

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 41, Number 14

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 23, 1978

## F6 Metro Bus Route Questioned

by Barbara Likowski

The hearing on the new F6 Metro route that enters Greenbelt by way of Lakeside Drive has been postponed until next Monday's (February 27) city council meeting. This decision was made by council at its February 15 meeting at the suggestion of councilman Charles Schwan to insure that all those interested could make their views known to council. Because the February 13 meeting had to be postponed on account of snow, there was no way to publish public notice of the hearing.

Of the dozen or so visitors present only two chose to speak to council about the Metro route which now enters Greenbelt at Lakecrest and goes to the Center by way of Lakeside, Westway and Crescent. Charles Wells, 1B Westway, spoke against the new route, pointing out that it would be noisy, especially for those homes on Westway which had windows about 50 ft. from the street. Wells said that he was in favor of good transportation to the city but against "haphazard urbanization" of streets. He did not feel that a bus had to stop at the door or even a 1/2 block away to provide good transportation. Since the buses will service the apartments (University Square-Charlestowne Village), Wells suggested that the bus come into that area and turn around and leave the same way. When asked how it would be possible for a bus to turn around in that area, Wells agreed that it would be very difficult because of lack of space. He thought the bus could go around Lakeside Drive instead. He also mentioned the possibility of the bus coming in and out Southway.

Wells said he believed that Metro invaded the community in the guise of good transportation but "I see the passage of buses on Westway as the next step to widening Westway."

Wells also felt that one reason given for the addition of the new route - to give easier access to the elderly and handicapped - might be a phoney argument, a red flag. He would like to know if elderly and handicapped people do live in that area and are in need of transportation, adding that if this were really true he would not be against the route.

Also speaking to council was Gerald Gough, Government Relations Officer for Metro, who told council he did not want to influence them on where to put the route. Metro, he said, would put the service just about anywhere the council wanted to have it, and if council wanted to cut it off, it would be cut off.

Gough noted that he had received 3 phone calls from Greenbelters favoring the new route. Gough denied that the need of transportation for the elderly and handicapped was a phoney issue. He informed council that a recent court decision had been handed down stating that the handicapped have a right to transportation service. Metro has had to add to their facilities in order to accommodate this and may have to provide access to buses as well. He advised council to move with extreme caution when dealing with the handicapped and elderly. "Those people," he said, "whether in

See METRO, page 8, col. 4

### WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Feb. 23, 8 p.m. GHI Board Meeting Hamilton Pl.

Sat., Feb. 25, 10 a.m. - 12, Little League Registration, Youth Center

Sun., Feb. 26, 8 p.m. Information Meeting on Demographic Alternative Studies Plans 1 & 2, Municipal Building

Mon., Feb. 27, 8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

Thurs., March 2, 7:30 p.m. Board of Ed. Public Hearing on Demographic Alternative Studies Plans 1 & 2, E. Roosevelt Sr. High.



## AGENDA REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL Monday, Feb. 27, 1978 8:00 P.M.

- I. ORGANIZATION
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Meditation
    - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
  4. Minutes of Meeting
  5. Additions to Agenda by Councilmen and Manager
  6. PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED USES FOR REVENUE SHARING FUND
- II. COMMUNICATIONS
  7. Petitions and Requests
  8. Administrative Reports
  9. Committee Reports
- III. OLD BUSINESS
  10. An Ordinance to Amend Article IV, "Admissions and Amusement Tax" of the Greenbelt City Code by Adding to Section 8-34, Title "Exclusions" a New Sub-Paragraph (D) to Provide that Non-Profit Community Groups or Associations Organized to Present or Offer any of the Performing Arts Shall be Exempt from the Admissions and Amusement Tax - Second Reading
  11. A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of Consulting Services from Insurance Buyer's Council in the Review, Updating, and Maintenance of the City's Casualty Insurance Program at a Cost Not to Exceed \$4,000 - Second Reading
  12. Bus Service on Westway, Lakeside Drive and Lakecrest Drive
  13. Overpass Across Baltimore-Washington Parkway - Advisory Planning Board Report #196
  14. Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Area Playground Improvements Utilizing Federal Community Block Grant Funds - Park and Recreation Advisory Board Report
  15. Twin Pines Relocation - Request for Sale or Lease of City Property
  16. North End School Closing - Busing Plans I and II
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
  17. County Legislation
- V. MISCELLANEOUS

## Save Your Labels

The Greenbelt American Legion Auxiliary thanks all who answered its request for Campbell Bean and Soup labels to help North-End School get equipment. The school is still short of its goal, so save your labels and send them to Shirley Seadler, 9497 Good Luck Road #4, Lanham, MD 20601 or call her for pickup 794-6143. The school's deadline for submission is March 15.

## Summary of School Demographic Plans

### Plan 1

Plan 1 calls for (1) the closing of North End School, (2) the return of Old Greenbelt's students bused to 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 Oakcrest 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 (75% Black) (3) reassigning North End's 175 walking students to Center School (75.5% White) (4) continuing the busing of 92 students from Springhill Lake Apartments to Oakcrest Elementary (75.9% Black) and (5) reassigning 49 Greenbriar students from Center to Magnolia (87.4% White). 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.

### Neither Acceptable

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.

## Three Greenbelters Attend G.O.P. Candidate Seminar

Three Greenbelters, Mrs. Eunice E. Coxon, 24th Legislative District Co-Chairman for the Republican Party, Miss Barbara Jennings, Executive Vice President of the Young Republicans of Prince Georges County and Tom Reynolds the latter two, of Springhill Lake, attended the all-day session-school for candidates and campaign managers on Saturday February 11, at Tucker's Restaurant, Upper Marlboro.

The morning and afternoon sessions with a break for a buffet lunch, included as speakers and guests: Dr. Aris T. Allen, Chairman, Republican Party of Maryland, Laurence Hulbert, Executive Director, Republican Party of Maryland, State Senator Howard Denis of Montgomery County and Lawrence Hogan, present Maryland National Committeeman and former Congressman, 5th District Maryland 1968-1974.

Greenbelt area Republicans interested in future candidate meetings or tickets for the Annual Lincoln Day Dinner Saturday, March 4 are asked to call 345-2756. The guest speaker will be U. S. Senator Harrison "Jack" Schmitt, former astronaut.

