Arts degree at the University of Texas in June. Nick will be graduating from the law school there at the same time. An August wedding is planned.

Women's Club Meeting

The Woman's Club of Greenbelt will hold its annual meeting Thursday, April 11 at 6 p.m. in the room above the Co-op Supermarket. Please bring a covered dish and place setting; also bring any committee reports.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church



6905 Greenbelt Rd.

Worship Services

8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Sunday School 9:50 A.M.

Weekday Nursery School

9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

Phone 345-5111

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hillside and Crescent Roads - Phone: 474-6171
 April 7 — 11 a.m. Palm Sunday Service and Church School;
 Rev. Ralph E. Weisser, "The Fullness of Christ."
 — 6 p.m. Reception to honor the Rev. and Mrs. Weisser.
 Covered dish supper

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, Md. 474-9410
 Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham, Pastor 474-3381
 Palm Sunday Sermon: "Journey into Jerusalem"
 Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
 Young Adult Fellowship - 6:30 p.m.
 (Nursery through Kindergarten 11:00 A.M.)
 Church School (Nursery through Adults) 9:30 A.M.

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent & Greenhill Rds. Telephone: 474-4040
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Church Training 6:00 p.m.
 Rev. James O. Duncan
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
 Ride our buses to Sunday School and Morning Worship
 Office hours: 9:30 - 1:30 Monday - Friday

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Notice of Charter Amendment

On March 18, 1974, the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, adopted Charter Amendment Resolution Number 1974-1, and the following Title of the Resolution is a fair summary of the amendment:

Charter Amendment Resolution Number 1974-1

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE 11E OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE 23A OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1957 EDITION AS AMENDED) TITLE, "CORPORATION-MUNICIPAL", SUBTITLE, "HOME RULE", TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND, SAID CHARTER BEING SUBTITLE 40 OF ARTICLE 17 OF THE CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS OF MARYLAND (1963 EDITION AS AMENDED) AND CONTAINING IN WHOLE OR IN PART THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, BY AMENDING SECTION 40, TITLE "PURCHASES" TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH EXPENDITURES FOR SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, CITY IMPROVEMENTS, OR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES — EXCEPT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES — SHALL BE MADE ON WRITTEN CONTRACT WHICH SHALL BE AWARDED BY THE COUNCIL ON THE BASIS OF COMPETITIVE BIDS EXCEPT WHEN OTHERWISE PROVIDED, FROM ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

The above amendment shall become and be considered a part of the Charter of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, according to the terms of the amendment, in all respects to be effective and observed as such, upon the 7th day of May, 1974, unless on or before the fortieth day after passage, which shall be the 27th day of April, 1974, there shall be presented to the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, or mailed to it by registered mail, a petition for referendum signed by twenty percent or more of the persons qualified to vote in the general election of the City of Greenbelt, requesting that the above Charter Amendment be submitted to referendum to the voters of the City of Greenbelt.

A copy of the above Charter Amendment Resolution is posted in the Greenbelt Municipal Building in accordance with the requirements of Section 13(d) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and may be obtained from the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland, Telephone 474-8003.

James K. Giese, City Manager

Greenbelt Grab-bag

by Punchin' Judy

The other day I went to visit my great-aunt Matilda. I was happy to find the old dear as spry as ever.

"How nice to see you, honey," she said, lowering the volume of the rock music on her stereo. Aunt Mattie prides herself on keeping up with the times, so I brought up some subjects of current interest.

"Aunt Mattie," I said, "There's a lot of talk about exorcism lately. What do you think of it?"

"Well," she answered, "That's something I've always been interested in myself. In fact if I do say so, I'm still pretty good at it even now."

"You're kidding," I gasped. "I didn't know you were ever involved in anything like that!"

"Why sure, dear, I used to watch that exorcist man on TV all the time, and do it right along with him, too."

"Really?" I asked, puzzled. "I don't think I remember anyone like that."

She chuckled. "I guess my memory is better than yours, old as I am. I even remember his name - Jack LaLanne - and I'm still doing his exercises. Really helps my arthritis, too."

I decided it was time to change the subject. "What do you think of streaking?" I asked.

To my surprise, she blushed. "I've never told anyone before," she whispered. "But I used to do it myself."

"Aunt Mattie," I said in a shocked voice. "You didn't."

She answered somewhat defensively, "Well, I was much younger of course. And I stopped when your Uncle Josiah found out."

"Was that out in the country, Auntie?" I asked.

