

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Vol. 24, No. 3

Greenbelt, Maryland, Thursday, August 20, 1959

Five Cents

Regulations Against Pet Nuisances Proposed By Special GHI Committee

by Al Skolnik

Animals with vicious tendencies, animals causing physical damage to property, and animals interfering with the rights of members to enjoy fully their property would provide the basis for complaints against pet owners, if a special report read at last Thursday's Greenbelt Homes, Inc. board meeting is adopted by the membership.

This report, prepared by a 3-man committee composed of Bernard Fritz, Steve Polaschik, and Donald Kern, has been turned over to GHI attorneys, Krooh and Altman, for review. The report will then be considered by the GHI board and if accepted will go before the membership body at the annual or a special membership meeting.

Under the procedure recommended by the committee, complaints may be filed by a member against a fellow member for harboring or giving shelter to an animal which falls within one of the three proscribed categories. Such complaints must be in writing, citing particulars, and requesting the board to remove the source of the complaint.

The board of directors would be authorized to adjudicate such complaints after notifying the respondent of the nature of the complaint and requesting a written or oral denial or affirmation of the facts in the complaint. If the decision is against the respondent, the latter will be asked to take remedial action or to show cause why the board should not recommend severance of his membership.

Definitions

The committee report defines in detail the types of action that will give cause for complaint. An animal with vicious tendencies is considered one that has on more than one occasion inflicted a skin-breaking wound on a person or one that has on more than one occasion given a responsible person cause to fear bodily harm from the animal.

Physical damage inflicted by a pet is defined to include damage to GHI buildings, shrubs, and trees, the deposit of filth or other objectionable material, and objectionable odors. Membership rights not to be deprived by pets include the right to secure property in which a member has a personal and individual interest from trespass by animals, the right to pass freely without being accosted by animals, and the right to undisturbed rest.

Reserves

Following the recommendations of the finance committee, headed by treasurer Lloyd Moore, the board of directors adopted three resolutions respecting the use of operating and reserve funds.

1. Money from operating cash fund be used to liquidate a loan of \$47,600 borrowed from Suburban Trust Company for the purchase of fire and extended coverage insurance from Firemen's Mutual Insurance Company.

2. GHI comptroller be authorized to invest other funds available beyond current needs in short-term treasury notes of 7 to 120 days.

3. Corporation be authorized to invest up to \$250,000 now in restricted funds for purchase of one-year government bills currently yielding a net of 4 percent plus on the market, in denominations of four \$50,000 bills and two \$25,000 bills.

Land Committee

The board also received the recommendations of the land utilization committee headed by director Elliott Bukzin. Included were suggestions for development of GHI-owned land adjacent to Parkway area as a site for an office building.

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Nursery School Moves To Community Church

With an agreement signed Monday with the Community Church, the Greenbelt Nursery School has at last ended its search for new quarters. It will occupy a newly created room in the Fellowship Center adjacent to the church building. This room has been partitioned off for the use of a kindergarten group during the regular Sunday School sessions. During the remainder of the week it will be occupied by the co-op group. Plans for an outdoor play area are also included in the agreement.

"We are very pleased with the new arrangement," Mrs. Ann Driscoll, President of the Nursery School group, stated. "It is large and airy and gives us a good deal more space than we have had before. We are especially pleased with the privacy of the outdoor playground, which will be quite a distance away from the road."

Construction work on the new partition has already been completed. The Nursery School furniture and supplies were moved in today.

The need for a new location for the Nursery School became urgent some months ago when it was learned that the former lease would not be further renewed. Several possibilities for a new location were immediately investigated; one of the most likely, as was previously reported, was the vacant office space in the medical building owned by GHI. This location, however, would have entailed some very costly remodeling to make it acceptable for use as a nursery school.

The Nursery School still has a vacancy in its enrollment for the coming year, Mrs. Driscoll stated.

Eleven Candidates To Vie For Council

A total of eleven candidates will compete for the five vacancies on the city council in the election on Tuesday, September 15. The latest candidates to file nominating petitions before the deadline last Monday were James C. Smith, 4-H Southway, Edgar L. Smith, 8-G Laurel Hill, A. C. Long, 7-K Crescent, and William L. Graff, 73-T Ridge. They join the following seven candidates who previously filed: Ben Goldfaden, David Champion, Mrs. Carrie Harper, Robert Hull, Alan Kistler, Bruce Bowman, and Thomas Canning.