## Dress Rehearsal Sunday As School Committee Reports

by Mary Lou Williamson

Greenbelt will kick off its campaign in opposition to the School Board's Demographic Plans 1 and 2 with a special public meeting this Sunday, February 26 at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building. The evening, billed as the School Study Committee's "Report to the Citizens of Greenbelt," will serve both as an informational meeting for residents and as a dress rehearsal for those who will speak at the public hearings before the Prince Georges County School Board, which begin two days later.

The committee urges elementary school parents and interested residents from all areas of the city to attend, to listen to the presentations prepared by various members of the committee and to participate in the discussions. Every area of Greenbelt will be affected to some degree by either plan 1 or plan 2.

### Presentations

The 23 committee members who met February 19 have selected a number of topics which are now being developed as individual presentations.

(1) A summary of Greenbelt's positions and concerns will probably be read at each of the public hearings in an effort to speak to the other communities in the county as well as to the board.

(2) Dissatisfaction with Plans 1 and 2. While most county elementary students could attend a neighborhood school under the new plans, there would be 5-10% who would not (including Boxwood, Lakeside North, Charlestowne Village, Charlestowne North, University Square, Greenbriar and parts of Springhill Lake).

In looking at the plan 2 statistics to see what would happen to specific schools and students, Katharine Gough and Jacki Morrison found what they consider to be "glaring inequities". In the busing patterns, for example, the burden of busing for racial balance falls most heavily on the black communities, next on the integrated neighborhoods and significantly less on white areas. Similarly, the burden of long distance busing (more than 9 miles) falls on 10 black communities and two white ones: Greenbelt and Berwyn Heights.

In looking at the black-white ratios, Councilman Charles Schwan found that under the new plans many schools do not meet the 10-50% guidelines: rather, the black schools would become blacker and the white schools would become whiter. City Council on February 15 acted to seek the opinion of city solicitor Emmett Nanna with respect to (1) the constitutional merits of the School Board's Demographic Alternative Studies (Plans 1 and 2) and (2) the school board's proposed busing plan. See SCHOOL, page 8, col. 3

## Postcard Campaign to Support Metro E Line

A campaign to show citizen support of the Metro E line was announced by Mayor Pro Tem Gil Weidenfeld at Council's February 15 meeting. Post cards with a very brief message addressed to County Executive Winfield Kelly and Council Chairman Francis White are available to be signed by citizens who back the E line. Although 22,000 cards were originally printed at Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School, City Council authorized the printing of 2,000 more so that enough will be available at the city offices to meet citizen demands.

Council, at the request of Mayor Richard Pilski, decided to include them with the city trash bills currently being mailed. GHI is also being asked to distribute cards to its members.

All citizens in favor of the E-line are urged to make use of these post cards. If the response is large enough, County Council may be persuaded to give the E line top priority in its plans.

## Free Income Tax Help

Help with forms 1040 and 1040A will be available at Greenbelt Library from 7 to 9 p.m. on March 1, 15, and 25 and April 12.

Staff from the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program are trained in basic income tax preparation by the IRS and will be on hand to give free aid to taxpayers filing simple forms. Persons needing help should bring the tax package sent them by the IRS and pertinent tax documents such as W-2 forms and interest statements. VITA volunteers will also be able to give information on tax benefits such as the earned income credit, general tax credit and pension benefits.

Although VITA will serve anyone needing assistance with their taxes, this IRS program was developed to reach taxpayers with a simple tax status who cannot afford private help.

### GREENBELT SCHOOL STUDY COMMITTEE

will hold an

## INFORMATION MEETING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1978 - 8:00 P.M.

in the Council Room of the Municipal Building

### On Proposals of the Board of Education For Elementary School Attendance Areas

#### PLAN I

- Close North End School
- All central city students - Greenbelt Center
- All Springhill Lake students - Springhill Lake Elementary
- All Greenbriar, Glen Oaks, Windsor Green Students - Magnolia Elementary

#### PLAN II

- Close North End School
- Boxwood, Charlestowne Village, Lakeside North, University Square students - bused to John Carroll Elementary
- All other central city students - Greenbelt Center
- Some Springhill Lake students - bused to Oakcrest Elementary
- Other Springhill Lake students - Springhill Lake Elementary
- All Greenbriar, Glen Oaks, Windsor Green students - Magnolia Elementary

## THE GREENBELT RESPONSE?

# NO!

**GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW**

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

ALFRED M. SKOLNIK, PRESIDENT, 1959-1977

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Business Manager: Lynette Johnson; Circulation Manager: Mike Jones, 474-6091; Springhill Lake Circulation: Barbara Clawson, 474-4541. Published every Thursday by Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Assn., Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 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 (474-1131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volume 41, Number 14 Thursday, February 23, 1978

**Greenbelt Gets Raw Deal**

Greenbelters should be outraged that our city, along with ten black communities in Prince Georges County, has been singled out by the school board staff for long-distance school busing. In a plan drawn up at the direction of the school board to reduce busing within the county, Greenbelters find instead that 222 of their children will continue to travel on the average of 10-11 miles to distant schools at the same time as an available school nearby, North End, is marked for closing. School board guidelines also directed the staff to reward those communities that have already achieved racial integration in housing by assigning their children to neighborhood schools. Yet the proposed school plan does just the opposite in the case of Springhill Lake.

Clearly all citizens of Greenbelt—not only those with young children—will be adversely affected if the proposed school assignment plan is adopted. As figures presented at the February 9 board meeting clearly demonstrate, perhaps no issue more sharply impacts on the way a community develops than the kind of schools its children go to. In five years the number of Greenbelt's bused children attending public elementary schools has dropped from 400 to 130. These figures demonstrate the essential ineffectiveness of the school board's present policy. As board member Lesley Kreimpr pointed out, redistricting merely to meet racial quotas has a destabilizing effect. Families feeling themselves adversely affected tend to move away or to place their children in private schools, thus requiring in a year or two further reshuffling of students. If the trend continues, Greenbelt could become a community where families with young children no longer choose to live.

Greenbelters neither repudiate nor evade the principle of racial integration in public education. However, we feel the responsibility should be shared equitably. A school policy committed to quality education utilizing special programs in particular schools would better help to achieve stability and racial balance by attracting students to these schools.

