

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 4, Number 17

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, March 16, 1978

CITY COUNCIL ZIPS THROUGH SESSION, BUTTONS UP BUSINESS IN RECORD TIME

by Elaine Skolnik

The Greenbelt City Council on March 6 zipped through the city's business in an hour and a half, taking up such matters as school surplus land, land acquisition, Springhill Lake neighborhood park, and state legislation.

Surplus Land

A letter will be written to County Executive Winfield Kelly and County Council Chairman Francis White expressing (1) the city's interest in the future of the 72 acres that the Board of Education recently declared surplus and (2) the desire to participate in all considerations pertaining to the future use of the property, which is located between Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. property.

The Board's decision to divest itself of this land must be approved by the Interagency Committee for State School Construction before the property is turned over to the county government for its re-utilization or disposal. In releasing the land that was earmarked for a 3-school complex in the 1960's (see story on p. 1), the School Board noted that (1) the high school (Eleanor Roosevelt) had been constructed on another site, (2) changing growth and population patterns made the additional junior high and elementary sites unnecessary (the Board retains another junior high site near Windsor Green), and (3) the county will be able to sell the sites at a profit and again begin to collect property taxes on them.

Councilman Charles Schwan thought the city might want to acquire some of the land, perhaps some "for nothing," or consider acquisition along with other items for a possible bond referendum. The county, for example, has turned over surplus school buildings to the cities of Bowie and College Park for a \$1.00 a year. The United Cerebral Palsy Agency is sharing a school building with the city of Bowie.

At a previous meeting, council directed the city staff to prepare a "wish" list for a possible referendum. This has been done and department heads are now assigning values and priorities to the items in preparation for a council workshop meeting.

Parcel 2

A resolution was introduced for the negotiated purchase of 9.9574 acres of land at the end of Gardenway for parkland acquisition at \$20,100 an acre. (Funds for the land will come out of the Elderly Housing Project.) The land will replace the open space land lost by the conversion of the Ridge Road Center park property to an elderly housing site. This action has received approval from both the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of Maryland, which provided funds for the purchase of the Ridge Road Center Property.

Additionally the city will be acquiring, at half the above price, a small parcel of .1878 acres, which is to be dedicated as a public road for access for both the city park property and the remaining land not sold by the owners, Burton J. Reiner, et al.

Council referred to the city staff for study and comment a joint proposal made by Charles Collins, principal of Greenbelt Junior High School, and Arnold Thomas, member of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, recommending that the wooded area adjacent to Breeze-wood Drive on the Junior High School property be developed into a neighborhood park with picnic tables and other facilities.

Following a report by Chairman Howard Savage of the School Study

Committee, Mayor Richard Pilski thanked Savage and committee members for their excellent presentations to the county school board, noting that "the committee, and not council, deserved the credit."

Mayor Pro-Tem Gil Weidenfeld pointed out that one member of council, Charles Schwan, did a tremendous job "working late hours developing statements." Schwan had praise for "Howard Savage and colleagues who did a magnificent job — among them Kathrine Gough and Jackie Morrison."

Council supported enthusiastically a bill introduced by State Senator Edward T. Conroy and others that required the State Highway Administration (SHA), prior to negotiating for the purchase of land for future right-of-way, to advise the Prince Georges County government and the municipality in which the land is located. Council felt this legislation would avoid repetition of the failure of SHA to give the county and city notice of its intent to acquire land on the eastern portion of the Triangle for a possible entrance ramp to the southbound lane of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. (Assistant City Manager Dennis Pieniak and Schwan testified in support of the bill on March 7.)

City Manager James K. Giese reported that the SHA has not taken any formal action to purchase the land, although the agency is negotiating and intends to make an offer shortly. Should this land be acquired, it is unlikely that PEPCO will be able to locate a substation on its property in the eye of the ramp.

Council also supported State bills that would give tax credit to those who undertake substantial rehabilitation in neighborhood improvement areas.

NOW Legislative Briefing

A briefing on current state legislative issues will be sponsored March 18 by the Northern Prince George's County Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Delegates Pauline H. Menes, Kay Bienen, and Mildred Harkness will discuss legislation of interest to women and evaluate problems involved in obtaining passage of the bills.

The briefing will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in the party room at Westchester Park Apartments, 6200 Westchester Park Drive in College Park. Admission is free and the public is invited. The meeting will be followed by a social hour.

