

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 37, Number 49

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, October 24, 1974

GHI Board Members Size Up Progress

by Miriam Cornelius

In a brief meeting Oct. 10 the board of directors of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., heard noncontroversial reports from the manager on the tax appeal hearing and the burner valve program. Board members reported on the NASA-GHI solar energy project and the termite inspection plan, and also on staffing recommendations which will be made by the personnel committee.

Tax appeal hearing. The GHI manager, Roy Breashears, reported that he appeared before the state appeals board to request reconsideration of the proposed increase of more than \$3 million in the GHI assessment. As soon as he had presented his case the hearing was recessed, with Dec. 11 set as the continuation date. Breashears said he was told that the appeals board has received some 1200 appeals this year — far more than in previous years. He also heard that another reassessment of GHI property is pending.

Burner valves. Breashears noted progress on the burner valve program. He said that the most urgent needs are being handled first, at the rate of about 4 a day.

Solar energy project. Director Hugh O'Donnell described an experiment planned by the NASA-GHI solar energy project. This will consist of studying a sample of 16 masonry homes, he said, to measure the value of heat retention improvements. Half of the sample units will be modified, with fully insulated doors and windows; the other half will be left unmodified. Instruments to measure performance will be installed in all 16 units in order to provide a basis for comparison. The resulting data will be analyzed and published. No frame units can be included in this experiment, O'Donnell pointed out, because solar energy heating is based on hot water, not steam heat.

Staffing recommendations. Director Ted Byerly reported that the personnel committee had met and that it intends to recommend a cost-of-living increase for regular full-time employees of GHI which would add some \$40,000 to the 1975 budget. (From the floor, Nat Shinderman urged that regular part-time employees should be included, and this was conceded by Byerly.) The board voted to accept the committee report for recommendation to the finance committee.

Byerly then turned to the personnel committee's proposals for staffing. He noted the temporary allocation of two persons from maintenance to heating, an allocation which the personnel committee would make permanent. The committee will also recommend, Byerly said, the addition of ten newly funded full-time positions. Five, assigned highest priority by the committee, would be a heating mechanic helper, a plumber helper, two carpenter helpers, and a storekeeper. Among the other new positions recommended, but with lower priority, are two grounds helpers.

The board voted to receive the personnel committee's report and refer it to the finance committee for consideration by the board at a budget hearing. Breashears commented that management would have its own staffing recommendations — and its own priorities — to place before the finance committee.

Termite inspection. O'Donnell stated that a team of three persons has been recruited to inspect the crawl spaces for termites at an estimated cost of \$9 per crawl space. The plan is, he said, to mark termite damage spots, and also water pockets, on diagrams which his committee has prepared.

Parkdale Choirs Yard Sale

On Sat., Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. a yard sale will be held at Beltway Plaza for the benefit of the Parkdale High School Concert Choir, Handbell Choir and Chorale's concert and educational trips. The community's support will be greatly appreciated.

Candidates Night

A Candidate's Night sponsored by the Greenbelt Jaycees will be held on Tues., Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Youth Center (multi-purpose room in new addition). Twenty-one county council candidates will speak briefly and a question and answer period will follow. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

Weary WSSC Finally Agrees to Operate Greenbriar Plant

by Elaine Skolnik

The wearing effects of the Greenbriar sewage treatment plant controversy were showing at the Wednesday, October 16 meeting of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). Chairman Lawrence Brooks tried to limit discussion to commission members only, but soon had to back down when it was learned that the only line of communication between WSSC and NASA was the Greenbriar developer Alan Kay and his attorney Richard Schifter. NASA had to grant an easement across its land if effluent from the plant was to be discharged into a free-flowing stream.

Once the breach was made, Commissioner David Elliott insisted that Prince George's Environment Coalition representative Rhea Cohen be given equal time. She was immediately challenged by Brooks who wanted to know the composition of the Coalition. He reminded her that she had ignored a similar earlier inquiry. Mrs. Cohen retorted that the Coalition's attorney had advised her that the request was unconstitutional, since it was a request for information about private citizens.

