

















4—(Furniture-table and chairs)—“One of the first things we had had to do when we moved to Greenbelt was to buy furniture as the children no longer fit in their cribs and we had never had much to begin with. We chose the amber maple and still have some. It was built so well.”

— Peg and Joe Loftus

#### Adele Trumbule

8-E Ridge Road, formerly  
Hyattsville, Maryland

My husband came to Washington in 1937 to work for the Bureau of Engraving as a clerk. He left me and our six-month old son in Pittsburg, Kansas, while he tried out the job and decided that Washington area was a suitable place to raise a family. Since things looked promising, we moved east.

Many landlords were hostile to the idea of Greenbelt and resented losing their tenants to the new town. Ours was different and one Sunday she asked us if we would like to drive out and see it. We came and were really impressed with what we saw. The houses were lovely brick units. In May, 1938 we moved into 9-E Ridge, a 1½ bedroom unit. We paid \$30 a month rent and bought some new furniture. We still have the ample Maple bedroom suite, the dark gumwood twin beds and dresser and some miscellaneous pieces. Furniture cost us \$2.50 a month in addition to our rent.

When our second child was born we were offered a bigger house, and we moved to 35-L Ridge Road which was a 2 bedroom unit. They didn't want families to be crowded, so as they grew larger, bigger units were offered. When our fourth child was born we moved into a 3 bedroom unit at 56-C Crescent. Some people complained about all the rules, like having to have your wash in off the line by 4, but we liked the neatness and it was a wonderful place to live.

#### Edward Trumbule

There was organized softball and other sports. Greenbelt had one of the first lighted fields in Maryland. We had an athletic club that was second to none with about 250 to 300 members. There was no money for entertainment and there would be 300 to 400 people at the ball games most nights. The town was divided into blocks (we were in Block B at 9 Ridge), and the teams were formed from each block. Our block team won the basketball trophy in 1939 and it is on display at the Youth Center. There was great competition between the blocks and there was good newspaper coverage of the games.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church was first formed when we lived at 35L Ridge. We had some meetings there but soon began using the Center School, paying the sum of \$2 each week to cover the janitor's services.

#### Peg and Joe Loftus

11 Ridge, formerly  
7-J Crescent Road

When we were married in 1929, we went on a two-week honeymoon. Joe was a brokerage man in Chicago, and had promised his bride not to read the paper while away. When we returned, the stock market was collapsing and people were jumping out of windows. Eventually we had to move in with relatives. Later we moved to Independence, Kansas where we had family and Joe hoped to find work. In 1936 he took a Civil Service Exam and went to Washington, D.C. to work in the General Accounting Office. We saved our money and Joe looked for a suitable place for his family to live.

A friend told him about Greenbelt and the ideas involved in its construction. As soon as he saw it, he signed up. We lived on hope, kept up an active correspondence, and answered the questionnaires they sent us from the Planning Office about what we expected, what we had to offer the community, how we would participate. Finally in the spring of 1938, the children and I began our journey by train, stopping in Chicago to see my mother and arrange for our household goods to be taken out of storage and shipped.

One of the first things we had had to do when we moved to Greenbelt was to buy furniture as the children no longer fit in their cribs and we had never had much to begin with. We chose the amber Maple and still have some, it was built so well.

Greenbelt was a wonderful experience. I didn't know too much about housekeeping and everyone was very kind. I joined a quilting group made up mostly of ladies from 11 court Ridge. Ethel Reagan from the Extension Service taught us quilting. We made one quilt and then another, till each of us had one. There was gardening, Bud Zoelner was very helpful with those of us who didn't know what to do. And then we would also go down to the market and buy bushels of vegetables and can them together.

When our family grew larger, we moved to 7-J Crescent. We feel we were very blessed to be able to raise our family here.