GHI Rehabilitation

Two membership information meetings have been held on plans for the rehabilitation of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. The next step is for GHI management to sift through all the questions that came up at the meetings. In addition, management aided by the Long Range Planning Committee will make its own evaluation of the consultants' proposals and make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Board will then come up with what it feels is the most cost-effective and energy-saving plan for rehabilitation. At this point, the final plan will be presented to the membership for approval.

Members' ideas are still being sought. Suggestions should be submitted to GHI in writing

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL Monday, March 20, 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

II. COMMUNICATIONS

6. Petitions and Requests
7. Administrative Reports
8. Committee Reports

III. OLD BUSINESS

9. An Ordinance to Close Out and Return to Surplus All Unencumbered Appropriations in the Capital Improvement Fund Except Those for Construction of a Recreation Center in Springhill Lake and Construction of an Addition to the Municipal Building and Renovation of the Existing Building and to Make an Appropriation in the Capital Improvement Fund in the Amount of \$210,000 for Acquisition of Part of Parcel II, Thereby Making Total Appropriations for this Fund Amount to \$2,222,309.05 - Second Reading
10. A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of Two Parts of Parcel II Consisting of 9.9574 and 0.1978 Acres for a Total Price of \$202,000 Subject to Certain Terms and Conditions - Second Reading
11. METRO "E" Route - Draft Report on Metrorail Alternatives

IV. NEW BUSINESS

12. Cable Television Commission
13. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments for Greenbelt Homes, Inc
14. Appointments to Boards
15. Swimming Pool Fees
16. Mosquito Control 1978
17. Brevard Site Solid Waste Disposal Contingency Plans
18. Federal Legislation - HR 10856 - Establishment of Single Intergovernmental Authority (Washington Metropolitan Region Study Commission)

V. MISCELLANEOUS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda subject to change.

WHAT GOES ON

Fri., Mar. 17, 7:30 p.m. - Grenoble Theater Guild Auditions, St Hugh's School Gymnasium.

Sat., Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - noon Boys/Girls Club Membership Registration, Youth Center, Springhill Lake Recreation
3 p.m., 7:30 p.m., Auditions (see above)

Mon., Mar. 20, 8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

Tues., Mar. 21, 7:30 p.m. Center School PTA Meeting
7:30 p.m. Roosevelt PTSA

Sun., Mar. 26, 7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service, Lake Park.

HISTORY OF SCHOOL BOARD TRACT RECALLS ZONING CONTROVERSY

by Elaine Skolnik

The latest move by the Prince Georges Board of Education to divest itself of some 72 acres of land on Parcels 1 and 2 — the land between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. — has stirred up memories of the 1960s and early 1970s when the 230-acre tract was the center of controversy. During that period, proposals for rezoning the land to a higher density and for a 3-school complex were bitterly opposed by Greenbelters. Such uses for the virtually land-locked tract were considered to be disruptive of the Greenbelt Master Plan (1964) and, later of the county's Master Plan (1970).

The goal of the Greenbelt Plan was to preserve the fundamental character of Greenbelt as a low-density, planned residential community with emphasis on ample parkland and spaciousness, adequate community facilities and minimum traffic congestion.

Senior High School

From 1965 to 1971 the city council, Greenbelt Homes, Inc., Citizens for a Planned Greenbelt (CFPG) and Save Our Community (SOC) were locked in battle with earlier Boards of Education. They found it unacceptable to locate a senior high school in a purely residential neighborhood more than a mile from the nearest accessible 4-lane major artery—Greenbelt Road. All school bus and other school traffic would have to traverse the narrow 2-lane streets of Ridge Road and Northway Road. Additionally, there was a lack of sewage facilities.

Originally — the latter part of 1964 — the Board of Education (1) earmarked parcel 15 (land running along the Beltway to the Lake Park behind the American Legion Post Home) as the location for a high school to serve 1800 students and (2) instituted condemnation proceedings on the site (owned by Bresler and Lerner), which was designated in the Master Plans for a senior high school.

However, over the city's objections, the Board reversed its choice in the fall of 1965, when owners of parcels 2 (Bresler, Lerner, Ammerman) made a proposal for the sale of 55 acres for a 3-school complex (senior high school, junior high school and elementary school) at an average price of \$8,000 an acre.

