

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 35, Number 45

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, September 28, 1972

Council Votes Down Tennis Court Facility

by Sandra Barnes

By a 3-2 vote, the city council of Greenbelt turned down the Lancer Corporation's plan to build an indoor tennis facility on 4.5 acres of parcel 15, located west of Charles-towne Village, south of Greenbelt Lake. All of the council members desired the indoor tennis complex, but three of them, councilwomen Elizabeth Maffay and Rhea Cohen, and Mayor Richard Pilski expressed their fears that such a facility would open the door to other commercial ventures on the property.

Council was reminded that the city of Greenbelt fought a long and hard court battle in 1967 to keep parcel 15 from being zoned for apartments. Currently, it is zoned for single family homes.

City solicitor Emmett Nanna expressed no clear view on whether he felt that the remaining 18 acres could be insulated against future development. On the one hand the facility would be commercially operated with the land and the structure eventually being deeded to the city. On the other, it could be called a recreational facility, and "as long as the property doesn't turn into an amusement park, the city is on pretty solid ground," he stated.

Councilwoman Maffay noted that there was no overwhelming demand from the citizens for indoor tennis courts. The only safe way to insulate the property from commercialization is for the city to purchase the remaining acreage, and she did not see how the city would be able to do that. Mayor Pilski decried the notion of having the property developed in a piecemeal fashion.

On the other side, councilman Gil Weidenfeld felt there was a great demand in Greenbelt for indoor tennis courts. "Greenbelt is an ideal location and there is great potential here for a successful operation." He felt the city should take the chance, as the revenue from the complex together with the green space matching fund program sponsored by the federal government would bring in the money to purchase the remaining acres on parcel 15. Councilman Charles Schwan concurred with Weidenfeld in his desire to take the chance, noting, however, that "there is no way to insulate against ingenious developers." He felt the city would have to commit itself to the acquisition of the six acres of land, to act as a buffer.

Indoor Swimming

A task force, composed of members from the P.G. Board of Education, the MNCPPC, and the county council, had met to discuss where swimming pools should be located in the county. Joe Wilkinson, of the city's Park and Recreation Advisory Board, spoke to the council on his committee's desire to have the task force consider placing an indoor pool in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School as this would be in keeping with the school-park complex idea favored by many administrators.

Council, therefore directed the city manager to contact the Board of Education, MNCPPC, the county executive, the county council and the task force, to keep the record open for an additional four weeks so that there may be citizen and city input.

NOTICE

There will not be a Council meeting on Monday, October 2, 1972. The City Council has deferred this meeting to Tuesday, October 10, 1972 at 8 p.m.

WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Sept. 28, 7:45 p.m. GHI Meeting. Hamilton Pl.

Tues., Oct. 3, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Aqua-Spa Referendum - Municipal Building, SHL Community Center
7:30 p.m. Center School PTA
8 p.m. North End PTA

Wed., Oct. 4, 8 p.m. Greenbelt Environmental Action Committee, Greenbelt Library meeting room.

Marriott's Park Plans Turn Closer To City

Location of the 800-acre "Great America" amusement park in the Beltsville Agriculture Research Center north of Greenbelt is a possibility, according to Star-News reports that appeared last week. With the unanimous rejection by Howard county council of the rezoning needed for the center, Marriott Corporation, sponsor of the project, is seeking other sites in Prince Georges county.

The site being given first consideration reportedly is an 800 acre tract at Laurel, owned by the Contee Sand and Gravel Co. The same source also reported that another site under discussion is the former Bowie airport.

Giving weight to the agricultural center site is the report that General Services Administration this month recommended that 9,500 acres of the center be declared surplus. The Agriculture Department opposed the recommendation, which is now under review by a White House panel. This review board could rule in favor of the Department or GSA.

If the property is declared surplus, GSA said, it could be sold to the highest bidder or simply given away under certain conditions. State and local governmental units and nonprofit institutions will be given the opportunity to acquire the property for public purposes, including educational or recreational use.

Congressman Lawrence Hogan said, when contacted by the city, that he is opposed to piecemeal disposition of surplus acreage at Beltsville. Instead, he favors developing a plan for the entire area which would recognize the need for "green" space and public usage. Hogan suggested that a task force representing the National Park Service, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Smithsonian, the Department of Agriculture, and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation be authorized to plan for the use of surplus Federal land.

Marriott officials met last month with MNCPPC in order to determine what suitable sites might be available in Prince Georges County. A planning commission spokesman said discussions with the company were "exploratory" and "non-specific."

Howard Cty. Rejection

Howard County rejected the rezoning after citizens argued that the \$73-million Disneyland-type amusement center would attract unplanned development and lower property values. Another factor is reported to be an inadequate road system, which would presumably also apply to the agricultural center site.

The Great America center would feature three separate "theme" parks designed around a central shopping plaza, with a large parking area and full-size campsite. It could attract millions of tourists from the East Coast.

This is the second time within a year that undeveloped federally owned land bordering on Greenbelt has been eyed as a site for an amusement park. Last February

Greenbelt Scores Well in Parade

Greenbelt winners in the 1972 Labor Day Festival Parade included the following: Marching Units - Best Ladies Aux. Unit-2nd Greenbelt Post 136, Best Junior Aux. Unit-1st Greenbelt Post 136; Fire Departments - Best Looking Ambulance (2nd Place)-Greenbelt F.D.; Best Looking Pumper (1st and 2nd Place)-Greenbelt. Other Fire Department Awards won by Greenbelt: Largest in group, 1st Place; Best Prevention Float, 1st Place.

Springhill Lake took 1st Place in the Best Community Float, and Greenbelt Post 136 collected the \$75 cash prize for the 1st place in the Senior Drum and Bugle Corps.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

Interested in recycling, pollution, land use, or environment education? Join the Greenbelt Environmental Action Committee as they meet to plan action on these and other ecological problems on Wednesday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. in the Greenbelt Branch Library meeting room. The group needs both enthusiasm and ideas.

APPRECIATION PARTY

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Steering Committee cordially invites those who participated in the 1972 Labor Day Festival to an Appreciation Party on Friday, October 6. The party will be held at the American Legion Hall, Post No. 136, Greenbelt Rd., starting at 8 p.m. Music will be by Skip Hunter and his Music Men. Call Myrna Burchick, 474-6587, or Barbara Lane, 474-5806, for information.

Bicycle Rodeo Oct. 14

The Greenbelt Jaycees are planning a Bicycle Rodeo for Saturday, Oct. 14. It will be held in the parking area between the Jaycee Center and St. Hugh's School, and all boys and girls of elementary school age are invited to participate. Trophies and certificates will be awarded in two age groups. For further information, call Jim Chase at 345-8098.

the National Park Service, without consulting Greenbelt officials, worked out an agreement with the Marshall Hall interests to make available over 400 acres of the Greenbelt Regional Park for a Disneyland-like facility. Even before Greenbelt officials could bring their big guns into action, the Department of Interior nixed the proposal.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland will hold a special election on Tuesday, October 3, 1972, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., to submit to the voters for approval the question of authorizing the issuance of bonds in the amount of six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) for the purpose of providing for the construction of a recreation facility consisting of an indoor swimming pool and related and complementary facilities. Council has designated the following polling precincts:

3rd Precinct - Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

6th Precinct - North End Elementary School, Ridge Road

8th Precinct - Springhill Lake Community Center, 6220 Springhill Drive

If you have any questions concerning your registration or voting precinct, please contact the City Clerk - Telephone 474-8003.

Gudrun H. Mills, City Clerk

Voters Go to Polls Tuesday For Swim Pool Referendum

by Al Skolnik

On Tuesday, October 3, Greenbelt voters will decide the fate of the Greenbelt Aqua Spa, which is the name the supporters of the project have given to the proposed year-round indoor swimming pool facility. This facility would include a 25-meter indoor heated pool with a shallow-water training pool and a 3-meter diving board, with an adjacent building to provide bath house facilities, a health-exercise area containing saunas, whirlpools and exercise equipment, and a refreshment and spectator area.

