News Review Marks Its 75th Anniversary
by Sandra A. Lange

This week’s edition of the Greenbelt News Review will begin the 76th year of continuous publication. Six weeks after the first families moved into Greenbelt in 1937, several people got together in the living room of one person’s home to write and assemble a letter-size, 16-page mimeographed publication. They titled their publication the Greenbelt Cooper. The first issue reached Greenbelt families on November 24, 1937.

History
The early pioneers recognized the need to keep people informed of local events and to provide a forum for the exchange of views. They laid down the principles which still guide the actions of the present News Review – a non-partisan, nonprofit cooperative endeavor, whose aims are to print the news accurately and fairly and to respect the Greenbelt “good neighbor” philosophy of life.

In January 1938, the federal government (which owned Greenbelt) made free space available at the town’s commercial center and also loaned furniture, typewriters and office equipment. The paper moved its office five times before 1996 when it established a permanent home in the former kindergarten room of the Community Center.

Free Delivery
An important decision was to deliver the Cooperator free of charge, beginning in September 1939. Today the paper is sustained through its advertising revenue. Over the years, the paper has been as small as two pages and as large as 28 pages. Most issues now are 12 pages. The paper rarely operates at a profit with most issues barely breaking even. At present, 9,200 free copies of the News Review are distributed weekly to homes and apartment complexes throughout Greenbelt and to Greenbelt office buildings and shopping centers.

Early Printing
For over five decades the paper was printed by Marshall Moore, Allen Printing Company in Hyattsville. The Allens were like family to the staff who got to know four generations. At times, the Allens extended credit to the News Review, forever plagued with an inability to cover costs. The Allens ceased printing the paper in 1995 when computer technology made more economic sense.

Former editor Harry Zubkoff was responsible for changing the name’s from the Cooperator to the News Review in 1954 to distinguish the paper from other cooperatives in the city.

Staff and Board
The paper is governed by a seven-member board elected each October. The board sets policy, writes and/or approves editorials. In the 1960s, the paper reported on a city council meeting where a citizen accused a developer – Charles Bresler – of trying to blackmail the city. Bresler sued the newspaper and its board president, Alfred M. Skolnik, for $2 million. The News Review lost in two lower courts and appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, where a unanimous Freedom of the Press verdict was rendered in favor of the News Review in 1970. Al died suddenly in March 1977. He was 56 years old.

After his death, his wife Elaine Skolnik assumed the presidency of the News Review. She stepped down in 1986 but has continued to be a pivotal member of the board for over 58 years and news editor for the past 25 years. Elaine also organized fund drives and appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, where a unanimous Freedom of the Press verdict was rendered in favor of the News Review in 1970. Al died suddenly in March 1977. He was 56 years old.

25th Anniversary News Review Staff

Editors – 1937 to Present
Donald Cooper – 1939-May 1940; June 1940-May 1942
Liman Schwartz – May-August 1940
Dorothy Fier – August-November 1940
Francis Farnham – November 1940-June 1942
William Mott – June-November 1943
Anne Hull – September 1944-July 1945
Karen Repovsz – September 1945
Eleanor Ritchie – July 1945-April 1946
Ralph Miller – October 1946; December 1952-March 1953
Edward Meredith – October 1948-June 1949
Irasdo J. Parker – June-December 1949; October 1955-September 1956
Janice Solet – May-October 1956
Berard King – April-October 1953
Virginia Beauchamp – June 1963-June 1964
Dorothy Sacher – July 1963-February 1967
No editor – September 1963-February 1984
Bernice Kastner – Associate Editor
Mary Lou Williamson – November 1972-present

Contributors
Many staff members pitched in extra hours to work on putting together this special issue. Thanks to Angela Evans, Nancy Tolzman, James Giese, Carol Griffith, Sue Krofchik, Sandra Lange, Larry Hull, Solange Hess, Eileen Farnham and Mary Lou Williamson.

First Lady Makes Surprise Visit

Mrs. Roosevelt Will Address Rally Tomorrow Night in Auditorium
Star attraction at Greenbelt’s first Defense Rally, Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt is expected to draw Greenbelt’s greatest turnout tomorrow night in the auditorium, in an event designed to raise $1,000 for local defense requirements. Sponsors of the meeting are confident that this goal will be easily surpassed as Greenbelt’s citizens respond to the appeal for funds to equip first-aid stations and supply needed materials for the town’s auxiliary police and firemen.