All residents of Greenbelt sincerely committed to preserving the community—a place where people want to live and want to stay—should turn out to show their solidarity with the Greenbelt School Study Committee and the City Council as they meet Sunday with representatives of the county and metropolitan news media. The meeting, to be held at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building, should affirm Greenbelt's commitment to a school policy that enhances the quality of life for all.

**Dial 911 for Fire/Rescue**

by Wayne Lewis

A few weeks ago, the local newspapers carried the story about a 35-year-old mother and her 13-year-old daughter who escaped from their burning home late one night. The tragic part of this story was that both the mother and daughter were dead five minutes later because they went back into their home. This tragic event COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED.

Following are a few rules to aid you should you need to escape from a fire: 1) KNOW all possible ESCAPE ROUTES FROM EACH ROOM of the house; 2) STAY CLOSE TO THE FLOOR—breathe thru a wet cloth—take short breaths; 3) DON'T OPEN A DOOR THAT FEELS HOT; 4) KEEP DOORS and WINDOWS CLOSED; 5) Have a MEETING PLACE established OUTSIDE where all members will report as soon as possible; 6) NEVER RE-ENTER A BURNING BUILDING; 7) CALL the FIRE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING - DIAL THE 911 EMERGENCY NUMBER - give your address and name.

Could a smoke detector have made any difference? No! A smoke detector can only warn you about the situation; it can not tell you what to do. In the interest of public safety, a SMOKE DETECTOR SEMINAR will be held on MARCH 11 at the GREENBELT FIRE DEPARTMENT. This seminar is FREE and the PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. There will be demonstrations, movies, displays of several models of detection devices and much more. PLEASE, mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this seminar. THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN.

**At the Library**

Funday brings an after school break on Wednesdays for ages 6-9. The group meets at 4 p.m. in the Program Room.

Pre-schoolers will enjoy the story program at 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays in the Program Room.

Drop-In Stories for ages 3-5 continues on Thursdays at 2 p.m. in the Program Room.

The library displays featured for the month of February are Macramé by Shellie Forrest of Laurel; Greenbelt Staff Handiwork and Crafts from Branch Programs; and Things Found in Books and Other Library Materials.

**Toastmasters Club Meets**

The Agricultural Research Center Toastmasters Club #3039 recently installed new officers for 1978. Greenbelter William Cammack is Administrative Vice-President and Douglas Hawes is Sergeant at arms.

The Toastmasters Club meets on alternate Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in Room 112, Building 307 at the Research Center. Membership is open to all who are interested in developing their communication and leadership abilities. For further information please call Bill Cammack 344-2805.

**HORNBECK REPLIES TO EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS**

by Leta Mach

State superintendent of Schools Dr. Hornbeck talked with Prince Georges County citizens and Board of Education members on Wednesday, February 15, at Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School. Before answering questions from the floor, Dr. Hornbeck gave a short talk about "Project Basic". Under this program, students in Maryland schools would have to demonstrate "competencies to function effectively as adults in society" in order to graduate. These competencies would include first the basic skills of reading, writing, and calculating. In this regard, next year's ninth grade students will have to meet certain reading standards for graduation. Other competencies to be included will be in the areas of work, leisure time, citizenship, and survival skills such as consumer economics and parenting.

Those present expressed their appreciation for Dr. Hornbeck's visit. Many parents expressed approval of "Project Basic". However, one member of the audience asked "Are we setting our goals too low and aiming for mediocrity?" While some parents said their children never received any art instruction, others felt they spent too much time in art and music classes. One mother was concerned that she had not been notified when her child was absent too much. Others replied that this practice was not condoned and there must have been a mistake.

Several people representing "Parents for Pre-school Education" spoke. They were concerned that a law providing for education of preschoolers might not be carried out. They were especially concerned about handicapped children. Dr. Hornbeck replied that the State Board wants to implement the program before 1981.

A written statement from the Wildercrest and Lamont Parent Teachers Associations, the Md. Chapter National Congress for Educational Excellence, Prince Georges County Congressional Conservative Caucus, Prince Georges County Coalition for Children, Guardians for Traditional Education, and Black Caucus of Concorde was submitted. The statement expressed concern over wasted taxes, possible fraud, bribery, or conflict of interest in the opening of new schools and at the same time the closing of old ones in the same district. An "investigation of the waste of taxpayers' money in school construction" was called for.

**Work on Municipal Building Addition Proceeds Steadily**

Efforts to complete the interior of the addition to the Municipal Building have been progressing steadily. In early February all light fixtures had been installed in the basement and the elevator was finished but not operational. The two first-floor restrooms were tiled in blue ceramic and lights were positioned in the downstairs lobby. Lights were also put into the upstairs lobby and it is expected that the light fixtures for the office areas, will be arriving this week. Paneling in the city manager's office and the library conference room has been completed.

Since the first week of February the painters have gone over the building, a tile floor was installed in the first floor lobby and on February 1 carpeting was put down. It is expected that the plumbing and partitions for the office areas will soon be completed. There is still the unfinished business of the relocation of the sanitary sewer line. The completion of the building is scheduled for mid-March if all installations proceed as planned.

**WE GOOFED**

An article printed in last week's News Review concerning the nominations of candidates for office in the upcoming Twin Pines election contained an error. In order to run for elective office, a member of Twin Pines must either be approved by the Nominations and Elections Committee or have a petition signed by twenty-five members of Twin Pines. The qualifications stated in the article were those necessary for a candidate to be considered by the Nominations and Elections Committee.

**Mishkan Torah Service**

Dr. Chaim Hadomi will be the guest speaker at Mishkan Torah services on Sat., Feb. 26 at 9:30 a.m. Director of the School of Education of the Kibbutz movement, Dr. Hadomi will speak on "Educational Processes in Kibbutz Living." Interested persons are invited.

**Farrell - Baliles**

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Farrell, 71 Ridge Rd., announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbara, to John H. Baliles, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Howard Baliles, of Silver Spring. A July wedding is planned.

**Coop Offers Rebate**

Effective October 1, 1977 Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., began a special program only for Greenbelt Area Coop Members. A 3c per gallon rebate is presently being extended to all members in the Greenbelt Area if proof of purchase (cash receipt stamped by the Greenbelt EXVAL Service Station or a credit card receipt from the Greenbelt EXVAL Service Station) is sent into the main headquarters every (90) days. All receipts MUST be from the Greenbelt EXVAL Station ONLY.

Add up all gallons, attach a total for all receipts and send to: Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., Corridor Industrial Park, 8406 Greenwood Place, Savage, Maryland 20863.