The location of the facility is not yet determined, though favored is a site adjacent to the present municipal outdoor pool. This site would permit the new bathhouse to serve both the indoor pool and the present outdoor pool. (The old bathhouse would be torn down.) Other factors favoring this choice are the availability of parking, and the pool's central location.

The referendum the citizens will vote on Tuesday authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds up to \$650,000 to fund the construction of the facility. According to city officials, this debt service (am-

ounting to \$50,000-\$55,000 a year) could increase the city tax rate by 8-9 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, assuming that the pool does not generate any surplus income. To the extent that the pool earns income in excess of what is needed for operating costs, the impact on the tax rate would be less.

The advocates of the pool see the Washington area demand for both indoor pool time and health spa facilities as surpassing the available supply. They cite the difficulties that Greenbelters at present have in getting available indoor pool time at convenient hours. They see many advantages to the citizens of Greenbelt in the variety of programs that will be available during the non-summer months, and in the supplementary role that the indoor pool can play in the summer by absorbing some of the regular swimming programs scheduled for the outdoor pool.

According to current plans, the Aqua Spa will provide activities for all ages from 2-month-old babies to octogenarians. These include, besides recreational swimming, the usage of sauna, whirlpool, and exercise equipment; swimming and diving lessons, life saving, water safety instruction, health and exercise programs, recuperative therapy, programs for physically handicapped or retarded, pre-school programs, scuba, skin diving, water polo, survival training, swim meets and clinics, and lunch hour programs for the 8-5 crowd. The shallow water training pool is especially directed to the 4 to 8-year-olds.

The Ad Hoc Indoor Swimming Pool Committee, appointed by City Council, recommended a city referendum, stating that "The Committee is convinced that this project would be well worth while for the city to build, even though at some periods of its existence it may require some tax support."

Opposing Views

At the last minute, some organized opposition to the indoor swim pool has developed. Some persons have objected to the additional open space at the center that would be eaten up by the pool. Others have objected to the fact that the pool may only be used by a small proportion of the Greenbelt population and have argued that a broader political jurisdiction, such as the county, should underwrite the project.

But probably the major issue is whether the pool would be self-supporting. The present outdoor pool is run as a self-supporting operation and at budget time the council is frequently asked to provide assurances that the pool will remain that way. Many citizens have indicated that they would object to the use of general tax money to subsidize the operations of an indoor swimming pool. And, on this point, of course, no precise answers are available.

Supporters of the project point out that a major source of income aside from membership and class registration fees will be group rentals during off hours from swim teams, programs for the county's physically handicapped children, canoe cruisers, scuba divers, etc. They say that the indoor swimming pool can be made self-supporting from these sources, especially when future growth of the city is considered.

The supporters feel it is up to the council and citizens to decide whether they want the pool to be completely self-supporting or whether they would prefer partial tax support of the pool by restricting the rental hours, increasing the hours of pool time available to Greenbelters, and/or lowering the membership fee.

Parcel M at Beltway May Go to Pay Debt

Supported by court order, a creditor of First National Realty Corporation may seek this week to attach a portion of the Beltway Plaza tract amounting to 21,000 square feet in order to secure payment of a debt incurred by the corporation. The 21,000 square feet, known as parcel M, is located west of Gentry Drive.

Sidney J. Brown, president of First National had pleaded that First National was inactive and unable to pay its debts. In 1968 Brown had transferred title of the Beltway Plaza development to another one of his corporations, but U.S. District Court Judge Gerhart A. Gesell on September 25, 1972, ordered that title to Parcel M, free and clear of incumbrances, be transferred back, thus giving First National sufficient assets to pay at least some of its debts.

The ruling occurred as the result of a suit brought by Lathrop Douglas, an architect, who said Brown owed him \$67,000 for work done for First National in 1964. Brown said he is appealing the decision on the grounds that the Federal court had no jurisdiction with respect to Maryland property.

The architect's attorney, Stephen D. Keefe, said that unless Brown puts up a bond while appealing the case, he will ask the U.S. marshal to put a notice on the property noting that the parcel is for sale. Keefe does not expect the sale of the 21,000 square feet parcel to bring in the full amount, after adding interest and lawyers fees. Therefore, the attorney indicted that he will attach the entire development, starting a process whereby Brown eventually could have to transfer all of the property back to First National and continue to sell off parcels until the debt is paid in full.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$6.50 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 58, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-4131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volume 35, Number 45

Thursday, September 28, 1972

"Outrageous Allegation"

To the Editor:

One matter not adverted to in the present GHI controversy is the impact of the very serious charge of personal dishonesty leveled against some current and former board members and the management staff. This allegation was investigated by Cresap, McCormick and Paget and found to be baseless. Nevertheless, at the GHI board meeting September 14, Mr. Howard Brooks revived it by accusing such persons of opposing an "independent financial audit" because of what it might reveal.

Current and former board members have more freedom to reply to this outrageous allegation than staff personnel. For the former, this service is part-time work that they can seek or not seek. For the latter, it is their professional life-work that is assailed. The former represent the members, the latter work for them. To level such an accusation at staff members, therefore, is about as sporting as shooting fish in a barrel.

We who are current and former board members are in a position to know of the personal dedication of staff members to the corporation. We unequivocally reject the character assassination practiced on them. We affirm our complete faith in their personal honesty.

Darwin Beck, Edward Burgoon, Gerald Gough, Douglas Hawes, Janet James, Katherine Keene, Stephen Polaschik, Charles Schwan, Josephine Seay, Nathan Shinderman, James Smith, Norman Weyel, Harry Zubkoff

Recreation Review**Fall Program Changes**

Women's Slimnastics—class meets Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-2:30 p.m. Facilities open to women only during this time.

Yoga—classes combined on Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m., Ridge Road Center

Tumbling—class meets each Saturday, at St. Hugh's, from 11 to 12 noon.

U.S. Air Force Band Series

On Friday, October 13, at 8 p.m. in the Greenbelt Youth Center, the U. S. Air Force Band will present the first of four concerts to be held in cooperation with the Recreation Department. This program will be free of charge and features the Chamber Music unit of the band.

Men's Gym—Every Monday Night

Open to men 21 years old and over, only at the Youth Center gym, 7-10 p.m. Shower and locker room facilities available.

NATIONAL 4-H Week

National 4-H Week will be celebrated October 1-7. The 4-H program encompasses more than raising cows and chickens and prize-winning bulls. 4-H flourishes in the suburbs; in fact, there are eight active clubs in Greenbelt right now. Today's kids use those 4-H's (Head, Heart, Hands, and Health) to work on such projects as cooking, sewing, crafts, child care, woodworking, and bicycle safety. They are eager to use their skills to help in community projects and participate in local, county, and state affairs.

All 4-H clubs are open to boys and girls, 8-18. Leaders are needed to organize more clubs in Greenbelt. Anyone interested in forming a club, or in teaching specific skills as a project leader, is invited to call Ms. Geraldine Saunders at the County 4-H office 627-5236.

Shaffer-Bond

Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Shaffer announce the engagement of their daughter Charlotte M. Shaffer to Theodore R. Boud. An October wedding is planned.

Reduce Heating Costs 50%

To the Editor:

GHI members can help reduce heating and hot water costs around 50% by notifying maintenance (474-6011) that hot water faucets are leaking, that radiator valves do not completely shut off, that steam lines or any other lines pertaining to the heating systems are leaking and that weather-stripping around doors and windows is causing infiltration of cold air during the winter months. Further, if uninsulated piping in kitchens and bathrooms require insulating, please advise them also. Being familiar with heating systems, I'm positive that if these steps are taken seriously by the membership they will note a marked decrease in heating costs, since central heating is the most economical form of heating space and hot water. Heating costs are now averaging over \$400 per family per year.