– February 20, 1942

GCS Plans Grand Opening Of Supermarket Tuesday Night
Greenbelt’s new co-op supermarket will have its grand opening next Tuesday night, November 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a dinner given by the Greenbelt Consumer Services board for the visiting guests, and going on from 8 to 10 with open house in the new building, complete with drawings for door prizes. Big catch of the evening will be a television set, which along with other prizes will be awarded to the holders of the lucky tickets given out at the door.

– November 4, 1948

City Council Unanimously Elects Mrs. Harrington 1st Woman Mayor
Betty Harrington was elected mayor of Greenbelt by unanimous vote of the city council Monday night, with the applause of a crowd of citizens attending the first meeting of the newly-elected group.

– October 6, 1949

Band Concerts to Start on July 14
The Greenbelt Community Band will begin a series of summer concerts on Wednesday, July 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the court between the food store and the theatre. These programs will be held semi-monthly.

– November 9, 1939

Lenore Thomas Statue Dedication Will Be Held on November 12

– November 24, 1937

New Elementary School To Be Built In the North End
Scheduled to open in time for the 1942 fall term is the new Elementary School that is to be built with a portion of an appropriation of $450,000 authorized by Federal Works Agency at the suggestion of Farm Security Administration. The balance of the appropriation will be used to enlarge the High School by six rooms and an auditorium.

– January 30, 1942

Mrs. Roosevelt On Latest Projects
Praises “Neighborly Spirit” and studies Co-op Store Project; Finds School Children Happily at Work; Seeks Information on Medical Plans

– March 26, 1943

Council Sets Up Hospital Fund
The first definite steps toward the realization of a Municipal hospital for Greenbelt were taken by the Town Council at its final meeting of the year last Friday, when it adopted unanimously a resolution which authorized the town treasurer to set up a special Hospital Fund, and which set aside for this fund the $2,800 remaining unspent from the town’s 1938 funds.

– January 5, 1939

New Grocery Store to Open Here Soon

– February 20, 1942

Air Raid Wardens May Force Entry
Air raid wardens have the authority to force entry into houses where lights are left burning during blackouts or test blackouts. It was revealed by Commander of Civilian Defense Corps George Panagoulis at the meeting of the wardens which was held at the local fire station Monday night.

– July 23, 1943

Army Is Taking Schrom’s Airport
Complying with an order of the Army Air corps, the training school of Schrom’s Airport will be moved inland before August 15, it was announced Monday by Pete Davidson, the airport’s clearance officer.

– July 15, 1942
The Sale of Greenbelt

Five-Man Dissident Group Demands 1200 GVHC Members Make Terms

Editorial

We’re Not Amused

The insulting effrontery and false innuendo with which the 5 members of the embryonic me-too housing group pitch their take-it-or-leave-it “compromise” offer at the 1200 members of the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation leave the reasonable reader gasping.

March 9, 1950

Third Housing Group Enters Field, Proposes Continuation of Rents

Mike Salzman, president of the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation, has received word from John Taylor Egan, Commissioner for Public Housing Administration, that the housing agency is ready to “resume negotiations” for the sale of Greenbelt. The sale of Greenbelt was withdrawn for a period of time because of the Korean War.

May 5, 1950

Negotiations to Be Resumed On Sale of Greenbelt to Residents

Mike Salzman

Let’s Face It

Negotiations for the sale of Greenbelt to the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation are progressing swiftly – for some residents, too swiftly. Last week’s meeting of GVHC members disclosed an alarming lack of information about mutual housing and its advantages. There are still doubts that PHA will sell, there is suspicion about GVHC motives, and there is a prevalent fear of being rushed into something undesirable.

May 17, 1951

Flight from the Facts

At the day of decision on the purchase of Greenbelt approaches, several facts are taking shape through the rather hysterical atmosphere which has characterized the public reaction . . .

We believe that all residents who want to buy should be guaranteed their right to buy mutually, without interference from those who do not want to buy – and who must still adjust, like it or not, to the changes confronting them.

April 3, 1952

What Price Referendum?

At Monday night’s council meeting, Greenbelt’s city fathers gave a shining example of why city tax rates are so high . . .

As if they had never been near the Public Housing Administration the previous week, they ignored the PHA commissioner’s flat statement that “we propose to (sell the greentowns) as speedily as possible,” and voted to hold a referendum – at the expense of the citizens – to see how many of those citizens wished to continue to “rent from PHA.”

May 1, 1952

To Veterans

Groups Only

Notice is hereby given that the Public Housing Commissioner will, until 5 p.m., Monday, August 7, 1950 reserve that portion of the Government housing project at GREENBELT at the fixed price of $8,522,350 to a VETERANS GROUP organized on a non-profit basis, as provided in Public Law 85, 81st Congress, approved May 19, 1949.

