

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 29, Number 12

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 10, 1966

## OVERTIME BONUS PAY APPROVED FOR SNOW REMOVAL WORKMEN

by Charles T. McDonald

At the regular City Council meeting Monday, Feb. 7, Mayor Edgar Smith and all members of Council praised the Public Works staff for their outstanding job of snow removal during the recent blizzard and approved a bonus of an extra half-hour's pay for each hour worked during Saturday, Sunday and Monday around-the-clock operation. The men worked from a minimum of 16 hours to a maximum of 41 hours per man. Included in the praises and the bonus pay was the Director of Public Works, A. S. Attick. The total snow removal for the period cost the City approximately \$350. for extra salaries.

The setting up of future special meeting dates for City Council and its various advisory committees and recreation groups seemed to be the major task at this meeting. All members of Council were present. The following dates were approved for special meetings:

- Boys Club and Little League - middle of April.
- G.H.I. Coordinating Committee - Wed., March 2, 8 p.m.
- Meeting with Personnel Committee - Tues., March 1.
- Meeting with Memorial Committee - March 8, 8 p.m.
- Meeting with Charter Review Board - March 9.

Under committee reports the APB presented their report to Council on the request of the Senior Citizens Housing Co-op location on park land between the new north parking area and Braden field. The report was accepted and put on the agenda for Council meeting of Feb. 21.

Only one member of the School Board, Mrs. J. S. Yuill, accepted City Council's invitation to attend the special meeting on school sites scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 8, but the School Board replied by inviting City Council to meet with them at a later date. Several letters were read, however, from delegates to the Legislature expressing their intention of attending Tuesday's meeting.

### School Architect

On the subject of school sites in parcel 2, the City Manager, James Glese, informed council of a recent conversation he had with Dennis Madden, the architect for the proposed high school. The initial buildings will accommodate 1800 students, with a possible expansion to 2400, built in units to house 600 students and set around central buildings. The architect felt that parcel 2 lent itself more favorably to this type of structure than the Beltway-Lake site.

Councilman Francis W. White suggested that it might be advisable for council to refer the subject of streets and walks for the parcel 2 site to the APB in order that they might come up with a report and time table in time for budget consideration if any problems are in need of early consideration. Mayor Smith stated he feared that any council action on this matter would be untimely and might indicate submission to the Board of Education on the school site location. It was suggested by Councilman Champion, and generally agreed, that the subject of streets and sidewalks might best be discussed with APB at a meeting set up after the proposed meeting with GHI Coordinating Committee to discuss courts, parking and walkways, etc.

The subject of a settlement with Ira C. Rigger, Inc. on the liquidated damages for not completing the pool by the contract date was referred back to the City Manager for further negotiation.

City Council clarified the terms of the two recent appointees to the APB and agreed that the expiration date for the term of Mr. Joseph Compton would be October 1967 and that of Mr. George Neumann would be October 1968.

The City Manager submitted recommendations for reclassification of a number of positions in the city's classification plan, and explained that the recommendations would cost the city about \$2,600.00 during the current fiscal year, which would mean an increase in the salary budget of \$8,000.00 each year. The recommendations did not include an overall salary increase at this time, but the Manager indicated that he had in mind a recommendation at the time of his budget submission. An executive session was set up with the Manager to discuss the proposed salary structure.

## Police Recruitment Drive

Prince Georges Police began on Jan. 25 a county-wide recruitment drive, designed to increase its force and enable it to cope with the rising crime rate in the county.

The drive follows a report made last Dec. which showed that Prince Georges County had about twice the crime rate of adjacent Montgomery County. One reason seemed to be the size of the police force: while Montgomery employed 384 policemen, Prince Georges, with slightly larger population, had only 276, short 49 of its authorized strength.

The reaction of the County Commissioners to the report was prompt. They instituted a study of the county's police force, opened a recruitment drive to fill the vacancies and also raised police salaries to the highest level in the Washington area. The starting salary on the force is now \$6100 - up \$860 from last year - while higher ranks received proportionate increases, up to that of the deputy chief - the highest merit system position - which receives a \$1500 raise to \$15,100.

Commenting on the drive, County Commissioner M. Bayne Brook said "We had a choice of easing up our requirements or increasing the salaries. We have increased the salaries, and we feel this will attract the caliber of men we want and need."

More than 50 applications have already been received. Young men between the ages 21-30 who would like to learn more about a career with the county's police force are urged to call RE 5-3400.

## Circuit Court Hearing Postponed to Feb. 21

The Circuit Court hearing on the Golden Triangle zoning appeal filed by the city has been postponed to Monday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m. at Upper Marlboro. The blizzard of last week caused the postponement of the original Feb. 3 hearing date.