"Nope, right in town. And I was a fine figure of a girl, too, or at least that's what they used to say."

"Tell me all about it," I begged.

"Oh, it was easy," she answered. "All I did was to take a strand of hair right in the middle of my head and put some peroxide on it. It made a really beautiful streak, but don't you ever tell on me. I've always been known as a respectable woman."

I promised faithfully, and took my leave. There had been a couple of other subjects I wanted to discuss with her, but I felt my nerves had had enough shocks for one day.

Cities May Acquire Surplus ARC Acres

Two tracts of land at the southern tip of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center are available for local acquisition, according to Congressman Larry Hogan (R-Md.) Eleven acres, just inside the Beltway on both sides of the B&O Railroad, will be sought by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, in conjunction with the cities of College Park and Greenbelt.

Upon being advised by the Congressman that General Services Administration was declaring the site surplus this week, the College Park Council endorsed efforts by Park and Planning to acquire the nine acres on the western side of the tracks, since both the City and the Commission "have the same objective - retaining green space in this area."

Greenbelt officials advised Rep. Hogan that they have a "definite interest" in the remaining two acres on the eastern side of the B&O and would meet soon to consider the matter.

Congressman Hogan declared he will "support these local efforts to acquire this prime acreage, which will be particularly beneficial to College Park as a parkland buffer between an adjacent school and the Beltway."

Recreation Review

Kite Flying Contest

The kite flying contest has been rescheduled for Sat., April 6, 2-4 p.m. on Braden Field. The rain date will be Sun., April 7 2-4 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Mon., April 15 at 9 a.m. sharp, at the Greenbelt Lake Park. This event is open to pre-school through 6th graders.

Gym Reminder

Repairs on the Youth Center Gym are still in progress. So gym activities are postponed until further notice. The lounge is open as usual.

Community Church News

Palm Sunday (April 7) will be observed at the Community Church with a communion service at 11 a.m. The Rev. Ralph E. Weisser will preach on "The Fullness of Christ."

Mr. Weisser will also give the sermon on Maundy Thursday (April 11) at a joint communion service to be held at 8 pm. at Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church.

The Lenten Bible study group led by Mr. Weisser, which meets on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. will hold its last session on April 10.

The Rev. and Mrs. Ralph E. Weisser will be honored at a reception at 6 pm. on Sunday, April 7, in the social hall of Community Church. The reception will be followed by a covered-dish supper. Mr. Weisser, who has served as pastor since last summer on an interim basis, will deliver his farewell sermon on Easter Sunday.

Clothing-X-Change

"Got a closet full of boots your children can't fit into anymore? or children's clothes still perfectly good, but too small?"

Two Greenbelters have started a Clothing-X-Change that will solve all of these questions. Beverly Haines (345-4792) and Pamela Stark (474-7307) are providing the impetus and the place to store the clothes.

Anyone who wants to join in the X-Change may bring and/or take clothing according to his need. Mrs. Haines does stress that items should be clean and in good repair. She hopes that many people will want to take advantage of the X-Change - both to clean out of their attics those things no longer used and to obtain the right sized needed items.

No money will be involved in the transactions, the X-Change is free. Anyone taking items should also contribute, but that is not a requirement. Mrs. Haines is more interested in getting the project actively underway. She reports they

BETHUNE PTSA

On Tues., April 9, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a meeting of the Mary Bethune Jr. High School PTSA. The meeting will include a gymnastics show by the school gymnastics club and a bake sale.

ARC SLIDE SHOW ON MASTER PLAN

The Prince Georges Environment Coalition will sponsor an illustrated talk about the master plan which is being prepared for the Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville. Pending land use decisions include disposal of 9000 acres in northern Prince Georges County and future utilization of the remaining 2000 acres.

Dr. Paul A. Putnam, Assistant Director of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, will speak and show slide projections on Tues., April 9, at 8 p.m., at the Greenbelt library. Public invited.

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Heating Costs Cause 1973 GHI Deficit

by Al Skolnik

If it weren't for the energy crisis, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. would have finished its 1973 operations in the black. This is the essence of the GHI annual financial statement submitted by comptroller Don McGinn to the board of directors at its March 28 meeting.

Most particularly, because of unexpected fuel oil price rises in the last half of 1973, GHI spent \$41,300 more for fuel oil than it had budgeted for in December 1972. In addition, as the result of the initiation of a fuel conservation program and other heating maintenance problems, the corporation spent \$42,300 more in contract costs than anticipated. Electric costs and other heating items also rose at an unexpected rate.