Public Housing Administration
Washington, 25, D.C.

June 8, 1950

GVHC Takes Title To Greenbelt

December 31, 1952

To Veterans

Groups Only

Notice is hereby given that the Public Housing Commissioner will, until 5 p.m., Monday, August 7, 1950 reserve that portion of the Government housing project at GREENBELT at the fixed price of $8,522,350 to a VETERANS GROUP organized on a non-profit basis, as provided in Public Law 85, 81st Congress, approved May 19, 1949.

Public Housing Administration
Washington, 25, D.C.

June 8, 1950

Happy 75th Anniversary

Greenbelt News Review

Thank you to the News Review

And its very important to me.

Congratulations on 75 years.

Jean Fulton

Everyone at Generous Joe’s would like to thank the News Review on 75 years of dedicated service to the community!

107 Centerway • 301-474-4998

Happy 75th Anniversary

Greenbelt News Review

Congratulations For Your 75 year Anniversary!

We appreciate you.

Tom & Lori Moran

In memory of our father, Isadore (Izzy) Parker and his many contributions to the News Review.

Sharon (Parker) O’Keefe
Marsha Parker
Naomi (Parker) Hatch
Mitch Parker
Shelley Parker

Thanks for all your great work!!
1960s: A Push for Development

The city grew with the opening of a larger fire station (1961), youth center (1961) and the municipal building (1964). Other development included Goddard Space Flight Center (1961), Beltway Plaza (1962), Springhill Lake Apartments (1963), Boxwood Village and Lakeside (1963) and Greenbelt Park (1964).

High-density development pressures caused a firestorm from 1962 to 1966 as Greenbelt fought to save the city’s “greenbelt” development from destruction. How different could Greenbelt have been? Imagine the city’s high school at Northway Fields and a shopping center near the Boxwood entrance. Garden apartments were planned for the forest behind Ridge Road and Ridge, Crecent, Eastway and Southway could have been four-lanes. The zoning war led to the 1966 libel suit brought by developer Charles Bresler against the Greenbelt News Review.

Developer Charles Bresler Files $2 Million Suit Against News Review

A suit asking $2,000,000 in damages has been filed by Charles Bresler, local developer, against the Greenbelt News Review and its president Alfred M. Skolnik. The suit quoted excerpts from three news stories, two headlines, three letters to the editor and two editorials over a 9-month period as being printed “without reasonable justification or excuse.”

Sincerely, (signed)
John F. Kennedy
June 21, 1962
letter from White House

JFK Congratulates Citizens on City’s 25th Anniversary

Dear Mr. Mayor,
I understand that June has been proclaimed Charter Month in Greenbelt to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the issuance of the city’s charter. Greenbelt has been an innovating force from its earliest days . . . . (and) continues to blaze trails in providing for open spaces, recreational resources and community planning.

I should like to congratulate the citizens of Greenbelt and to wish them continued success.

Sincerely,
John F. Kennedy

The Greenbelt News Review

On April 11, 1962, a fire started in fluorescent fixtures and destroyed the Co-op store. Eyewitnesses saw a blinding explosion as the loading doors blew out and heard a huge blast as the front windows of the store exploded in the 10-alarm blaze.

– April 16, 1962

No Fireworks

Residents are reminded that this year there will not be fire-works on the Fourth of July. Council decided not to assume the full cost of these fireworks, and when other city organizations failed to express any interest in substantially participating in sharing the cost the decision was made not to have fireworks.

– July 2, 1964

First Fallout Shelter Built

In GHI Home

A dining room in a residence of Greenbelt has been converted into the first fallout shelter built in this community.

The owner of the cinder-block home, who prefers to remain anonymous, is employed at Goddard Space Flight Center and has felt that the time is now to provide protection for his family against the deadly radiation in the event of a nuclear bomb attack. The dining room was bricked in from the inside.

– April 6, 1961

Tragic Cave-In

At Beltway Plaza

I [was] at the firehouse [for] a call for ambulances to go to the tragic cave-in at the construction site of the Klein’s store at the Beltway shopping center. (Five workers died and 11 were injured.)

– January 3, 1963

Citizens Protest Master Plan

Greenbelters by the hundreds jammed the Center School auditorium to protest against the proposed College Park-Greenbelt Master Plan. From the opening blast by Mayor Smith, who called the plan “this nightmare,” there was no doubt about the sentiments of the crowd. A parade of speakers marched to the microphone to denounce the Master Plan, and every denuncia-
inion brought stormy applause.

