

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 41, Number 13

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 16, 1978

## Reactions to New School Study

### Protests Aired at School Bd. Meeting; Public Hearings Set

by Mary Lou Williamson

At its regular meeting in Upper Marlboro on Thursday, Feb. 9, the Prince Georges County Board of Education voted 7-2 to get public reaction to their Demographic Study Alternatives I (Plan 1) and its modified version (Plan 2), thus tossing what could become a hot potato into the laps of county elementary school parents and a few others. (Lesley Kreimer, District 2, and Bonnie Johns, District 6, voted no on the grounds that such hearings will be premature.) Board members appeared anxious to see how that ball would be returned.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Board of Education of Prince Georges County will hold public hearings on the Demographic Study Alternatives I and II on the following dates:

**Tuesday, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m.** — Southern Area Administrative Office Auditorium, (7711 Livingston Rd., Oxon Hill)

**Wed., Mar. 1, 7:30 p.m.** — Largo Senior High School (505 Largo Rd. - Rt. 202)

**Thurs., Mar. 2, 7:30 p.m.** — Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School.

**Mon., Mar. 6, 7:30 p.m.** — Southern Area Office Auditorium.

**Wed., Mar. 8, 7:30 p.m.** — Largo Senior High School.

**Mon., Mar. 13, 7:30 p.m.** — Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School.

Each of the hearings will begin with a staff presentation, followed by public comment. Citizens wishing to address the Board shall call 952-4324 to be placed on the agenda.

The strategy appeared to satisfy Kathy Barker, past member of the board, who challenged: "The public hasn't yet heard the rationale and reasoning behind the plans . . . It's time to bite the bullet. The decision," she warned the board, isn't going to get any easier; "do it and get it over with. Tell us what you've got so we can tell you if we like it."

#### Kreimer

On the other hand, both Kreimer and Johns would have delayed taking either plan to the public. Both felt it premature to present what they considered an unfinished study. "The study has not yet gone beyond pupil accounting — for reduction of the number of students being transported," Kreimer said. "First, we need to consider related issues," she continued, "such as the junior high demographic study, middle schools, magnet schools, also alternate approaches to achieve quality education . . . and stability and racial balance in our schools." Kreimer was interrupted again and again as she tried to explain why she would vote against the motion. Board member Col. Chester E. Whiting said Kreimer was "wandering"; Board Chairman Norman Saunders ruled her out-of-order. Board member Sue Mills came to the rescue with a motion, in effect, to overrule the chair, which passed (6-3) after much discussion, thus allowing Kreimer to continue. The audience, indicating their approval,

applauded loudly.

"We need to provide quality programs in specific schools that would help to integrate (those) schools with racial extremes . . ." said Kreimer. (That would be) "a better way to achieve racial balance — using a stabilizing factor, not the reverse." (Kreimer was interrupted again. Saunders wanted "direction from the board" as to how late they wanted to keep going before adjourning — it was 10:45 p.m.) "We need to use educational programs in a better way," she emphasized.

#### Johns

Johns agreeing with Kreimer, decried making "major shifts based on transportation and on racial needs . . . (rather than) for educational needs . . . It is unfair to the community to separate the elementary plan, the junior high plan, the middle school plan. We need a comprehensive plan of them all." She opposed both plans and public hearings.

#### The Plans

Plan 1 (see details in News Review issue of December 15) calls for 95.9% of the county's 68,359 elementary school children to attend their nearest school. It also proposes closing 11 elementary schools including North End School. Under this plan 22 schools would be virtually all black or all white. Plan 2 (see details in last week's News Review) is an attempt to reduce the racial extremes within those 22 schools by cross-busing with 13 others.

#### Issues Emerge

Although Plan 2 had just been made available to the general public for the first time that evening, there were some 16 persons who appeared at the meeting to speak during public participation. Most of those who spoke to the board came from the two districts most severely impacted by either or both of the plans: District 6, the largely black community represented by Bonnie Johns, and District 2, Greenbelt, College Park, Lanham, Riverdale, represented by Lesley Kreimer. As they talked, a number of issues began to emerge.

#### School Closings

School closings was by far the most emotional issue. Representatives of several schools came to beg the board to reconsider. Many including Doris Eugene, president of the County Council of PTA's, saw the school closings and the return to neighborhood schools as separate issues which were confusing when lumped to gether and which should be dealt with separately. Joseph Parker, and others, pointed out

See SCHOOL BOARD, p. 8, col. 1

### GREENBELT GEARS UP FOR UNITED RESPONSE

by Elaine Skolnik

A herculean task faces Greenbelters in preparing for the Prince Georges County Board of Education hearings late this month and early March dealing with the first and second Demographic Alternative Studies (Plans 1 and 2). The Greenbelt School Study Committee will prepare and coordinate the city's presentations at the public hearings. Committee members also hope to sit down with similar groups in the county and with school board members.

The committee will meet on Sunday, February 19 at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Howard Savage, chairman, urges all Greenbelters from Springhill Lake, Old Greenbelt, Greenbriar, Glen Oaks and Windsor Green to come and listen, ask questions, offer suggestions or participate.

The committee finds both plans unacceptable because they offer no assurance that, if implemented, reshuffling of county children can be avoided in the next year or two. The committee recommends that the Board develop a long-range policy that will not only involve demographic factors but will include long-term goals dealing with educational programs, such as middle schools, magnet schools, traditional and open space schools. These approaches have been utilized elsewhere in the country to achieve racial balance and stability.

#### Plans Incomplete

Committee members felt that the demographic plans were also incomplete because the Junior High School study, which will probably be finished during the next school year, could not be taken into account. Until this study is available, it was felt that the closing of elementary schools was premature.

Either plan, the committee believes, would be frowned upon by the court because (1) there would be one way busing predominantly for black students, (2) about 30% of the county's schools scheduled to remain open will have enrollments above 70% or below 10% black, 22% for plan 2 (contrary to the 1973 court decree that no school could have over 50% or below 10% minority enrollment), (3) black communities bear the burden of long distance busing (over 9 miles) and (4) some integrated communities are still being bused.