Since the acreage on the Beltway site was more costly, the city of Greenbelt offered to purchase \$100,000 worth of parkland for a combined school-city educational and recreational area in order to reduce the amount of land that the school board would have to purchase at the Beltway site.

On January 11, 1966 the Board of Education reaffirmed its decision to acquire 58 plus acres on parcel 2 located south of Northway Road extended. (Later in July 1969 the Board bought an additional 10 plus acres on Parcel 1, north of Northway extended, at \$19,000 an acre.)

GHI attempted to stop the action by filing a law suit (1966 to 1968) but was unsuccessful. Planning for the school then proceeded, but delays occurred when the Board's staff ran into problems relating to road access, sewage hookup and positioning of the schools.

The issue flared again in the spring of 1970 when plans for the high school's construction became imminent. SOC, a new, vigorous citizens organization, fought hard to reverse the decision to locate the schools on parcels 1 and 2. With full support of the city council and the public, the movement to seek an alternate site was capped with success in October 1970 when the school board decided to move the senior high school. Land for construction of an elementary school and a junior high school was, however, retained.

Appeals at the time had also been made to the State legislature and a resolution was adopted and signed by the Governor calling for a moratorium on the construction of a senior high school until alternate sites were explored. This move was followed by a decision of the county commissioners to withhold construction funds from the 1970 Capital Improvements Budget.

On February 9, 1971, the Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing its staff to purchase 40 acres of the Smith-Ewing North property for the new school—Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School.

Zoning History

When the Federal government

withdrew from Greenbelt in 1952-1953, it sold 750 acres of undeveloped land, including parcels 1 and 2, to the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation (GVHC), later Greenbelt Homes, Inc. These parcels were zoned Rural Planned Community (RPC). This zoning category permitted multiple uses, but required an overall plan for the tract to be approved by the county commissioners. (The city of Greenbelt does not have zoning authority.)

The vacant land purchased by GVHC was transferred to Greenbelt Land Improvement Corporation, its wholly-owned subsidiary. After several unsuccessful attempts to develop the vacant property, GVHC sold GLIC to Warner-Kanter Construction Company, a private developer, in May 1955. Portions of the land were later sold to various developers.

In 1961, owners Garvin and Martin requested high-density zoning for Parcels 1 and 2. — (R-18 apartment zoning; 21 units an acre). At a marathon zoning hearing at which Greenbelters protested rezoning for these and other tracts in the city, the county commissioners denied the petitions. On February 21, 1962 the commissioners rezoned parcels 1 and 2 to R-R (rural residential), which allowed for single family development, two

See HISTORY, p. 8, col. 3

Pedestrian Killed While Walking on Crescent Rd.

by Mike Jones

Last Thursday, March 9, Dorothy Cookson left her home at 39-G Ridge shortly before 8 p.m. to walk to St. Hugh's Church. She was a regular patron of the Thursday night bingo game in the church basement, and this Thursday, as usual, she was going to join her friends and listen to the numbers, maybe even win a game. It was a weekly social event which she looked forward to.

Dorothy Cookson never made it to bingo. At about 8, Dorothy was struck by an automobile and killed while she was walking on Crescent Road. According to the police press report, she "was apparently walking in the roadway at 8 p.m., wearing dark colored clothing, and the operator of the vehicle did not see her until it was too late to keep from striking her . . ."

"We tried to revive her," a spokesman for the rescue squad explained, "then the people in the medic unit tried. She was dead from the impact, but, you know, we have to keep trying until somebody says stop." Since the accident had occurred almost directly in front of the fire house, it took the squad virtually no time in getting to her. After preliminary steps were attempted, she was taken to P.G. Doctor's Hospital, where she was pronounced dead shortly after "attempts by the hospital staff were made to stabilize the patient . . ." according to the squad report.

According to Lt. Krob of the Greenbelt Police Dept., the operator of the vehicle was not charged. "The driver was not going too fast, and she (Miss Cookson) was wearing dark clothing. There was nothing that we could have charged the driver with."

There is a sidewalk along that stretch of Crescent Rd., but the reason Dorothy Cookson was not using it was all too simple — snow and ice made it all but impassable, although it is city policy to try to clear sidewalks. Also, that section of the road is not well lit.