– July 28, 1966

Churches Welcome Poverty Marchers

About 700 members of the northeastern contingent of the Poor People’s Campaign arrived in Greenbelt . . . . and were wel-
comed by volunteers workers at two local churches. The camp-
aigners pulled into town on 25 buses, 15 cars and a truck.

– May 23, 1968

The Labor Day Festival Committee wishes the News Review a newsworthy 75th Anniversary 1937 – 2012

St. Hugh of Grenoble
Catholic Church

Congratulations the Greenbelt News Review on 75 years of service to the citizens of Greenbelt
Congratulations to the Greenbelt News Review on their 75th Anniversary!

There’s More Inside at Beltway Plaza...
More Events, More Food, More Shopping!

Beltway Plaza Mall is the discount shopping location for fashion, fun, food and events!
Over 100 stores & restaurants including:
Marshalls ● Target ● Foot Locker ● Burlington Coat Factory
Academy 8 Stadium Theatres ● Joe’s Crab Shack ● Giant Food
Silver Diner ● Three Brothers Pizza ● Wendy’s ● Gold’s Gym
Shoppers World ● Big Lots ● Jo-Ann Fabrics ● Staples
Radio Shack ● Chipotle ● Planet Fitness… and More!
Coming soon, Jersey Mike’s.

**Fall Calendar of Events:**

- Humberto Guzman and his Mariachi Band
  November 25, December 9

- Larry Scott One-Man Band - Saturday, 12/1

- “Drive Smart for a Cause” - Test Drive a New Lincoln
  Saturday Dec. 8, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

- Beltway Plaza Treasure Chest - Get your free key from Plaza Man or select merchants and
  if it unlocks the BPM Treasure Chest you’ll WIN
  Saturdays 11/24 to 12/22, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD (301) 345-1500

www.beltwayplazamall.com
The Unthinkable

The News Review has not failed to publish even one of its weekly issues in the more than 44 years of its existence. But yesterday morning we were hit by one of life’s unthinkables, and in the first panic it seemed we might have nothing—absolutely nothing—to print this week.

The ritual is that every Tuesday evening all the copy for that week’s issues is “put to bed” ready for printing. Wednesday morning a community volunteer takes the entire bundle, in a brown vinyl briefcase, to the printshop in Hyattsville. Our conscientious courier for the past year has worked hurriedly to reconstruct as much as possible of the missing material, and our printer worked late to set the copy and ads. The result is not the paper we had planned. Perhaps the most that can be said is that we were hit by one of life’s unthinkables, and in the first panic it seemed we might have nothing—absolutely nothing—to print this week. 

But things moved fast in the next few days. For instance, the telephone company removed the briefcase, and its contents, had disappeared. Despite a day of searches along Kenilworth Avenue, in rush-hour traffic, the briefcase fell off. By the time our courier could get turned around, the briefcase, and its contents, had disappeared. Despite a day of searches along Kenilworth’s shoulders, phone calls to area police jurisdictions and schools, and radio appeals for return of the lost material by late last night the briefcase and its contents were still missing.

All day yesterday the few available members of our volunteer staff worked hurriedly to reconstruct as much as possible of the missing material, and our printer worked late to set the copy and ads. The result is not the paper we had planned. Perhaps the most that can be said is that we were hit by one of life’s unthinkables, and in the first panic it seemed we might have nothing—absolutely nothing—to print this week.

Southbound on Kenilworth Avenue, in rush-hour traffic, the briefcase fell off. By the time our courier could get turned around, the briefcase, and its contents, had disappeared. Despite a day of searches along Kenilworth’s shoulders, phone calls to area police jurisdictions and schools, and radio appeals for return of the lost material by late last night the briefcase and its contents were still missing.

It’s Not Magic

It’s Friday in Greenbelt and you find the Greenbelt News Review at your doorstep, in the lobby of your apartment or condominium building, at various public buildings and at private businesses throughout the city. Ever wonder how this locally produced, independent, free newspaper appears week after week, keeping people who live and work in Greenbelt aware of what goes on in our lively town?