Thus, savings from this one item can be as high as \$200. per family per year if full cooperation is obtained. The recoupment of these savings, along with others which should be brought to the immediate attention of the maintenance staff, should go towards the partial cost of any rehabilitation project, and delay as long as possible any increase in monthly rents. Otherwise, our rents will be increased about \$45 - per month to pay for the 7½ million dollars modernization program when implemented.

Wake up, GHI members, don't let this amount in increased rents come as a shock. It could even be higher, unless some economic measures are practiced by all, including management and your board. A nation without vision perishes; so will Greenbelt with its lack of interest in its own future welfare.

Vincent Caruso

Bryant-McKinney

Noreen Bryant and Haven McKinney announce their marriage at the Greenbelt Community Church on September 2.

The bride was escorted to the altar by her son, John Michael. Present at their double-ring ceremony were the bride's daughters, Kathleen, Virginia, twins Loreen and Noreen, relatives and close friends. The couple exchanged vows before the Rev. Robert Field, with Anne Meglis, of Greenbelt, serving as matron of honor and Jeffrey Hicks, of Springhill Lake, as the best man.

A reception followed at the home of the bride's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nelson, of Lakeside Drive.

Mrs. McKinney grew up in Greenbelt and is the daughter of Jack and Noreen Schultz, 1-C Southway. The groom is a native of West Virginia. After returning from a wedding trip to the Shenandoah Mountains, the family will reside in Greenbelt and be joined by McKinney's daughter Kim.

Robinson-Lally

Lt. Colonel (Ret.) and Mrs. Roland Walter Robinson of Cheverly announce the engagement of their daughter, Joan Elizabeth, to John A. Lally, son of Mrs. Edward John Lally and the late Dr. Edward John Lally of Greenbelt.

The wedding is planned for Dec. 16. The bride will be graduated in December from the University of Maryland in the field of zoology.

Mr. Lally is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University in political science and is currently attending the University of Baltimore School of Law. He is employed as an administrative aid to Prince Georges County Councilman Francis W. White.

Weisel-Costello

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice A. Weisel 21-D Ridge Rd., announce the marriage of their daughter Barbara Irene to Kenneth Melvin Costello, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Costello of Cottage City, Md.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Edward H. Birner on Sunday, September 17 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. A small reception followed at the bride's home. After a honeymoon at the Poconos, Mr. & Mrs. Costello will reside at Gateway Gardens, Bladensburg.

Harold L. Yontz

Harold L. Yontz, long time Greenbelt resident, and husband of Hilda Yontz, died Thursday, Sept. 21, at Newton D. Baker V.A. Hospital in Martinsburg, West Va., after a long illness. Interment was at Rosedale, the family cemetery in Martinsburg.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6005 Greenbelt Rd.

Worship Services

8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Sunday School 9:50 A.M.

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

Phone 345-5171

**Twin Pines Newsletter**

TWIN PINES SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN.

GREENBELT SHOPPING CENTER GREENBELT, MD., 20770

OCTOBER, 1972

PHONE 474-6900

State Denies Application for Savings Bank Charter

The State Banking Board and Bank Commissioner on September 6th turned down Twin Pines' application to convert to a Mutual Savings Bank. No explanation was given in their letter denying the application.

However, in a meeting with the Deputy Bank Commissioner he indicated the main reasons were the heavy concentration in co-op home loans in Greenbelt; the marketability of these co-op home loans; and the Banking Board's belief that another banking facility is not needed in Greenbelt.

We have written the Bank Commissioner asking for specific requirements we would need to meet in order to successfully appeal the decision, or what we would need to do to reapply.

More on Deposit Insurance

Four members of our Board of Directors and our Manager met on September 7th with Mr. Harry B. Wolf, Jr., Executive Vice President of the Maryland Savings-Share Insurance Corporation (MSSIC) to discuss ways of meeting MSSIC's objections to our co-op home loans.

In order to protect MSSIC and its Savings and Loan Association members, MSSIC has to be able to sell our co-op home loans in case Twin Pines were to fail and MSSIC had to sell our loans and pay off our savers.

This question was discussed in detail at an informal meeting of the Boards of Twin Pines and Greenbelt Homes. In order to meet the requirements of MSSIC, Greenbelt Homes is considering whether it could agree that if MSSIC took over Twin Pines it would allow MSSIC to sell the co-op home loans in default to any purchaser without prior Greenbelt Homes approval, or alternatively, Greenbelt Homes would agree to buy these loans from MSSIC.

Geller-Hampson

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Geller announce the marriage of their daughter, Elise Jocelyn, to Alfred Lewis Hampson III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lewis Hampson II, of Ridgewood, N.J.

The outdoor wedding was held in the terraced gardens of the Rockville Civic Center Mansion on the morning of Aug. 19. The bride was attended by her two sisters, Holly as maid of honor, and Barbara (Lambert) as bridesmaid.

Elise, a '67 graduate of High Point High School, and a '71 graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., has just earned her Master's degree in mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Albert, also a '71 Dickinson graduate, is teaching and pursuing a graduate degree in math at Lehigh University.

The couple is now residing in Allentown, Pa.

Thanks

To the Editor:

The family of the late Maurice E. Armstrong of Washington, D.C. gratefully acknowledges with deep gratitude all kindnesses extended to us by friends, neighbors and the pastor of the Community Church of Greenbelt during our recent bereavement.

Selma Hammond
and the
Armstrong family

MISHKAN TORAH

Shemini Atzeret Services

Fri., Sept. 29 - 8:30 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 30 - 9:30 a.m.

Simchat Torah

Sat., Sept. 30 - 7:30 p.m.

Torah Procession Honoring Soviet Jews

Sun., Oct. 1, Service 9:30 a.m.

Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg

Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg

9:45 A.M. Sunday School 6:00 P.M. Training Union
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship 7:00 P.M. Evening Worship
7:30 P.M. Wednesday Midweek Service

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent & Greenhill Rds. S. Jasper Morris, Jr., Pastor - 474-4040

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Md. Telephone 474-9410

Rev. Clifton Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-3381

Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00)

Church School (Kindergarten through adults) 9:30 A.M.

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(United Church of Christ) Hillside & Crescent, 474-6171

REV. ROBERT L. FIELD, Pastor, 474-3120

Sunday Worship Service and Church School - 11 a.m.

Infant and Nursery care provided

Letters on Aqua-Spa

Explains Financing

As has been stated by the city, the cost of repaying the bond principle and interest for the Aqua Spa will amount to approximately \$50,000 per year for the lifetime of the bond issue, i.e. 20 years. The important question is: How much of this money will come out of income from the Aqua Spa and how much will be left to be paid out of taxes? Note the following:

1. It cost the city \$165,393 to renovate the Municipal outdoor pool. Admission fees and rentals have been sufficient to pay all costs, including the cost of repaying bond principal and interest even though the pool operates only 3 months per year serving less than the total populace (residents living in SHL, Charlestowne Village, University Square and Lakeside North apartments have free access to apartment provided outdoor pools).

2. The Aqua Spa will operate on a 12 month basis and will derive income from both the indoor pool and exercise facility.

3. Each outdoor pool generates demand for swimming beyond the present three month summer period. At present there are no public indoor pools in Prince Georges County.

4. Over a period of twenty years the population will increase and create an even greater demand for indoor pool and health facilities.

5. The relative annual cost of repaying the bond principal and interest will decrease steadily over a period of 20 years. The total amount of dollars to be paid is fixed, the value of these dollars will keep decreasing due to inflation. Present day dollars would be repaid with future inflated dollars.

6. At the moment, the building trade works with an annual expected rise in building costs of 10%. Unless the rate changes we will end up paying about \$1,000,000 for an installation that will be worth \$1,950,000 at the end of 20 years.

Conclusion: At the moment prospects for repaying the greater part of the debt service out of Aqua Spa income are good. These prospects are improving every year as a result of increasing demand and diminishing costs.