Savage said he will ask the Greenbelt city council to request that the city solicitor look into the legal aspects of the plans.

The committee felt it was inequitable that those Springhill Lake and Old Greenbelt children slated to be bused under Plan 2 would continue to be transported 10 and 11 miles, when a goal of the study was to bus students an average of 3.1 miles. The burden of long distance busing for white students in the county falls upon Greenbelt schools and Berwyn Heights Elementary.

In the case of Springhill Lake, an integrated community, the Board did not follow its directive that special consideration be given to the assignment of students in geographically defined integrated areas to schools as near those areas as possible.

Of particular concern to committee members is the number of reassignments for Greenbriar children — up to three schools in three years. (Center this year, C.T. Reed last year and Magnolia next year.) Greenbriar is also an integrated

See RESPONSE, p. 8, col. 1

## GHI Takes Up Policy Manual, Heating Charges for Additions

by Sid Kastner

Though the agenda for Thursday's regular Greenbelt Homes, Inc. board meeting appeared to be a short one, somehow its discussion expanded to fill the available time, following a well-known law of Parkinson. Actually, the board's and members' involvement in the two main topics — heating charges for additions and amount of down payment required to buy a GHI home — probably reflects the increased pressures on the membership of the cooperative due to generally high and still rising costs of living.

Some weeks ago, as reported here, a member raised objections to what he considered to be an excessive heating cost charged to his addition. In response to a second member's similar complaint, manager Roy Breashears and his staff have drawn up a revised formula which would differ from the present one, essentially, in not charging such a member for the maintenance part of the corporation's heating costs. This would lower present charges by roughly 40%, for additions both with, and without, radiators connected to GHI's system; though a suggested amount of 10% of remaining heating costs (repairs and maintenance) would be charged for addition with radiators.

The lower charge, as was pointed out by the manager, would mean a drop in income that would have to be made up by the rest of the membership, and would have to be taken account of in future budgets. Directors Donald Volk, Mary Clarke, and Norman Weyel felt that the above figure of 10% charged for maintenance costs — admittedly arbitrary according to the manager — was too low to cover actual costs. Director Stehen Polaschik and former director Nat Shinderman however supported the lower rate in general, as did Breashears himself. The nub of the discussion appeared to be the difficulty of how to measure how much heat and associated service is used in any particular addition. Chairman Jim Smith's opinion was that the basic idea of charging by square footage (used in both the present and proposed formulas) was sound, and he further cited arguments for adopting higher charges (additions have more outside walls, may use more water, etc.); he summed up his own position by stating "We have a responsibility to spread the charges equitably (among the members)".

As suggested early in the debate by director Wayne Williams, and by former director Charles Schwan from the floor, no immediate action was taken on this complex matter; instead it was referred to the Engineering and Maintenance committee and other committees for study.

#### Downpayment

The Finance committee has been reviewing the present policy of requiring a 20% minimum downpayment by a member for purchasing a GHI home. This review was prompted by the increasing difficulty for new members in raising such cash amounts. The committee however, through director James Foster, now recommended that "under present circumstances" the 20% minimum should stand. This conclusion was not very palatable to director Clarke and to Audit committee member Bobbi McCarthy, as well as Shinderman. Clarke objected that the lending situation would likely be eased soon (when a state insurance bill may become effective, which would firm up the cooperative's financial position).

McCarthy strongly urged that the minimum downpayment be lowered to 10% or 15% to make it possible for young people to buy GHI homes"; she noted that "we are not getting young people into GHI because of this requirement (of a high downpayment)", and stated that "this question . . . is critical to the health of the corporation". Shinderman also felt that the actual lending situation is presently stronger than the Finance committee thinks. On the other hand, Smith took a cautious view of the question, saying that the corporation had to act for its own "security and protection", and that therefore "we need to establish . . . what our requirements are (for such security)". After some more debate, the committee's recommendation was referred to the manager and his staff for further study.

#### Policy Procedures Manual

A second proposal brought to the board by the Finance committee dealt with development of a "policy and procedures manual" to guide the corporation. It recommended a two-pronged approach: (a) an in-house effort by specially hired professional writers, and (b) preparation, by management, of specifications for such a manual that could go out on bid to qualified consulting firms. This was ultimately also referred to the manager for consideration.

A couple of other items were dealt with, quickly, during the meeting. A request by Rush Keeter for authority to conduct an academic study of GHI as a cooperative, using office data, was approved subject to conditions ensuring privacy of members. Also, Albert Ginsberg, GHI's attorney, was formally appointed as Assistant Secretary of the corporation, to make him eligible to serve as a real estate broker for GHI.

#### NOTICE

There will be no change in the R 11, 12, and 15 routes at this time. On February 19 the F8 (formerly J2-4) will come into Greenbelt Center by way of Lakecrest, Lakeside and Westway. Only the sign at the Center bus stop at Crescent and Gardenway should have been changed to reflect this addition. Signs further on Crescent Road were changed by mistake.

### Scout Troop 746

This Friday, February 17, Troop 746 will hold its annual pot luck dinner and Sustaining Membership Enrollment (S.M.E.) drive. Anyone interested in the scouting program, including scouts, explorers, and their parents, is invited to attend and to bring along their favorite dish and their appetite. The beverage will be provided by the troop.

### HOLIDAY REFUSE SCHEDULE

Due to the upcoming Presidents' Day Holiday on Monday, February 20, there will be no refuse collection on that day. The regular Monday route will be picked up on Tuesday and the Tuesday route will be picked up on Wednesday. There will be no paper collection on Wednesday. An effort will be made to pick up all paper on Thursday. Refuse collections for Friday and Saturday will follow the normal schedule.



#### NOTICE

Because of the upcoming Presidents' Day Holiday on Monday, February 20, the regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council has been deferred to Monday, February 27.

## GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
 ALFRED M. SKOLNIK, PRESIDENT, 1959-1977  
 Editor: Mary Lou Williamson, 474-4906  
 Associate Editor: Sandra Barnes, 474-5310

## STAFF

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Business Manager: Lynette Johnson; Circulation Manager: Mike Jones, 474-8001 Springhill Lake Circulation; Barbara Clawson, 474-4541.  
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Pres., Elaine Skolnik; Vice Pres., Sid Kastner; Secy., Barbara Likowski; Treas., Virginia Beauchamp, Sandra Barnes.  
 MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.00 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-4131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volume 41, Number 13

Thursday, February 16, 1978

## School Plan Unfair

To the Editor:

The "new" (2nd) Demographic Study proposals will be grossly unfair to Greenbelt. Not only would North End School be closed, but Greenbelt children would continue to be bused. Springhill Lake a successfully integrated community, would continue to have 92 children bused away. The children of Lakeside North Boxwood Village, University Square and Charlestowne Village would also continue to be bused.

Greenbriar children currently attending Center School would be transferred to yet another school—the third in three years. Their yearly shuffling is disruptive educationally and socially.

I agree with Lesley Kreimer, our representative to the Board of Education in feeling that it is inappropriate to implement either plan #1 or #2 without further consideration of alternatives. The Greenbelt School Study Committee has proposed several alternatives that deserve consideration.

The School Board will be holding public hearings on the two proposals. It is important that Greenbelters attend them and make their opinions known. The Greenbelt School Study Committee is having a meeting Sunday, February 19, at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building, to which the public is invited.

June Webb

Center School PTA President

## Mishkan Torah Notes

"Supper Club Showcase" featuring musical entertainment and comedy will be presented at the Mishkan Torah, on Saturday, February 25 at 8 p.m. There will be two shows, a buffet dinner and dancing. For reservations call 577-4361 and 474-8795.

## Dial 911 for Fire/Rescue

by Wayne Lewis

Do you know what a smoke detector sounds like? If you ever heard one being set off, what would you do? How many of your neighbors don't know the answers to all of these questions, you could be the victim or witness of a tragedy.

Recently, a near tragedy was prevented by the actions of "a good neighbor." About 7 p.m. a Greenbelt resident heard a smoke detector begin to sound its alarm in a neighboring home. After waiting a minute to see if the neighbors would reset the smoke detector, it was noticed that the neighbors were not at home.

What should be done? Should the fire department be called and have them send someone to check? Should the neighbor go out and see if there is any smoke or fire or not get involved because it probably isn't anything anyway? The "good neighbor" did get involved and called the EMERGENCY NUMBER—911. Within minutes fire apparatus were on the scene and found the cause of the alarm to be food burning on the stove. This was not a tragedy; however, it could have developed into one.

Last year GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT and RESCUE SQUAD ran a total of 1454 calls—761 fire and 693 rescue. This is about 4 calls a day all year. If you need assistance for a FIRE or RESCUE, please call 911 24-hrs. a day. Remember—WE ARE THERE BECAUSE WE CARE.

## Our Neighbors

It's a boy for Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Sparks, 7-F Southway. Sean Francis was born February 5 weighing 8 lbs. 9 oz. He joins Heather Ann, age 2½. Sean's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gene Sparks and his great grandfather is Mr. Francis Roades, all of Greenbelt.

Former Greenbelters Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Kasko, now living in Spring Hill, Florida, attended the wedding of their son, Paul John Kasko and Jenny Otto of Temple Hills on Valentine's Day.

Linda Diane Kristof, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Adams, Cherrywood Terrace, will participate in the student teaching program of the Oklahoma University College of Education.

Last week's bridge winners were Ruth Schuetzle and Doris Johnson with 38 points. Coming in second were Lou and Lu Lushine (35 pts.) and third were Betty Smyth and Mary Dobbins (32 pts.).

Congratulations to John and Edith Creamer, Breezewood Terr., who are the proud parents of a bouncing baby boy! Clinton Bayne tipped the scales at 7 lbs., 1 oz. on Jan. 28. He joins a brother, Clint, who is 4.

Cadet Joseph P. Lepanto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Lepanto of Springhill Ct., has been named to the Superintendent's List at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo. Cadet Lepanto is a 1976 graduate of Parkdale High School.

Get well wishes to Dr. Bob Ruderma, Lakeside Drive

## Democratic Club

Stephen Sachs, candidate for Maryland Attorney General, will be the guest speaker at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club on Friday, February 17, at 8 p.m. in the Greenbriar Community House.

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS SLATED

The Adult Services department of the Greenbelt branch of the Prince Georges County Memorial System is holding a series of adult book discussions on the first Thursday of the month at 10:15 a.m. in the conference room. The next one scheduled is Thursday, March 2. The book chosen is Wallace Stegner's *The Spectator Bird*, a humorous, fictional treatment of retirement and growing older.

The group will select books for later discussions. Some possibilities are "The Thorn Birds" and "Coming into the Country." The next discussions will take place on Thursday, April 6 and Thursday, May 4.

## CITY NOTES

The general crew had another week of snow removal experience. Some crew members worked non-stop from 6:30 p.m. on February 6 until the next night.

An equipment operator and several other members of the crew worked at the elderly housing site assisting with de-watering.

The park crew has been chipping Christmas trees and working at the Greenbriar park. Some time has been spent in removing ice and snow from the shopping center and other public areas.

The shop has been busier than normal due to the snow, with some snow removal equipment requiring minor repairs.

The refuse crew has been on schedule this week and again maintained their collections during the heavy snow on February 6.

## SHL Baseball Sign-ups

Springhill Lake Baseball season is about to start for all boys and girls from the ages of 6 through 12. Applications are available at the Community House.

Sign-ups for Major League will take place on March 1 thru 15, and for the Minor League on March 16 thru 31 at the Community House. Bring a birth certificate or other proof of age.