At stake was the question whether the conditions laid down by WSSC for acceptance of the treatment plant at WSSC's October 9 meeting had been met. These conditions were that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) confirm that the plant may operate, that WSSC staff was prepared to operate the plant at all times so as to achieve maximum performance, and that the NASA easement is received and the effluent piping is completed.

A letter was produced from the legal branch of EPA certifying that the plant has a valid permit to discharge, and that the EPA conditions contested by WSSC can be disregarded pending the outcome of the adjudicatory hearing. WSSC staff advised that electrical and related problems have been resolved, water and sewer mains completed, virus control apparatus serviceable, and letters of credit and other paper work needed from Kay have been received.

As for the NASA easement, Schifter reported that NASA is awaiting a statement from WSSC that it has authorized its staff to operate the plant at all times so as to achieve maximum performance.

Commissioner Johanna Norris then moved that WSSC Director of Operations and Research Alfred Machis be directed to write the necessary letter to NASA. She also moved that WSSC not only accept the plant but also operate it as soon as the easement is granted and the pipeline completed to the satisfaction of the WSSC staff. ("A matter of days," said Kay.)

"We have procrastinated long enough," Mrs. Norris said. "People who are waiting to move in are living under strained conditions, and additional costs caused by delays will be handed down to them." The motion carried on a 3-2 vote with Norris, Brooks, and Dean Hill in favor and George McCrory and Elliott against. Commissioner Floyd Peterson was absent.

McCrory, while sympathetic to the hardships of those living in motels, said, "I did not concur in bringing these conditions about." His position was that WSSC should not go beyond accepting the plant until all legal questions are settled.

Elliott wanted to know what would happen if WSSC is operating the plant and then EPA insists upon its requirement of a

Greenbriar Gets License, First Residents Move In

by Elaine Skolnik

The frenzied activity that took place at Greenbriar over the weekend culminated on Tuesday when Greenbelt's newest residents moved into the 1,193-unit condominium development. Some 27 families are expected to move in this week followed by about 75 families within the next month and a half. Nine buildings — about 135 apartment units — have been approved for occupancy by the County Department of Licenses and Permits (DLP).

The wheels were set in motion for this final chapter at the Oct. 16 meeting of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) when the commission agreed to operate the plant as soon as NASA fully executed the easement agreement and the 150' pipeline was completed to WSSC's satisfaction. (See accompanying story).

This move by WSSC triggered off a chain of events that led to Tuesday's opening of Greenbriar.

NASA Conditions

Satisfied that WSSC would operate the plant at all times so as to achieve its maximum performance and that EPA would allow operation of the plant during the adjudicatory process, NASA, on Friday, October 18, signed the easement agreement. Two conditions were imposed: (1) developer will restore the land where the piping was installed and (2) developer

will disassemble plant, as soon as it becomes practical, after the project is hooked up to public sewer. Bonds were required to assure these conditions.

With NASA's okay in hand, the construction of the pipeline began and was completed last weekend. This signalled the next phase — a series of inspections of the plant and its pipeline by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, State Department of Water Resources and WSSC. On Monday, after the "count-down" for the plant was completed and the facility was given a "clean bill of health", the Department of Licenses and Permits entered the scene. Its role was to make sure that all the appropriate inspection departments had given approval before issuance of a use and occupancy permit.

Late last Monday all of this was accomplished. Prior to 1970, this would have been enough to allow occupancy of a development, but a new law passed at that time required an additional walk-through inspection known as a quality control check.

Early Tuesday morning, inspectors from the housing division of DLP performed this process, verifying that all necessary permits were approved and that the development was habitable (appliances and fixtures in place and operative, electricity working, trash cans in place, water and sewer service available etc.). They issued the final license that permitted occupancy of the apartments.

"Bach To Rock" Concert

The award-winning instrumental groups of Parkdale Senior High School will present their first concert of the year in the multipurpose room of the school on Oct. 25, at 8 p.m. All three instrumental groups—orchestra, concert band, and symphonic band—are scheduled to perform in the presentation of music from "Bach to Rock." There will be a fee.