By Friday afternoon, enough snow and ice had melted so that the walk could be cleared and made passable again. For Dorothy Cookson, it was a day too late.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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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 17 Thursday, March 16, 1978

W. Tom White

W. Tom White, a former resident who worked for Bausch and Lomb sales, died of cancer recently in a nursing home in Langhorne, Pa. Survivors include four children and nine grandchildren.

Joseph J. McCord

Joseph John McCord, 14Q Ridge Road, died suddenly on March 15 at the age of 59. He had been a resident of Greenbelt since 1949. He is survived by his wife, Ann McCord, daughters Ann Quirance, Colleen Washburn, Joan McCord and Judy McCord, four grandchildren, five brothers and seven sisters. Services will be at St. Hugh's, Saturday, March 18 at 10 a.m.

Dorothy C. Cookson

Dorothy C. Cookson, of 39-G Ridge Road, a long-time resident of Greenbelt, died on Thursday, March 9, after being struck by a car while on her way to Bingo at St. Hugh's Church. She is survived by her father, Charles J. Cookson, her sister, Mary H. Hollinger, and her brothers Charles T., John P., Robert F., and William E. Cookson. Mass of Christian Burial was offered for her on Monday, March 13 at St. Hugh's Catholic Church. Interment was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to St. Hugh's Church.

Boys and Girls Club

Boys and Girls Club membership registration will be this Saturday, March 18, from 10 till noon at the Youth Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center. This sign-up is good for all sports during the year. Unless more people sign up showing an interest in softball and baseball these sports will not be held this year.

Greenbelt's 10 & Under team, coached by Bill Rice, finished an undefeated season Saturday with a crushing 37-17 victory over Bowie. Mike Gielen, averaging 12.6 points game, led all scorers with 19 points as A. J. Morgan and Kyle Gray controlled the boards at both ends of the court. The 10 & Under team now takes its 12-0 record into the county championship.

INCOME TAX LECTURE

Malcolm Funn from the Internal Revenue Service will speak at a general public meeting - "Income Tax Information for the Single Parent." The meeting which is being sponsored by Greenbelt CARES Youth Services Bureau will be held Sat., March 18, at 10:30 a.m. until noon at the library.

Mishkan Torah Notes

A Purim Carnival will be held at the Mishkan Torah on Sunday, March 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. complete with games, prizes, food and surprises. The community is welcome. There is a nominal charge.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

An Easter Sunrise Service will be held at the Greenbelt Lake Park on Sunday, March 26 at 7 a.m. The service is sponsored by the following churches: Greenbelt Baptist, Greenbelt United Church of Christ, Mowatt Memorial United Methodist, Berwyn Presbyterian, and St. Hugh's Catholic.

The Rev. Msgr. William F. O'Donnell, pastor of St. Hugh's Catholic Church, will give the Easter sermon, "Christ is Risen." In the event of inclement weather, services will be held in Grenoble Hall of St. Hugh's Church, 135 Crescent Road.

More on Rehabilitation

To Fellow GHI Cooperators:

The Monday and Saturday meetings on the Rehabilitation and Planning Study were very interesting and informative. The most information was elicited from the questions and answers, don't you think?

It develops that there is a great deal of confusion and much work to be done before a workable plan can be presented to the membership for adoption or rejection.

The point was made over and over again by Mr. Beck that 40 years deterioration must now be corrected if we don't want our homes to fall down around our heads. One wonders what GHI has been doing with the maintenance charges which were supposed to maintain the standard of these dwellings and replace worn out structure as time took its toll.

So now by means of \$25,000,000 loans we can save our homes and mortgage the rest of our lives to pay for all sorts of up-dating so that we may compare with new developments in the area. (My, how glibly millions of dollars slip off peoples' tongues these days). Personally I couldn't care less about competing with new developments. I certainly shouldn't have to pay as much as people buying new homes. After all, I planned 30 years ago to have a home in my old age which my income would allow me to proudly maintain.

By questions from the floor it develops that naturally tax assessments will go up considerably after these improvements. That expense will have to be added to the cost of the loans.

Another question brought out the fact that Government loans are not by any means a certainty, that no loans will be forthcoming unless we buy the whole package (this one being considered, or some other); that even then we may vote the improvements and Government can turn us down, and we will be stuck with the contracts and the responsibility to obtain loans at higher rates of interest. As I understand it, from questions and answers, grants from government agencies - County, State and Federal - which we understand are gifts, not loans, will be administered by GHI on a basis of loan (that is to be paid back upon sale of the unit) and when paid back will become a revolving fund to be used over and over again - purpose of use not specifically defined. Who is going to police the agency administering this fund?