Try-outs/draft will be held at the Greenbelt Junior High School Ball Fields #5 & 6 on March 18 at 10 a.m. Raindate is March 25 (only those signed-up will be able to try out). There is a registration fee. Coaches umpires, and scorekeepers are still needed. If interested call 474-3608.

## LENTEN SONG SERVICE

Spiritborne, a singing group, will be performing at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on February 22 at 7:30 p.m. (during the Lenten Service). The church is located at 6905 Greenbelt Rd. All are welcome.

## PUBLIC HEARING

## PROPOSED USES FOR REVENUE SHARING FUND

Monday, February 27, 1978 - 8:00 P.M.  
 City Council Room - 25 Crescent Road  
 Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

In accordance with Federal Regulations, the City Manager will conduct a public hearing in conjunction with the regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council to hear all proposals for the use of revenue sharing funds during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1978. In the past, the City Council has allocated approximately half of the revenue sharing funds for General Fund expenditures for Police and Recreation. The other half has been allocated to needed capital expenditures.

The following amounts are estimated to be available for allocation:

Unappropriated Balance	
Fiscal Year 1978	\$20,500
Entitlement Payments	
Fiscal Year 1979	\$81,920
	\$102,420

After the public hearing, the City Manager will prepare his budget proposal for revenue sharing funds and all other city funds for submission to the City Council on April 3, 1978. Subsequently, the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the revenue sharing budget and all other city budgets prior to adoption.

At the public hearing, all citizens of Greenbelt, Maryland, shall have an opportunity to provide written and oral comments on the possible use of these revenue sharing funds. Senior citizens and organizations representing the interests of senior citizens will be given every opportunity to be heard and to present their views regarding the allocation of these funds prior to final allocation.

Gudrun G. Mills  
 City Clerk

## Mishkan Torah School To Get Certificate from BJE

Alvin Browdy a former president of the Board of Jewish Education of Greater Washington, will award a Certificate of Affiliation to the Religious School of Mishkan Torah, on Friday, February 17 at 8 p.m.

Mishkan Torah has now become the third school in the Washington Metropolitan area (the first in Prince Georges County) to reach full affiliation. This level was achieved through the efforts of Rabbi Kenneth Berger school chairpersons Diane Kritt and Zev Hendel, and the other professional and lay readers of the school.

To meet full affiliation status, Mishkan Torah had to engage professional teachers, provide salaries in accordance with the community pay scales, offer teacher benefits and in-service education incentives. The certificate which will be awarded signifies achievement by the school of the standards set by BJE for its affiliation program. The standards are modeled on those for Non-Public Schools of the Maryland State Department of Education.

## Mishkan Torah News

The Mishkan Torah Sisterhood will hold a meeting on Thurs., Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Aviva Berger, a native Israeli and the wife of Rabbi Kenneth Berger, will demonstrate the art of making Falafel at 9 p.m.

## Parent Discussion Group

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Parent Discussion Group will be Wednesday, February 22, from 9:15-11:15 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Greenbelt Baptist Church. The group will continue problem solving with the problem of messy houses. Role playing will be used to facilitate the exercise.

Babysitting is available and refreshments will be served. For more information, call Betty Hughes at 474-8458. All are welcome.

## MOWATT MEMORIAL

United Methodist Church  
 40 Ridge Rd. 474-9410  
 Church School 9:30-10:30 A.M.  
 MORNING WORSHIP 11 A.M.  
 (Cribbery and Nursery)  
 Sermon: "The Christian  
 +Syndrome"  
 Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham,  
 Pastor 474-3381

## GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(United Church of Christ)

Hillside and Crescent Roads - Phone 474-6171 (mornings)

Nursery provided at 2B Hillside

Sun., 11 a.m. Worship Service and Church School

Rev. Sherry Taylor and Rev. Harry Taylor, co-pastors

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN !!

You are invited and welcomed to meet with us  
 each week.

## GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

474-4212

Bible Study for all ages (Sun)

9:45 am

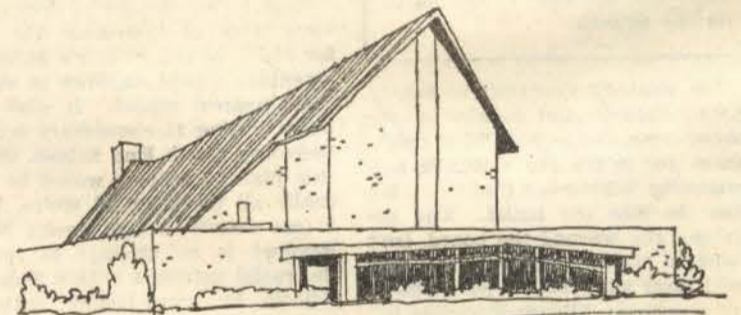
Sunday Worship

11:00 am &amp; 7:00 pm

Mid-week prayer service (Wed)

6:00 pm

For bus transportation, call Church office 8:30-12:30 weekdays



## Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6905 Greenbelt Road

Worship Services: 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:50 a.m.

Weekday Nursery School: 9-11:30 a.m.

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

Phone 345-5111

# THE ROOT BEER IS ON US!

COME JOIN THE CELEBRATION  
 AT YOUR NEW LANGLEY PARK  
 HOT SHOPPES RESTAURANT

That's right... The root beer is on us with your lunch or dinner all during February. The dust has settled from our remodeling and we want you to help us celebrate and see your beautiful new restaurant. When ordering lunch or dinner, just tell your waiter or waitress that you saw this ad and we'll give you a frosty root beer. Bring your friends, bring your family, bring your appetite and join the February celebration!

## Hot Shoppes Restaurant

7900 New Hampshire Avenue  
 Langley Park, MD  
 434-9437

## GHI Members to Receive Rehabilitation Report

Over the week-end, members of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. received a summary of the eight-month study by consultants on the need for rehabilitation. This week-end, members will receive a copy of the report itself which gives specific details on plans for and costs of rehabilitation to GHI's forty year-old homes.