Berwyn Choir "In Concert"

Berwyn United Presbyterian Church will present its senior choir "In Concert" on Sat., Oct. 26, at 8 p.m. in the Church's Fellowship Hall, 6301 Greenbelt Rd. Greenbelters in the choir are Edna White, Jeff Chapman, Betty Hughes, Debbie Hibbs and Kay Ginader.

There is an admission charge. Proceeds will go toward new robes.

WHAT GOES ON

- Thurs., Oct. 24, 7:45 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Pl.
- Fri., Oct. 25, 8 p.m., Duplicate Bridge, Youth Center
- Sat., Oct. 26, 2-5 p.m., Halloween Party, Greenbelt Nat'l Park, Sweetgum Picnic Area. (Raindate, Sunday).
- Sun., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Duplicate Bridge, Springhill Lake Community House.
- Wed., Oct. 30, 7-9 p.m., UNICEF Collection
- Thurs., Oct. 31, 4:30-5:45 p.m., Halloween Costume Parade and Judging, Youth Center Gym.
- 6-8 p.m., 'Trick or Treat' night 7-9 p.m., Drop-In Party, Ridge Rd. Center

CARES Clothing Exchange

Beginning Mon., Oct. 28, Greenbelt CARES Youth Services Bureau will operate a clothing exchange for all Greenbelt residents. Each Mon. 7 to 9 p.m. — residents may exchange an article of clothing for an article of clothing from the exchange rack.

NOTICE GHI MEMBERS

Information Meetings On 1975 Budget

(PRESENTED IN TWO PARTS)

PART I: Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m.

City Council Room

PART II: Wednesday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

Library, Downstairs Room

FOR RIDES CALL 474-5566

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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Cable TV Advisory Comm. Reports to the Community

This is the second in a series of three articles dealing with the advisability of cable television in Greenbelt. These articles, prepared by the Greenbelt Cable Television Advisory Committee, are intended to inform residents on this subject of Cable TV in preparation for an opinion survey which will be distributed in a location adjacent to the polls on election day, Nov. 5, 1974.

Cable television is more than just a concept today in many metropolitan cities. Large cities like New York and Philadelphia have had cable systems for several years.

In this immediate area, cable television can be found in Hagerstown, Md., Ocean City, Md., and Reston, Va. Although cable provides other possibilities, its first advantage lies in the fact that it enables locations which cannot receive ordinary TV transmission to avail themselves of the technology of television broadcasts. In these areas, improved reception has been the primary concern.

In Maryland bills proposing State control of Cable TV have twice been introduced into the Maryland legislature. However, passage of such legislation has not been achieved. In the meantime, some municipalities within the state have acted on their own. College Park, for example, is in the process of looking at possible franchises for a system in that city. Bowie, on the other hand, has temporarily rejected the option of adopting a cable system.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments has commissioned a study stressing compatibility and interconnection among all jurisdictions.

Here in Prince Georges county a commission on Cable TV was established in 1972. After preliminary investigation, this committee recommended that a professional study be undertaken to determine the possibilities for cable in Prince Georges county. The Checci Corporation, which was selected to do the study, made the following recommendations which may have some bearing on the situation in Greenbelt:

"No municipality in Prince Georges County could support a profitable Cable TV system in itself".

Instead the report suggested that combining municipalities into eight districts would be the more sensible approach. According to the report the provision of CATV services would be feasible in the district comprising Hyattsville, College Park, and Greenbelt.

Furthermore, recommendations for action posed by the Checci report pointed out:

The designated organization (the County office) must bring together representatives of the County, the incorporated municipalities, and appropriate technical specialists to formulate a common approach to CATV development and make agreements reflecting that approach.

So far the county has specified the Director of Communications, Harold Rodenhause, to provide the continuity in carrying forward the county CATV commission's work.