**SENIOR CITIZENS' CLASS**

An experience in "Leisurely Living" for Senior Citizens will be offered in the Morrison Lounge of the Greenbelt Recreation Center on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. from March 1 through April 5. The course is free of charge to all Senior Citizens and is offered under the auspices of the Prince Georges Community College, Largo campus. Greenbelter John Gorman will instruct.

For further information call 345-6490.

**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH**  
Episcopal  
4512 College Avenue  
College Park  
(1 block east of Book Exchange)  
8 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10 a.m. Morning Prayer  
(Holy Eucharist 2nd & 4th Sun.)  
Rev. A. Moody Burt, Rector  
864-8880

**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)  
"In Touch With The TRUTH."  
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 & 7:00 pm  
Mid-week prayer service (Wed) 6:00 pm  
For bus transportation, call Church office 8:30-12:30 weekdays

**MISHKAN TORAH**  
Ridge & Westway 474-4223  
**RABBI KENNETH BERGER**  
Thurs., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. Sisterhood Meeting, - Aviva Berger demonstrates Falafel Making  
Fri., Feb. 24, 8 p.m. Men's Club Shabbat  
Sat., Feb. 25, 9:30 a.m. Services, Dr. Chaim Hadomi, "Education on the Kibbutz"  
Sat., Feb. 25, 8 p.m. "Showcase Theatre," Buffet Dinner, Dancing - 474-8795.



**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

**NOTICE**

AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 AT 8 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, THE COUNCIL WILL GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO METRO SERVICE ON WESTWAY, LAKE-SIDE DR., LAKECREST DR.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE URGED TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.

Gudrun Mills  
City Clerk

## Build for the Future

The current effort by a few members of the Prince Georges County Board of Education to reduce "busing" has its own wry humor. These members a few years ago propelled the school system into court under the theory that they were opposed to busing. The net result was to spend several hundred thousand dollars of educational money on litigation.

The issue has never been whether or not a child rides to school on a bus. The issue has always been the educational content and environment of the schoolhouse.

There are again problems and opportunities. Many of our schools have lowered enrollment. This is a nationwide phenomenon. Some schools that may have to be closed now might again be needed as population rises again. Many of our schools are key parts of the community framework and need to be maintained as an integral part of their community. School buildings not fully used for education could serve other community and county functions. The growing need for smaller classes and more individualized instruction for students with special needs could be met in schools that are not now fully occupied. Prince Georges, which can be justifiably proud of its long history as a national leader in special education programs, could continue to forge ahead in this vital area.

It is highly unlikely that the old Board members who built our legal straitjacket can rise to the occasion. However, there is now a clear majority of post-1973 Board members who can build for the future. In Dr. Feeney, we have a superintendent who has the capacity to devise educationally sound and imaginative plans for the 1980's. We have a PTA in the county with a renewed and active interest in education. We have a County Executive and Council supportive of improving the quality of education in the county.

The future is too important for those who will live in it to be chartered by those who live in the past.

Ruth S. Wolf  
Former Member  
Prince Georges County Board of Education

## TAX DEDUCTIONS

by Janet James

The Federal Income Tax form for 1977 does not permit an individual to itemize deductions unless they total over \$2200 for a single person or \$3200 for married couples filing jointly. For couples filing separate returns, the amount is \$1600 each. The Federal tax tables have allowed these amounts in calculating tax due.

The Maryland Income Tax form, however, allows only a \$500 standard deduction and does not permit a taxpayer to itemize unless he did so on his Federal return. This deduction, based on a previous Federal law, is considered by our Delegates at Annapolis, Gerard Devlin and Leo Green, to be unfair to Maryland taxpayers. They, along with delegate David Ross, have introduced emergency legislation to correct this situation.

When his attention was called to this inequity, Comptroller of the Treasury Louis Goldstein issued an order permitting Maryland taxpayers to itemize deductions on their Maryland returns, pending passage of the legislation. Goldstein has said that if the legislation does not pass (there is some opposition to it in Western Maryland) taxpayers who itemized only on the Maryland return would have the difference in tax billed to them without penalty or interest.

## SENIORS MEDICAID BILL PASSES SENATE

Legislation to increase the maximum allowable income levels for medicaid eligibility passed the State Senate this week and has gone to the House of Delegates for consideration.

According to Senator Edward T. Conroy, Co-Sponsor of the bill with others, the current limit of \$1800 annually for one person will be increased to \$2300... the \$2500 limit for a family of two would be increased to \$2800... a family of three to \$3300, etc...

## Questions on GHI Rehabilitation Plans

James W. Smith  
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.  
Hamilton Place  
Greenbelt, Md. 20770  
Dear Mr. Smith

It appears that we are going to be forced to take on a new mortgage just as the old one is liquidated. I object to being forced to pay for everyone's improvements.

Each unit owner should decide what his unit needs are and what he can pay for them. GHI is now responsible for overall maintenance and we, the members, pay highly for it.

It would be much better to have a building-materials and services unit set up within GHI operated on a cooperative, reasonable profit basis. Loans for such improvements could be arranged by individual members through the Credit Union or Twin Pines and we would not feel that a select group of manipulators were forcing us to mortgage our interests out of our control.

Each unit is already priced out of the market. Young people cannot afford them nor can the old. Adding more money to the individual's already high monthly maintenance cost may mean he cannot meet the monthly payments. The idea that a person can defer payments until he sells is totally unacceptable, allowing the corporation to build up an equity in the unit that endangers it and may allow GHI to take it over at some time in the future.

Recognizing that an improved heating system and improved insulation of units may be desirable, a loan might be approved by the membership and each member assessed a certain amount for that purpose only. The assessment would then terminate when the loan was liquidated, not go on forever.

I also think it's time for the membership to change the By-laws to make the directors go to the membership for an increase in monthly payments of any amount; even less than 9.9 percent.

I object to being forced into a blanket arrangement over which I have no control.

Bettie G. Denson

## In Response

(The following letter was written in response to the above letter from Ms. Bettie Denson.)

Dear Ms. Denson:

Thank you for your letter of January 9. I shall try to answer it, but you must realize that the Board of Directors has not decided what it shall recommend nor has the membership decided what it shall approve.