During the next several weeks, the Long Range Planning Committee and the Board of Directors will be discussing the report and coming up with their own recommendations based on the consultants' findings. Uppermost in everyone's mind will be how best to achieve maintenance and energy savings while keeping members' monthly charges as low as possible.

As members read the report, they are reminded that these recommendations are just that. GHI may adopt some of them, modify others, and may drop still others. For example, GHI may recommend wall insulation as a major step in reducing costly fuel oil consumption. However, no determination has yet been made on whether this will be done, and if done, what kind of materials will be used.

The consultants proposed a number of different materials for the siding of frame and block homes. They recommended stained plywood siding over asbestos shingles, wood shingles, stucco or vinyl siding; but GHI has made no decision on what type of siding—if any—will be installed.

GHI is seeking—not only membership approval for rehabilitation—but also membership input. Any GHI member who has ideas he or she wishes the Board to consider is encouraged to write to Wayne Williams, chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, GHI, Hamilton Place. There also will be two meetings scheduled for March. (Monday, March 6, 7:30 p.m. at North End School and Saturday, March 11, 1 p.m. at the Greenbelt Library) during which members may verbally express their views and ask questions on rehabilitation.

— Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

## Legion Dinner/Dance Event

The Greenbelt American Legion Auxiliary will have a dinner/dance, Saturday, February 25 at the Greenbelt American Legion Post, Greenbelt Road; Dinner at 7, dancing will be from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. with music by Skip Hunter and His Music Men. For reservations call Helen Bounion at 422-3646.

## Letter to GHI Members

### WHY REHABILITATE?

In making decisions on rehabilitation, GHI members must answer three basic questions. For what reasons should we rehabilitate? On what should we concentrate? Have we sufficient confidence in ourselves to rehabilitate? There are many more questions, but the answers to these are the key to the remainder in my opinion.

### FOR WHAT REASONS SHOULD WE REHABILITATE?

Our homes are aging. The original GHI homes were built in 1936 and 1937, the frame homes in 1941. Systems once adequate - heating, electrical, plumbing - are reaching the ends of their useful lives or do not meet today's standards. The results are that heating and maintenance costs have skyrocketed. The promise is for more of the same unless we continue to take strong measures to stem the rates of increase.

In the last 10 years, fuel oil costs - the major reason for the rise in heating costs - have increased from \$241,815 to \$664,809, a rate of almost 12 per cent per year. (Oil prices went up at a rate of almost 19 per cent annually.)

Maintenance of our structures and grounds doubled in cost between 1969 and 1978. Those for masonry homes rose from \$89,390 to \$179,661. Frame home costs went from \$192,667 to \$384,615. Completion of tunnel work in 1977 in connection with the conversion of the large plants kept the last figure from being even higher.

Can we expect recent trends not to continue or, for that matter, not to accelerate? I think not.

Although the world's oil reserves are dwindling, the slowness of recovery from the current world business recession, together with relatively stern conservation practices of some major oil-using countries, and Alaska and North Sea production, probably assure that supply will be ample for the next three to five years, possibly longer. That should mean that prices will escalate more slowly than in the recent past - perhaps in the 7 to 10 per cent range. After that it may be that the price level will ascend more rapidly.

As surely as consumption will exhaust a finite resource, aging will work its way on structures. The rate of exhaustion is the same as that of consumption, but delay in the repair of structures means an increasingly rapid rate of deterioration. As time goes on, a need for relatively minor repairs becomes a need for major repairs. Maintenance and capital costs both increase.

### ON WHAT SHOULD WE CONCENTRATE?

It seems obvious to me that we should concentrate on those measures that promise to lighten the burden of fuel and structural maintenance costs. If, at the same time, they serve other ends, so much the better, e.g. increasing comfort, improving safety, increasing the value of the home, creating an aesthetically more pleasing environment and possibly more.

GHI has done, or shortly will have done, all that reasonably it can to increase the efficiency of its generation and distribution of heat. Improvements may be possible in individual plants to reduce consumption further, but all systems-wide, major changes appear to have been made. What remains to be done is to ensure that GHI need generate and deliver no more heat than necessary, i.e. keeping warm air inside and cold air outside. That means insulation wherever possible, including caulking and weatherstripping, storm doors and windows, or new windows. Incidentally, insulation conserves energy as well with one source as another.

At first insulation may yield relatively modest savings - or reductions in cost of fuel. As prices escalate, however, savings will grow. The very steep rise in fuel oil prices occurred in 1973 and 1974, but that price behavior was not as aberrant as it may have appeared. For the five years prior to 1973, prices had gone up by about 10 per cent per year, a rate that must be considered rapid by conventional standards. Moreover, it would appear that the increase from last year to this may exceed 10 per cent. Comparable price behavior in the next several years would make insulation a very worthwhile investment. The last is not a prediction, just a statement of the obvious.

Casement windows in the masonry homes, including their hardware, are energy and maintenance problems. Removal of rust and

excess paint, straightening if need be, recaulking, reglazing as needed and weather-stripping would improve the situation. So would new thermal windows as recommended by the consultants. (Storm windows would be needed if new windows were not installed.)

Decisions such as what type of insulation or windows should be used are important, but they can be made at a later date. As a matter of fact, they must be. There are at present many unanswered questions concerning such matters as relative effectiveness, initial cost, future maintenance costs, safety and product availability. Personally, I am prepared now only to answer the three questions to which this letter is addressed.

### HAVE WE SUFFICIENT CONFIDENCE IN OURSELVES TO REHABILITATE?

I believe that the answer to this question will be in the affirmative. I am persuaded that by and large members have faith in, hope for and allegiance to GHI. For example, it was by direction of the membership in 1974 that the long range planning effort was instituted. The same year at a Special Membership Meeting the Board of Directors was authorized to request deferral of the 1974 mortgage principal payment in order to finance fuel savings projects. In April 1974 and December 1975 overwhelmingly favorable membership votes were cast for increases in member charges to collect funds to meet the deferred payment when due.