I would never accuse Board members or administrators of GHI of dishonesty, but I definitely fear their judgment. It has been fallible in the past.

The meeting brought out many other questions which disturb me and evidently many others, but one letter would turn into a book if it dealt with all of them. Nevertheless, the Board is to be commended in having the study made. It at least gives us something tangible to work with.

Bettie G. Denson

Singles invited to:
FIRST INTERACTIONS
First and Third Fridays
beginning March 17
Facilitated discussions & Social Hour/Refreshments
Paint Branch Unitarian Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
doors open 8:00 p.m.
\$2.00 Admission

Center School PTA

Center School PTA will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m., beginning promptly with a business meeting. At 8 p.m. there will be a series of parent-teacher conferences for those parents who were unable to attend conferences with their children's teachers.

Concurrently there will be a program which will run throughout the evening so that people who have conferences will be able to attend all other parts of the program.

There will be four centers of interest areas, each with its own mini-program: 1. a videotape of Mrs. Manning's kindergarten class, 2. an animated film by Mrs. Sullivan's students, 3. a student film strip "What Greenbelt Center means to me" coordinated by Mrs. Morton and 4. Guide to Conference Techniques by Principal John Van Schoonhoven.

Car pools will be formed and notices will be sent home with the children. For more info, 474-4596.

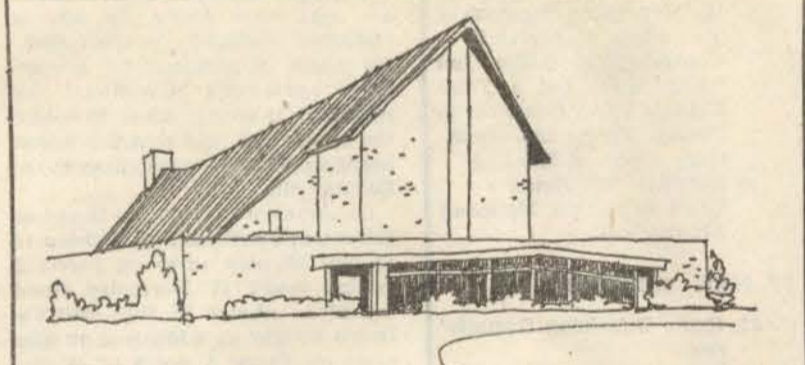
E. ROOSEVELT PTSA

The Roosevelt PTSA will meet Tues., Mar. 21, 7:30 p.m. Nominees for the board will be announced. Scholarship Comm. will report.

THANKS

To the Editor:
Our sincere thanks to the many friends and neighbors for the flowers, Mass cards, other expressions of sympathy, and many acts of kindness extended to us.

The Family of Dorothy Cookson



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

CITY OF GREENBELT

Citizens Boards and Committees

From time to time vacancies occur on the several established citizens boards and committees, and the City Council is seeking resumes from Greenbelt residents interested in an appointment and thus serving the community.

Present or future vacancies may exist on any of the following:

- ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD
- PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
- COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD
- COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE on HUMAN RESOURCES
- HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
- LAND USE
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- TRANSPORTATION
- WATER RESOURCES

Further information may be obtained by calling the City Offices - 474-3870 or 474-8000 - or resumes may be submitted to the City Council, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, Attn: City Clerk.

Gudrun H. Mills
City Clerk

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH Episcopal Baltimore Blvd. at Powder Mill Rd., Beltsville 8 a.m. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Holy Communion 1st Sunday) 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Rev. John G. Bals, Rector	MOWATT MEMORIAL United Methodist Church 40 Ridge Rd. 474-9410 Church School 9:30-10:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP 11 A.M. (Chibbery and Nursery) PALM SUNDAY Sermon: "When Jesus Came to Town" Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham, Pastor 474-3381
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Mishkan Torah Synagogue

Ridge & Westway Rds. **474-4223**

Rabbi Kenneth Berger

Fri., March 17 & Sat. March 18 - Rabbi Michael Swartz, graduating student at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College conducts services.