While the Checci Report contains useful demographic information, it should be noted, that it is merely advisory. Municipalities within P.G. county may act on their own discretion, independent of the report's recommendations. So far there has not been a hearing on the report at the county level nor any definitive

statement from county officials on the future of Cable TV in Prince Georges county.

As far as the City of Greenbelt is concerned the city charter provides sufficient authority for the city to award a cable franchise. The State could preempt this charter provision only by enacting a State wide Cable TV law.

Education Week

"American Education Week will run from Tues., Oct. 29 to Fri., Nov. 1. Parents are invited to visit their children's schools.

Open House at North End School will be held Wed., all day.

"Stay Involved" is the theme of Center school's open house which will be held on Wed., Oct. 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children are making invitations which will be brought home to parents on Fri.

Scouts Need Organizer

Girl Scouts of Greenbelt need help - a troop organizer is desperately needed. Also a Brownie leader is needed. Won't someone please help? To volunteer help or information, call Alice Longood 345-1198.

Editorial Rebuttal

To the Editor:

The statement in your October 17 editorial that I have tried hard to have good relations with the citizens of Greenbelt is certainly correct. I have tried diligently to adhere to all promises made to the city of Greenbelt, not only legally, but ethically and morally as well. I initially said that Greenbriar would be a benefit to the city, and it is my hope that now that Greenbriar is at long last open for occupancy, it will not only prove to be a major asset to the city, but to the county as well.

I am hopeful, too, that the citizens of Greenbelt will understand my reason for filing a lawsuit which is now pending. I do not feel that every public official must agree with me or that he must exercise his discretion in my favor. However, if I conclude that a public official consistently and persistently exceeds his authority to deprive me of my legal rights, I have no choice but to look to the courts for redress. You state that the courts should be used only "when other means are not available to secure redress or a fair hearing." I agree. That is precisely the situation in which I found myself.

The issue raised by the lawsuit is the issue of the abuse of power by a public official. At a WSSC meeting long prior to the filing of the lawsuit, we publicly asked this Commissioner to refrain from voting on all matters concerning Greenbriar because of his obvious bias and prejudice. He not only refused to disqualify himself at that point, he continued the actions which we considered to be unfair, unethical, and illegal. I believe everyone will agree that there are certain bounds within which a public official must conduct himself, and when a public official, because of bias and prejudice, exceeds those bounds, then the courts must decide the legality of such matters and not the media.

I firmly believe that once the citizens of Greenbelt have familiarized themselves with the case, they will recognize that it will not in any way jeopardize the established relationship between the city of Greenbelt and the Greenbriar community.

Alan I. Kay

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

A laity Sunday Service which will be different, will be presented by the Young Adults, on Oct. 27 at 11 a.m.

On Wed., Oct. 30 from 7-9 p.m., the church school will be having its annual Halloween party and trick or treating for UNICEF.

Boys and Girls Club

by Fred Ford

Basketball Sign-Up - Be at the Youth Center Sat., Oct. 26 1 to 3 p.m. to sign-up for the basketball season. Call Fred Ford, 474-8343, to get details. Coaches needed.

BARN DANCE

Sat., Oct. 26 - 8:30 p.m.
\$3.00 a person

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Sun., Oct. 27, 11 a.m. Worship Service with Rev. Edwin Murry,
- Church School (nursery to junior high)
5 p.m. Covered dish supper honoring the Rev. Kieth Wright
and his family.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, Md. 474-9410
Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham, Pastor 474-3381

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

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Bicentennial Committee
COG Citizens Advisory Committees
for
Public Safety Policy Committee
and
Land Use Policy Committee

Resumes may be submitted to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, and inquiries may be made by calling 474-8003.

Gudrun H. Mills, City Clerk

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There is no charge for advertising items that are found.

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HARD TIMES STORE OPENING, Oct. 26-27, 10-6, 2-D Northway, Greenbelt, Md. Second Hand Rose is selling those second hand clothes. Rain date - next clear Sat. and/or Sun. Call 474-7086 or 345-7438 between 5 & 7 for information.

MOVING - MUST SELL: SEARS 19" Color TV with stand. Both 7 months old with 5 months left on complete warranty. Asking \$350. Call 474-0054.