Less direct, but to me persuasive, evidence is afforded by the responses to the questionnaire of last July. The number responding - 49 per cent - was very large for this type of survey. This, to me, indicated strong, friendly interest. More than 75 per cent of those replying had lived in GHI for at least three years, which means that they were acquainted with GHI rehabilitation efforts when they filled out the questionnaire. (How could they not have been when all parking courts were resurfaced in 1976 or 1977 and all frame homes were entered to convert radiators to accommodate hot water rather than steam, 95 per cent of them in 1976 or 1977?) Moreover, 4 of every 5 members indicated that they intended to live indefinitely in GHI.

The record supports the members' having "faith in, hope for and allegiance to GHI." As noted, oil prices rose by 19 per cent in the last decade, but fuel savings projects reduced to 12 percent the increase in the cost to GHI. The several projects will yield reductions in cost of almost \$700,000 through 1978—about \$238 on the average for masonry homeowners and \$450 for frame homeowners. Also, as noted, all parking courts were resurfaced. In addition, among other things, sidewalks were repaired, roofs replaced, electrical heavy-up work done and ray rotary burners replaced to meet State air pollution requirements.

### ANOTHER QUESTION.

There is another question. What is affordable?

The answer from a corporate standpoint is one thing, but the question must be answered by individual members too.

From the survey results, it is known that many members would appear to require financial assistance to pay increased monthly charges to defray rehabilitation costs. It is not enough to tell these members that they cannot afford not to rehabilitate - that in a very short time charges will be higher without rehabilitation than they would be with rehabilitation. This is a truism, but to them it may be academic.

Assisting such members is a matter on which GHI is working, and with some success. Needless to say, efforts are continuing. It is too soon to strike a balance, but the GHI goal is to make it possible for all members to be able to afford such increased charges as may be necessary, including holding increases in monthly charges to less than 10 per cent per year.

### CONCLUSION

The consultants' recommendations are now before members. In due course, the Board of Directors will make its recommendations. Meanwhile, there will be meetings at which members may contribute their views. If we all participate, we should be able to formulate the best possible program.

Charles F. Schwan, Jr.

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Expert craftsmen will replace broken window glass, raise electrical jobs, wall patching, ceramic tile, etc. Assemble sheds and yard duties. Call evenings.  
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**HANSEN PLUMBING & HEATING - 14C Hillside Rd., Greenbelt.** 345-5837. Bonded, licensed, small home jobs.

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**FOR RENT: 2 BR** completely furnished townhouse - Lease from March to August 15, 1978 - very nice location. Call GHI - 474-4244.

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**HELP WANTED - Crewman II, Grace GC-2, \$3.59/hour.** For grounds maintenance of commercial center area. No experience needed. Apply City Offices, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland. 474-8000. The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## La Leche Meeting

The Greenbelt LaLeche League will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. at 7858 Lakecrest Dr. The topic will be "Overcoming difficulties." 474-0616.

## Greenbelt's Library

Fantastic Free Flicks for teens on Wed., Feb. 22 presents "Famous Movie Monsters" with highlight scenes from horror classics. The program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 23 brings two fun sessions for children. At 10:30 a.m. the Story Program for 2 year olds and at 2 p.m. ages 3-5 will meet.

## Police Blotter

Seven officers from the city department, Sgt. Faulconer, Sgt. Coombes, Cpl. Craze, P.F.C. Blake, P.F.C. Duprat, P.F.C. Lann, and P.F.C. Ceccarelli along with officers from Laurel, Cheverly and Riverdale, successfully completed the In-Service Training Course held here last week. All attained high scores on the final examination and were awarded certificates of completion by Chief Lane. With the completion of this class, all officers required by the Maryland Training Commission to receive this advanced training have now done so.

Department personnel received 2,400 hours of training during 1977, and thus far in 1978 have already completed 280 hours. These totals include attendance at Basic Police Training Schools, In-Service Training Schools and various specialized courses that officers have attended.

Officer Craddock sustained injury to his back while assisting with a domestic complaint. PFC Lann was assaulted by a subject who was disorderly. The 19 year old male resident was charged with driving while intoxicated and assault on an officer.

**ANTIQUA GUN AUCTION:** Washington's Birthday, Mon., Feb. 20, 5 P.M., Holiday Inn, Gaithersburg, Md., 115 old Kentuckles, Colts, swords, military & decorator items from Bill Stelma Collection & other valued consignors. Inspection 4-5. Terms cash, BAC, Mastercharge. Consignments accepted.

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**GUITAR - Like new Epiphone** Caballero, with 6 steel strings. Case with extra strings included at \$100. Call 345-6920 after 5.

**BABYSITTING** in my home, ages 2 to 4. 345-2090.

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**Greenware**  
20% to 50% off  
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New 30% - 40% off  
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3.25 - 2 1/2 Gallon Box  
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**PAT-ERN CERAMICS**  
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(Behind Nyman Realty)  
**345-5443**

## Marathon and 3-Mile Race Scheduled for February 19

The 17th Annual Washington's Birthday Marathon, one of the oldest and largest marathons in the country will be held this Sunday, February 19 at 11 a.m. The start of this three loop 26 mile race will begin at the Log Cabin Cafeteria on the Agricultural Farm just to the right of Research Road, between Beaver Dam and Powder Mill Roads. Spectators can see the runners each time they come by the cafeteria.

Last year there were 584 runners, men women and children from 23 states. Max White from Arlington Va., the former national 50 mile champion won last year in 2 hours

27 minutes and 21 seconds. Jim Eisenberg was in 29th place in 2:45:56 the first Greenbelter to finish.