Four of the candidates are incumbent city councilmen: Mayor Canning, Goldfaden, Kistler, and Jim Smith. Stanley Edwards, the fifth councilman, has decided not to run for re-election.

J. Smith

Jim Smith, candidate for re-election, has lived in Greenbelt approaching 22 years. In 1953, he retired from the Naval Ordnance Laboratory as ordinance engineer after approximately 25 years service; six years naval service. Prior to his election to city council in 1955 and again in 1957, he was twice appointed by city council to the council to fill the unexpired terms of retiring members.

During his residence in Green-

Continued on Page 2, Column 2

Charter Amendment To Be Prepared To Raise Council Salary To \$750

The city council will raise council members' salaries next week, but it will take a charter amendment to do it. On the advice of city solicitor Ralph Powers, it was agreed that the method with the best legal chance in court would be to strike from the charter the provision setting the council's maximum salary at \$500 a year and to substitute an amendment setting the council's salary at \$750 a year, the figure now agreed upon. At another special meeting next Monday night, the council will approve a properly drawn-up charter amendment.

After its passage, citizens will have the opportunity to initiate a referendum within 50 days, which must be signed by 20 per cent of the registered voters. If the charter revision is not challenged, or approved in a referendum, the salary change will go into effect during the first few weeks of the newly-elected council.

Overhang

A recommendation to approve a "hardship exception" to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission in the case of an apartment now being constructed on Crescent, discovered to be several feet over the building restriction line, was passed by the council. It was revealed by the city manager, Charles McDonald, that the violation is not as severe as first thought, with the brick wall being in compliance with the law, and only roof overhang and areaway stairwell to the basement encroaching on the restriction line. Powers declared the granting of the exception would not set a precedent in other cases, as was feared by several council members.

Center Rezoning

Still not forthcoming was a request from the Parkland Planning Commission for a recommendation on the planned rezoning of the GCS food store to C-2 in order to expand the bowling

An Election Platform

In order that the citizens of Greenbelt in the coming election on Tuesday, September 15, might become acquainted with the position of candidates on the many problems and issues confronting the city, the *News Review* has prepared the following 11-point platform which we hope all candidates will see fit to support. In following issues of the *News Review*, we expect to publish the views of the candidates with respect to this platform.

City Services

Greenbelt has long had a reputation among Prince Georges communities for the services provided its citizens. This reputation has lost some of its original luster in the last few years because of an ill-advised drive to cut services and taxes to the bone in an attempt to attract outside industry and home builders.

We think such a policy is shortsighted. Greenbelt will remain the attractive community it is not because of lowered tax rates but because of additional services provided to beautify its parks and playgrounds, to maintain its recreation program for both youths and adults, and to assure adequate police and fire protection.

Such a budget-cutting policy, we believe, is also false economy. As an example, one has only to look at the deterioration that has taken place in many of the courts—the loss of trees, the erosion of grassy areas, the rise of "dust bowls"—to realize that restoring these areas to their former beauty is going to be a much more costly task than if the areas had been maintained in the first place.

Consequently, we are proposing the adoption of the following items, regardless of their effect on the tax rate.

1. Initiation of a vigorous landscaping and conservation program aimed at restoring and maintaining Greenbelt's park and playground areas; such a program to be coordinated with the efforts of Greenbelt Homes, Inc.
2. In view of the continuous influx of young families with small children, expansion of tot playground areas and establishment of a summer program of supervised care.
3. Construction of new play areas and sandlot ball fields in those areas, such as the North End now lacking such facilities, including construction of a park shelter.
4. Construction of a park shelter.
5. Appointment of a recreation advisory council to examine the adequacy of the present recreation program and to assist the recreation department in making budget recommendations for the coming year.

Construction Program

We feel that Greenbelt, as a growing community, is entitled to have its own municipal building, recreation building, and fire house. We therefore are supporting the bond issue needed to finance this construction and ask our readers, to vote yes in the referendum which will be held in conjunction with the city council election on September 15.

This approval of the bond issue, however, does not imply *carte blanche* approval of the plans made to date with respect to this construction. We think that a new independent review of the entire construction program is in order, especially if the bond referendum is approved.