Yes, it’s magic. Rather, it results week in week out from volunteer efforts of many of your friends and neighbors. News gathering, reporting on city and community events; capturing in print and photography the lives and stories of Greenbelt and its residents; chronicling the vibrant history and culture of our city; providing a vehicle for your letters (celebrating, praising, even condemning); publishing city, business and community notices on events, information and advertising important to the economic health of the community—all these activities make up the weekly cycle of labor performed by dedicated volunteers. We are the second oldest cooperative in Greenbelt—now celebrating our 70th year. Through all these years, providing a window into the life of the community has been our joy and our commitment. If you would like to take part in this important work, you will find us a welcoming team.

Congratulations to the Staff, Past and Present, of the News Review on your 75th Anniversary!

Patrick & Linda McAndrew
Mary Lou Williamson – A Top Notch Editor

Mary Lou Williamson turned 70 this past year, a birthday she proudly shares with Greenbelt. Her dedication to the smallest detail. She who held the paper together for much of that time, who structured its editorial policies, who put it on a sound financial footing after many years of teetering on the brink of disaster. In many ways, this paper has been able to continue following his death without any perceptible change because the patterns he established are so securely rooted. Together with his wife, Elaine, he lovingly brought forth each issue of the News Review with a consummate dedication to the smallest detail.

— November 24, 1977

Virginia Beauchamp Recollects 50 Years at the News Review

On the first Thursday after we moved to Greenbelt in 1957, I was surprised to discover a copy of the News Review on my doorstep. I knew nothing about the paper or its history, but to find a run-down newspaper was an eyeopener. The rough wooden lockers were ranged along the wall off the corridor; the opposite wall was hung with electric meters for the apartments upstairs. All four walls were bare concrete blocks, and the floor was poured concrete. Two small windows on the front wall let in a little light.

As retirees, several of us have more time to give to the paper; but the camaraderie and the commitment to the community have brought in younger members, who contribute in their own ways – write, produce copy, be a Helping Mother twice a month. People could get along and work together, not just have opinions. I still have the News Review. This you call a newspaper?

— April 23, 2009

The McCarl Dental Family Tree

The McCarl Dental Group CPR Certification 2012

Clayton McCarl Jr, DDS • John McCarl, DDS • David McCarl, DDS • Monica Mattson, DDS • Dianna Lee, DDS
Greenbelt • 503-474-4144 • 28 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Millersville • 410-987-8800 • 8601 Veterans Highway, Suite 101, Millersville, MD 21108

www.mccarl dental.com

Remembering Al Skolnik – His Contributions to City

It’s a job she knows well. She has been doing it for over 40 years. Why has she lasted this long? Fellow staffer and former city manager Jim Giese bluntly commented, “She must like it.”

She edits copy, talks to reporters, her de-...
First Greenbriar Residents Move In

The frenzied activity that took place at Greenbriar over the weekend culminated on Tuesday when Greenbriar's newest condominium residents moved into the 1,139-unit condominium development. Some 27 families are expected to move in this week followed by about 75 families within the next month and a half. Nine buildings – about 135 apartment units – have been approved for occupancy by the County Department of Licenses and Permits.

New High School Gets New Name

As if the question of Franklin D. Roosevelt Senior High School's concept was not complicated enough, the Prince George's County Board of Education on January 8 took on the matter of changing the name of the new facility. By a vote of 5 to 2, the school will now be known as the Eleanor Roosevelt High School, honoring the 32nd president's wife who took a personal interest in the “green town” begun by her husband in 1935, visiting the city on many occasions.

Pressure Builds For Metro Station

The county council on March 2 voted 7 to 3 to send to General Plan a Greenbelt METRO route that would follow with some modification the ARS (Adopted Regional System) alignment with a terminus near Greenbelt Road and the Capital Beltway. This is the route strongly urged on the county by the Greenbelt city council.

Senior Housing Groundbreaking Ceremony Held

More than 50 people gathered at the Ridge Road Center to witness and take part in the ceremonial groundbreaking for Greenbelt’s housing for the elderly last Sunday afternoon, December 18. The Rev. Kenneth Buker, a council meeting regular, gave the invocation.

Spellman Presses For Parkway Bridge

Concerned that students have been crossing the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to walk to and from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), Congresswoman Gladys Spellman has been pressing for a pedestrian overpass to solve this serious problem. At a recent meeting, Slade Caltrider, District Engineer of the State Highway Administration, and Emil Elinsky, Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, recommended building a pedestrian cross-walk over the Parkway.

No Beer at Festival

The Steering Committee of the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival voted not to ask the city for a special exception to the city ordinance that prohibits beer at the Center.