The city is seeking a reversal of last July's ruling of the County Commissioners (sitting as the District Council) zoning the 57-acre Golden Triangle for a regional shopping center (General Commercial C-2). Both the city's own master plan and the MNCPPC Area 13 Plan opposed such zoning for this area bounded by Greenbelt Rd., Kenilworth Ave., and the Capital Beltway.

## WHAT GOES ON

Friday, Feb. 11, 8:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge, Co-op Hospitality Room

8:30 p.m. Brotherhood Services, Jewish Community Center

Sunday, Feb. 13, 11 a.m. Brotherhood Services, Mowatt Methodist Church

Monday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m. - 12 Registration for Adult Crafts Youth Center

Saturday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m. - Covered Dish Luncheon, Hat Sale - St. Hugh's Parish Hall

## When the Siren Blows

Remove the lock from the bathroom door if you have small children—the Rescue Squad was called last week to release a 2-year-old child who had locked herself in the bathroom.

A large fire requiring the help of 4 fire companies resulted from placing an aerosol paint can in an open incinerator. The can shot 75 yards into a field spreading fire along its line of flight and exploded on landing. Treat an aerosol can as you would a bomb in your house, says the Fire Dept.

Several serious auto accidents have occurred on the very thin coating of ice that forms on streets late in the day as the temperature goes down below freezing.

Fire Chief Dutton reminds citizens in the event of snow, not to block streets or court entrances. If your car should stall, move it. A number of courts were blocked several days during the recent snow storms, endangering those homes past the stalled cars.

Is there a fire hydrant near your home? Please make a note of where it is and keep it clear of snow; it might save your home from burning to the ground while firemen hunt for the hydrant.

A growing number of fires are due to faulty furnaces. Make sure there is no rubbish or trash near your furnace that could easily catch fire. Keep your furnaces in good working order.

## Brotherhood Week Combined Services

This year, as in the past, the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church, Greenbelt Community Church, and the Jewish Community Center of Prince Georges County will observe Brotherhood Week at combined services.

An exchange of pulpits will take place at the Jewish Community Center on Friday, Feb. 11 at 8:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. in the Methodist Church. Reverend Kenneth Wyatt of Community Church, Reverend Perry Miller of the Methodist Church and Rabbi Morris Gordon of the Jewish Community Center will participate. Musical selections will be offered by the church choirs with cantorial music sung by Harry Klion. Members of all faiths are invited to attend the services.

Sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Brotherhood week has been celebrated since 1934 each year.

## Republicans Hold Annual Lincoln Day Dinner

The annual Lincoln Day Dinner sponsored by the Republicans of Prince Georges County is scheduled for Feb. 19, at the U. of Md. Anyone desiring tickets may call 567-2500 during the day or 779-7263 in the evening.

## Offers by City, GHI May Reopen School Location

A surprise offer by Charles Schwan, on behalf of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., to purchase the proposed senior high school site on parcel 2 near the city sanitary landfill (trash dump) climaxed a 3-hour mass protest meeting at the Municipal Building on Tuesday evening, Feb. 8. Four county school board members, eight members from the County Delegation to the General Assembly, State Senator Fred Wineland and County School Superintendent William S. Schmidt with his staff attended the meeting, which had been called by the city council to work out a satisfactory solution to the senior high school problem. The more than 250 Greenbelt residents present were highly critical of the school board's handling of the affair.

The GHI offer was made in an effort to forestall construction of a school site that the city and local civic groups consider completely unacceptable because of traffic and safety problems.

Schwan had earlier in the meeting offered to make available to the school board at a nominal price a parcel of GHI-owned property for an elementary school as an inducement to the school board to move the senior high school to a location favored by the city near the Capital Beltway overlooking Greenbelt Lake. Both offers are subject to the approval of the GHI membership.

Schwan's second offer came after repeated assertions by Schmidt that the school board was obligated to purchase the 58-acre parcel 2 site for a 3-school complex. He said that the board had entered into contract with the owner of the site, Consolidated Syndicates, Inc. (Charles Bresler-Theodore Lerner), to purchase the land at an average price of \$8,000 per acre. It would become a legal matter, Schmidt said, if the board broke the contract now.

Schwan replied that if that were the problem, the board could go ahead and buy the land, then GHI would take it off their hands. Thus, the senior high school could be built where the city wants it and the board would not be tied up with its contract. Schmidt asked that the offer be put in writing.