Nino Moretti
Chairman, Friends
of the Aqua Spa

A Question of Priorities

Greenbelt voters face a difficult decision on October 3rd. The question before us is a little more complex than just who would like an indoor pool and who would not. I think there are many of us who agree that it would be nice to have a facility in Greenbelt. It is difficult to argue against that. It is also probably true that the economics of the proposal are not too alarming, except for those citizens whose budgets are so constrained that they could not stand any increase in taxes at all.

I think there are several other factors which should be considered by the voters on October 3.

1. In terms of priorities, is the proposed facility what we need most? Should we divert \$650,000 of bonding authority for something like this, rather than use it for purchase of strategic parcels of green space. How about elderly housing or rehabilitation of the center mall?

2. The city has a poor record of implementation of the \$950,000 bond issue of 1968. Over half of that money still remains unused.

3. We should fulfill the promises made to Springhill Lake residents for a recreation center before we place another facility in Greenbelt Center.

4. There are proposals now in the county for up to eight swimming pools to be located in P.G. county. Would it not be premature for Greenbelt to undertake what might be built by the county?

Finally, think hard before you pull the lever. Should we have a sauna, or more intense drug education? Should we provide for exercise for the elderly, or make sure their basic needs are met? Should we be a two pool family, while other more important needs are not met? Should we invest \$650,000 for a building to fog my glasses, or parlay that amount with the purchase of needed green buffer zones to protect us from the concrete ribbons surrounding us.

Thomas X. White

Against Aqua Spa

The letter of September 14, mentioned by Mr. and Mrs. Mayer stated that this project was being promoted primarily by parents of team members. Not entirely. I am not aware of the age, physical condition or financial status of these individuals; however, their need for an indoor pool seems to fall into a classification of recreation-medical aid, which should be at the expense of the individual, not the taxpayers.

As for the article by Mr. Janus, I would point out that indoor pools are available at the University of Maryland, American University, the YMCA and commercial facilities for rent, all within a short driving distance of Special Education Centers. As a member of the PG County School system, he should be able to arrange for the use of these pools. As a matter of fact, if the need is so great, why not let the county build a pool? They have a much broader tax base, both in property and piggy back income taxes.

It is doubtful that the total number of handicapped children and swim team members in the city of Greenbelt can justify a \$650,000 indoor pool for this town, and it is not the responsibility of the homeowners here to provide this type of recreation to a large area outside the city.

I know from personal experience that competitive winter swimming is expensive and requires considerable transportation to a swim club with adequate facilities as well as a good coach. These clubs are not tax-supported, requiring a considerable membership fee plus dues. Again, this is a personal problem for the families involved. They should not ask or expect the homeowners of Greenbelt to provide their private recreation, not to the tune of \$650,000.

Just divide that sum by the number of single family homeowners in GHI, Lakewood, Lakeside, etc., and you will realize that if this bond issue is approved, each individual family will owe more than they probably paid for their own home. For What? Vote against the Aqua Spa!

Viola L. Keer

Urges a "Yes" Vote

Several fellow residents—knowing that I am chairman of the county swimming pool task force—have urged me to indicate whether I am in favor of the Aqua-Spa proposed in the October 3rd bond referendum. It seems reasonable, therefore, to put forth some of my views concerning this proposition.

I am strongly in favor of the proposed pool complex. It is true that the county (via MNCPPC) will probably start building pools in the very near future. Hopefully the first two pools will be built in time for use next summer. It is also very reasonable to assume that one of the "first pools" may be in county recreation district II that surrounds and includes Greenbelt. It is very unlikely, however, that the county will build pools similar to the proposed Greenbelt indoor complex. I am not suggesting that the county will never build indoor pools. The consultant hired by MNCPPC recommended indoor-outdoor complexes as well as outdoor only developments. It is also likely—in my opinion—that a major indoor competitive complex will be constructed in a central county location in a few years. It is my judgment, however, that these county programs, assuming they materialize would not adversely effect the demand or need for the facility proposed in the city referendum.

Realizing that I will be in California attending the National Recreation and Park Association Congress on October 3, I have taken advantage of our city absentee voting procedures and have voted in favor of the pool referendum. I would like to urge my fellow "Greenbelters" to "go thou and do likewise" on October 3. Thank you!

John W. Churchill
Chairman, P.G. Swimming
Pool Task Force
Member, P. G. Planning
Board

Praises Vision Behind Pool

"Name With-held" claims that only swim team parents want the Aqua-Spa. As a non-swimmer, with no children on the swimming team, I would like to go on record as wholeheartedly supporting the Aqua-Spa, because it will be an imaginative, first-rate facility which will provide much needed recreation for a broad spectrum of Greenbelt citizens. I do agree with "Name With-held" on one point: that people who want such a facility should be willing to pay for it, and I believe that is exactly what is going to happen — people from all over will come to use it, and pay gladly, because of its unique design, and because Prince Georges county has an appalling lack of swimming facilities.

According to the Allen Report on Recreation, commissioned by the county commissioners several years ago, we needed over 20 pools at that time just to catch up with existing needs. Does "Name With-held" honestly believe that even if the two pools he/she mentioned are built in the near future, they would even begin to meet the demands of our county's pool-starved population? It will take decades to do that.

"Name With-held" also mentions that we already have a pool — one given to us by the government, free. (Has he/she forgotten about the \$165,000 renovation job a few years ago?) I can just picture what happened when my erst-while next door neighbor, Rex Tugwell, was planning Greenbelt; the voices of doom saying — why build a swimming pool for this new town? Wasn't the government spending enough during the height of the depression? If the people get hot let them take a bath! And what about our recreation building? How much time and effort did it take to push that through against the pressure of those who believed there was a much greater need for other things? Would anyone give up either one of these facilities now?

It takes people of determination and vision and dedication to spark an imaginative project — to more or less anticipate a community's needs and come up with a plan to meet them. It is an open secret that recreation facilities — especially those related to physical fitness — will in the long run save money on medical care, and by keeping our youth busy and involved, just might even save money on police departments. I think the Aqua-Spa would be a very good facility indeed.

Helen Geller

Forsees Tax Burden

The U. S. Government turned over to the people of Greenbelt a going town, complete with operating equipment, and no bonded indebtedness.

As of this date, Greenbelt's bonded indebtedness is \$1,236,666.00.

I am disappointed in The Management's presentation in the two issues of News Review which purports to "provide information." In reality, these articles are sales talks to sell the bond issue.

The only hint of possible cost to the taxpayer is a tax increase of 9 cents to cover-anticipated operating losses. What I want to know, and I believe all sound citizens of Greenbelt want to know, is the prospective costs of operating this indoor pool. A \$650,000.00 bond issue will have interest cost alone of \$32,500.00 just for an opener, plus all other operating costs — this to serve a minute number of Greenbelt people. Whatever happened to the sound theory that people financially able to do so should pay for their own and their family's recreation?

The bold fact is that our present management has been unable to operate anything at break even. The present swimming pool is an example. Even though all actual costs have not been charged against the present pool, this pool operation has not returned the full operating cost plus the bond amortization.

Please! No additional indebtedness!

Edward Thornhill

Pool "Good for Greenbelt"

We are not members of the Aquatic Boosters or any other so-called "special interest" swimming group. We buy a family membership in the swimming pool, but have never used it and our two daughters have used it no more than a half-dozen times. If the new swimming-health center is built, we probably won't use it any more than we do the outdoor pool. Nevertheless, we support the bond referendum for the indoor pool because we believe it is good for Greenbelt. In fact, we believe it is one of the best recreational buys that the taxpayer can make.

Studies have shown that swimming is probably the most complete type of exercise available to most people of all ages, including those with physical handicaps. Coupled with the health spa, a year round swimming facility will probably serve more citizens of this community than any other single form of recreation. Personally, we believe that, as with ball fields and bicycle paths and open space, such a service should be totally paid from taxes, but, in contrast to these other recreational services—which serve "special interest" groups—the swimming pool proposal will, in all likelihood, pay for itself.