5—(Furniture - living room)—“We . . . bought some new furniture. We still have the amber maple bedroom suite, the dark gumwood twin beds and dresser and some miscellaneous pieces. Furniture cost us \$2.50 a month in addition to our rent.” — Adele Trumbule

## CONGRATULATIONS GREENBELT

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# The Greenbriar-Glen Oaks Community Commemorates with Pride the 45th Anniversary of the City of Greenbelt The Centennial of the Birth of Franklin D. Roosevelt

Greenbriar Community Association

Greenbriar Condominiums Phase I

Greenbriar Condominiums Phase II

Greenbriar Condominiums Phase III





7—(Construction) "Everything that could be done by hand was, in order to provide employment. We had 5,800 skilled tradesmen working for us in the summer of 1936 and a lot of unskilled workers." — Chester Draper

**J. Walsh Barcus**

54-C Crescent, formerly  
2-T Gardenway

After graduating from Washington College and then teaching one year at Briarly Military Academy, Ammdendale, Maryland, I came to work on the construction project at Greenbelt.

I passed a Civil Service clerical exam in Washington and received an appointment in June 1936 as "payroll clerk—time keeper." I was assigned several groups of workers. Duties of the time keeper included meeting trains from Baltimore and Washington in the morning and issuing buttons to the arriving workers before they got on trucks to ride into Greenbelt.

There were three different colored buttons—white for laborers, yellow for semi-skilled, and red for skilled workers. Each group was authorized a specific number of hours each month.

We also checked the workers assigned to us twice a day on the job.

I recall three groups. One group dug the basements in the 1-court Gardenway. These men dug the dirt with hand shovels. Another group poured concrete for the floorings in the apartments on Parkway. Concrete was poured in buckets or carts with wheels that these men pushed to the first, second or third floors as they poured that floor. A third group consisted of the stone masons who laid the riprap on the face of the dam.

While keeping records on the stone masons I remember a measuring stick about center of the dam and perhaps fifty feet from the dam that was read regularly to determine the rate at which water was rising in the lake.

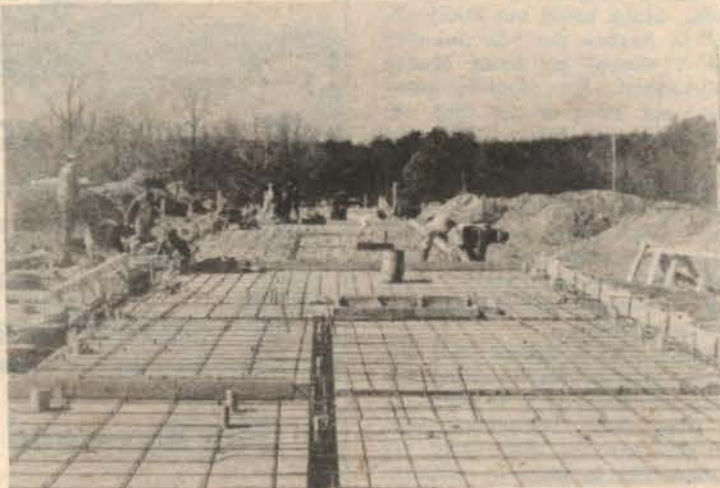
I remember President Roosevelt coming out in a touring car, top down, and pouring the first fish in the lake.

I remember, too, that I drove a 1935 Plymouth that my father had given me to work and the motor was literally red from the

**Helen Brown**

8-O Hillside, formerly  
11-G Southway

My husband and I and our sons Kenneth and Roger moved to Greenbelt in May 1942. Our doctor got us a place out here because our youngest son was poorly and he needed a healthier place to live. My husband drove a cab and we qualified for housing, but the main reason for coming was to give our son better conditions. Life-in Greenbelt was lovely. We had a lovely home with a pretty living room, separate dining room, nice kitchen and even a garage—all for only \$32.50 a month. And that's the way it was for a long time.



6—(Construction-single building) "One group of workers dug the basements. These men dug the dirt with hand shovels. Another group poured concrete for the floorings. . . . Concrete was poured in buckets or carts with wheels that these men pushed to the first, second or third floor as they poured that floor." — J. Walsh Barcus

red clay powdery dirt on the project. And when it rained, the red powder turned to slush.

I left the project in the spring of 1937 to seek more permanent employment. Then in December, 1937, returned with my bride-to-be to apply for a home in Greenbelt. We were told to return and make application after we were married. We moved into 54-C Crescent Road in March 1938.

One example of the blessings bestowed upon us as residents of Greenbelt—I was drafted in 1944. We had two boys. I went down to the rental office and notified them that I was being drafted. They changed my rent on the two-bedroom house at 1B Eastway from eighty dollars a month to thirty-two dollars a month. My wife was able to stay in Greenbelt with the two boys until I returned about fourteen months later.