At least six Greenbelters are expected to compete this year. Entries are accepted until 10 a.m. on Sunday and there is an entry fee. There is a prize for each Greenbelter who finishes. The marathon is sponsored by the Greenbelt JAYCEES to encourage physical fitness. The Greenbelt Recreation Department co-sponsors this event and trophies for all Greenbelters are provided by the Greenbelt Running Club.

Starting at 10 a.m. is a 3 mile run-for-your-life designed for joggers and those who do not want to run farther. There is no registration or fee and everyone receives a ribbon and their time with Greenbelters receiving a trophy.

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Owner transferred - needs to sell 2 BR frame with remodeled kitchen & bathroom; wall-wall carpeting; ra/refg/washer/AC/dishwasher included - \$17,739.00 or will negotiate on price.  
Just a short walk to shopping center from loc. of this two bedroom frame home - it has enlarged kitchen equipped with ra/refg/washer; dryer & a/c included as well as brand-new carpeting - a real buy at \$17,719.00.  
Want a small place of your own? This is it... extra nice one bedroom frame apt, nicely redecorated, remodeled kitchen & bathroom; nice appl. May occ., selling for \$12,700.00.  
**OTHER PROPERTIES LISTED STARTING AT A LOW \$15,500.00**  
**FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
Your monthly payment covers TAXES, HEAT, water/sewer; trash collection, structural maintenance, and insurance.  
**FOR INFORMATION - OR FOR SEEING OUR LISTINGS - CONTACT G.H.I. SALES & SERVICES DEPARTMENT! OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. Hamilton Place just off Ridge Road.**  
**474-4161 474-4244 474-4331**

**SCHOOL BOARD continued**  
what he felt was the inequity of closing three schools in District 6, but none in District 1.

**Long Distance Busing**  
Kathrine Gough, Boxwood resident, pointed out the specific kinds of inequities she found in Plan 2 as it would affect her. "The (Demographic) plan is represented as a way of reducing busing to an average of 3.1 miles, (rewarding) integrated neighborhoods by returning them to neighborhood schools, and reducing extreme racial balances by closing key schools.

"A good look at this study reveals a totally different result," she claimed, pointing out that under Plan 2 her children are still bused 11 miles into elementary school (John Carroll). "The big difference," said Gough, "is (that) now, at the end of that trip, (is a school) that is racially unbalanced by official action (75% black) . . . not natural population shifts."

**LONG DISTANCE BUSING FOR RACIAL BALANCE**

Under Plan 1 the distance greater than one mile that students would be bused ranges from 1.7 to 4.3 for an average of 3.1 miles.

However, under Plan 2 the range is significantly broadened — 1.7 to 12 for an average of 5.6 miles. Of the 15 instances in which students would be bused more than 9 miles: 11 involve black students bused to largely white schools (over 72%); 1 buses black students to an already integrated Springhill Lake School (66% white) and three involve busing white students to largely black schools: Greenbelt to John Carroll (75% black) and Springhill Lake and Berwyn Heights to Oakerest (75.9% black).

Several parents from District 6 made the same complaint. Marian Roberts reminded the board that in her neighborhood "in a radius of seven blocks, our children go to 12 different schools. Many are bused long distances to largely all white schools." Roberts strongly objected to that kind of busing for racial balance only. Rather, she pleaded, "Give us the best education possible!" Lorenzo Roberts objected to the fact, he said, that blacks bear most of the burden of long-distance busing.

"This pulls the rug out from under the public school families who have stuck with it in the bused neighborhoods," continued Gough. "I feel like we're being red-lined right out of the public school system . . . We've gone from 400 kids in 1973 to 130 already, referring to the drastic reduction in numbers of greenbelt students attending John Carroll.

**Racially Tipped Schools**  
Currently there are 13 schools whose Black enrollment is 70% or greater. Under plans 1 or 2 that number would increase to 29 or 28. While 19 have an integrated walking population, Oakerest and John Carroll are among those 8 which do not. Gough, among others, protested to the board that it would be difficult to keep White students at those schools with over 75% Black enrollment. John Carroll, for example, gets all of its White students from Greenbelt — Boxwood, Lakeside North, University Square, Charlestowne Village and Charlestowne North. The board must do a better job of integrating Carroll, insisted Gough, if they expected to keep Greenbelters there. Much to the delight of the audience she held up a map with a large black dot showing the location of the school

**RESPONSE continued**  
community.

**Plan 1**  
Plan 1 calls for (1) the closing of North End School, (2) the return of Old Greenbelt's students bused from John Carroll to Center School (Boxwood Village, Lakeside North, Charlestowne Village, Charlestowne North and University Square Apartments), (3) reassignment of North End's walking students to Center, (4) the transferring of Greenbriar students from Center to Magnolia Elementary and (5) the returning of Springhill Lake's bused students from Oakerest to Springhill Lake Elementary. Under this plan Center's black population would be reduced dramatically from 40.8 to 1.7% (165 black children returning to John Carroll) and enrollment would jump from 446 to 542, only 8 students below the school's capacity of 550 students.

With the closing of North End School, it is expected that Center would soon be overcrowded by the return of some private school children to the public school system.

**Plan 2**  
Plan 2 provides for (1) closing North End School, (2) continuing the 11-mile busing of 130 old Greenbelt students to John Carroll Elementary School, (3) reassigning North End's 175 walking students to Center School, (4) continuing the busing of 92 students from Springhill Lake Apartments to Oakerest Elementary and (5) reassigning 49 Greenbriar students from Center to Magnolia. The black enrollment would dip from 40.8 to 24.5 with 130 black children continuing to be bused 11 miles to Center. Under both plans Windsor Green children will continue to attend Magnolia.

and a heavy circle around it with a radius of 12 miles "If you can bus one child in the county as far as 12 miles, you can, if you want to," Gough told the board members, "and enough white children to integrate this school." Then she ticked off areas which fell within that circle — "The U.S. Capitol, the University of Maryland, a piece of Montgomery County, Bowie, Andrews AFB, . . . in fact, a large chunk of Prince Georges County." Angriely she told the board, "I hope . . . (you) will not see this plan (2) as a compromise, because it is not! It is long distance busing for racial tokenism."