A question arose as to how binding the contract was, since the State Superintendent of Schools has yet to approve the selection of the site. Schmidt implied that the approval of that office was expected any day, since it had been notified of the school board's choice.

### Council Indignant

This answer aroused a storm of indignation from the council, who had not been notified of the referral of the matter to the State Superintendent. Mayor Edgar Smith produced a letter dated January 14, in which Schmidt promised that his office would notify the city when the site was referred to the state superintendent.

Councilman Dick Pilski declared, "Never in my life have I seen any public body so shabbily treated as this council has been in its dealings with the school board." Pilski not only referred to this latest incident, but earlier instances when the council was invited to attend a school board meeting to discuss one site, only to have the board switch to another site.

A similar complaint arose Tuesday night when the school board officials, after ignoring for two months all requests for documentation of the costs involved in developing the two sites, unveiled last-minute cost estimates showing that the Beltway-Lake site would cost \$34,000 more to develop than the Parcel 2 site. Adding in the land acquisition costs, school officials said, would increase the difference to over \$350,000.

City officials were in no position to comment on the costs estimates, since this was the first time they had heard them. Councilman Francis White, however, reminded the school board that the city stands ready to purchase 5 acres valued at \$100,000 to help secure the Beltway-Lake site and that GHI has offered to make available an elementary school site valued at \$60,000. "Thus," he said, "Greenbelt is ready to put up almost half the difference in the costs of the two sites. This is an indication of the grave concern of the community."

Councilman Bill Hoff then asked Schmidt, if it would be possible, in light of the new GHI offers, for the school board to sit down with the city council and work out a solution to the problem. Schmidt said he would relay to the board the invitation, which was repeated by Mayor Smith.

### Statements Presented

Earlier in the evening statements were presented by the City, Citizens for a Planned Greenbelt, and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Councilman White reiterated the council's belief that "the scenic location, good traffic accessibility and good pedestrian accessibility make the lake site an excellent location for the school — one worth paying extra for."

Lloyd Moore, chairman of the CFPG steering committee, supported the city position and presented petitions signed by more than 1,700 residents protesting the decision of the school board. He noted that the petition drive had started "during the blizzard of '66" and was going on.

GHI president Schwan emphasized the adverse impact that the location of a senior high school on parcel 2 would have on local traffic conditions and on the Greenbelt Master plans prepared for this area by the city and MNCPPC. He stated that the school board decision "would mean a loss of on-street parking along Ridge Road, a loss of green space to GHI and the city; a considerable expense to GHI to provide off-street parking; a reduction in property value of some GHI homes; and an increased traffic hazard." All this is too high a price to pay, he concluded.

In reply to these statements and probing questions from the audience, school board officials asserted that the Beltway-Lake site was too costly and that the traffic problems created by a senior high school on parcel 2 were exaggerated.

School engineer Elliot Robertson said that a big item in the difference in development costs between the two sites is that of dirt removal. The topography of the Beltway-Lake site would require much more dirt removal, he said, unless the school design was changed. However, he acknowledged that his overall cost estimates did not include costs that the city of Greenbelt would have to bear, such as the widening of existing streets and the construction of a network of sidewalks.

Robertson noted that the Parcel 2 site would permit a 31-acre senior high school to be constructed, complete with full athletic facilities. The Beltway-Lake site of 25-acres, he said, would not permit this. However, the school board attorney, Paul Nussbaum, said that the condemnation suits for the Beltway-Lake site consisted of 32 acres for a senior high school site.

Robertson stated that school traffic engineers have advised him that the additional buses needed to transport senior high school students into Greenbelt would only slightly exceed the number now being used to bus Greenbelt children out of town. However, he had no comment on the increased hazards to pedestrians and small children that would be created by the location of an elementary school next to a senior high school with its student driving population.

Schmidt, when asked as to the desirability of a 3-school complex, said it is done when necessary, though it is not too desirable. Later

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$3.00 per year; (\$4.00 out of Greenbelt). Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (GR 4-4131), open after 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 9:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Volume 29, Number 12 Thursday, February 10, 1966

The following editorial appeared in the Prince Georges Courier of Feb. 3, 1966. We are repeating it in its entirety because we believe it expresses very aptly the sentiments of the community with respect to the location of the senior high school.

School Board Fat Seems To Be in Greenbelt Fire

We refrain from commenting on the desirability of either of the sites for a senior high school in the Greenbelt community because we simply are not familiar enough with the circumstances to offer a considered opinion.

However, there is perhaps a great issue at stake in the ultimate selection of the site on which the school or schools will be erected.