All in all, heating costs in calendar 1973, including fuel oil, amounted to \$241,700 for the brick homes and \$445,600 for the frame homes, representing increases of \$20,800 and \$81,400, respectively, over the budgeted amounts.

A few other expenditure items showed excesses over the budget but the amounts were not great. The capital improvement loan payments were \$3,300 above because of rising bank interest rates. Trash disposal was up some \$1,300 and fire insurance rates by \$3,000. Structural maintenance costs for the frame homes were some \$8,600 above the budget because of unexpected roof work.

On the plus side, the corporation spent less money than anticipated for a number of items. Real estate taxes were down \$23,400 as the result of a drop in the county tax rate last spring. Water and sewer charges were \$18,200 less than budgeted partly because the scheduled increase of water and sewer rate for July 1, 1973 was postponed several months due to resumption of Federal price controls. Decreases in maintenance costs of \$19,100 and in administrative costs of \$17,200 were attributed in large part to the fact that these departments were not fully staffed during the year.

The net effect of all these minuses and pluses in expenditures was that the corporation expended some \$60,000 more than allowed for in the 1973 budget. At the same time, however, it had an increased income of \$22,800 above the budgeted amount mainly as the result of higher returns from investments, thus cutting the deficit for the year to \$37,200.

In brief, the corporation in 1973 had a total income of \$2,636,800 and disbursements of \$2,674,000 (including amounts set aside for reserves).

CYO Team Registration

All CYO team members in baseball, softball and track must register this Fri. at 4:30 p.m. at St. Hugh's School to get pictures taken for identification cards, pay their fees and turn in completed registration forms. New CYO members will be taken to Hyattsville for registration and I.D. cards.

Cub Scout Pack 1746

by Margaret Rall

Cub Scout Pack #1746 (Dens 1 and 2), held their annual blue and gold dinner on Sunday, Feb. 24 at St. Hugh's. Awards were presented to the following boys: - Bobcat - Michael Jewell, Wolf - Donnie Olverson and Chris Kelly, with a gold and silver arrow to Donnie; Bear - Jeff Hertel and Mike Rall, plus a gold and silver arrow for Mike; Denner Cord - Phillip Puccio.

Bill Hertel and Chris Chieppa were graduated into Boy Scouts from Webelos.

The boys presented an amusing skit entitled "The Tossed Salad". Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this event an outstanding success.

Pack #1746 is urgently in need of a parent to be the Webelos leader. One hour a week in the evening would be required. Call Stella Hertel 474-9383 or Vincent Puccio 474-7604.

Dens 1 and 2 were recently taken on an interesting and informative tour of our Greenbelt Police Department. Many thanks to the Greenbelt Police for their help and also to the Hertels and Puccios for accompanying the boys.

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Stenographer, starting salary to \$6,173.00. Apply to Right of Way District No. 3, 9300 Kenilworth Avenue, Greenbelt, Md. 20770. Phone: 345-7100 x242.

FOR SALE, '69 MUSTANG, standard, radio, Md. Inspected. VG Cond. 345-7049.

FOR SALE: BABY FURNISHINGS, crib, playpen, high chair, etc. Call 345-8705.

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FOR SALE: 2 BEDROOM frame end townhouse, fenced yard, nice appliances. North End school vicinity, call 474-2170.

ATTENTION: NATIONALLY ADVERTISED MaryKay Skin Care and beauty products are now available in this area. For a free complimentary facial or re-orders, Call Nancy. 474-9481.

HUGE NEIGHBORHOOD yard sale: Sat., April 6, from 11 to 5. Rain date — Sun., April 7, 2-S Laurel Hill Rd.

HELP WANTED - Refuse collector - starting \$3.05. Collector-driver starting \$3.32 hr. Fringe benefits. Apply City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Rd. 474-8003.

Rent Control Act Signed by Gullett

Prince Georges County Council, by a 9-1 vote Mar. 26, amended the signed version of the rent control ordinance to ensure tenants of reasonable rent hikes, especially because of capital improvements and utility cost increases. County Executive William W. Gullett signed the measure into law Mar. 29.

Like the original measure, the new law offers landlords an accounting option: either a flat six percent increase covering the period Mar. 1 to Feb. 28, 1975 or a four percent base rent hike plus pass-through costs to tenants for increases in fuel, electricity, water, gas, sewer and property tax rates, and other operating costs. Councilman Samuel W. Bogley voted against the measure. Councilman Winfield M. Kelly abstained from voting and all discussion.