**Busing of Integrated Neighborhoods**  
Several parents came to tell the board they were unhappy that under Plan 2 their integrated neighborhoods would still be bused even though they were to receive "consideration" in the effort to return children to their closest schools. Ezander Gilmer, whose River Bend neighborhood is integrated (50% Black, 50% White), pointed out that there are four schools nearby, yet his children would continue to be bused 8 miles into an all Black school. "That is not integrating our schools," Gilmer said; "that is re-segregating. We favor integrated schools . . . please consider returning our children to our neighborhood."

Others echoed his plea. Gough pointedly told the board, "My neighborhood of Boxwood Village has been integrated since 1963 when the first homes were sold . . . Springhill Lake, another Greenbelt neighborhood would have a walking population of 24% Black if they were left alone, . . . but Springhill Lake is being bused 10 miles to Oakerest."

When it came time to vote, a distressed Johns was heard to murmur, "A cruel hoax on the public."

**Twin Pines Seeks Candidates In Upcoming Elections**

The Nominations and Elections Committee of Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association is still looking for members who are interested in running for any of seven elective positions in the upcoming annual elections to be held March 28. Particularly needed are persons who would like to serve on the Member Relations Committee and the Nominations and Elections Committee, although positions on the Board of Directors will also be filled by election.

All that is necessary for a person to run for one of these positions is a membership in Twin Pines and willingness to serve if elected. Interested persons are requested to call Helen Geller of the Nominations and Elections Committee at 471-6323 or to leave their name at the Twin Pines office.

**The Greenbelt Grab Bag**

by Punchin' Judy

It was a cold winter night and we were all sitting around the family hearth. Well, actually, it was the TV, because we don't have a hearth, but anyway, all of a sudden we heard a loud thump.

"Good grief, what's that?"  
"Probably the oak tree throwing branches at the house."

"Maybe someone tossed a pot hole into the yard."

"Could be a close encounter of the fourth kind."

"Or a Russian satellite!"

"We'd better call the authorities. What's the emergency number?"

"It's 911."

"What?"

"Nine-eleven."

"I can't dial that - there's no eleven on the telephone."

"Never mind. Let's go out and investigate."

"You go first."

"Chicken!"

"That's a fowl remark."

"Come on, you turkeys."

"Look, there's a crater in the snow."

"What snow? That's where you didn't rake the leaves last fall."

"There's a big piece of metal sticking out."

"Does it have a hammer and sickle on it?"

"It says: Made in Taiwan."

"Now I'm really worried."

"Maybe it's radio-active. I wish I had a geiger counter. Why didn't you give me one for my birthday?"

"You can't have everything you want all the time."

"Do Russian satellites have wheels?"

"Who cares. We've got to figure out what this thing is."

"Well, it looks like the wheel barrow we've been missing since summer."

"You're right. I told you that you should have raked those leaves."

"Good thing we didn't call the authorities."

"Good thing we don't have an eleven on our phone."

"Only one thing bothering me now."

"What's that?"

"Remember that loud thump we heard?"

"Oh - oh."

**Lion Belles Installation Set**

The Greenbelt Lion Belles will hold their Thirteenth Annual Installation of Officers at the Golden Bull Restaurant on February 17. The list of officers is as follows: President: Stephanie Cornett, Vice President: Milly Kern, Secretary: Pat Hand, Treasurer: Louise Moore, Golddigger: Angie Lindahl.

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**RON BORGWARDT**

10212 Baltimore Blvd.  
College Park, Md. 20749  
(on U.S. 1 at the Beltway)  
474-8400

**"See me for car, home, life, health and business insurance."**

State Farm Insurance Companies  
Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

**Wills G.W. Birthday WALLCOVERING SALE**

**30%**

**off all paper by**

**\*Birge**

**\*General Tire**

Flutter into Wills for savings of 30% on vinyl fabric-back, pre-pasted and mylar wallcoverings by Birge and General Tire.

Also, a select group of papers are 25% less. So for savings of up to 30% on more than 300 wallcovering books. See Will's Beltsville. Sale ends February 26, 1978.

**WILL'S**

**HARDWARE - HOME CENTER**

**10502 Baltimore Blvd. (Rt. 1)**

**Beltsville, 937-3733**

(Directions from Greenbelt. Take the Beltway to exit 27N (one exit north of Greenbelt) and Will's is one mile on your left, in the Chestnut Hill Center).

6

**PASSBOOK RATE**

from day of deposit paid quarterly

**Twin Pines Savings & Loan Assn.**

105 Centerway  
Greenbelt, Md. 20770  
474-6900

Per Annum

NOTARY SERVICE (free to account holders)  
MONEY ORDERS 20c up to \$250.00  
XEROX COPIES 10c

**HOURS**

Mon.-Thur 9-6  
Friday 9-2  
Saturday 9-12

CLOSED  
Monday, February 20

**Maryland Savings-Share Insurance Corporation**  
(An Agency of the State of Maryland)  
Insures each account to \$40,000.00

**Ask about our savings certificate plans:**

6½% per annum for a \$1000 minimum deposit when held until one year maturity.

7% per annum for a \$2000 minimum deposit when held until one year maturity.

7½% per annum for a \$4000 minimum deposit when held until four year maturity.

**Need Home Financing? Give us a call**

**NUMBER OF PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH UNDER 10% OR OVER 50% BLACK ENROLLMENT**

	Under 10%	Over 50%	50-59.9%	60-69.9%	70-79.9%	80-89.9%	90-99.9%
Current Sept. 1977	4	62	33	16	11	2	0
Proposed Plan 1	13	48*	11	8	8	13	8
Proposed Plan 2	3	50*	13	9	13	14	1

\* 6 Closed

The above statistics are taken from information prepared by the Prince Georges County Schools  
Feb. 2, 1978