We are therefore proposing the following:

6. A reappraisal of the total amounts to be spent for the new construction, with special attention given to the allocation of funds and determination of priority needs among the three buildings.
7. The retention by the city of a measure of control over the proper use of all new publicly-financed buildings, with no outright grants of property title to any non-governmental groups.
8. In order to assure maximum utilization of the youth center building and its facilities, establishment of city policy that all civic and recreational groups should have access to the building, with recognition given to the priority needs of youth activities.

Charter Changes

The *News Review* has at frequent intervals expressed the belief that changes were needed in the city charter to give the city council more control and responsibility in the management of city affairs. The Charter Review Committee headed by Clinton Fair has now made recommendations directed primarily at providing for an effective means of reviewing decisions of the city manager with respect to personnel management, purchase of supplies, and letting of bids for contracts. Therefore, we favor

9. The adoption of those charter changes proposed by the Fair Committee that strengthen the role of the city council.

Future Development

In order to insure Greenbelt's growth in accordance with the basic concepts underlying its development as a planned model community and to secure the proper balance between commercial, industrial, and residential development, we propose the following:

10. Appointment of a city planning commission whose task would be to lay down adequate standards and guides for the development of Greenbelt so as to protect to the maximum the interests of the city and the public. The commission would be concerned with such matters as (a) the orderly development of the commercial center and parking areas in a manner which does not violate existing structural lines; (b) attraction of a type of industry that would be a clear-cut asset to the community; (c) preservation of wooded areas and park land to the maximum extent consistent with the construction of new homes; and (d) the furnishing of adequate roads and utilities by the developers of the vacant land.

City Operations

We believe that the city council and the city manager could work together more effectively as a term if certain administrative machinery were devised to coordinate their efforts and to assist them in certain administrative burdens. As one possibility, we suggest the following:

11. Creation of a full-time executive or administrative secretary whose task would be to provide the councilmen with research material on important policy matters to be decided, to prepare follow-up progress reports on previous directives issued or action requested of management by the council, and to facilitate the exchange of information between the city council and the city manager with respect to administrative operations and other problems and developments in city government.

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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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REGISTRATIONS

To the Editor:

Now that the final curtain has been drawn on registrations, we would do well to look at the accomplishments of a concentrated program to bring out the voters.

As it now stands there are almost twice as many registered voters as there were ballots cast in the last election and three times as many registrants as there were votes for the top man in the 1957 election.

All the candidates should thank the many who gave so freely of their time to encourage the citizenry of Greenbelt to exercise the cherished right to vote. True, better than half the candidates contributed their time in securing registrations, but this should be expected of them and no special bouquets are needed, but to the individual persons in each court and in some cases the person who canvassed a whole street should go the heartfelt thanks of every citizen of this fair town who benefited by such a community effort. As a result of this strenuous effort, the registration this year is among the highest in Greenbelt's entire history. Think of what the final count might have been had all organizations worked toward such a community project!

David C. Champion

AHEAD OF THE PARADE

To the Editor:

Mr. Ashelman's proposal to provide a glassed-in space, heated in winter and air-conditioned in summer, where there could be cafe tables, music and a casual meeting place for everybody—not just teenagers—appeals to me as one of the best ideas ever brought forward for making our town more than just a dormitory suburb.

Several of my friends, independently, have made similar suggestions—especially those that have traveled and seen how things are done in other parts of the world. But as Mr. Ashelman is general manager of Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., who have bought the Center and want to employ top-notch architects to put Greenbelt ahead of the parade in social-minded features, I think the City Council should give serious attention to his proposal. Most residents of Greenbelt are GCS member as well as citizens with a vote.

Sincerely yours,
George C. Reeves

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GR 4-2553 of 4-9200

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
22 Ridge Rd.

We wish to announce to our patrons
that we will be closed
from Monday, August 24, to Labor Day, September 7,
for the beginning of extensive redecoration.