According to the Pool System Analysis report prepared for the MNCPPC by Planning Associates, September 1, 1972, a pool complex such as is being proposed for Greenbelt should be self-sustaining with a family membership fee base of \$60.00. This study of swimming pool needs in Prince George's County projects a demand for this are far in excess of any figures used in discussions by the city. We can't help but believe, therefore, that the city's figures are quite conservative—that there shall probably be no cost to the taxpayer. However it is right that the city be conservative in such a matter as the bond referendum.

The point is, we believe that to support the proposed swimming pool facility will not be to deny other vital recreation needs in Greenbelt. We support the further acquisition of open space, as all Greenbelters do, even though it will not be self-supporting. When the time comes, we will be glad to support non-income producing ball fields—even though we won't be using them either. And we will support bike paths—which we will use—though that will have to be exclusively a tax burden also. But the time for the indoor swimming and health facility is now, and the sooner it is built the sooner it will start paying for itself.

It has been the development of such forward-looking projects in the past that has helped to make Greenbelt such a desirable place to live. The continuation of Greenbelt as a good place to live not only continues the human values we hold in such high esteem here, but our property values as well.

Bernie and Bob McGee

Family Recreation

Much of the discussion on the Aqua Spa has centered around financial matters and specific programs offered by the proposed indoor pool and health facility. It should not be forgotten that an Aqua Spa facility will provide an opportunity for family recreation, something which seems to be passing from the social life of most communities.

Charlotte J. Herlich

CENTER SCHOOL PTA

Center School PTA will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 3 in the school's gym. A social time at 7:30 p.m. will be followed by a short business meeting at 8, during which teachers and PTA officers will be introduced. Classrooms will then be opened and parents will have an opportunity to meet teachers and learn something about classroom programs.

PTA projects for the coming year will also be discussed and tickets will be on sale for the forthcoming Bob and Judy Brown puppet theatre presentation.

Pros and Cons

In keeping with the city ordinance that PRAB functions under, PRAB wishes to express concern to the public of the lack of clearly defined advantages and disadvantages in regard to the need for an indoor pool as described in the city of Greenbelt's Bond Referendum Brochure that has been published in the News Review. PRAB, therefore, states the following pros and cons for citizen consideration prior to voting on the bond referendum.

ADVANTAGES

1. The Aqua-Spa would be more than just another recreation facility, being educational and therapeutic, offering a variety of programs during non-summer months not presently available in Greenbelt to its residents (these and other activities are listed clearly in the brochure). The need for year-round adult physical fitness may be well recognized, but still needs to be stressed.

2. The indoor pool can absorb many of the program activities now tightly scheduled in the outdoor pool during summer morning hours, such as swimming lessons which would free the outdoor pool for longer hours of recreational swimming.

3. The indoor pool can be used by the Greenbelt swim team which spends several thousands of dollars to swim at other pools outside the county.

4. The depth of the outdoor pool and the extensive summer time use precludes adequate facility use or time for teaching water safety. The loss of lives occurring annually due to poor water safety practices can be prevented by proper water safety instruction in the indoor pool.

5. The new Aqua-Spa building would serve as a bathroom for the outdoor pool eliminating future renovation of the present bathroom.

DISADVANTAGES

Citizens should be aware of the following factors which could be viewed by some to be disadvantages.

1. Spa equipment such as the universal exercise machine will duplicate facilities which already exist in the Youth Center or which have been proposed to be established elsewhere in Greenbelt.

2. The pool will undoubtedly attract a large number of non-Greenbelters especially if operation costs are to be reduced by rentals to non-Greenbelters as outlined in the city brochure.

3. Money spent for the indoor pool might discourage citizens from acquiring needed land for additional recreational areas.

4. Citizens should be aware that the county and the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission are planning to build a number of pools (including indoor pools) in the coming years. Some of these might be located near Greenbelt. Possibly an indoor pool could be built at FDR High School should Greenbelters express a strong desire.

This letter is a compilation of recommendations of PRAB members present at the Sept. 25, 1972 meeting.

James Parochetti, PRAB member

OLD TIME CANNING JARS	
pt. size 1.07	qt. size 1.44
DAIRY CAN SALT & PEPPER SETS 88c	
15 ps. Bold Color OVEN-WARE COOKERY SET \$7.77	
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1 asst. of PIN-UP LAMPS	\$4.98
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99c - \$1.39 - \$2.77 - \$3.33	
18x27" RUG DOOR MAT \$1.00	
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Boosters Favor Aqua Spa To the Editor:

It is no surprise to anyone that the Aquatics Boosters Club should favor the Aqua Spa and indoor swimming pool. Those who are close to swimming already know the immense value of this activity to health and general wellbeing. We want this program to be made available to all Greenbelt (not just the children!) all year long. Our present activities are limited to four hours of pool time each week rented where we have to spend as much time driving to and from the pool as in the water. For this we pay almost three thousand dollars a season. We are not only willing, but expect to pay our own way.

Yes, we do want a swim team in the program. But remember that the Rockville swim team brings in over \$16,000 in direct income to their indoor pool. There is no estimate available of the number of memberships that they bring with them. Besides being a good customer, swim teams practice when no one else would.

In reality the competitive programs are a small part of a complete program. A complete aquatics program should be many-sided. It must include lessons for non-swimmers so that they may enjoy and be safe in the water. It should include group activities in synchronized swimming, water ballet, diving, competitive water sports and splash parties. There has to be ample time for open swimming by families and individuals too. There should also be a lifesaving, water safety instructor training, canoe and scuba, muscle training and body building exercise for everything from muscle strain to disabling paralysis. These, and other very helpful, successful programs for persons with physical and mental handicaps could be available for Greenbelt if we have an indoor pool.

With a program that benefits so many citizens of all ages the Aqua Spa is almost guaranteed to be a success - both for the health and economy of Greenbelt.

Greenbelt Aquatics Boosters Club
George R. Jones, President.

Stresses Pool's Advantages

I have followed with great interest all development in connection with the proposed Aqua Spa, and just finished reading the Pool System Analysis report, prepared by a consulting firm for the MNCPP Commission. One point in this report seems to me to be of special interest. This is the recommendation for pool locations.

The report divides Prince Georges county into 6 units. Greenbelt belongs to unit II with a total population of about 26,000. The report then states: "in Unit no. 2, the subtraction of the population of Greenbelt and satisfied residents results in a new unsatisfied population of about 236,000. The report cludes that either 2 fifty meter indoor/outdoor pool complexes or 7 smaller outdoor pools are needed to satisfy the demand of these 135,663 people who do not include Greenbelt residents. In addition the report recommends to build in the next 10 years in unit 2 only two outdoor pools.

Conclusion? These pools, if, when and where they are being built, do not consider Greenbelt's needs. Also, they are not under control of the city.

From a personal point of view: I lead a very busy life and do not have the time to travel far for my relaxation. However I can afford the time for a daily visit to a local Aqua Spa, which will enable me to come home refreshed and not exhausted from fighting traffic again. I sure hope that a Greenbelt Aqua Spa will become a reality!!

Ruth Baron



State Farm Insurance
Ron Borgwardt
474-8400
Auto - Life - Homeowners
10210 Baltimore Blvd.
College Park, Md. 20740
(on U. S. 1 at the Beltway)

In answer to the letters in the last issue of the News Review I would like to point out that the proposed Aqua-Spa would benefit only a few who will be able to afford the high admission charge. It should be noted that everyone in Greenbelt will have to pay taxes to build the boondoggle. This is another example of the rich getting richer while the poor are forced to become poorer.

If Greenbelt becomes the first community in Prince Georges County to build a public pool it should not be regarded as a feather in our cap. We should realize that it will mean we are flaunting our wealth. Why should we have an all year swimming pool when large areas of Washington and even our own county do not even have swimming facilities in the summer?