Sun., March 19, 1-3 p.m. Purim Carnival

Wed., March 22, 7:30 p.m. Purim-selections from Book of Esther, skit by Religious School children.

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

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

Everyone is Welcome to
THE EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
at the
Greenbelt Lake
7:00 A.M.
(In case of inclement weather we will use
Grenoble Hall, 135 Crescent Road)

St. Hugh's Catholic Church

135 Crescent Road 474-4322

WEDNESDAY, March 22
 MASSES 7:30 and 9 a.m.
 CONFESSIONS 11 to 12 Noon, After 7:30 p.m. Mass
 TENEBRAE 7:30 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, March 23
 LOW MASS 7:30 a.m.
 SEDER MEAL 5:45 p.m.
 CONCELEBRATED MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER 7:30 p.m.
 CONFESSIONS After 7:30 p.m. Mass
 PUBLIC ADORATION UNTIL 11:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY, March 24 (Day of Fast and Abstinence)
 STATIONS OF THE CROSS 12:10 p.m. and 1 p.m. (Children's)
 LITURGICAL SERVICE AND COMMUNION 7:30 p.m.
 CONFESSIONS 11 to 12 Noon, After 7:30 p.m. Services

HOLY SATURDAY, March 25
 NO MORNING SERVICES OR 6:00 P.M. MASS
 CONFESSIONS 11 to 12 Noon, 4 to 5:30 p.m.
 EASTER VIGIL SERVICE AND MASS 7:30 p.m.
 (fulfills Sunday obligation)

EASTER SUNDAY, March 26
 MASSES 8, 9:30, 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Grenoble Theatre Guild To Produce 'The Heiress'

by Mary Kimmel

So, the Grenoble Theatre Guild is going to perform *The Heiress*, a play which appeared at the Kennedy Center a few years ago with Julie Harris in the leading role. So, the Guild vice president and director is a former Broadway actress and former June Taylor dancer. So, a Guild member won Best Actress award for *Anne of a Thousand Days* in a One Act Play Tournament two years ago. So...? Some people still think Grenoble Theatre Guild is just a church group.

Since its beginning several years ago as a church-related activity at St. Hugh's, the Guild has developed into an independent, community theatre group. The only remaining association the Guild has with St. Hugh's is the use of Grenoble Hall for rehearsals and performances, and the source of its name.

Grenoble Theatre Guild is a total theatre experience, providing not only a stage for actors and actresses, but a forum for the creative talents of directors, set and prop designers, costume designers and stage crews. Currently, the theatre produces two plays a year, each production requiring from six to eight weeks of rehearsal and technical preparation. Rehearsals last about two hours each, three or four evenings a week. The group supports itself financially through dues and ticket sales.

Actors and actresses are chosen in open auditions. The players include professionals and amateurs, people of all occupations. Guild vice president Angela Schreiber is a former Broadway actress who has shared the stage with Helen Hayes and has appeared on TV with Jackie Gleason and Dean Martin. Guild president Robert O'Malley had never acted before he auditioned for a part in *You Can't Take It With You*. He was stunned when he got the part, and has since acted in all but one of the Guild's productions.

Though the group draws talent from a wide area, other Greenbelters besides O'Malley and Schreiber have contributed their talents to the Guild. David and Mary O'Keeffe were the main organizers of the theatre and have also acted and directed. Ron Tousignant, John Gorman and Jeff Bryant have held acting roles while wives Marie, Lois and Lena have made costumes. Tom Schreiber, Angela's husband, and Barbara O'Malley, among others, have designed sets for the theatre.

A sampling of the Guild's repertoire includes *I Remember Mama*, *Rebecca*, *Charlie's Aunt*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *See How They Run*, and *You Can't Take It With You*. Ms. Schreiber is excited about the Guild's next production, *The Heiress*. Set in the 1850's, the drama centers around an aging spinster who is courted by a fortune hunter.

The play, beautifully costumed, with parts for six women and three men, allows for good character development and has an unusual ending. *The Heiress* will be performed May 20-28. Watch for later announcements.

In the meantime, "don't be shy," says O'Malley. "If you have the urge to test your thespian talents, or if you just want to have a wonderful time, show up for an audition March 17 at 7:30 p.m. or March 18 and 19 at 3 or 7:30 p.m. at St. Hugh's school gymnasium."