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LOST: Large black altered male cat with white marking in vicinity of Laurel Hill Road. Needs daily medication for cystitis. **REWARD 474-2940.**

FOR SALE 1967 FORD WAGON, running condition. \$125 or best offer. 345-1458.

GIVE AWAY Two Guinea Pigs with cage. 345-1458.

WANTED: 2-bedroom apartment Nov. & Dec. Greenbelt. Teacher & son, 322-1444.

YARD SALE: 10-X Southway, Saturday, October 26, 10-4. Baby items, clothes, toys, etc.

SHAZAM!! IT'S LIKE MAGIC! Win free jewelry by having a Sarah Coventry party. For details, call Gloria Ruddle, 345-7174.

SITTER WANTED: Occasional or permanent for kindergartner 12-5. Call 474-2605.

FOUND: DOG. In Beltway Plaza. Call to identify. 474-5790.

GIVEAWAYS: Two black cats. 474-5790.

FOR SALE: Two wheels for your snow tires. H 78:15 (8:55:15), \$20.00. 474-7951.

LOST: Gold Wedding Band. 474-5351.

FOR SALE: '74 Honda 360 backrest, carrier, cover & 2 helmets. Call 474-0825.

BEAUTIFUL MIXED SHEPHERD PUPPIES: 6 males and 1 female, all wormed. Come and see them. Cost \$5.00. Call 345-6490.

DUTCHMAID PARTY: Irene Hensel's home, 6 Orange Court, Friday evening, October 25th, 9 o'clock. Public invited. 345-8630.

YAMAHA '71 125 Enduro. Just rebuilt. \$223 work. Selling \$600. Will bargain. 474-2115.

12-YEAR-OLD BOY willing to do miscellaneous jobs. Call 345-8630.

NEEDED: Qualified tutor to teach beginning geometry to teenager. Call 937-4141 between 8 and 6.

HOLIDAY GIFTS MADE TO ORDER. Hand-crafted leather items (bracelets, rings, key fobs, bookmarks, etc.) and wood-burned pieces designed & painted (cutting boards, plaques, etc.) 345-3945.

SUPER YARD SALE: Skis, skates, tent, bike, highchair, stroller, cribs, playpen, stereo, records, lamps, fans, household items, toys, and lots more. Sat., Oct. 26, 10-1. 65-C Ridge.

LOST: Two staple guns. Election day. North End School. 474-4581.

FOUND: 3 or 4 months old gray female Persian kitten on Greenbelt Rd. Contact Police Dept. 474-5454.

FREE: Young female trained gray cat. 474-5408.

IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS HELP in reading or math. Leisure Learning Center - Beltway Plaza - 474-1200.

SITTER NEEDED for 2 school-age children. Please call 345-9497 after 6 p.m.

TEENAGE SITTER needed for 1-2 evenings a week. Call 345-9497 after 6.

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Take a look at this very nice two bedroom frame home in the 10 Ct. of Southway - you can walk to the shopping center - lovely surrounding area - house in good condition. Why not check into this one for a **GOOD BUY!**

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Question:

What Kind of Legislation Has Been Sponsored by DELEGATE DAVID GRAY ROSS?

Answer:

"People legislation, designed to meet the needs of his constituents." Some of the fourteen Ross bills which passed the Maryland House of Delegates in 1974 were . . .

- **CREATION OF NEW JUVENILE COURT** - H. B. 892, which died in the Senate, would have created a new, fully State funded, Juvenile Court as a branch of the District Court similar to the one in Montgomery County. The bill would have provided a significant tax savings to the County tax payers.

- **GOVERNOR'S PAY RAISE** - H.B.790 - Question No. 8 on the Referendum, provides for an increase in the Governor's salary from \$25,000 to \$45,000 per annum.

- **TEACHER'S TUITION WAIVER** - H.B. 173 - Permits unemployed teachers, for whom there are no jobs, to fulfill their obligation to teach by teaching in juvenile and correctional institutions and non-public schools.