You wrote in part: Recognizing that an improved heating system and improved insulation of units may be desirable, a loan might be approved by the membership and each member assessed a certain amount for that purpose only. The assessment would then terminate when the loan was liquidated, not

go on forever.

Essentially, this is what the consultant is recommending in what he terms Phase 1 of the Basic Rehabilitation Program. I must emphasize that the Board has reached no decision, but it is my belief that it will recommend to the membership a program emphasizing reduction of heat loss, e.g. insulation.

What this would amount to would be a continuation of the effort begun in 1974 when the membership approved using the 1974 GNMA mortgage principal payment for heat conservation measures. The program was extended through 1975, 1976 and 1977 with GNMA funds and borrowed money.

The program has been remarkably successful. Between 1973, the year before it was begun, through 1977, South End frame home oil consumption was reduced by 29.6 per cent on a degree day basis. In the North End, frame home oil consumption was decreased by 31.2 per cent in the same period. Gallonage reductions amounted to 249,355 in the South End, 662,159 in the North End. At the average price per year covered, the cumulative reductions amounted to \$91,404 and \$239,415 respectively.

You suggested setting up within GHI a "building materials and services unit." This is a possibility, but it is one that the Board has not considered. As a matter of fact, the Board has not addressed the subject of implementation, assuming the membership were to approve a rehabilitation program. Yours is an innovative idea, however, that I shall bring to the attention of the Board.

Concerning payment for improvements, this too, is a subject on which the Board is not yet prepared to make a recommendation. Many possibilities are being investigated from government aid of one kind or another to borrowing from commercial sources. Apparently, we are precluded from taking out a new mortgage.

You wrote that increases in charges may mean that a member may be unable to meet his monthly payments. You added, however, that you found "unacceptable" that a "person can defer payments until he sells..."

The Board is aware that increases in monthly charges can bring about the situation you fear, i.e. inability of some members to pay for them. For that reason, among others, it has tried to keep monthly operating payments increases below 10 per cent. In that, it was successful between 1974 and 1978. Even so, some members may have been unable to meet the less than 10 per cent increases voted. Last year the Board reinstated a program to permit elderly members living on low incomes to defer future increases in monthly charges that might be approved (not the monthly charges) until the respective units were sold or otherwise disposed of. At such time, the total amount deferred, plus interest, is paid to

GHI. Obviously, a member, assuming he is eligible, chooses to defer or not to defer.

As to a change in the bylaws to require membership approval of any increase in monthly charges, certainly this could be done. I believe I should defend the present system, however, as being one in which increases in charges to members have been kept to a level as low as possible given the continuing impact of inflation. To do so has been particularly difficult the last few years. For example, we purchased fuel oil at 9 cents per gallon in 1967. Today it is more than 41 cents per gallon — an increase of more than 350 per cent. Real estate taxes increased by almost 150 per cent in the same period, water and sewer charges by more than 200 per cent despite a reduction in water use of more than 20 per cent...

James W. Smith  
President, Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

## MARATHON MADNESS

Nine Greenbelters, including one woman, completed the 17th Annual Washington's Birthday Marathon on the nearby Agricultural Research Center on February 19, along with 439 others. The record for this 26 mile, 385 yard certified course was 2 hours, 24 minutes and 17.8 seconds set by Marshall Adams in 1973. The new record by Bob Doyle of Providence, Rhode Island is 2:22:14 with Doyle winning by a mile. The weather was excellent for running, not too cold or windy. The first woman to finish was Janet Norem of Penn State (192) in 3:09:30. About 100 unofficial runners started who merely wished to run one or more of the 8 1/2 mile loops.

The first Greenbelt runner was Jim Isenberg, also first last year, in 9th place in 2:36:53; Jubie Aulisio (16) in 2:43:56; Leo Aulisio (18) 2:46:27; Martin Greenbaum (132) 3:21:21; Alexander Barnes (133) 3:21:37; Shalom Fisher (140) 3:23:21; Larry Wenzel (166) 3:30:23; Bill Bishop (174) 3:31:48; and Ann Park (285) 4:24:06. Jim Isenberg and Jubie Aulisio were on the winning Washington Running Club team.

Many local people and organizations cooperated to make this race a success. The Greenbelt JAYCEES sponsored the marathon to promote physical fitness, and provided men at the intersections for the runner's safety. The Greenbelt Running Club provided trophies to all Greenbelt finishers in the marathon and 3-mile races. The Greenbelt Recreation Department co-sponsored the marathon. Anyone from Greenbelt who did not get a trophy should call 474-9362.

## Open Letter to Postmaster

In light of the frequent adverse criticism directed at the Postal Service, you may be interested to learn of two rather unusual experiences I had with personnel of the Greenbelt Post Office on Monday last.

During the morning, our doorman rang and our mailman handed my wife a \$5.00 bill which apparently had been dropped by one of the youngsters who had previously made deliveries.

To me, in this day and age, this was unusual, especially since the mailman's thoughtfulness avoided what may have been a serious financial loss to the youngster.

The same afternoon, my wife's car got hung up on an ice shelf adjacent to the Co-op. A young man approached and again, with unusual thoughtfulness and some considerable expenditure of time and energy, managed to free the car. As he walked away, I observed a U.S. Postal Service patch on his sleeve.

I consider both of these incidents unusual even though service-related in the first case, and especially so since both occurred the same day.

Honesty, courtesy and consideration of this nature certainly are worthy of recognition and commendation.

Name Withheld

## THANKS

Thanks to my friends and neighbors and the Rescue Squad for their many calls, cards, and remembrances in my recent illness.

Jean R. Nance

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# Sedimentation Controls Now Largely Completed on Greenbelt Triangle

by Leta Mach

During the last weeks of January, the sedimentation controls for the Greenbelt Triangle Tract were completed. Although clearing on the Golden Triangle began in October, the sedimentation controls were not implemented at that time. The sedimentation controls were installed in phases as the clearing and grading of the tract proceeded. Bad weather conditions delayed this process according to the Prince George's County Department of Licenses and Permits (DLP).

Before the controls were completed, sediment was twice discovered leaving the site. Heavy rainfall caused breaching of the sediment control measures in early December. This was repaired in early January. On January 9, sediment was again found leaving the site, and a notice of violation was issued to the contractors to stop work until the sediment control measures were operating properly. This correction took a few days.