Greenbelt Ten Pin Lanes
GR 4-4211

CANDIDATES from Page 1

belt, Smith has been active in many organizations: member Greenbelt Citizens Committee for founding Greenbelt's first Boy Scout troop, later Cubmaster; chairman of ways and means committee for Greenbelt's first Citizens Association; member Greenbelt PTA, serving as association committeeman; member Community Church; charter member and former director, Greenbelt Lion's Club; charter member, Garden Club; chairman Greenbelt Committee on Clean-Up; chairman ways and means committee for the dedication of National Guard Armory, Greenbelt; GCS area congressman for two years; recipient American Legion Citation for Meritorious Service.

Long

Al Long has been a resident of Greenbelt for over 15 years. He was the first president of the Greenbelt Mutual Housing Assn. and served on the board of directors of GHI until 1957. His civic and church activities include St. Hugh's church, Health Assn., PTA, American Legion, and the Greenbelt Credit Union.

E. L. Smith

Edgar L. Smith is associated with the law firm of Oscar R. Duley of Upper Marlboro, Md. He holds an Associate of Arts Degree from the Maryland State Teacher's College, Salisbury, Md. and is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in business administration. He recently received his LL.B. Degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Mr. Smith has previous service in municipal governments, having served as administrative head of 131 unincorporated "towns". Through this position he has administered such services as residential street lighting, and the supervision of urban and rural street construction, including storm drainage systems. He also has administered and supervised municipal services such as highway lighting, highway and drainage construction to the metropolitan area through the Metropolitan District Improvement Program. He is a member and was recently re-elected Treasurer of the County Engineers' Association of Maryland.

He served as Chairman of Prince Georges County activities in the Governor's "Keep Maryland Beautiful Program" for 1958 and 1959. He is also a member of the Greenbelt American Legion, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, Greenbelt Lion's Club, Prince Georges County Federation of Civic Associations, and the 21st District, the Greenbelt and the Prince Georges County Young Men's Democratic Clubs.

He is married to the former Paula Elaine Phillips of Salisbury, Md. and has a daughter, Sandra Lynne, 9 years old, and has lived in Greenbelt for six years.

Bond Issue Referendum

Shall the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, authorize a General Improvement Bond Issue or loans from other sources in the amount of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$200,000.00) DOLLARS, to augment the Special Public Building Construction Fund for the purpose of building a Fire Department and Rescue Squad Building, a Youth Center Building, and a Municipal Office Building, together with the necessary access roadways and site improvements.

Yes

No

Greenbelt City Council

submits this question to the voters of the City of Greenbelt in a referendum to be held at the regular election September 15, 1959, and urge your favorable vote.

Watch the News Review for full information on the Bond Issue Referendum

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Sat., Aug. 22 from 2-5 P.M.

Wed., Aug. 26 from 7-9 P.M.

Sat., Aug. 29 from 2-5 P.M.

Invitation to bid with all details of offering and offer to purchase form may be obtained at the property during open for inspection periods or from the church office, corner of Crescent and Hillside roads.

Sealed offers to purchase will be received at the Church Office until Tuesday, Sept. 1st at 8:00 P.M. at which time such offers will be publicly opened.

The seller reserves the right to reject any or all offers. Possession guaranteed on Oct. 1, 1959. Balance due under Contract \$2,266.28. Minimum Cash Payment required \$1,000. Terms for balance of the offer if required by the purchaser.

Not listed with any broker and no commission will be paid by the seller under this offering.

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(Classified rates are five cents per word, fifty cents minimum. Ads should be submitted in writing, accompanied by cash payment, to the News Review office at 9 Parkway not later than 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication. If accompanied by cash payment, ads may be left for collection in the News Review box at the Co-op drug store)

CALDWELL'S WASHER SERVICE: All makes expertly repaired. Authorized Whirlpool dealer. TO. 9-6414.

PAINTING: Interior and exterior. Louis B. Neumann, 8-C Research, Greenbelt. GR. 4-6357 after 6 p.m.

TYPEWRITER REPAIR: Overhaul and cleaning. Portable, standard and electric typewriters. Call Mr. K. Kincius. GR. 4-6018 anytime.

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NOTARY PUBLIC
Gladys K. Chasoff, 45-N Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, GR. 4-5651.

LAWNMOWERS SHARPENED—\$2.50. Good reconditioned lawnmowers—\$8.00. Rent hand and power lawnmowers. Call GR. 4-9536 after 6 p.m. S. J. Rolph, 3-B Ridge, Greenbelt.