Under the old ordinance, landlords were granted the automatic right to charge each of their tenants up to 1 1/2% of the total cost of improvements to apartment buildings when the improvements cost more than \$500.

The revised measure requires that rent increases based on capital improvements that would raise rents by 10 percent or more must have the prior approval of the executive director of the landlord-tenant commission.

The new law also allows the executive director to up rents above the stated limit if a landlord proves he is losing money on his project or suffering hardship.

Although the amended law allows increases in electricity, fuel, gas, water and sewer and taxes to be passed on to the tenant, it stipulates that increases be calculated over three consecutive comparable months.

For vacant units, rent can be increased in an amount no higher than the highest rent charged for a comparable unit in the building as of the dwelling rental date. That provision erases a previous one allowing a landlord to increase a vacant unit's rent in an amount no more than eight percent of the highest rent charged for a comparable unit.

In all cases, action cannot be taken until all tenants are notified. Provision is made for a hearing before the commission if tenants ask for one.

RIDE WANTED - vicinity 17th & K Streets, N.W., Wash., D.C. Working hours: 9-5:30. Will share expenses 474-5246.

HELP WANTED - Crew man IV - Parks crew and General crew starting \$3.32 hr. Fringe benefits. Apply City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Rd., 474-8003.

SALE - Boy's 26" bike. Like new. Call Ann Marie - 345-9513.

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WANTED: HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR for counter clerk at Beltway Plaza. Afternoons and Evenings. Call Mr. Gross, 588-0557.

FOUND last week, child's prescription glasses — octagon shape, gold metal frame at bottom of Lastner Lane 345-1434.

Ride - A Bike For the Retarded

Mayor Pilski has been named honorary chairman of the Ride-A-Bike for the Retarded to be held in Greenbelt on Sun., April 21, and will open the trail at the Youth Center at 1 p.m. The trail through the city and into the Research Center is approximately 10 miles long and can be repeated or shortened as each rider wishes. Monies collected through sponsors of the bikers will be directed to the Prince Georges County Association for Retarded Citizens (PG-ARC) in support of their programs. Other cities in the county will host similar trails.

The City Recreation Department, Police Department and Joggers Club are assisting with arrangements. Banners carrying names of organizations and businesses within the city providing or sponsoring riders will be available the day of the ride. Family and club groups are encouraged to pack a picnic lunch to complete the outing. Rain date is the following Sun.

Sponsor sheets and other information are available from the Greenbelt Chairman, Eileen Labukas (474-9486); Joggers' Chairman, Larry Noel (474-9362); or from the Recreation Department (474-6878).

Voter Registration by Mail

Prince Georges County has become one of the very few jurisdictions in the area to offer voter registration by mail.

Request forms for voter registration applications are available in the library as well as the city offices. These forms should be mailed to the county courthouse and the registration form will be mailed to the voter. Voters may also call a special 24-hour phone line, 627-2814 or 15, and leave their name, address, post office, zip code and phone number. A voter registration form will be mailed within 5 days.

Science Fair Winners

Ellen Kessler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kessler, Woodland Way, was grand prize winner in the area high school science fair held at Cole Field House, University of Md., last weekend.

Seven Greenbelters were awarded prizes in Parkdale's science fair which was held March 2 and 3. Ellen Kessler's "Mathematic Probability in Music" won first in Math, first grand prize and best female presentation. "How High Pressure Affects Plants" won second in Botany for Carolyn Kolbe. George Beauchamp received a third in Botany for his project "Varying Combustion Rates of Wood". Jared Freeman's "Basic Bacterial Conjugation", won an honorable mention in Botany. Karen Goldstein received a third in Environmental and Space Science for her project "Clear, Clean Water?". Bernard Penny's "The Electric Arc" won second prize in Physics and third grand prize. Carl Bender won a participation award for his project "PH and its effects on Plants".

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Our Neighbors

by Elaine Skolnik - 474-6060

Michael D. Cunningham has been named to the Dean's list for the first semester at Salisbury State College.

Steven Hooper, of Greenbelt, has recently completed a one week course on 3M's microfilm equipment at the 3M Company graphic systems training center in St. Paul, Minn. Hooper is a service representative for 3M Business Products Sales Inc.

Greenbelter Tom Paskalides, supervisor of Prince Georges Public Schools' physical education program for boys, is attending a special session of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation in Anaheim, California. Paskalides looks towards the improvement of school programs and hopes that there will be greater emphasis in attaining equality of sports programs for girls. He also feels that instruction should be individualized and programs must serve 100% of our children — the gifted and the handicapped, as well as the so-called normal child.