The argument that the pool is needed for the physically handicapped are fine. However the handicapped are among those least able to afford the price of admission. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is planning to build two or three indoor pools in the county. Rather than construct a pool in Greenbelt we should see to it that these pools will be located and so planned that the handicapped can make maximum use of them. R. Auerbach

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WHERE TO VOTE

3rd Precinct (Center) — Vote at the Municipal Building

Crescent Road (No. 1 thru 62, & No. 125)
Eastway - No. 2
Gardenway
Lakecrest Drive
Lakeside Drive
Lakeview Circle
Maplewood Court

Olivewood Court
Parkway
Pinecrest Court
Ridge Road - No. 1 thru No. 42;
No. 44, 46 and 48
Southway Road
Westway Road

6th Precinct (North End) — Vote at North End School

Eastway - No. 1, 3 and 5
Empire Place
Fayette Place
Forest Way
Greendale Place
Greenhill Road
Greenknolls Place
Greentree Place
Greenway Place
Hedgewood Drive
Hillside Drive
Ivy Lane
Julian Court
Lastner Lane

Laurel Hill Road
Lynbrook Court
Northway
Orange Court
Periwinkle Court
Plateau Place
Research Road
Ridge Road - No. 43, 45, 47, and 49
49 thru 446
Rosewood Drive
Tamarisk Court
White Birch Court
Woodland Way

8th Precinct (Springhill Lake) - Vote at Springhill Lake

Community Center

Breezewood Court
Breezewood Drive
Breezewood Terrace
Cherrywood Court
Cherrywood Lane
Cherrywood Terrace
Edmonston Court

Edmonston Road
Edmonston Terrace
Springhill Court
Springhill Drive
Springhill Lane
Springhill Terrace

JOIN US IN THE SWIM

Vote "YES" on October 3rd

Gordon & Elizabeth Allen
Rose Amberg
Joburns Baker
Pat Baker
Paul M. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Baluch
Mrs. Ruth Baron
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Beall
George E. Beauchamp Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Till Bergemann
A. Bistany
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Blair
Mrs. Alan Blair
Peggy Blair
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Bram
Helen Brown
Rev. Kenneth C. Buker, Sr.
Irving E. Byer
Dennis & Ladonna Burton
Pat & Jarvic Cain
Mr. & Mrs. James Cassels
*Mr. & Mrs. John W. Churchill
Mr. & Mrs. John E. Connor
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Cook
Agnes Cooper
Mr. & Mrs. Albert F. Cousins
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Cowley
Mr. & Mrs. Jozef Dolina
Phyllis J. Douglas
Allen L. Douglas
John F. Downs, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. T. R. Durantine
Marie A. Durso

Andrew & Marge Feeny
Mr. & Mrs. A. C. Figlia
Lennert H. Folkee
Mrs. L. H. Folkee
Mr. Fred Ford
Mr. & Mrs. H. N. French
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Frese
Mr. James Gainor
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Gardes
Mr. Michael B. Garin
Eve Garin
Harvey & Helen Geller
Ben Goldfaden
John C. Golembe
Evelenth Golembe
Julia W. Good
Rosalie S. Gordon
Gerald & Kathy Gough
Yolande Greeze
Mr. & Mrs. James Hanna
Jerry & Marie Hart
Mrs. Jane Hawes
Irene Hensel
Dr. & Mrs. Harry Herlich
Frances & Albert Herling
Steven R. Hibbs
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Hill
Bill & Ann Hoff
Bill Hooper
Louise Hooper
June & Tom Isaacs
Robert J. Janus
George & Jeanne Jones

Mike Jones
Edward D. Keckley
Gene Kelleher
Ann Kelley
Bernard & Beth Kessley
Mr. & Mrs. Otis Keys
Leslie A. Kulp
Eileen M. Labukas
David & Sue Lange
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lauber
Mr. & Mrs. John I. Leslie
Norman J. Letiecq
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Levine
Robert J. Lewis
Carolyn R. Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Lindahl
Mary L. Linstrom
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Frederick H. & Erika Mayer
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Bernine & Robert McGee
Dolores & Bill Menges
Mr. & Mrs. A. Milhollon
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Mary Jo Molineaux
Richard Molineaux
Mr. & Mrs. John Mongelli
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mongelli
Mr. & Mrs. Nino Moretti
Mrs. Jerriann King
William & Margaret Morin
Mr. Joseph Mulvihill
Rosemary Murawski
Ruth A. Myers
Joseph Nasinov
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry O. Newman
Margaret B. Needham
Mr. & Mrs. William Norberg
Ruth Nunnally
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Bob Oudermans
Ellie Oudermans
Kathy Patton
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Mr. & Mrs. Walter Penney
Ms. Ann Marie Pick
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Mrs. Barry Podolsky
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Polaschik
Simon & Tina Pristoop
Steffi S. & Gary Ridgel
Doris Riley
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John E. Robbins, Jr.
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Mollie S. Reuben

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Joe Mack & Sandra Schubert
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Jackie T. Shabe
Dorine R. Shields
Jim & Connie Shaughnessy
Mr. & Mrs. S. L. Sinden
Robert R. Smith
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Mrs. Shirley Smith
Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Snider
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Charles C. Spiro
Dorothy Sucher
Audrey J. Stern
Robert P. Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tompkins
Jan M. Turkiewicz
Jean P. Turkiewicz
Eileen M. Turner
Georgene & Jim Turner
Patricia Unger
Catherine M. Vanderzon
Leo & Marcie Walder
Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Walter
Toni Watters
John S. Webb
Mr. & Mrs. Gil Weidenfeld
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Wheatley
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence M. White
Mary Lou Williamson
Mr. Michael J. Zagas

VOTE "NO" AQUA-SPA

City Referendum Oct. 3, 1972

Greenbelt Citizens for a Balanced Recreation Program is an organization formed by your friends and neighbors, certainly a true cross section of our community, and dedicated to an expanded, broad and vigorous recreation program in Greenbelt.

We are fortunate in having an excellent recreation department managed by a dedicated and competent staff.

However, we believe that the proposed "Aqua Spa" would unbalance and dilute the current recreation program. Therefore, we oppose it for the following reasons:

This one million dollar investment including interest will not meet our need for an expanded swimming program, if indeed this is one of Greenbelt's priorities.

Many see a need for an outdoor swimming pool in the North End of Greenbelt because of the severe overcrowding of the existing municipal pool, and as a summertime convenience to the residents.

The proposed "Aqua Spa", wherever located, will be closed during the summer for recreational swimming. The overcrowd-

ing and inconvenience of the municipal pool will continue unabated, despite all the benefits promised by the supporters of the proposed million dollar "Aqua Spa".

We think it would be desirable to explore the feasibility of enclosing, perhaps with a bubble top, two outdoor municipal swimming pools — the current one and a proposed additional one in the North End — without frills and frosting. Possibly for less than a million dollars we could have two indoor-outdoor public pools that could be used both winter and summer.

It has been suggested that the operating expenses of the "Aqua Spa" can be adequately met by charging user fees. This is highly dubious.

Even so, these fees would be so substantial that only a small and more affluent minority of Greenbelters will be able to afford them, although approximately 6,000 taxpaying families will shoulder the tax burden.

The most optimistic estimates show that no more than about 10% of Greenbelt's taxpaying families will subscribe to or be able to afford to take advantage of the "Aqua Spa".

Indeed, never have so many been asked to provide so much for so few.