BEAUTY OPERATOR WANTED for all-around work in Greenbelt Beauty Salon. Salary plus commission. GR. 4-4881.

SEND YOUR CHILD to a Christian kindergarten. For information call GR. 4-2553 or 4-9200. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 22 Ridge Road.

REGISTRATIONS are being accepted for the fall term in the Greenbelt Co-op Nursery School. Call Mrs. Elaine Bernstein, GR. 4-6420.

JOHNNY'S BIKE is lost. Turquoise Blue, 16" 2-wheeler. 56-C Crescent. GR. 4-9203.

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Recreation Review

By Warren Leddick
Men's Softball League

Last week the six team league played a double elimination tournament on Braden Field. In the first round the CO-OP team defeated Community Church 14-4 and the Athletic Club defeated St. Hugh's 6-5. In the second round Community Church defeated St. Hugh's 11-10, and the CO-OP team defeated the Methodist Church 13-9. In the third round the Community Church beat the Methodist Church 12-6 and the Athletic Club defeated L & N Market 6-3. In the next round the Athletic Club beat CO-OP 13-8 and Community Church beat L & N Market 9-8. In the semi-finals the CO-OP team met the Community Church for the second time in the tournament and won 13-8. This set up the CO-OP and Athletic Club for the finals. In a hard fought battle the Athletic Club won out 7-5 to be the Tournament Champions.

The city league champions, St. Hugh's, will play Phelps Stone of the Taft league on Thursday night at 8:15. This will be a two out of three series for the Metropolitan area slow pitch championships. The second game will be played on Wednesday, August 26, at Taft Playground at 6:30 p.m.

Swimming Team
Greenbelt's swimming team added another victory to its record with a 169-69 win over Oxon Hill Recreation Center at the Oxon Hill pool last Saturday. In spite of the absence of two team regulars, Sandy Bowman, on vacation, and Ronnie Squires, sidelined with a head injury, our team scored one hundred points over its opponents for the second time this season. Freestyle first place winners included:

Girls: Kathy Labukas, Linda Keer, Carol Cobb, and Linda Peacock
Boys: John Wells, Harold Goldberg, Gary Peacock, Pete Regala, and Jon McElderry

Backstroke first place winners included:

Girls: Rosemary Aullisio, Kendra Keeney, Sue Shinderman, Carol Cobb, and Linda Peacock

Boys: Danny O'Connell, Pete Regala, Bob Knickelbein, and Tom Hieber.

The Junior Medley, which consists of one lap each of the butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle, was won by Linda Peacock for the girls, and for the boys Tom Hieber and Pete Regala placed second and third. The Senior Medley, with four laps as above, was won by Sue Shinderman and Jon McElderry. This time the girls' relay team took first place. Swimmers were Kathy Labukas, Linda Cobb, Linda Keer, Michele Foley, Sue Shinderman and Linda Peacock.

Others who scored points for the team as second and third place winners were: Pam Shields, Linda Cobb, John Shields, Maureen Holmes, Dennis Sisco, David Snyder, Myrna Chasanow, Hans Jorgensen, Richard Castaldi and Peggy Hyland.

The Greenbelt team meets Pleasant View at the latter pool this Saturday at 9 a.m. for its final single team competition and will attempt to close the season in the win column. Current record is 3 wins and 3 losses. The local contingent of parents and other swimming enthusiasts which follows the team has been increasing. Others are encouraged to join the group for their own personal enjoyment and to give encouragement to the team.

WANTED - BOWLERS

Experience Not Necessary

Greenbelt Women's Bowling League
University Bowling Alley

7 p.m. Thursday Evenings

Please contact

Barbara Simpson - GR 4-9636

Dee Robeson - WE 5-2691

TIPS ON SMALL CARS

The small foreign cars, excepting the high-performance sports models do not have the acceleration potential of the big-engined cars most American drivers previously have owned. The AAA therefore, offers a few tips to those who operate one of the smaller cars. Always have a long, open roadway distance ahead when passing on a two or three lane road, espe-

PETS from Page 1

ing and a property improvement program which, among other things, calls for the planting of hedge rows for unfenced properties. Under the latter proposal, hedge plants would be furnished at no cost, provided all members in a row agree to plant and maintain them. Hedges would also be provided as replacement of non-approved fences.