Harry Richardson, art teacher at Parkdale, will be featured in a one-man exhibit at the Shop of Art in Phoenix, Arizona, this month. Richardson's paintings have been exhibited in several galleries in the Washington area and his paintings are in the collections of Andy Griffith and Senators Fred Harris of Oklahoma and Edmund Muskie of Maine.

Sue Lange visited her parents in North Carolina the last week in March. Sue's father is recovering from major surgery.

Conditions Set Down For Boating Permits

With the coming of spring Greenbelt residents are reminded to obtain permits before boating on Greenbelt Lake. Last year's permits expired April 1 and must be renewed. Residents may go to the police desk Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., fill out an application, pay a small fee and receive an official number which must then be displayed on the craft. This permit may be renewed yearly. As long as the applicant remains a resident, there is no further fee.

Permits are issued only to Greenbelt residents. Boats must be less than 16 feet in length and must float if capsized. No motors are allowed on the Lake except the one used by the concessionaire for safety purposes. Each boat must be kept in safe condition and must be operated in a safe and proper manner.

A detailed list of boating regulations will be issued to boat owners along with the permit.



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History of Fire Dept., Rescue Squad

(Excerpts of reminiscences compiled by Michael Kerr on the occasion of the annual banquet of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad).

As it is with many great organizations, the origin of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. was a humble one. In 1946, when Greenbelt was around ten years old, a group of its young citizens decided that there was a dire need for ambulance service in this fast growing community. Up until this time the closest ambulance had to come from the already established Branchville Rescue Squad. This might not seem too critical now, but back then Greenbelt Road and Edmonston, which was later replaced in part, with Kenilworth Avenue, were just glorified horse paths with many holes and curves that did not make for rapid response. In the latter part of October 1946, these young men formed an organization to create the Greenbelt Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. The meetings were held weekly in members' homes.

The first by-laws of the organization were based on the by-laws of the Brentwood Rescue Squad. The Brentwood department was also helpful in setting up operational procedures for our fledgling department. In November of 1946, an ambulance was purchased from Brentwood. This ambulance, a 1936 Buick, was to be purchased for \$825.00; \$400 down and the remainder to be paid prior to the end of May 1947. Since there were little or no funds in the new treasury, three members: Richard Gray, Dick Bates and Werner Steinle, donated their own money to make up the downpayment. Later, in the 1950's, this money was paid back to them.

Early Minutes

It was decided during the early meetings that a membership fee of one dollar was to be charged. This practice was dropped in the 1960's. Money! This problem which plagues us even today, was critical during those early years. From its inception until it was incorporated with the fire department in 1955, no tax money was received. The minutes of these early meetings are full of requests for money to buy equipment, repair the quarters or fix the ambulance. This money was raised in numerous ingenious ways. There were canvasses of the town; circuses were brought in; puppet shows were held; music shows were also tried. In one set of minutes there is reference to a radio quiz show called "Strike It Rich". They hoped to be able to raise enough money so that they wouldn't be forced to take out a loan. There is no further reference to the show, so I assume that they didn't go through with their plans. Bingo was first held in May of 1948, with each member donating fifty cents to buy refreshments to sell. In one instance, a dance was held for a total profit of \$20.10!

In July of 1947, three garages were obtained from the Federal Public Housing Authority. Most of the necessary work to turn the garages into adequate quarters for the squad was done by the members themselves, with funds that were either their own or were raised by them.

The first chief of the rescue squad was Werner C. Steinle, who served in that position from November of 1946, until the end of 1948. At this time, Earl Hampton was elected as chief, a position that he held continuously until December of 1951, when Marshall H. Zoellner was elected to the position. It is interesting to note that, of the first three chiefs, two are still living in Greenbelt and one, M. H. Zoellner, is still a member in the department - from whom we benefit, from time to time, from his many years of experience in the problems of running our organization.

At first, to become a member, a person had to be 21 years of age. However it soon became evident that, in order to attract more people, the age would have to be lowered. Consequently, in February of 1947, the age requirement was lowered to 16. This brought in such new members as Jack Snoddy, J. Paul Williams and several others.

The chief of the rescue squad was both the head operations officer and the head of the administration until March of 1954. At the January meeting of that year Marshall Zoellner proposed a by-

laws change that would add the offices of President and Vice-President. This proposal was passed at the March meeting and, at that meeting, Mr. Zoellner became the first President of the Greenbelt Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. Tom Snoddy was elected to the position of Vice-President.