U.S. Supreme Court Reverses News Review Libel Judgment

In a unanimous 8-0 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday, May 18, reversed the $17,500 libel judgment against the Greenbelt News Review libel judgment followed by the ground-breaking of Metro and Green Ridge House. The dedication and opening of the Greenbelt Library and Eleanor Roosevelt High School will be a recommendation to build a pedestrian cross-walk so students would no longer cross the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

The main issue in the case involved the publication by the News Review of remarks made by local developer Charles S. Bresler as the result of a Prince George's County libel judgment against the Greenbelt News Review. The court referred to the fact that Bresler's negotiations with the city were a subject of substantial concern to all who lived in the community and had evoked substantial controversy and heated debates.

司法庁同意 with the argument put forward by the newspaper's attorney, Roger A. Clark, that the newspaper was “performing its wholly legitimate function as a community newspaper when it published full reports of these public debates in its news columns.” To hold otherwise, the high court said, “would subvert the most fundamental meaning of a free press.”

With respect to the word “blackmail,” Stewart said, “it was simply impossible to believe that the articles could be read as charging Bresler with a crime. Given the most careless reader, the Justice continued, “must have perceived that the word was no more than rhetorical hyperbole, a vigorous epithet used by those who considered Bresler’s negotiating position extremely unreasonable.”

Stewart noted that the articles published in the News Review were accurate, full and truthful reports of what had been said at the public hearings before the city council.

GHI Members Hail Rehab Start

Robert Embrey, Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be the featured speaker at the inauguration ceremonies for the Greenbelt Homes rehabilitation program on Sunday, September 30, at the North End Elementary School. The program will begin at 3 p.m. Local, state, county and federal officials will also join GHI members in kicking off the rehabilitation program.

New Greenbelt Library Opens

Greenbelt’s eagerly-awaited new library opened its doors to the public on Wednesday, April 8, after a dedication ceremony the preceding evening.

The City of New Carrollton Congratulates the Greenbelt News Review for 75 Years of Outstanding Service of Keeping the Community Informed

The family of Tom & Helen White extend congratulations to the Greenbelt News Review and its many dedicated volunteers for 75 years of outstanding service to Greenbelt.
Greenbelt Pioneers Meet and Dance

The sounds of Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller filled the Greenbelt Center School’s auditorium Friday night as about 350 pioneers and present residents mingled at the “Twos Only Yesterday” reunion dance.

Sponsored by the Greenbelt Lions and Lion Belles, the dance was one of the weekend activities celebrating the 65th anniversary of the birth of Greenbelt and the 100th anniversary of the birth of the President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, under whom the town came into being. In the Center School gymnasium, where all the early dances were held, this gala event brought some of the earliest Greenbelters together again.

October 7, 1982

Council Sets Up Arts Committee

At its November 14 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council voted to create a city Arts Committee.

After much discussion, council unanimously agreed to adopt the report of the arts task force of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.

The city agreed to establish a variety of high-quality arts opportunities, provide high-quality facilities for the performing and visual arts, establish Greenbelt as a “cultural center,” ensure adequate funding.

November 24, 1988

Festivities Honor Eleanor Roosevelt

Although Greenbelt, along with the rest of the nation, will be celebrating the Centennial of former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt’s October 12 birthday this week, the city will also be celebrating Mrs. Roosevelt’s personal involvement with Greenbelt. For it was with her concern and actions that Greenbelt was first started.

October 11, 1984

Fire Does Heavy Damage

To St. Hugh’s School

St. Hugh’s Catholic School was badly damaged by fire early in the morning of December 24. A motorist passing on Crescent Road noticed flames and notified police who alerted the fire department.

Immediately after the news of the fire, the community rallied and offers of help were made. Some people came to help move equipment and to do anything else that was needed. In a hastily called meeting, city council met with church officials and members of the community to try to find ways to help.

December 31, 1987

Council Votes to Acquire Parcel 1

At its regular meeting on December 21, the Greenbelt City Council set as its goal the acquisition of “all or as much as possible” of Parcel 1, the 102-acre woodland tract in the north part of the city, for city parkland.

December 31, 1987

Springhill Lake Celebrates 20th

Springhill Lake is a ‘little town’ that’s all about people living together in harmony,” explains Gus Ormond, Executive Vice President of Community Realty. The apartment complex is celebrating its 20th birthday this year, and it has been 20 years of success.

The groundbreaking ceremonies for Springhill Lake occurred on Friday, July 6, 1962 and within a year, 1,000 residents moved into the first section. Five years later, Springhill Lake housed approximately 10,000 people, and now, in 1983, almost half the population of the City of Greenbelt lives in Springhill Lake.