Previous suggestions by the committee have already been adopted. One included the painting of entire frame houses by the corporation, rather than just the trim, at a charge of \$30 and \$35 to members of middle and end units, respectively, with arrangements made, when desired, for the charges to be paid over a period of time. All residents of a row, however, must agree on one color. Free paint will still be provided to those desiring to paint by themselves rather than engage GHI services. A similar program will be considered for the brick home after additional experience is acquired from the frame homes.

Other committee suggestions already accepted by the board were an accelerated trim paint program and the clearing of a play area in the vicinity of 6 court of Plateau pl.

The board directed management to secure a report from its attorneys regarding the legal problems involved in GHI's building and financing new construction on its land.

Fire House Proposal

The land utilization committee was also given the responsibility of reporting on a proposal received from city manager Charles McDonald regarding the dedication by GHI of a 200-ft. strip of land perpendicular to Crescent rd. as an entrance to the new Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad building. The board's thinking is that such dedication should contain guarantees that GHI would not be subject to assessments for improvement of the property and that GHI would maintain rights of egress and ingress.

In other action, the board approved the participation of a GHI candidate in the Labor Day Festival popularity contest, with a suitable entry to be determined by the GHI staff. The board also moved that a request for an addition to the renovated North End property be treated the same as any other request, with no special review by the board.

Greenbelt Theatre

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GREENBELT, MARYLAND
PHONE GR. 4-6100
AIR CONDITIONED

Thurs. Aug. 20
Last Times Tonight
"The Hangman"
Robert Taylor
also
"The Mysterians"

Fri. Eve. Aug. 21
Sat. Aug. 22
Mat. 1 P.M. Cont.
"Tarzan's Greatest Adventure"
Gordon Scott
"Cartoon Carnival"

Sun. Aug. 23
Mat. 1 P.M. Cont.
Mon. Eve. Aug. 24
"Ask Any Girl"
David Niven Shirley MacLaine
Tues. & Wed. Eves. Aug. 25-26
"Green Mansions"
Audrey Hepburn, Anthony Perkins
Coming Soon
"Hole In the Head"
Frank Sinatra

cially when approaching the brow of a hill. Besides less horsepower requiring greater passing distance, the low seating position shortens the driver's distance vision. While the maneuver-ability of a smaller car can be an advantage in an emergency, drivers should not use it to gain a car-length or two in heavy traffic. Because it is harder for other drivers to see the small car, it's doubly dangerous. Again because the small car is less easily seen, always signal intentions well

JCC BOAT RIDE

The Prince Georges Jewish Community Center is sponsoring a boat ride to Marshall Hall on Sunday, Aug. 23. The boat will leave Pier 4 at Maine Ave. and N St., S.W., in Washington at 2 p.m., and will make its return trip at 5:30 p.m.

in advance. In addition, don't overload a small car and always check the manufacturer's recommendations for tire pressure.

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Welcome to Services

Sunday, August 23, 1959

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
"Triumphant In Christ"

7:00 p.m. Evening Worship
"Effective Prayer"
Baptismal Service

Wednesday, August 26, 1959

7:30 p.m. All Church Prayer Meeting

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Rev. Glenn W. Samuelson, Pastor

Veteran's Discount House
PAINT & DO-IT-YOURSELF
11620 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, Md.

Rubber Base Paints
Interior Paints
\$3.39 a gal. or
3 for \$10.00

Floor and Deck Enamel
\$3.69 a gal. or
3 for \$11.00

Non - Skid Patio Blocks
35c each
2 for 49c

Flush Doors
IDEAL FOR MAKING TABLES
\$2.98 and up

Discounts on Floor Tile and Acoustic Ceiling Tile
Making a small Rec-room? See Veterans!

GHI Expenditures On The Rise Semi-annual Fiscal Report Shows

Primarily as the result of increased taxes not budgeted for, the semi-annual fiscal report of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., prepared by GHI comptroller Roy Breashears, shows a slight decline in the corporation's net financial position.

Although actual income from members and tenants was up some \$4,500 from the budgeted figure of \$561,900 for the first six months of 1959, expenditures incurred in connection with the housing units were also some \$6,800 greater than the \$564,900 anticipated. On balance, then, the corporation was some \$2,300 worse off than the original forecast.