In February of 1953 there was a proposal to start a ladies auxiliary. The minutes of that period are not too clear, but sometime between February and May of that year, the Ladies Auxiliary was formed.

It was also around this time that the property where the firehouse now stands was considered



Greenbelt Rescue Squad, pictured in June 1949, included from left to right: Molton Laiken, Fred Zoellner, Earl Hampton, Chief; Jack Snoddy, Jim Williams, Dave Middlecoff, and Richard Bates.

for new quarters for the rescue squad. A site was also being considered on Southway Rd., near the National Guard Armory. This property was later found unattainable due to technical complications with the State.

Fire Department

Prior to 1955, the town of Greenbelt was protected by a fire department that operated on a paid-call system. In this system the men who responded were paid by the number of calls they ran - around seventy-five cents a call. The siren was still blown, just as it is now, and many of the men who were in the rescue squad were also in the fire department.

The city offered to turn over the two fire trucks that were in use at that time, if the men would form a volunteer fire department. At a special meeting on January 19, 1955, the membership voted to incorporate with the fire department, to be known as the GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. The city sold the two fire trucks to the new department for one dollar each.

While compiling this history I came across a number of items that seem extremely funny now; however I'm sure they were done in all seriousness then. I would like to relate a couple of them here.

In the early rescue squad the men were divided into crews for every night of the week. There were no radios then and the police had to call the men at home when they were needed for a call. Bud Zoellner says that when he first moved to Gardenway, there was a period of about a month when he had no telephone. He remembers that, on several occasions, the police department had to send a car by his house and the officer had to beat on his door to wake him up to go on the call!

In December of 1950, the Town Council voted to make payment the sum of twelve hundred dollars to the rescue squad for services rendered to the Town of Greenbelt. There was a stipulation, however, that the department would have to wait until the town could afford the payment.

Running Areas

Running areas were rather large back in the old days. The first-due area of the Greenbelt ambulance included all of the following: Edmonston Road (which used to run

off Crescent Road) all the way out to Good Luck Road; the Baltimore-Washington Parkway all the way to Route 50. Second-due area included Metzert Road to 5th Street; and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway from Route 50 to Laurel! The fire department was also to run all 9-1's.

A few of you old timers might remember when there were street alarm pull boxes here in town. Well, in one set of minutes it says that a youngster was caught while pulling a false alarm and that his parents were fined over two hundred dollars! That's a considerable sum even today. Back then it was staggering.

In March of 1955, the fire department responded on six calls, while the rescue squad went on twenty-four calls. In February of 1974, the Fire Department responded on forty-six alarms and the ambulances went out fifty-seven times. Quite a contrast!

This concludes the early years of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. Needless to say, as the years went on, our department continued to grow and gain respect in our com-

munity and throughout the entire area. As with life in general today, it seems that things are much more complicated now. We now have our paid force to supplement us. Yes, things are much different today. Gone are the days of circuses; Ferlin Husky Shows at the theater; dances with a profit of twenty dollars. Also gone is the excitement of driving through town in the U-Truck with George Moore (one of the biggest junior members we've ever had) beating me soundly about the head and shoulders, while I tried to announce over the P.A. system; "March is Ambulance Club month. Without your help we cannot operate..."

Tribute to Dutton

Before I end this nostalgic stroll thru yesterday, there is one man whom I must recognize. If it weren't for this man, many of us who are in the department today wouldn't be here. As a matter of fact, one of us wouldn't even be on this earth! People such as: myself, Skip Bingham, Mike Dutton, Randy Mangum, Bill Holland, Billy Parrish, Cliff Bords and Kenny Stair, certainly owe a lot to this man. When he was chief he had the original idea for a Junior Fireman's Club - now known as the Junior Associates. He saw that we wanted to help, but we were too young to become regular members. Many members at that time didn't want any more youngsters running around, but he thought we deserved a chance and he fought for us. He gave us a place to hang out; he kept many of us from becoming juvenile delinquents or "Center Bums". Without this man, many of us wouldn't be professional firemen today, including his own son. If you haven't guessed by now, I'm talking about Walter V. Dutton. I don't think I've ever thanked him before, so I'm taking this opportunity to publicly thank him for all of us who owe him so much.

County School News

Superintendent Carl W. Hassel has installed a special "Action Line" telephone in the Office of Information. The action line telephone number is 627-2030. The superintendent wants suggestions and ideas relating to curriculum, budget and other school matters from the thousands of citizens whose tax dollars support the educational system and whose children attend schools in the county.

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