The people of any community in our county should know better than anyone else what is best for their community, and the people of Greenbelt, it appears, are extremely unhappy because their recommendations were rejected in the selection of the school site.

The Board of Education certainly has the interest of the people at heart as it administers a difficult school construction program in a county simply exploding with population; however, its judgment is not infallible.

The City Council in Greenbelt has offered a pay for a fifth of the land necessary for the school complex in an effort to see that the wishes of the people of the community prevail, yet the School Board has rejected this offer.

Great sums of money are involved and the School Board appears to be taking the prudent course by accepting the least expensive land.

Sometimes the cheapest way is not the best way, and this may be the case in this instance.

The children and the people of Greenbelt will be the users of this school complex for many years to come and thus their wishes should weigh heavily in any decision, perhaps even outweigh the financial consideration.

The permanent character of a school complex will affect these families for generations to come and their willingness to pay a substantial part of the cost argues well in support of their views.

Hopefully the situation can be resolved before the School Board finds itself in a position from which it cannot retreat with honor.

It behooves both sides to proceed with understanding of the other point of view.

Adult Crafts Program

Registration for the second session of Adult Crafts will be held Monday, Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Classes will begin March 1, and run for 10 weeks. Projects will include hand building with clay and glass panel. A registration fee to cover cost of materials will be charged. Please contact the Recreation Department at 474-6878 for further information.

LIGHT APPROVED

Notice reached the city manager's office last week of formal approval by the State Roads Commission of a traffic light on Greenbelt Rd. opposite the Beltway Plaza. The guess is that it should be installed within a month.

Cont. From Page 1

on, Schmidt said that, in his opinion, neither site was very desirable, and received a round of applause.

Mayor Smith, in his closing remarks, stressed to the county delegation the role it can play in assuring that lines of communication are kept open between the school board and other county agencies and municipalities. Much concern was expressed that school board decisions were altering master plans without the board's consulting with planning agencies.

School board members who attended were Thomas F. Hicks, Eugene R. O'Brien, Lynn B. Elmore, and Mrs. Louise Yuill. County delegates present included Royal Hart, chairman, Robert J. Dentz, Dr. Arthur Dorman, Meyer Emanuel, Donald Roberson, William Goodman, and Edward T. Conroy. The county commissioners were invited but none accepted.

Board members declined comment when asked to comment individually as to the reason for their acceptance of the parcel 2 site after rejecting it the year before.

Civic Orchestra

On Sunday, Feb. 13, the Prince Georges Civic Orchestra will present two free public concerts for County residents. One program will begin at 3 p.m. at the District Heights Municipal Building; the second concert will be at Bowie Senior High School at 8 p.m.

Featured at both programs will be Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto Number 2, performed by Roy Hamlin Johnson, concert pianist and Professor of Music at the U. of Md.

In addition to the Piano Concerto, the Orchestra will present Beethoven's Overture Zur Namensfeier, Copeland's Quiet City, Bourree Fantasque by Chabrier, and Matinees Musicales by Britten.

Racial Justice Now

An offering for Racial Justice Now will be taken in the services of worship at Greenbelt Community Church on Race Relations Sunday, Feb. 13, for support of United Church of Christ programs to bring about equal opportunity for all Americans. The Committee for Racial Justice Now was established by the General Synod in 1963, and reaffirmed in 1965, to mobilize the manpower and resources of the United Church to aid in the struggle for racial justice.

SICKLES FOR GOVERNOR MEETING ON TUESDAY

The Greenbelt Sickles for Governor Committee will hold an organizational meeting next Tuesday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. in the city offices. Dr. Elbert Byrd, who has taken a one year leave of absence from his position as Associate Professor at the University of Maryland in order to serve as Congressional Legislative Assistant to Congressman Carlton Sickles, will be the guest speaker. All GSFSG members are urged to attend.

Spellman to Speak at JCC

The meeting of the Women's Group of the Jewish Community Center of Prince Georges County, originally scheduled for Feb. 16, has been rescheduled for Feb. 23 at 8:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be County Commissioner Gladys Spellman, who will speak on "Education in the Community." Her address will start at 9:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the J.C.C. Building, Ridge Road and Westway.

Slow, Fast Pitch Softball

There will be a meeting at the Prince Georges County Recreation Dept., 4803 Riverdale Rd., on Monday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m. to organize the Men's Fast Pitch Softball Leagues for the coming season. All those interested in entering a team in the League should attend.

There will be a meeting on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 8 p.m. to organize the Men's Slow Pitch Softball Leagues for the coming season. All those interested in entering a team in the League should attend.