Polling Places are:

3rd precinct— Greenbelt Municipal Building

6th precinct— North End Elementary School

8th precinct— Springhill Lake Community Center

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Granims
John W. Cassidy
Charles Kendal
Margaret Kendal
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Duttine
Evelyn Feller
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Hanyok
Ruth Birdseye
Edward Allison Jr.
Helen Allison
Harold Siegel
W. O. Wright
John Collins
Vera Collins
Ed. Ross
Joe Ross
C. D. Tomlinson
Thomas C. Brown
Joe Dalis
Fay Dalis
John McLaughlin
Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Andros
Mr. & Mrs. Charles McDonald
Otis Keyes

Elva Keyes
Robert Olson
Barbara Olson
Claude Weidow
Evelyn Weidow
Joe Hanyok
Cecelia Hanyok
Gerald Keesey
Rita Dean
Bud Dean
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Kay Trout
Mr. & Mrs. F. D. Farrall
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Howell
George York
Mildred York
Mr. H. Merryman
Cardwell Baker
Carol Shewbart
S. Moryadas
Mr. & Mrs. S. Natarajan
Mr. & Mrs. James Donald Wolfe
Gail Chavrid
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Freeman

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Miller
Martin Anderson
Hattie Anderson
Rita Gigliotti
Jordan Choper
Mr. & Mrs. Harley J. Mann
John Merricks
Paula E. Smith
Jim Welsh
Mary Welsh
Bob Auerbach
Leonard Cohen
Ed Kaighn
Adelaide Kaighn
Mildred Lush
Gordon Lush
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Evelyn Barnett
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Frances McNally
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Herbert Grimes
Anthony M. Madden
Dorothy W. Davis
Patricia A. Molden
Adele Warner
Martha Hutzler
Ann Vorce

Please join us in voting NO in Special Referendum on October 3, 1972.

Space Purchased by:
Greenbelt Citizens for a Balanced Recreation Program

Leo Gerton
Treasurer



**You'll Know
Where Your
Children Are!**

**VOTE YES ON
OCTOBER 3rd**

Friends of the Aqua-Spa

ABSENTEE VOTING - October 3, 1972 Referendum

Section 7-5 of the Greenbelt City Code provides that citizens of the city who are qualified electors shall have the privilege of voting in municipal elections of the city by absentee ballot, subject to the following regulations:

"Application shall be made in writing to the city clerk for an absentee ballot not earlier than twenty days preceding a municipal election nor later than three days preceding such election.

All such ballots returned shall reach the office of the city clerk before the closing of the polls on the day of the election."

Any qualified elector of the city who would be prevented from voting in the October 3, 1972 Referendum because of absence from the city on the day of the Referendum, or because of illness or incapacity, or because of religious precepts or the laws governing the church or religious order of which he or she may be a member or follower, shall be entitled to vote by absentee ballot.

Applications for absentee ballots for the October 3, 1972 Referendum shall be made in writing to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, so as to reach that office no later than Friday, September 29, 1972. Ballots returned shall reach the City Clerk before the closing of the polls on Tuesday, October 3, 1972 at 7:00 p.m.

Gudrun H. Mills, City Clerk

SAMPLE BALLOT BOND ISSUE REFERENDUM

City of Greenbelt, Maryland, Tuesday, October 3, 1972

QUESTION: "Shall Bonds in the Amount of Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000) Be Issued by the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, Secured by its Full Faith and Credit, in and for the Said City for the Purpose of Providing for the Construction of a Recreation Facility Consisting of an Indoor Swimming Pool and Related and Complementary Facilities such as Dressing Rooms and Lavatories, Health and Exercise Facilities and a Food Concession Area, as Authorized and Provided by City of Greenbelt Ordinance No. 737."

FOR THE BOND ISSUE
AGAINST THE BOND ISSUE

Introduced: Mrs. Maffay; 1st Reading: 7/10/72
Amended: 8/14/72; Passed: 8/14/72
Posted: 8/16/72; Effective: After passage by
majority of voters at referendum 10/3/72

Ordinance Number 737

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND EMPOWER THE CITY OF GREENBELT TO ISSUE ITS BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$650,000), SAID BONDS TO BE DESIGNATED AS "\$650,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR AN INDOOR SWIMMING POOL FACILITY", SAID BONDS TO BE ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A RECREATION FACILITY CONSISTING OF AN INDOOR SWIMMING POOL AND RELATED AND COMPLEMENTARY FACILITIES, PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION AND DISPOSAL OF THE PROCEEDS OF SALE OF SAID BONDS, AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF ANY SUCH BONDS AND THE INTEREST THEREON.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland that:

SECTION I In accordance with the authority granted by Article 23-A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition) and Section 55 of the Charter of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland (Section 40-55 of Article 17 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Prince George's County", subtitle, "Greenbelt", as amended by Charter Amendment Resolution No. 119 enacted April 17, 1968 and Charter Amendment Resolution No. 1971-2, Section 1, enacted April 5, 1971), the Council hereby authorizes, subject to approval at referendum, the issuance of bonds in the amount of Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000) to be known as "\$650,000 General Obligation Bonds for an Indoor Swimming Pool Facility."

SECTION II The "\$650,000 General Obligation Bonds for an Indoor Swimming Pool Facility" authorized to be issued by this Ordinance will be used for the purpose of providing for the construction of a recreation facility consisting of an indoor swimming pool and related and complementary facilities such as dressing rooms and lavatories, health and exercise facilities and a food concession area. It is determined that the additional funds needed to meet such expenses, which will be defrayed from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds aforesaid, will not be less than Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000).

SECTION III Said bonds herein authorized may be issued and sold for the full amount or may be issued and sold at more than one time for partial amounts of the total authorized, provided that the total issued shall not exceed Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000). The bonds shall be issued and sold in the manner prescribed by law and shall mature in not more than twenty (20) years from issuance.

SECTION IV The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, including any accrued interest received therefor, shall be paid directly to the Treasurer of Greenbelt and shall be deposited in the proper account of the City of Greenbelt. There shall be deducted from the total gross proceeds received for said bonds the amount received on account of accrued interest thereon, which said amounts shall be set apart by the Treasurer of Greenbelt in a separate account and applied to the first maturing interest payment on said bonds. There shall also be deducted, from the gross proceeds that were received, the cost of issuing the same, including the cost of advertising, printing, and legal fees and expenses. The balance of the proceeds of the sale of said bonds authorized by this Ordinance shall be expended for the purposes set forth in Section I of this Ordinance as specifically appropriated by ordinance or for the redemption of said bonds. The City Treasurer and the City Manager shall be authorized to invest the proceeds of the sale of said bonds or any portion thereof not required to meet and pay the current obligations of the City of Greenbelt for the purposes set forth herein in short term notes or certificates of the Treasury Department of the Government of the United States of America.

SECTION V For the purpose of paying the interest and principal of the bonds authorized to be issued by this Ordinance there shall be appropriated annually an amount sufficient to meet the debt obligations for the fiscal year. Any revenues realized from the operation of the Indoor Swimming Pool Facility not required to meet operating expenses or replacement reserves shall be applied toward the payment of bond principal and interest. In addition, the City of Greenbelt shall levy or cause to be levied in each and every fiscal year that bond principal and interest is outstanding ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt, in an amount sufficient to provide for the payment, when due, of the interest and principal of said bonds maturing in each fiscal year, and, in the event the proceeds from such taxes so levied and other revenues so realized in any such fiscal year shall prove inadequate for the above purposes, additional taxes shall be levied in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any deficiency, such levy or levies to be made to the full extent permitted by law. The faith and credit of the City of Greenbelt are hereby irrevocably pledged to the payment of the maturity principal and interest of said bonds and to the levy and collection of the taxes hereinabove prescribed as and when such taxes may become necessary in order to provide sufficient funds to meet the debt service requirement of the bonds hereby authorized to be issued. The City Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, hereby solemnly covenants and agrees with the owner or owners of said bonds to take all action as may be appropriate to levy and collect the taxes hereinbefore prescribed.

SECTION VI This Ordinance shall take effect from the date of its approval by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the issue at a referendum duly provided for by a Resolution as prescribed by law.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland at its Regular Meeting, August 14, 1972.