Amounts allocated for taxes accounted for \$6,200 of the increase in budgeted expenditures. Effective January 1 the city tax rate increased about 3½ cents to \$1.61 per \$100 assessed valuation. In addition, the combined county and fire tax rate increased from \$2.20 per \$100 assessed valuation to \$2.40. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission tax also went up one cent, though this was offset by the drop in the State real estate and tangible personal property tax.

Other items that exceeded the budgeted amounts were water expense (\$1,500), interest expense (\$1,200), and insurance expense (\$2,400). These increases were offset to some extent by lower-than-forecast costs for heating (\$800), and repairs and maintenance (\$3,500). Income from non-operating sources such as services sold members, garage rents, sale commissions, and interest on savings fell some \$3,800 below the anticipated amount in the first two quarters of 1959. Expenses incurred in connection with these items also dropped, but only by \$1,300.

Combining operating and non-operating income and expenditures, the corporation had a net

deficit (after allowing for allocation of contingency reserves) of \$17,600 for the six-month period ending June 30, 1959. This was \$4,800 more than the \$12,800 deficit anticipated in the budget. (Because of seasonal heating costs, the budget always anticipates a deficit in the first half of the calendar year.) Last year the corporation had a deficit of \$6,100 after the first six months of operation.

Last Year Compared

The increased deficit between 1958 and 1959 is attributable to expenditures rising at a faster pace than income. Total operating and non-operating expenditures in the first half of 1959 were \$599,200, some \$19,800 more than for a similar period in 1958. Among the major items showing increases in 1959 over 1958 were heating (\$9,600), repairs and maintenance (\$4,900), water expense (\$2,300), city, county, and personal property taxes (\$7,900), and administrative and board expenses (\$2,900).

Breashears explained that the increase in water expenses is not a true measure of experience with Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, since some annual charges were included in last quarter's billing. With the dedication of the city's water and sewer system to WSSC last spring and a metering system installed for the individual courts, there is much interest in the fiscal effects of the changeover.

On the income side of the ledger, monthly income from members and tenants in the first half of 1959 rose by \$12,700 over a

Smith Resigns Post As "Mayor" Of 131 Towns

Edgar L. Smith, 8-G Laurel Hill, has resigned as Administrative Assistant to John H. Marburgor, Jr., Administrator of the Prince Georges County Department of Public Works. Smith, who has been called Prince Georges County's unofficial Mayor of "131 unincorporated towns", has resigned to accept a position with Oscar R. Duley, Attorney at Law of Upper Marlboro.

Smith for the past three years has served as head of the County's Special Improvement Districts and Special Taxing Areas, ad hoc districts created by the Board of County Commissioners to allow residents of unincorporated areas of the county to obtain municipal services. He has administered such services as rural and urban street and drainage construction, residential street lights, and refuse collections. He has also administered highway and storm drainage construction, highway lighting and traffic control signals to metropolitan Prince Georges County through the Metropolitan District Improvement Program.

Vacation School Held At Community Church

Registration for the Vacation Church School of the Greenbelt Community Church will take place tomorrow, the Rev. Kenneth B. Wyatt has announced. The Kindergarten and primary grades will register at 11-11:30 a.m., and the juniors at 1:30-2 p.m.

Open to all children in the community, the school will be held for one week, starting Monday, Aug. 24. Free bus service will be provided throughout the Greenbelt area.

comparable period last year, mainly as the result of monthly charges that were increased effective January 1. Non-operating income, however, dropped by \$4,400, attributable primarily to dips in sales department fees and in fees received for sale of services to Greenbelt Development Corporation.

BAPTIST PRAYER MEETING

An all-church prayer meeting will be held by the members and friends of the Greenbelt Baptist Church on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at 7:30 p.m. in their new church building. Prayers of thanksgiving will be offered and petitions will be raised for guidance especially in preparation for the fall activities.

On Sunday, August 23 at the 11 a.m. morning worship service, the pastor, Rev. Glenn W. Samuel-

son, will preach on the subject, "Triumphant in Christ." "Effective Prayer" is the title for the message during the evening worship service at 7 p.m. The ordinance of baptism by immersion will be observed.

The membership committee is now formulating a list of nominees for church leadership positions. A special business meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, to elect officers of the church.

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