The sedimentation controls consist of two ponds and pipes to carry water. The two ponds along Greenbelt Road are connected by an open swale which allows water to overflow from the smaller one to the larger which measures 400 feet in length and varies in width from 30 to 60 feet. The basins which act as silt traps by collecting water are about 200 yards apart. Clear water from the larger pond drains through an existing culvert under Greenbelt Road to Greenbelt Park where it hits a headwall to break up the force of the water and then flows into a stream. In six to nine months it will be necessary to scrape the sediment which has collected in the pond and thus deepen it. After construction is completed it should not be necessary to do this procedure as often. The larger pond will be a permanent beautification feature on the property, according to Arthur Brown, Chief Building Inspector of the Department of Licenses and Permits. It will become a "reflecting pool" with "trees planted around" the dirt embankment. DLP was not yet certain whether the other pond would be permanent.

All clearing and most grading on the site has been completed. Brown stated that more land than just the Capitol Cadillac property had to be cleared to complete the sediment controls. In this manner, the western pond was created. Behind this pond a natural ravine was cleared on which to deposit dirt from the site. The topsoil here was scraped and then returned after the ravine had been filled.

To stabilize the earth, topsoil and seed has been spread over the cleared ground with the exception of the areas used for Capitol Cadillac construction. The seed should grow more in the spring. In some areas where seed won't take now, straw sprayed with an asphalt mixture has been placed. DLP stated according to the code this was an acceptable practice during the heavy winter months. In the spring, this mulch should be replaced with seed.

Beautification projects, such as planting trees to replace those cut down in violation of the site plan, should be done later. According to Arthur Brown, the contractor and architect are working hand-in-hand with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission to save as much of the foliage as possible. A major concern is maintaining a buffer around the property.

Arthur Brown stressed that DLP inspectors were "on top of it" (the work being done at the Triangle). Since there are special conditions attached to the plans for the Triangle, inspectors survey the site not less than two times a week. They check the stability of the embankments around the sediment basins and the color of the water leaving the culvert on the other side of Greenbelt Road. He pointed out the many factors, such as the 100-year flood level, and the rate and quantity of water flow, which needed to be considered in designing the sediment controls. He felt that these controls should accommodate the spring rains.

## Our Neighbors

Glad to hear that Tom Simpson, 216 Lastner, is on the mend after back surgery at George Washington Hospital. His wife Judy, and children, Tricia, Mary and Kelly are eagerly awaiting his return home today. We wish him a quick recovery.

A speedy recuperation to Margaret Baldwin who is home from the hospital after surgery.

Patty and French Caldwell visited Patty's parents, Josephine and Randolph Seay, 6-S Plateau, last weekend. The Caldwells reside in Orlando, Florida where Ensign Caldwell is attending nuclear power school.

Graduating from Frostburg College this term were Greenbelters Richard Lauziere, B.A., and Lawrence Hughes, B.S.

## Weidenfeld To Chair Liaison Committee

Gil Weidenfeld, Mayor Pro Tem of Greenbelt, has been appointed to chair a liaison committee of municipal officials which will meet, as requested by County Executive Winfield M. Kelly, with the Prince Georges County Budget Department to review allocations for municipal tax differential rebates.

This committee was formed after a meeting, requested by Weidenfeld, between the county executive and several municipal officials to discuss the latter's dissatisfaction with this year's municipal tax differential rebates. At that meeting, Weidenfeld, serving as spokesman for the municipal officials, indicated that several municipalities had received less than anticipated under the tax differential legislation passed in 1977. Greenbelt had received \$7,000 less than expected.

Kelly agreed that Weidenfeld's interpretation of the new tax differential legislation was correct and proposed that the underpayment to Greenbelt and the several other municipalities be adjusted when the 1978-79 municipal rebates were made. Kelly also proposed that a liaison committee of municipal officials be selected by the Prince Georges Municipal Association to meet with the county budget department to review the allocations for he municipal rebates and to work out possible problems prior to submission of the Executive's budget to the county council.

Weidenfeld was recently re-elected to the Executive Board of the Prince Georges Municipal Association, serving in that capacity for the fourth consecutive year. Weidenfeld also serves on the Executive Board of the Maryland Municipal League, a statewide municipal organization.

## Handicapped Fare

The Metro handicapped assistance unit will begin visiting metropolitan-area communities in an effort to make it easier for handicapped citizens to obtain identification cards which enable them to ride Metrobuses and trains at reduced fares. Persons in this area may register Tuesday, March 7, at the Hyattsville Branch Library, 6530 Adelphi Road.

Persons with handicaps may obtain a doctor's form from the transit authority by calling 637-1245. After they have received the form by mail and the doctor has filled in the needed information to certify the handicap a second call to the transit authority at the same number will assure an appointment at any of the 10 regional centers. The actual issuance of the identification card, which includes a photograph taken by the transit authority staff, takes 10 minutes.

Senior citizens and handicapped persons may ride Metrobuses at half the non-rush hour fare and trains at half the rush-hour fare.

For further information on the Transit Authority's program to assist handicapped passengers, call 637-1245 or 637-1246.

## CRAFT PEOPLE NEEDED

The Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club will be holding a craft show-strawberry festival at the Youth Center on May 20. They are now taking applications from craft people for space. For application or information call Pat Gainor 474-3649.

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SALES & SERVICES 474-4161  
474-4244  
474-4331

## Yard Survey Shows Unsightly Trash Cans

An informal survey of the yards of many residents of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. indicates that a number of members are keeping their trash cans in their yards or on their porches.

Trash cans are rather unsightly, and both GHI and the city require that "waste containers must be kept secluded until the day of collection . . . containers must be kept in clean, safe and sanitary condition and out of public view, preferably with a storage closet."

Many members are currently using their trash storage closets for other uses; some members have removed the closet entirely so that their living space is enlarged. In these cases, other enclosures must be obtained for the trash cans.

At the time GHI inspects a member's home prior to the sale of that home, the member is required to provide an enclosure for his trash cans before the sale can be consummated.

When Greenbelt was first built, one of the major concepts was to build homes in garden-like setting. Trash cans placed in the yard or on the porch give the impression of carelessness and could lead to gradual physical deterioration of the neighborhood.

As GHI embarks upon a major rehabilitation of its homes, one of the objectives will be to raise the consciousness of its members to take care of their homes in a safe, sanitary and pleasing manner.

At a future date, GHI staff will be conducting a more formal survey of the exterior of homes, and individual members will be cited for various violations including such items as sheds, fences, and trash cans.

- Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

## Recreation Review

### Little League Sign-ups

Little League Baseball season is almost here again. Those between the ages of 8-12 as of April 24 are eligible to play Little League ball. Sign up sessions will be held on the following Saturdays, February 25, March 4 and March 11, from 10-12 noon at the Youth Center. A birth certificate or a copy of it must be shown.

### Kite Flying Contest

The Annual Kite Flying Contest will be held on Sat., March 11 at 12 noon on Braden Field. Prizes will be awarded in various categories. Further details will be posted in both the Youth Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

### Roller Skating

Greenbelt Center Elementary School is the place for the Recreation Department sponsored roller skating program. Days and times are as follows: Wed., 4-6 p.m., 1st thru 3rd Graders; Fri., 4-6 p.m., 4th thru 6th Graders; Sun., 1-3 p.m., Family Skate - All ages.

A nominal fee will be charged at the door. Bring rink skates or rent them. For further information, call the Recreation Department, 474-6878.

### Open Area Gyms

The following is a schedule for other gyms in the area that are open to the public:

Greenbelt Junior High School - Sun., 2-6 p.m., and Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School, Sun., 6-10 p.m.

### Grading Methods Under Fire

The Board of Education will hold an open hearing for public input on grading and reporting procedures at 7:30 p.m. Tues. March 7 at Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High. Anyone wishing to speak may call 952-4623 to be placed on the agenda.

## Greenbelt Pizza - Sub Shop

THURSDAY & FRIDAY - Large Pepperoni, Sausage, or Mushroom Pizza ..... Your Choice \$2.85

SATURDAY & SUNDAY-Extra Large Pepperoni Pizza \$4.25

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**Ice Cream**  
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SAVE 50c WITH THIS COUPON  
**BRIM COFFEE**

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1-LB. CAN **3.95**

CO-OP

Effective Feb. 22-28, 1978  
Limit - One Per Family

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WITH TAIL lb. **2.26**

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FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
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- Heim Muenster lb. 2.06
- Polish Tilsit lb. 1.81
- Midget Provolone lb. 2.13
- HERKIMER Cheese-Nut Log lb. 2.92

U.S.D.A. CHOICE

**Boneless Beef**  
for **Stew** lb. **1.48**

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**PICK - OF - THE - CHIC**  
BREASTS DRUMSTICKS THIGHS lb. **88¢**

DAW

**Corned Beef Rounds**  
lb. **99¢**

BEER & WINE SPECIAL

**BILLY BEER**  
SIX PACK 12-OZ. CANS **1.57**

**PORK CHOPS**  
END RIB lb. **1.26**

- LOIN END CHOPS ..... lb. 1.36
- CENTER CUT RIB CHOPS ..... lb. 1.76
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U.S.D.A. CHOICE

**DELMONICO STEAK** lb. **2.99**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE

**BONELESS CHUCK ROAST** lb. **1.28**

BONELESS Shoulder Roast lb. 1.46

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## Daily Checks by Homeowners Urged As Means of Cutting Electricity Use

(The following article by Joanne Omang is reprinted with permission from the January 16 issue of the Washington Post.)

What this country needs is a good way to scare Mary Clarke of Greenbelt into running around her all-electric kitchen flipping switches to "off."

Getting people to save electricity is a goal of the Department of Energy, where studies have recently found that fewer Americans believe there is an energy crisis now than believed it nine months ago. After taking part in one of dozens of studies on ways to get the Mary Clarkes of the country to act, she had a suggestion:

Why not install an indoor electric meter that clicks up the kilowatts in dollars and cents as they rush by on their way to the air conditioner, she said, just the way a taxi meter puts a price on the passing miles?

It happens, however, that the Department of Energy is already studying just such a device. In fact, behavioral researchers are studying anything they can think of that might translate the rhetoric of conservation into reality.

So far, the best answer seems to be feedback. "Letting people know they've succeeded can work in getting people to save energy up to about 10 per cent," said Jeffrey Milstein, Energy's director of marketing and educational research. The figure coincides with President Carter's national energy conservation goal, but nobody is suggesting that the nation is heading that way yet.

The feedback homeowners like Mary Clarke got in the Greenbelt study consisted of drawings of faces: smiling faces for every day that the household conserved energy and frowning faces every day it did not. A caption pointed out how much would have been saved or lost if all D.C. homes had used energy in the same way the Greenbelt homeowner did.

It worked. But when the feedback stopped, so did most of the conservation.

"All we really did was turn off the light bulbs," Clarke said. "It was a real game . . . we'd see the neighbors and say, 'Well, I did better than you did,' but now we only think about it occasionally . . ."

"Oh, there's no reason we couldn't go out and read our own meter to see how we're doing, but we just don't," she went on. "Maybe if they put digits on the meters . . ."

Dr. Richard Winett of the non-profit Institute for Behavioral Research (IBR) of Silver Spring, which conducted the five-month Greenbelt study, said it showed that even people who already use little electricity can find ways to cut down if they get feedback for doing so. Skeptics who don't believe in the energy crisis will do it too, he said.

A monthly electricity bill is really useless," said Winett's colleague Dr. Michael Neal. "If you ask people how many kilowatts they're using most don't have the vaguest idea. Most people don't even know where their meter is . . . Even weekly feedback isn't enough. Daily is better, and it should be continuous if possible."

William Clarke is an aerospace engineer with a degree in heat transfer, and should know about energy saving if anyone should. The Clarkes' spacious town house with insulation, storm windows and central air conditioning was using 23.6 kilowatts a day when the study began last April, for a monthly bill of about \$45. In midsummer, when bills for similar homes had gone up 20 per cent, the Clarkes had cut their energy use by 2 per cent. "We liked to get those smiles," said Mary Clarke.

Similarly, Deloyce Rogers started out using 18 kilowatts a day in his small wooden town house that has no storm windows, one room air conditioner and little insulation, but two television sets, a big stereo and an electric kitchen. His family of three cut their energy use by 30 per cent, to 13 kilowatts a day at midsummer.

"Mostly we turned off the lights and went to bed earlier so we didn't watch so much TV," Rogers said. The color set flickered silently behind him as he talked, the sound turned down. "We're conscious of it now, I guess, but not as much as we should be. Then we were get-

ting a sheet (of paper) every day and we didn't want to get too many of those frowns."