Parent Discussion Group

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Parent Discussion Group will be Wednesday, March 22, from 9:15-11:15 a.m. in the Greenbelt Baptist Church. The topic for discussion will be "How parents can talk to their children so they will listen and be considerate of their parent's needs."

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

Greenbelt Artists Exhibit

Greenbelters Angela Livingston, metalsmith, and Alice Plaster, painter, are participating in a group exhibit at the Capital Gallery, Capital Centre March 6-27. The exhibit displays selected artwork by seven Artists-in-Residence of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Arts Division.

Livingston serves as Artist-in-Residence at Prince Georges Community College, (Steel Bldg.). Her work includes jewelry, sculpture, and holloware in silver, gold and pewter. Plaster is Artist-in-Residence at the Watkins Regional Park Nature Center, where she conducts workshops in painting and drawing.

Each artist has specified "drop-in" hours as well as workshops, demonstrations, films, lectures, gallery visits, etc. These are free and open to the public.

There will also be an open house reception with the artists in Marlboro Gallery, Marlboro Hall, P.G. Community College, Largo, on March 30 from 2-5 p.m.

Career-College Fair To Be Held March 22

The Fourth Annual Career-College Fair sponsored by the Prince Georges County Public Schools will be held on March 22 at the Prince Georges Community College in Largo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Career-College Fair is organized each year by high school guidance counselors with help from parents and students.

Representatives of more than 100 colleges, trade schools and employers will have booths in the Largo Student Union Building during this year's Fair. School guidance counselors and U.S. Department of Labor personnel will be there to provide statistics on current employment opportunities as well as job market projections. Financial aid officers will be available to offer expert advice to students and their parents regarding the tuition costs and other expenses. College and University admission staffs from various institutions will participate.

Fair organizers stress that the day is not just for college-bound students. Employers who hire high school graduates and provide on-the-job or other training will be present. Trade school representatives will offer information on training and employment opportunities in diverse fields. The section of the Fair devoted to non-traditional careers for women is being expanded this year and non-traditional careers for men will also be explored.

Computerized Data

Visitors will have the chance to tap a computer's memory banks for information on colleges and career opportunities across the country. Through the school system's computerized Guidance Information System (GIS) Prince Georges County students have access to information that no individual guidance office or counselor could provide. Fair Chairman John Hall, a guidance counselor at Northwestern Senior High School, points out that college admissions testing is a priority concern for many students today, and the Fair will feature sessions on the major testing programs such as the SAT's (Scholastic Aptitude Tests).

Adults who might be interested in changing jobs or careers will find a wealth of helpful information at the Career College Fair. They may take advantage of free group or individual counseling sessions. Assistance will be offered to adults seeking a high school diploma or further job training.

The school system will provide buses during the day on March 22, to take high school students to the Community College for the Fair. The Fair's evening hours will be open to students, parents and all interested persons.

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(Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the page, including 'Greenbelt Theatre Guild' and 'To Produce The Holmes')

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GHI REHAB. HEARING DRAWS CROWD

by Katherine Keene

A crowd of well over 100 GHI members immured themselves in the Library meeting room to attend the second GHI-sponsored meeting on the Rehabilitation Plan, despite the fact that last Saturday was the first golden and warm afternoon for several weeks. GHI President James W. Smith opened the meeting by urging members to write letters to the Board, promising that they will be read and that both suggestions and criticisms will receive serious attention. He also told members that the GHI staff is looking into Federal and other assistance for members with income difficulties and reminded the audience that government loans at favorable interest rates may also be available.

The planning consultant, Mark Beck, then gave a detailed presentation of the plan, assisted by architect Carol Schimpf. His main point was that rehabilitation will be expensive, it will be equally expensive not to rehabilitate; that failure to make improvements will cost members in terms of increased costs for heating and maintenance. If rehabilitation is done now, in a planned package, members will not only have the pleasure of living in houses that are better insulated, that have windows that do not allow howling winds to circulate through the living rooms, and that are more attractive to look at than at present, but these improvements will cost less than they would in an inflationary economy several years from now. Inflation, he said, means "do it now before prices escalate." He pointed out that it would be much less costly for rehabilitation to be done as a group project than by individuals.

He also promised that the proposed plan will upset residents as little as possible: in no case should it be necessary for people to move out of their houses for a few days while work is done. In the long run, GHI members will save money if the program is carried through.

