

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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## GVHC Board Considers Two Plans For Refinancing Sales Of Homes

Treasurer John Phariss unwrapped before the Board of Directors of the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation last Friday night two possible methods being considered for facilitating sale and transfer of homes. Phariss heads a committee on refinancing appointed by President Ed Burgoon to investigate the growing problem of finding purchasers with sufficient cash to cover the original down-payment plus equity being built up in individual units for sale.

### Revolving Fund

First method, already provided for in the GVHC charter, would direct GVHC to set aside from reserves a revolving fund which would be used to purchase back a departing member's Perpetual Use contract, presumably without regard as to whether or not there is a potential buyer. It is thought that such repurchases would be limited to members forced to leave town and that the amount of the repurchase would be limited to book equity.

Disadvantages of this method, listed by Phariss, are (1) the limited funds available to GVHC for this purpose, even allowing for proceeds from the sale of undeveloped land, and (2) the problem of the liability accruing to the remaining members for the repurchase of the contracts of departing members. Director Al Long added a third objection: GVHC Board would have the time-consuming responsibility of determining which members should have their contracts repurchased.

### Subsidiary

Because of these objections, Phariss said, an alternative method has been suggested. This method consists of GVHC establishing a wholly-owned subsidiary corporation which would assist buyers in the financing of newly-bought home—in effect, providing second-mortgage financing. As a corporation, the subsidiary body could use funds allocated or lent it by GVHC as a credit basis for borrowing additional funds from other lending institutions.

Advantages of this method are that the amount of funds available for repurchases would be considerably greater, there would be limited liability to GVHC members, and refinancing operations would be administered by a separate organization.

### By-Law Amendment

One objection to the establishment of a subsidiary corporation is that such action would require a by-law amendment which needs membership approval. Attendances at membership meetings for the last year have failed to produce quorums.

Another objection is that the second approach apparently would be of help only to departing members who have found potential buyers. At present, the major problem is created by departing members unable to find immediate purchasers, rather than by potential buyers who lack the necessary cash to cover the original down-payment,

## Lions Addressed On Earth Satellites

The Greenbelt Lions, at a dinner meeting October 16, heard a local scientist, Dr. Fred Singer, on the proposed artificial earth satellites; how they work; why they are being planned; and the information expected to be gained from their use.

Dr. Singer has first-hand knowledge in this field through his membership in the American Rocket Society and through research work having to do with the geophysical aspects of cosmic rays at the University of Maryland, where he is an associate professor of physics. The scientist recently returned from Copenhagen, where he attended a meeting of the International Rocket Societies.

Dr. Singer has been living in Greenbelt since March, 1954, and says he is "pleased" to be a resident, although he has limited time to take advantage of community life. He is unmarried and his mother makes her home with him part of the time.

## Schools Closed

Greenbelt public schools will be closed Thursday, October 20, and Friday, October 21, so that teachers will have an opportunity to attend the State Teachers Convention in Baltimore.

improvements and equity which the seller wishes to recover. In coming years, however, the situation may be reversed.

### Ask the Members

The Board commended Phariss and his committee for its preliminary report, but felt that further information was necessary before taking action. For one thing, it was suggested that the experience of other housing co-ops in treating the problem of resales be examined. It was also suggested that lending institutions be contacted to determine the credit rating a subsidiary corporation of GVHC would have.

GVHC Manager Paul Campbell also noted that the thinking of the membership should be sounded out before a decision is reached. Next quarterly membership meeting on Monday, November 14, at the GVHC Administration Building will provide such an opportunity.

## What Goes On

Thursday, October 20 - Monthly meeting of Ladies of Charity, St. Hugh's Rectory, for installation of officers.

Showing of film, "Martin Luther," Center school, 7:30 p.m. Public schools closed due to teacher's convention in Baltimore.

Friday, October 21 - Public schools closed.

St. Hugh's annual fall dance, National Guard Armory, 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. "Pipe" Williams orchestra.

Monday, October 24 - Dinner meeting, Greenbelt Lions Club, Community Church.

Tuesday, October 25 - First meeting of Parents Guild, St. Hugh's School. Membership meeting, Woodland Hills corporation, city council chambers; selection of lots by members.

## Former Local Men Open Gas Station

By Miriam Solomon

The owner and staff of the Greenbelt Road Service Center in Branchville, open since September 22, are old friends to countless Greenbelters, for they are all one-time residents of this city. Owner Allan Lawrence lived here eight years, at 6-H Crescent. While here, he was on the Board of the Community Church. Since 1938, Lawrence has been handling the home distribution of the former Times Herald and Washington Post. A son, Allan, is a first lieutenant in the Army, and daughter, Mrs. Robert Cookson, lives here on Hillside. Both went to Greenbelt High.