May 19, 1983

Dedication Ceremony of June 4

For Spellman Trail, Overpass

On Saturday, June 4, the city council of Greenbelt will dedicate a new pedestrian trail and overpass across the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to former Congresswoman Gladys Noon Spellman. This structure will connect the central section of Greenbelt with Greenbriar. In past years, it will provide easy access for students attending the Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Dedication ceremonies are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at the trail beginning at the end of Gardenway near Ridge Road.

Mayor Gil Weidenfeld, in announcing the dedication, noted: “Gladys Spellman worked for the betterment of the citizens of Greenbelt as a member of Congress and as Chairman and Member of the County Commissioners and County Council for 18 years. Congresswoman Spellman has been honored by many others in many ways for her services to this county and this nation, but this will be Greenbelt’s own small way of saying ‘Thanks’ to a magnificent lady and a dedicated public servant.”

June 4, 1983

1980s: A Time of Change

The decade of the 1980s was a time of change and revitalization for the city. There were also two big city celebrations – the 45th and 50th birthdays of Greenbelt.

Greenbelt Lake Apartments celebrated 20 years in 1983. At the time, the complex represented nearly half of all Greenbelt residents.

Change was coming to the city council. In 1984 there was much discussion about whether to televise the city council meeting live.

Developments in Greenbelt East were hot topics as well as whether to build single family homes and town houses on Parcel 1 which is located at the end of Northway extended. The decade ended with the city purchasing Parcels 1 and 2 for parkland.

November 3, 1983

Happy Birthday From Linda Ivy

Hunting Ridge Congratulates the Greenbelt News Review For 75 years of Keeping the Community Informed

Congratulations on 75 years of Outstanding Community Service From the Windsor Green Community

www.windsorgreenhoa.org

Happy 75th Anniversary to the Greenbelt News Review and the all volunteer staff for your hard work. God Bless you. THANKS

From Maria, Donna, Pat, Debbie and Jennifer at Maria’s Beauty Salon

141 Centenway
301-474-4881
1990s: Fresh Look to a Mature City
Renovation of Roosevelt Center with new landscaping based on the original design, new awnings in green and white paint give a fresh start to the decade. Desperately needed was the careful work done on the Mother and Child statue. The National Park Service salutes Greenbelt as a National Historic Landmark.

A new elementary school, newly refurbished Community Center, Metro and a new federal courthouse add a maturity to the city.

Civic Excellence Cited
At Dedication of Center
The open house and dedication of Greenbelt’s Community Center took place on the warm afternoon of March 16. William Stratton, chair of the Community Center Task Force, said, “For me, this project is particularly resonant because I can appreciate this building both as an architect and as a citizen of Greenbelt.” He called the Community Center an example of “civic excellence,” and said that it demonstrated “Greenbelt’s amazing ability to continually renew itself.” – March 21, 1996

Historic Landmark Plaque Unveiled at City’s 60th Anniversary
“The original town of Greenbelt was the first government-sponsored planned community built on garden city principles and possesses national significance in commemorating the history of the United States of America.” Those are the words appearing on the bronze plaque unveiled October 17 at a ceremony recognizing Greenbelt’s status as a National Historic Landmark. – October 23, 1997

Greenbelt Elementary Dedicated
As a School for the 21st Century
With one snip of the scissors, Principal Carolyn Goff cut the red, white and blue ribbon that stretched across the stage and Greenbelt Elementary School was officially dedicated. The ceremony celebrated the official opening of the new “state of the art” elementary school with many added features to help students in their learning, such as the science lab, art room and computer lab. After a long and sometimes bitter fight, the community voted by a narrow margin to have the new school built on the old North End School site. – November 19, 1993

Metro Comes To Greenbelt
A 50-foot line of elected and appointed officials slashed a green ribbon to mark the conclusion of ceremonies opening the Metro Green Line between Fort Totten and Greenbelt. A capacity crowd gathered on the cold, blustery day to hear 15 speakers congratulate each other and extol Metro. County Executive Glendening led the accolades on the open house and dedication of Greenbelt’s status as a National Historic Landmark.

New Courthouse Dedicated
The new Federal Courthouse in Greenbelt was dedicated today, the first Monday in October, an auspicious occasion every year which marks the opening of the new season of the Supreme Court of the United States. An audience of prominent Maryland politicians, lawyers, business persons and local citizens gathered for an hour-long ceremony. The site was chosen because of its easy access to both the Metro system and the Capital Beltway. – October 10, 1993

Two Young Heroes Save GHI Homes
Two Greenbelt teenagers – Tim Grady and Ted Sacra – were credited with probably having saved a four-residence row of frame homes in the 4 Court of Laurel Hill Road from destruction by fire. They used fire extinguishers and a garden hose to fight the blaze until the first fire equipment could reach the scene. Both boys were students at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. – February 1, 1990

Thank You!
Greenbelt News Review for 75 years of uninterrupted service, providing news and information and being a vital part of the vibrant, growing, inclusive community we all cherish.