For information contact Si Lovell, 864-6292.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Kenneth Wyatt, Minister

Saturday - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER. Social Hall. \$1. adults, 60c 5-12 yr. olds. Under 5 free. Public invited.

Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 2-B Hillside. Adult Church Class. Church school grade 5 through adults.

10:45 a.m. - Race Relations Sunday & Boy Scout Sunday. Special offering for Racial Justice Now.

6:30 Senior High Home Meeting. 49-F Ridge Road.

(A United Church of Christ)

St. Hugh's Lunch, Hat Sale

St. Hugh's Sodality is sponsoring a covered dish luncheon and hat sale. Feb. 19 at 1 p.m. in the parish hall. Call Mrs. Ann McDonald 474-6475 for tickets.

Norman Farmer

Norman W. Farmer, 2-G Northway, died on Feb. 2 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Elsie and sons, Michael and Mark.

9:45 a.m. Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Training Union
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. Evangelistic Hour
8:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting

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Valentine Day Dance sponsored by Greenbelt American Legion Auxiliary #136, benefit of Child Welfare. Saturday, Feb. 12, 9-1. \$3.00 per couple.

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 GR 4-6464 GR 4-6069

**GREENBELT THEATRE**  
 129 Centerway Greenbelt, Md.  
 Phone GR 4-6100

Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon.,  
 Feb. 9 - 14

**The Ipress File**  
 A Suspense Thriller  
 SPECIAL KIDDIE MATINEE  
 SATURDAY - SUNDAY

**The Magic Weaver**  
 At 1:00 - 3 p.m.

Starts Thursday - Feb. 18  
**Boeing Boeing**

**SPECIAL NOTICE**  
 Effective Feb. 13  
 Theatre will be open  
 On Sun., Mon., Fri., Sat.  
 Only during Feb.-March

**Be My Valentine**  
 SAY IT WITH CARDS AND GIFTS  
 From the Complete Line at  
**Ben Franklin**  
 in the Greenbelt Shopping Center  
 Open 9-9 Mon.-Sat.  
 "Call me "Lover Boy" Mr. Harry

**OVATION COSMETICS OPEN HOUSE**  
 Complete Demonstration of the latest in beauty and skin care.  
**Co-op Hospitality Room**  
 Thursday, Feb. 24  
 8 p.m.  
 Refreshments - Everyone Welcome

MONEY DEPOSITED BY FEBRUARY 10th  
 EARNS DIVIDENDS FROM FEBRUARY 1st  
**CURRENT DIVIDEND 5% PER YEAR**  
 MONEY ORDERS 15c  
**TWIN PINES SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSN.**  
 9 - 9 Weekdays 9 - 5 Saturday  
 Greenbelt Shopping Center

**Need Financing**  
 Get A Low Cost Loan  
 From Your  
**GREENBELT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**  
 121 Centerway 474-5858  
 HOURS: Mon. thru Fri.: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
 Sat.: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.


**S. KLEIN ON-THE-SQUARE**  
 6000 Greenbelt Rd.  
**Nursery & Greenhouse**  
 Order a Floral Arrangement or Corsage for your Sweetheart, Wife, or Mother  
 474-6700 ext. 314  
 (no phone orders after Friday 6 p.m.)  
 Potted Tulips, Chrysanthemums, Azaleas, Hyacinths  
 WITH THIS COUPON 50% off Original Ticket on any ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS In Our Greenhouse Friday Only - Feb. 11  
 WITH THIS COUPON WILD BIRD SEED 5 lb. Bag. 29c or 5 for \$1.00 (reg. .49)

**DISCOUNT SPEEDY CAR WASH**  
 TIRES PARTS ACCESSORIES  
**50¢ OFF**  
 WITH THIS AD  
 Coupon Valid thru Thurs., Feb. 17 (Except Sat., Sun., & Holidays)  
**REGULAR PRICE \$2.00**  
**FREE** EVERY CAR SPRAY WAXED . . .  
 WHITE WALLS CLEANED . . . .  
 EVERY INTERIOR DEODORIZED  
 9457 Lanham Severn Road, Seabrook  
 Opposite "Seabrook Shopping Center"  
 Monday through Saturday, 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.  
 SUN. 8:00 - 3:30 Phone 577-2900



From Greenbelt: Take Beltway to Exit 30 EAST (Defense Highway) to Lanham-Severn Rd. to Discount Car Wash. or: Glenn Dale Rd. to Md. 584 (Lanham-Severn Rd.) Right to Discount Car Wash.

**So you're thinking of quitting school. Why not? You'll have a ball.**



**The C & P Telephone Company**  
 Part of the Nationwide Bell System