Richard R. Pilski
Mayor

ATTEST:
Gudrun H. Mills
City Clerk

CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

AQUA-SPA INFORMATION

(This is the fourth and final of a series of articles prepared by the City Staff to provide information about the city bond issue referendum to be held on Tuesday, October 3, 1972. Bonds in the amount of \$650,000 would be issued, if authorized by the referendum, for the purpose of funding the construction of an indoor swimming pool, health and exercise facility, frequently called an aqua-spa. If you have any questions concerning this proposal, please call the City Office at 474-8000. We shall attempt to answer in these articles those questions of general interest. If you have opinions or comments of your own, we urge you to submit them in writing to this newspaper with a copy to the City Offices.)

Voters registered with the City of Greenbelt are urged to participate in the referendum to be held Tuesday, October 3, 1972, between the hours of 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. The referendum will decide whether or not the City should issue bonds up to \$650,000 in order to finance the construction of an indoor pool, health and exercise facility — often referred to as an Aqua-Spa.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An indoor pool was first proposed in 1971 by a sub-committee of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Its report was submitted to the City Council which then requested the City Staff to study the feasibility of such a facility. In its report to Council, the Staff concluded that an indoor pool would be a desirable addition to the community and that if it is to be built, the City should consider constructing with it a health and exercise facility. However, the staff concluded that the pool would not be a self-supporting operation and that its cost would need to be partially paid for by taxes. Proponents of the pool took exception to the staff report and proffered that it was feasible to operate the pool on a self-supporting basis. The City Council then appointed a six-member citizen committee to study the matter. That committee recommended the bond issue referendum. It further recommended that if the bonds are approved, the City Council authorize a combined pool and exercise facility larger than minimal size and custom built of quality materials. The committee concluded that the facility did not have to be financially independent and that the project would be well worthwhile for the City to build, even though at some periods of its existence it may require some tax support. The City Staff then determined that it would cost about \$650,000 to build the kind of facility recommended by the Indoor Pool Committee.

WHAT IS PROPOSED?

The Council has not approved a particular plan and will not do so until it has employed the services of architects and engineers. The Indoor Pool Committee recommended that there be a 25-meter long pool, 45 feet wide, with one 3-meter and two 1-meter diving boards plus an adjacent shallow water training pool 20 by 45 feet in size. The pool would be enclosed by a custom built structure utilizing quality materials requiring low maintenance. The Committee proposed that the pool be built adjacent to the City's outdoor pool located behind the Municipal Building. It proposed that a new bathhouse would have dressing rooms, lavatories, offices, an exercise area as well as eating and spectator areas.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

The City Staff estimates that it will cost about \$115,000 per year to operate this facility. This includes salaries, heat and utilities, other operating costs and the cost of paying off the bonds plus interest. Revenues realized from pool rentals will offset at least in part the expense of operating the pool. How much revenue the City receives will depend on such variables as admission charges, the policy on use by non-residents, rental of the pool by groups, competition from other pools which might be built in the future, and the future growth of the city.

THE VOTER'S CHOICE

A City survey indicated that many residents have an interest in indoor swimming. The facility proposed can offer Greenbelt residents a variety of recreational programs not presently available. Exercise machines, a sauna and a whirlpool plus the swimming pool will give residents of all ages an opportunity to get healthful exercise as well as enjoyment.

However, by approving the bond issue the City assumes an obligation it must repay whether or not the pool is financially successful. The amount of money the City can borrow and spend is limited and there are those who believe that the City should give higher priority to other needs. Others are not interested in using the facilities offered and, therefore, are not interested in assuming any added financial obligation for that purpose.

The October 3 referendum gives the registered voters the opportunity to express themselves as either "for" or "against" the proposal.

Two Possible Conservation Programs Studied by GHI

by Sid Kastner

Steps toward initiating two interesting conservation programs were taken at the GHI Board's continuation meeting of Thursday night, and some committee affairs were also discussed.

Member Gordon Allen and director Janet James learned some time ago of the existence of a program for reforestation which is subsidized by the State in the form of unchanging tax assessment. Superintendent David Kane has inquired into the details of this program, contacting a representative of the Maryland Forest Service. He has learned that a tract, to be eligible, must have a minimum of five wooded acres and would have to be cleared of all dead, diseased and poorly formed trees, a tree planting project would need to be undertaken using seedlings supplied by the Forest Service. The estimated cost to GHI would be about \$100 per acre.

The directors showed much interest in the idea. GHI's attorney Albert Ginsberg has been consulted and finds such a project to be within the corporation's legal domain. As a next step, in the communication with the Forest Service, the latter has asked for a letter of intent from GHI before a forest management program and agreement is drawn up. A motion was passed to refer the project to the Planning Committee, at the same time requesting the manager to gather information on any similar projects that might be available.

Water-Saving Devices

Another project which would save money for the corporation, at the same time that it conserves the scarce natural resource of water, was brought up by director David Lange; he discussed the idea of installing commercial water-saving devices on commodes and showerheads, and relayed the Planning Committee's recommendation that the corporation carry out such a pilot project for a few homes.

In reply to a question by director Howard Brooks, manager Roy Breashears said that any problems encountered in installation or manpower would become clearer after some experience with the project. A motion by director Thomas White to carry out this pilot project was passed. Lange commented that a saving of about 25% in water use could be achieved by the devices, while Breashears estimated that the project might well pay for its own cost in about two years.

Sales Fees

Turning to a matter of fees charged by the cooperative for selling homes, Breashears noted that the GHI sales office charges a fee of \$100 to sellers for processing their sale, but presently does not make such a charge to realty companies. He listed several processes that the sales office personnel have to carry out in the case of all sales, whether handled privately or by realty companies. For this reason, he said, the Executive committee had recommended that a fee of \$200 be assessed realty companies for handling their sales. Chairman James Smith thought this was reasonable, stating that the sales office must furnish more information to realty salesmen than to members.

In discussion of this recommendation, director Tony Lynch suggested a base fee of \$100 with the addition of a \$75 fee if the sales office has to "educate" the realty company's salesman. Director Brooks questioned whether the legal aspects had been checked, saying that the realty companies might find the higher fee unfair. Directors White and James, on the other hand, felt the higher rate was proper. Director Nat Shinderman moved to implement the assessment of the \$200 charge; subject to the approval of the corporation attorney; the motion was passed unanimously, and is to go into effect after November 1.

Executive Committee

A proposed description of the Executive committee's responsibilities was taken up next and produced a surprising amount of debate, both for and against. The Executive

committee consists of the officers of the board and the chairman of the Member Relations committee, and is chaired by the president. In its description, the two areas of (a) Personnel and Organization, and (b) Governmental Affairs are suggested as its responsibilities.

Directors Lynch and Brooks dissented, arguing that the Executive committee is basically an agenda-formulating committee, and urged that the area of Personnel should be handled by the Member Relations committee. Brooks went further and voiced his feeling that governmental affairs should also not be handled by the Executive committee. Director Lange and audit committee member Gordon Allen also disagreed with the idea of the Executive committee handling personnel and organization matters.

Directors James, White and Shinderman spoke in favor of the description as written. White said it was apparent to him that the Planning, Member Relations and Finance committees were already overloaded; and Shinderman said that the Executive committee could set up an advisory subcommittee to help in its work if necessary. In a last argument against the description, Allen suggested from the floor that a separate "Administrative Affairs" committee be set up for the purpose, but a motion to adopt the description carried.

Later in the meeting director Lynch reported on Member Relations committee affairs. The committee has discussed setting up member meetings in different locations, perhaps as many as six if necessary; it feels that a board member should be present to give background on any of the various questions that might be raised.

In talking about the Newsletter subcommittee's work, Lynch expressed irritation at what he termed the board president's "muscling" of an item he had prepared for publication. Directors James and Weyel, also members of the committee, rejected Lynch's criticism and the President, James Smith, asserted that he had a responsibility for reviewing the Newsletter.

Mishkan Torah Procession

The Mishkan Torah, on the holiday of Simchat Torah, Saturday, September 30, will hold a Torah and candlelight procession around Greenbelt to express unity with the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union. If you wish to participate meet at the synagogue on Ridge & Westway at 7:30 p.m. Dancing will follow.

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