Like many people, the Rogers family is not convinced an energy crisis exists. "It's all politics, people trying to get rich," he said.

Pearl Rogers agreed. "People that can afford to pay the bills don't pay much attention to energy. We're doing all the saving and they're doing all the enjoyment," she said.

George and Joyce Krieger decided early on that there was a problem and worked on cutting their electricity use before the Greenbelt study ever began. With a large detached, centrally air-conditioned home, they and their two children were using 14.3 kilowatts a day, less than the Rogers family. "phenomenally little," according to study director Winett.

During the summer their use went up to 17.5 kilowatts a day, but use in similar households actually doubled, Winett said. "If the air conditioning is on, the kids tend to stay in the house," Joyce Krieger said as an assortment of children climbed on her. "We used it minimally in the summer. We've always done that, but this time we had a daily reminder."

Researchers are currently trying to find ways of providing the daily reminders on a national scale. Much study proved that cash incentive payments were very effective in cutting energy use, "but that's unrealistic. We can't pay 70 million households to save energy," Milstein said.

Widespread media publicity on community use totals seemed to be effective during California's water shortage last year, but actual water cutoffs may have been the real prod, the researchers agreed. A Denver study is trying out saturation advertising to promote energy savings, but Milstein is not optimistic.

"Exhortation doesn't cut any ice with half the people in the country," he said. "Feedback is the second most effective next to cash payments, and it's related to the idea of saving money." With that in mind, Energy's consumer motivation branch has equipped 70 Washington homes with energy monitors designed by a North Carolina home builder named R. B. Fitch.

The monitors operate much like Mary Clarke's suggested taxi meter-style electric digital meter, continually showing how much an hour's worth of energy will cost if the homeowner continues using it at the present rate. He turns on the television and the rate goes up. The study will last a year.

## Roving Toms a Nuisance

by Mary Kimmel

Alfred, Buster, and all you amorous Tom cats serenading me at night, I love you! But I also love my sleep! My reputation as a cat lover must be spreading through the feline population of Greenbelt, for the chorus of howls outside my window is ever-increasing.

First there was the big, fat-faced Russian Blue. Every evening he wanders into the court "purrowing" around my house and onto my back porch. Many times he has persistently sung all through the night, stubbornly returning after I've thrown things at him, hurled epithets from the window, and even chased him. He shows up in fair or even the foulest weather. He has adopted me and thinks my yard is his territory, which he defends with a vengeance, despite my own neutered, peace-loving cats whose territory this really is!

Two of Russian Blue's old competitors — a battered old Siamese with crimped ear and tail, and a black-and-white longhair with half-bald, infected face — have disappeared. They have either mercifully gone to cat heaven or, alas, could it be someone is actually taking care of them?!

But others have taken their place. There's the quiet orange tomcat. He pays me a visit off and on, leaving his aroma on my windows, doors, and shrubs. Aside from his fragrance, he's usually no nuisance, but the Russian Blue will not share the porch with anyone. The orange cat has lately been staying part of the night, causing Russian Blue to howl and challenge him to fight.

Were this not enough, other toms have shown up. Just a young tabby, a black-and-white neighbor, has come to solicit me, or perhaps to take lessons from the two older cats. Sleek, beautiful and playful, he arouses Russian Blue to fierce jealousy and the two commence a howling showdown. Oh, what a lovely duet!

One recent night, all came to call at the same time. My cats were also perturbed at this visitation, and growled and hissed at the windows.

Despite my chasing the tom cats off several times, they persisted into the wee hours of the morning, until I called one owner and pleaded that they take their cat in.

For the love of cats and people, owners please keep your toms in at night! Chances are, keeping them in may disturb your peace, but it isn't fair to allow them to disturb others' peace. Though most cat owners will agree it is impossible to leash a cat, there are other alternatives. One is a simple and not too expensive operation. Neutering makes a big difference in a male cat and is a procedure all responsible pet owners must consider. Don't worry about endangering the cat population — for every one of Greenbelt's tomcats, there are hundreds more, most of them strays. Don't worry about your cat's personality, he will be much more loveable and won't want to roam and fight as much. His aroma will diminish greatly. If he's used to being outdoors he most likely won't get fat. You and your neighbors — and your cat — will be much happier in each others' company.

For those who can't meet the cost of the neutering operation (usually not over \$20.00 for males, more expensive for females), the Humane Society may be able to help. They will put up part of the cost if you qualify for assistance. All you have to do is call and ask for an application, fill it out and send it back. The Prince Georges County Humane Society has a list of local veterinarians who participate in this program. Call them at 627-1570 for an application and detailed instruction on this neutering program for cats and dogs.

This cat lover and all neighbors

## Police Blotter

Two juveniles were apprehended by Officer Craddock after they allegedly removed beer cans from display at the Armory at a beer can show. The two 13 year olds from Brookeville, Maryland were released to the custody of their parents after making restitution, or returning the property to the rightful owners.

in and around this court beg you to keep your tomcats home at night or the animal warden may pay you a call.

**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).

**Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee, Inc.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**December 31, 1977**

Beginning Balance as of Jan. 1, 1977	\$ 3,831.59
<b>Income:</b>	
Carnival Rides	\$7,426.11
Booth Deposits	360.00
Miss Greenbelt Pageant	440.00
Donations	820.00
Commissions	1,978.53
Interest on Savings	210.14
<b>Total Income in 1977</b>	<b>11,234.78</b>
	<b>\$15,066.37</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Advertising	445.09
Postage & Stationery	87.55
Telephone	72.31
Police Service	40.00
Pictures	101.50
Entertainers	660.00
Permits	175.00
Ticket Sellers	362.75
Equipment Rentals	1,070.00
Miss Greenbelt Pageant	503.31
Art Show	209.00
Awards Party	41.00
Opening Ceremonies	57.05
Special Contests	55.00
Talent Contest	47.65
Foot Races	50.00
Special Events	139.40
Parade	612.31
Carnival	5,636.65
Miscellaneous (incl. insurance)	1,140.55
<b>Total Expenses in 1977</b>	<b>\$11,506.12</b>
Balance on Hand as of Dec. 31, 1977	\$ 3,560.25
Expenses exceeded Income	(\$ 271.84)
Approved by Audit Committee Feb. 15, 1978	
R. B. Sonneveldt, Treasurer	

# 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  
434-0437