Ed Suit, one of the station's co-managers, lived sixteen years in Greenbelt. He resided at 17-F Ridge twelve years moving a few weeks ago. He attended Greenbelt High, and served in Germany with the 101st Paratroopers in 1944. He's been a service station man in this area ten years. Ed's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Suit, live in Greenbelt now. Lawrence Suit delivers mail from the main Post Office in College Park to Greenbelt, Berwyn and Branchville. Mrs. Lawrence Suit works in a Washington, D. C. post office.

Co-manager Lawrence Hussey is also a former resident, as is Charles Dunbar, a new addition at the Service Center. Charles' father, Paul Dunbar, was a city councilman here from 1940-46.

## Center School Forms Audubon Junior Club

By Susan Blacker

Organization of an Audubon Junior Club in the 4th and 5th grades of Center school was announced Monday by Mrs. Bernice Rowley, leader of the club.

Purpose of the group will be to stimulate interest in nature conservation among the students. More than 9,500,000 boys and girls have been members of Audubon Junior Clubs.

Newly-elected officers of the club are Michael Wayne, president; George Moore, vice-president; Billy Sharp, recording secretary; Susan Blacker, corresponding secretary; Nancy Tierney, treasurer; Lewis Caruso, program chairman; and Carolyn Lusby, co-chairman.

## Chorus Postpones Meeting

The Community Choral Group will not hold its regular meeting on Monday, October 24. Next rehearsal will take place October 31, 8:30 p.m. in the JCC building. Please note change of time.

## GVHC May Build Post Office Building; Sod, Dog, W-K, Zoning Occupy Board

By Al Skolnick

General Manager Paul Campbell informed the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation board of directors last Friday night that GVHC has been approached by the Post Office Department regarding the construction of a new post office building as present post office quarters at Centerway are inadequate and there is a possibility that the present lease with Gilbert Realty will not be renewed.

The Post Office Department advised Campbell that, because of difficulties in securing legislation for Federal construction of post office buildings, it has been found expedient in many communities that a non-profit, community-spirited organization or group constructs the building and then rents it to the Federal government under an ironclad, 20-year lease which is sufficiently favorable to provide a remunerative source of income to the sponsoring organization.

The board expressed sufficient interest in the project to authorize Campbell to go further into the details of such a transaction. One question raised was a site for the new building. The intersection at Southway and Ridge Rd. was suggested, either by tearing down some of the garages in 17 Ridge Court, or use of the area across the street.

### Warner-Kanter Delayed

GVHC President Ed Burgoon reported that there has been delay in the Warner-Kanter plans for the construction of housing on the recently-sold vacant land. This is attributed to two factors;

(1) commercial zoning. Kanter has expressed concern over the location of the commercial area, originally planned near the juncture of Glenn Dale road and Southway. He recommends that the commercial area be located at the Edmonston - Glenn Dale intersection. Action by the city council on this recommendation is being awaited.

(2) sewage disposal problem. Before starting a mass, large-scale production operation, Kanter wants to be assured of sufficient sewage facilities. Burgoon reported that the GVHC management is doing everything possible to aid the city in reaching a decision as to whether sewage capacity will be expanded through the present disposal plant or through a tie-in with trunk lines brought in by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

### Heat

Two previous policy decisions of the Board were reviewed and reaffirmed. One dealt with the assessment of heating charges on newly-constructed, enclosed additions. GVHC will continue to charge for heat in an addition at the same rate per square foot that is charged for the original building. Interested members had urged that the cost per square foot for additions be at a decreasing ratio, such as the charge for heating basements.

The second policy decision concerned subleasing of homes by owners. The Board upheld their previous policy requiring that such subleases be handled through the corporation, so that a check can be maintained on tenant turnover and approval given to prospective tenants. Occasionally members wish to handle the details and collection of rent in subleasing themselves, to save GVHC handling fees.

### Same Sod Story

Director Hans Jorgensen reported that arrangements have been made for GVHC members to obtain sod at 40c a sq. yd., minimum orders of 20 sq. yds. will be accepted. Director Percy Andros advised that free sod is still available to members who wish to join together to sod GVHC-owned common areas which are barren.