Economic Report

Morton Hoffman, the economic consultant, also gave a report, pointing out that at present GHI offers the best housing value in the county but that rehabilitation is necessary to make it continue to appeal to prospective purchasers. He too stressed the importance of doing the work now rather than waiting for higher prices later. The costs of rehabilitation in any event will be reflected in the value of the houses: there is no way in which the selling price will not go up.

Questions from the floor tended to concern themselves with the necessary matter of paying for rehabilitation. One member wanted to know whether, should the selling price of houses increase, the tax assessor will not also increase the tax. Hoffman admitted this could happen but pointed out that GHI's history of fighting unreasonable tax increases in several successful appeals indicated that this ought not to be a reason for downing the whole program.

Another member commented that for the frame houses the major portion of Phase 1 was exterior siding, but that he liked the character the frames have now and failed to see why anybody would want to change their character. To this Beck responded that he felt that many persons did not like the character presented by peeling paint and cracking clinderblocks, but that the main reason for proposing the exterior siding was to improve insulation.

Rise in Values

There was considerable discussion as to exactly how much increase rehabilitation might make in selling costs. Bruce Bowman stated that he had been appraising houses for Twin Pines for 20 years and that at present the value of houses is not going up at the rate of inflation. He said that he personally was ready to go on with the rehabilitation program, and hoped that members would agree to do so.

Along this line, another member said that he was for improving the appearance of the outside of the houses as well as improving the insulation so we could "quit heating the outside," and added that he had been asked by friends, when he told them he lived in GHI, whether he lived in "the good part." He himself was ready to have it all "the good part," he stated.

Other questions concerned more specific matters such as what sort of insulation would be used and what sort of siding would go on houses.

A question that both the Board

HISTORY con't from page 1

units per acre. This zoning, in harmony with the city's wishes, exists today.

From 1963 to 1971, subsequent owners (Bresler, Lerner, Ammerman) hoped to gain approval for R-30 apartment zoning (14 units an acre). The R-30 zoning conformed with the 1965 College Park-Greenbelt Master Plan, which was vigorously and successfully fought by the city. Adoption of this plan would have required the widening of city streets to four lanes.

The county commissioners finally adopted a Master Plan for College Park-Greenbelt and Vicinity which met the general approval of the Greenbelt city council as in keeping with the major goal of preserving Greenbelt as a planned low-density residential community. Designated for parcels 1 and 2 was R-T zoning (townhouses up to 10 units an acre) and R-80 (single family - three units an acre). The city preferred single family for both tracts.

At the time the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission noted: "In view of the existing single-family (row-house) character of adjacent development, the R-T and R-80 Zones proposed on the Plan would be a compatible and logical extension of the existing housing within Greenbelt without adversely increasing the residential density . . . The R-30 Zone for these properties would produce an imbalance of multi-family dwelling units, detrimental to the surrounding development and the overall public facilities shown on the plan.

The last action taken on parcels 1 and 2 (Burton J. Reiner, Lerner, Ammerman) was on June 2, 1971 when the Prince Georges County Council, sitting as the District Council, sent petitions for R-30

and Long Range Planning Committee have been discussing was asked by several people in one form or another: if members already had put siding on their houses, or thermal windows, or some other improvement included in the rehabilitation project, would a financial adjustment be made for that unit? To these questions Smith answered that some decisions will have to be made and that this problem has not gone unnoticed. Smith also stressed that GHI is a cooperative and that decisions will have to be made by the membership and accepted by them, but that the membership would have to trust their elected Board to make some decisions. The guiding principle, he said, would be that in a cooperative members work together to solve problems.

Las Vegas Night

American Medical Center Cancer Research Center and Hospital will hold its annual "Las Vegas Night" March 18 at 8 p.m. in the community room at Springhill Lake. Prizes will be auctioned off and refreshments will be served.

Proceeds from the fund-raising event to go to aid cancer research. Call 474-4555 for tickets.

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TWIN PINES MEMBERS:
Annual Meeting Tuesday, March 28

apartment zoning back to the MN-CPPC for updating. The District Council instructed the planners not to return the applications until the location and/or existence of the perimeter road was determined. (The perimeter road would run

from Springhill Lake property through parcels 1 and 2 and cross the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to Mandan Road.) The District Council also asked for more information on matters of traffic and water for the property.

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