- **PARK POLICE AUTHORITY DEFINED** - H.B. 1478 - Increases the jurisdiction of the Park Police to permit them to direct traffic on the public highways adjacent to the park lands thereby freeing County police for regular police work.

- **FUNDING OF YOUTH SERVICE BUREAUS** - H.J.R. 62 - Directed the State to fund youth service bureaus such as Greenbelt CARES, Grendel's Grave and BIPPY.

- **PROFESSIONAL STATE'S ATTORNEYS** - H.B.P.G. 22 - Created a retirement system, identical to that for other County employees, for the State's Attorney's office.

"Re-elect ROSS - Performance Not Promises"

Vote Democratic - November 5, 1974

Spellman for Congress, Kelly for Executive

Conroy for Senate

Ross, Devlin & Green for House of Delegates

Bogley, Francois & White for County Council

Ansell for Sheriff

Authority: James J. Aylor, Treasurer

Halloween Hours

All ghosts and goblins, witches and warlocks are invited to participate in Greenbelt's annual Halloween activities Thurs., Oct. 31. Costume parade and judging will be for pre-schoolers thru sixth graders at the Youth Center from 4:30-5:45 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes in the different age categories. There will be prizes and surprises for all participants.

Ridge Road Center will be open, the 31st, to all 'trick or treaters' from 7-9 p.m. for a variety of activities.

'Trick or Treat' hours will be from 6-8 p.m. Thurs., Oct. 31. Residents wishing to participate should turn on porch lights or, for apartments, tie a piece of white cloth on the door knob.

Recreation Review

Holiday Hours

The Youth Center will be open 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and 7 - 10 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 28 for Veterans' Day.

All Skate Costume Party

On Wed., Oct. 30, 4-5:30 p.m., all elementary age youngsters are invited to roller skate at Center School. Skaters wearing costumes will be admitted free. A prize will be given to the person wearing the best costume.

GREENBELTER IN PREMIER

Greenbelt resident Christopher Linstrom will appear in the Washington premier of Bedrich Smetana's comic opera *The Two Widows* (Dve Vdovy). Linstrom will be seen in the role of Tonik. The single performance is at Lisner Auditorium, 21 & H N.W., Sat., Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. For ticket information call 229-6315.

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VOTE DEMOCRATIC

For STATE SENATOR:

Edward T. Conroy

For DELEGATE

Gerard Devlin

Leo Green

David Gray Ross

Authority: E. Diamond, Treas.

KASH'S HOME KOMMENTS

CORNER OF UNIV. BLVD. & RHODE ISLAND AVE.

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IT'S SONNY AND FAIR all the time when you find out you have one of the best built homes in the area. See this 3 BR masonry home with sep. din. rm Buy at this GIVEAWAY PRICE \$15,000.

ALLEN'S ALLEY and right down Kash's alley too is this 4 BR brick College Park home with 18' x 11 jalousied family room. Equipped with W/W carpeting and A/C. Fine big patio, fenced yard and on a QUIET STREET. Reduced to \$35,500 FHA/VA terms. Do YOU KNOW what this means? If you have \$1800 dollars plus closing cost and have a qualifying income you can get into this on FHA terms. Probably within 45 days from date of contract. WHY ARE YOU RENTING AN APARTMENT? **THE "HULL" THING** begins to make sense when you see you can buy this one BR GROUND LEVEL apt. backed up to woods. This is yours if you want to move through the crowd that always wants a one BR Apt. Call 345-2151 for details.

345-2151

DON'T "FLUMBLE" around if you want to buy homes at today's prices. Call now about this 4 BR CAC home in St. Charles County. Big fenced yard (15000 sq. ft.) Almost every amenity is included. Call 345-2151 tonight! Only \$44,500.

"BIRD" WATCHERS This is your "CARDinal" opportunity to buy this 3 BR home with LOTS of WOODS IN BACK. Completely redecorated and remodeled. Just like a model home. If you have been waiting for something of this nature. Here is your opportunity. ONLY \$14,950.

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