### Garage Mirage

Jorgensen also raised the possibility of having GVHC rent empty garages as repair shops or for purposes other than housing automobiles. Director Frank Lastner pointed out that this would involve commercial zoning of spot areas, which might eventually undermine

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vacancies, which are now available on a first come-first served basis. Madden also revealed that a 12-name waiting list will be kept if more than five apply for future contingencies.



"What did he expect? Imagine takin Al Long's advice about conserving water by giving up baths..."



### Attention Readers

Beginning November 1 classified advertising rates will go up to five cents a word. The minimum charge of fifty cents per ad will remain. Classified ads must be submitted with cash payment; drop them off in the Tobacco store, mail them, or bring them in person to the News Review office, Tuesday evenings, at 9 Parkway.

## CLASSIFIED

**TELEVISION SERVICE:** By professional electrical engineers using the finest of modern test equipment. RCA Registered Dealer. Any make, any model. Philco Authorized Service. GR. 3-4431 or GR. 3-3811.

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**DRESSMAKING** and alterations. Mrs. Russell, 2-F Westway. GR. 4-8956.

**GREENBELT MOTORS**—8420 Baltimore Blvd. Used cars and trucks bought and sold. Phone TO. 9-9647.

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**PIANO LESSONS**—beginning and advanced students. Mrs. Loleta Oleksak. GR 3-3358.

**MOVING - FOR SALE:** Misc. furniture, refrigerator, automatic washer. GR 3-5473.

**FOR SALE:** Washing Machine - Thor wringer, \$25. GR 4-9384.

**IRONING:** Done in my home. 75 cents an hour. GR 3-6002.

**RIDE WANTED:** To Silver Spring area, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Mrs. Bronstein, GR 4-7556.

**FOR SALE:** Walnut bedroom suite good condition, give-away price. 3-D Gardenway. GR 4-9476.

**FOR SALE:** Regulation wheels for Soapbox Derby. Call 3491.

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Classes every Sunday starting October 23rd  
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\$1.00 per person  
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**GVHC from page 1**  
present zoning standards. Campbell added that GVHC would incur additional expenses such as providing electricity and other facilities, and, in some cases, enclosing garages.

Campbell also reported that he has been approached by individual members about the possibility of having their open garages enclosed. The expense of such an operation is well over \$200 per garage; therefore, GVHC is faced with the problem of making certain that the expenditure is returned in the form of higher rental.

**Non-Nuisance Dog**  
The Board by unanimous vote moved to grant an exception to the prohibition of dogs in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Richey, 2-K Laurel Hill. Supported by neighbors who declared the dog was not a nuisance, the Richeys explained that the dog is needed for the family's welfare and protection. The Board then continued its policy of granting exceptions in cases of affliction, provided the rules in regard to leashing are observed.

A special committee composed of Board members Lastner, Kriby, and Leasia reported their recommendations with regard to the renting of space in the medical center. A long-term lease of five years was favored, with subleasing only by permission of the Board of space to be used for professional medical purposes.

A higher rent was recommended, ranging from \$100 to \$150 per unit. (Present rates are from \$85 to \$125.) The committee thought if higher rents were charged, GVHC should attempt to provide better parking facilities. The Board agreed to take action based on the report.

During November and December, the Board agreed to meet on the first and third Friday of the month.

### PTA Members Attend Own Childrens Classes

Over 300 parents attended a "back to school" night meeting of the Greenbelt Junior High PTA last Tuesday. The parents were invited to attend a mock school-day with the daily class schedule simulated. This gave the parents an opportunity to move around from class to class the same as their children do during the day.

Following a short business meeting, the parents began their role as student and attended an evening of shortened class periods. Each teacher gave a short analysis of the course of study for his or her particular class. The parents indicated they found the evening both instructive and enjoyable. Following the "hard evening of classes," refreshments were served in the cafeteria.

PTA president this year is Percy Andros.

## Sr. High Group Wants Jobs For Saturday

Saturday is a work day for the Senior High young people of Community Church. The Senior High Pilgrim Fellowship is conducting a "Work Day for Christ," according to Stan Edwards, Jr., president. Throughout the day, the boys and girls will take jobs available from families and businesses in Greenbelt and surrounding communities. These young people will contribute all their earnings for projects of the Christian World Mission, including the "Share Our Surplus" program by which surplus food stored by the government is shipped to the most needy overseas areas. One dollar will provide \$20 worth of food to the starving.

According to Gail Stewart and Sody Hufendick, Co-chairmen of the Christian Action Committee of the Fellowship, additional job opportunities will be welcomed. Call GR. 3-2896, GR. 3-5846, or GR. 4-7341.