Happy Birthday
Robert and Sylvia Lewis
**Greenbelt’s Old Curmudgeon Cartoonist “Izzy” Parker Dies**

“(Izzy)” Parker, died Monday, October 11, 2004, at the age of 84, following several years of failing health.

Izzy’s association with this paper began when it was still called the Cooperator. He served as editor from June to December 1949. Even then he was providing cartoons to illustrate and enliven everyday life in this planned community.

Izzy rejoined the News Review as our official cartoonist in 1977. Despite his hands shaking so uncontrollably he had difficulty writing, he could still manage to draw pictures. His work was often considered the unofficial voice of the newspaper.

**Birner Honored For 50 Years**

The Rev. Edward H. Birner, a well-known and respected member of the Greenbelt community, will be honored Sunday, August 31, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a Lutheran pastor.

His service to Greenbelt reaches far beyond the pulpit. He was the first and long-time chair of the Community Relations Advisory Board and for many years has been a member of the Outstanding Citizen Committee for Greenbelt’s Labor Day festival, a role he still enjoys.

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**City Owns Theater**

The Greenbelt News Review has learned that the City of Greenbelt is now the proud owner of the historic Old Greenbelt Theatre located in Roosevelt Center. According to Greenbelt City Solicitor Robert Manzi, settlement on the sale of the theater to the city’s first African American to serve.

The tragedy of September 11 also transpired in this decade, along with the death of former editor and Old Curmudgeon cartoonist Isadore (“Izzy”) Parker.

Cemeteries included the 50th anniversary of Rev. Edward H. Birner’s ordination as a Lutheran pastor.

City council approves two forest preserve areas and purchases of the Old Greenbelt Theater in Roosevelt Center.

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**Post Office Opens**

Sundays are days off for U.S. Postal Service workers. But this coming Sunday, August 27, will instead be the day of all days for the new postal facility in Greenbelt — its official grand opening. Between 1 and 4 p.m. the new building at 7000 Ora Glen Drive, just around the corner from Hanover Parkway in Greenbelt East, will officially open its doors to residents, friends and honored guests for a ribbon cutting ceremony and tour of the facility.

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**Outside Scrutiny Prompts Historic City Council Election**

A February 2008 letter from the ACLU and NAACP questioned city election procedures, seeking to make elections “fairer and more inclusive.” Among numerous executive sessions and nine public meetings, two proposals were presented – to increase council size from five to seven and to change the election date to even-numbered years. After those public hearings, council voted to undertake greater voter outreach, offer early voting by machine, expand absentee voting, increase council size to seven and change elections to even-numbered years. By August 10 the needed ordinances and charter amendments to implement four of the council decisions were enacted. However, the election date change proposal was tabled until after the city election.

All five incumbents plus three others sought council office at the November 3 election. Early voting and absentee voting proceeded smoothly. With a somewhat increased number of citizens voting, all incumbents and two newcomers, Emmett Jordan and Silke Pope, were elected. Jordan, who is African American, received the second largest number of votes, behind Davis. The new council elected Davis once more as mayor and Jordan as mayor pro tem.

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**Evening Vigil**

On Sunday evening, September 16, as darkness fell, the people of Greenbelt and nearby communities gathered at Buddy Attick Park. At the parking, they received candles and gradually the sloping bank was transformed into a glowing quilt of light. With prayer, song, and brief statements, an interfaith service reflected on the September 11 terrorist assault, which brought fear and death to Americans. Many faithful were represented and the speakers addressed our common pain and the need to unite and give solace to those in need.

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**2000s:  Life, Death and Celebrations**

The 2000s represented life and death and celebrations. Greenbelt gave birth to a new postal facility and two new seats on city council, one occupied by Emmett Jordan, making history as the city’s first African American to serve.

The Greenbelt News Review on 75 years of outstanding service to the Greater Greenbelt Community.
CELEBRATING
GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

75th

ANNIVERSARY

greenway center

Safeway, Old Navy, Dollar Tree, Ross Dress for Less, PetSmart, LA Fitness and over 3 dozen great stores!

Route 193 in Greenbelt, MD