## Polio Vaccine Rules Broadened By State

Poliomyelitis vaccine priority has been extended to include all children more than one year and less than eleven years old, the Maryland State and Baltimore City Health Departments announced this week. The former priority, limited to children 5 through 9 years old, has been cancelled, in keeping with the new national policy announced October 12.

On the basis of careful studies of paralytic polio case rates by separate years of age during the past five-year period, it has been determined for Maryland to extend the age limit downward 4 years and upward 1 year.

It will be several months before pregnant women will be in need of poliomyelitis vaccine, because the next polio season begins July 1, 1956. Therefore, according to the Health Department, there is no need for action in regard to this group at the present time.

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## County Offers Classes In Dancing, Dramatics

Children's classes in modern dancing, acrobatics, baton twirling and creative dramatics, under the direction of the Prince Georges County Recreation Department, will open Saturday, October 22, at Suitland and Northwestern High schools. These classes, for children ages six to twelve, are open to all County residents.

At Suitland High School there will be two classes in Modern Dancing, one at 9 a.m. and another at 10 a.m. Acrobatics will be offered at both 9 and 10 a.m.

At Northwestern High School children may take Baton Twirling at either 9 or 10 a.m. and Creative Dramatics at either hour.

Registration for classes is limited. A \$2 registration fee covers the eight-week period, October 22 through December 17. Registrations will be accepted at the opening classes, October 22, or can be made at the Recreation Department office, 4803 Riverdale Road, Riverdale, Maryland, APpleton 7-8696.

## Recreation Notes

By Donnie Wolfe

**Elementary and Pre-school Age:**  
Friday night, October 28 is Beggar's Night; from 6:30-7:30 p.m. only. Homes that want children to visit, please turn on porch light. People in apartments can put towels, etc., on their doors if they want children to come. Parents are to inform children to go only to lighted homes.

**Junior and Senior High Groups:**  
These groups will meet in the gym for a night of real entertainment, refreshments and social dancing, October 28.

**Elementary and Pre-school Age:**  
Saturday night, October 29; starts at 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Braden Field.

A large bon-fire will light up the area. Children will be judged for costumes. Prizes will be awarded for: best story book costume, most original Halloween costume, best comic strip costume, and best family costume. Bubble gum and marshmallow contests will be held. Finale will be to turn on the field lights so children may look for Halloween candy.

**Junior High Group:**  
This group will meet at the school for free roller skating. Refreshments will also be served. Friday and Saturday nights at midnight, calls will be made to young people and cash prizes will be awarded to those at home to answer the phone.

**Parents Guild to Resume**  
The Parents Guild of St. Hugh's School is ready to resume activities now that the school year is well under way. President Joseph Fitzpatrick has announced that this year meetings will be held on week-nights instead of Sunday afternoon so that a greater number of parents can attend. The first meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday, October 25, at 8 p.m.

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# The Long View

By A. C. Long

While on my way to the Center one day last week I noticed a little Scotch terrier dog furtively eyeing me from behind a clump of bushes. As our eyes met and I gave him a friendly smile, he perked up some courage and said, "Say! Aren't you the Mr. Long who is on the GVHC Board?"

Well, you can bet I was dumbfounded to hear those words from that dog—because I had never seen him before and was naturally surprised to find he knew my name and position on the Board. So I could only stammer back, "Why yes, I am. But I don't remember ever meeting you."

"Oh!" he answered with a canny look, "We dogs know you Board members pretty well, you know."

"You do?" I gasped. "All of us?" "Yep," he snorted, "and Paul Campbell, too. You sure got two or three sly humans on that Board."

"You mean so and so," I inquired, mentioning the names of three of my fellow Board members.

"None other," he greened. "Guess you know them pretty well, too, eh?"

So we sat down and compared notes, and boy, oh, boy, did he give me the lowdown on some of the Board. I also got his promise that he would never repeat a few things about me. He was quite a fair-minded little fellow on most matters, but dog-gone mad about our restrictions on pets.

"Especially," he said, "having Paul Campbell sneak around friendly-like and ask some of the dumb ones their master's name and address. Then he up and writes a letter to throw them out of town. I wouldn't treat a human like that. Of course, I was too smart for him. When he asked me I just played dumb."

"Well now," I comforted him, "you can't blame Paul personally. The members voted to keep you fellows out, you know, and he is just Sherlock Holmes-ing with you as part of his job. He really likes dogs."

"I'm glad to hear that," he nodded, "with that Scotch name he should be a friend of mine. You sure got a bunch of odd members, haven't you?" (For political reasons I won't mention my reply.)

Just before he finally scampered off, he looked at me real quizzically and said, "If you don't want us dogs here, why in heaven's name are you planting all those trees?" He didn't wait for an answer and I still don't know what I would have said.

## DEFENSE from page 2

sure hose, the curse of radioactivity is that it cannot be neutralized. Since it can only be moved from one place to another, the teams must make sure that the contaminated water is kept away from inhabited areas. Only time and the natural decay rate will destroy radioactivity or reduce it to a safe level.

That, then, is what steps are actually being taken in this county as a start. The principal difficulty is not, surprisingly enough, the lack of volunteers. Although the principles of atomic energy and the theory of operation of the instruments are too difficult for many of us to comprehend, any conscientious person can still be trained to use the instruments properly, plot readings, and assist with personal decontamination.

### LACK OF FUNDS

The principal difficulty lies in getting the public to pay for the procurement of the instruments which the teams must have if they are to function at all to protect the public. The County Civil Defense Organization does not at present have enough equipment of this type to equip even a one-member team. For training purposes, fortunately, the County is able to borrow equipment from Federal Civil Defense Warehouses in nearby states. If the public's interest in Civil Defense continues to grow, however, it is assumed that larger appropriations will permit the procurement and storage of equipment in the vicinity of the members of the radiological teams.

But even when and if the equipment is available, the greatest struggle of all will be that of educating and adapting ourselves for survival in the atomic age. Of what use will the trained volunteers be if we fail to learn what to do with the information put out by the teams? Civil Defense volunteers are desperately trying to reach the public on a personal basis, so that mothers, for example will know better than to let their children play with backyard toys after an atomic attack, until the toys are declared safe by the radiological monitors. Everyone must gear himself to accept the possibility that evacuation of an area may be the only means of survival in the path of winds carrying the lethal radioactive fallout of which we hear so much. Right at this moment, alarming numbers of county residents have not the slightest notion of what steps can be taken to protect themselves from the thermo-nuclear weapons.

### ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

Radiological Defense must become an everyday part of our lives. As atomic energy finds more and more peaceful applications, and its use becomes accepted in our communities, the knowledge of how to protect oneself from its lethal effects will continue to be essential. Members of Civil Defense teams may never be called upon to demonstrate their know-how after an atomic attack. But someday, perhaps, they may be asked to assist at an emergency in some industrial establishment using atomic energy for peace.

Membership in your County Civil Defense Organization, whether in the Warden Service, Communications Service, Radiological Service, etc., means that you will have an important job to do in times of emergency. And unless there is a real emergency, Civil Defense will not take much of your time.

If you wish to protect yourself and your family, contact your local Area or Town Civil Defense Director. If you are a member of an interested organization, ask your leader to invite your Civil Defense official to appear before your group to explain such current topics as the radiological hazard, and what you can do about it.

## Fluorine in Water Reduces Tooth Decay

Results of a recent study of tooth decay in children in two Eastern shore communities substantiate the opinion that fluorine in drinking water reduces tooth decay, according to Dr. Richard C. Leonard, Chief, Division of Dental Health, Maryland State Department of Health.

Directed by Dr. Leonard and Dr. Frank E. Law, regional dental consultant, United States Public Health Service, with the cooperation of the local health and education departments and the Eastern Shore Dental Society, the study was made on children between the ages of six and fifteen years to secure additional evidence of the value of fluoride-bearing water in reducing dental decay.

### Caution

Although Dr. Leonard was enthusiastic about the results of the study, he cautioned that all dental decay is not prevented by fluoridation, and, therefore, other means of dealing with decay must be practiced.

"Addition of fluoride to a water supply will not result in an 'overnight' reduction in tooth decay," he also cautioned. "Actually, eight to ten years are required before maximum benefits may be anticipated."

"The low cost of fluoridation projects makes this public health measure one that every community is justified in inaugurating," Dr. Leonard said.

## Woman's Club Holds First Fall Meeting

The Greenbelt Woman's Club's first membership meeting of the fall season took place Thursday, October 13, in the social hall of the Community Church. Mrs. William Dluhosh headed the hostess committee, which presented roses to members having birthdays in August, September or October.

Former Judge Theodore L. Miazga, head of the newly-formed Prince Georges County Mental Health Society, spoke on his organization's program, saying that its "success depends on public response and encouragement." A film was shown, titled "How Children Learn," and George Townsend provided the musical portion of the program, a flute solo.

Want to sell your house?

See Greenbelt Realty Co.

GR. 3-4571 and GR. 3-4351

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