(The eighty dollars a month was based on my income. At this time they raised one's rent as salary went up rather than forcing you to move.)

**Sherrod East**

33-L Ridge, formerly  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

When President Roosevelt toured Greenbelt before it opened, he was driven right up to the three model units at 33 L, M and N. Ridge. They were all furnished with Greenbelt furniture, and ramps had been built up to the doorways so he could go inside and see what the housing was really like. Later, when we moved in late in October 1937, these units were ready to rent and we were given 33-L. In April, 1939 our second daughter, Kathleen, was the first baby to be born in the Greenbelt Hospital.

Greenbelt was the beginning and end of my political ambitions. The first two town councils were elected for one year only, as the charter specified. However, after the town was fully occupied in 1939, the town council was elected for two year terms. At that point, the Hatch Act was passed, and while I had been elected, I could not stay in office. Later on the Civil Service Commission issued regulations so federal employees could run in local elections as nonpartisan candidates, and at that time, I came back on council.

When Greenbelt's first residents moved in, there was a family income limit of \$2,000. When my income rose about that level, we had to move out of the original housing but we were able to live within the city limits by moving to the Washburn place which was located where the Beltway Plaza Klein's store later was built. We stayed there for ten years and later returned to 33M Ridge Road. The income limits were removed when the war housing was built and that is why we were able to return. It also had become apparent that you couldn't have a stable, planned community if everybody had to move out when their income reached \$2,000, that you needed a mixture of incomes. We were very much involved in the struggle to get the graduated income level.

I was the first vice president of the Co-op and president of the Greenbelt Players. My wife and I bought the curtains for the (Utopia) Theater. Greenbelt was a beautifully planned town, but it was the people that made it work.

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1 Arm Chair	1502A	Amber Maple	5.00
1 Dresser	2901	Amber Maple	20.47
2 Night Tables	1404	Amber Maple	5.50 11.00
4 Side Chairs	1502	Amber Maple	3.75 15.00
2 Desks	904	Amber Maple	10.50 21.00
1 Server	802	Amber Maple	17.00
1 Bed	24 1/2	Amber Maple	22.50
1 Chest	2201	Amber Maple	20.47
1 Mirror	901	Amber Maple	5.78
1 Sawbuck Table	2608	Amber Maple	15.78
1 Bookcase	617	Amber Maple	5.65
2 Springs 3/3			4.00 8.00
2 Mattresses 3/3			5.25 10.50
1 Low Table	612	Amber Maple	2.50
1 Spring 4/6			5.00
2 Easy Chairs	1603	White Maple	14.45 28.90

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**The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club of Greenbelt Celebrates with Pride the Centennial of its Namesake and the 45th Anniversary of the City**

**Best Wishes to Greenbelt from Community Realty Company, Inc. On Your Birthday and the Special Commemoration Celebration of the birth of Franklin Delano Roosevelt**

Managers of:  
Springhill Lake Apartments  
Capital Office Park  
Green Ridge House



9—(Swimming in the lake 1938) "When the lake first opened, there was an area roped off for swimming . . . (later) the lake was declared polluted and no swimming was allowed." — Louise Steidle Winker

**Richard Benson**

6-F Ridge Road

I arrived here in the summer of 1938 in a model T Ford. I was 16 then, now am 60. Square dancing was held every Friday or Saturday night, as I recall. The schottisch was a popular dance. The town offices were above the Ben Franklin store. I went there to see town manager Roy Braden in a futile attempt to be allowed to keep a dog. No pets were allowed, even goldfish.

Greenbelt was truly encircled by greenery. North of Northway Road was all woods, practically the jumping off place. Eastward, on the old Glenn Dale Road was mostly forest with a few fields. Southward was Schrom's airport, just west of where the Greenway Shopping Center now is. I worked for the legendary Fritz Schrom for a year, 1939-40, after graduating from high school — spinning propellers on the light planes, Piper Cubs mostly. Bought another Model T near there from Tom Poston, the actor and a fellow student at high school.

The American Legion was an old farmhouse then. To the east of it were garden plots and woods. Greenbelt road did not exist in the form it does now. The old road snaked along where the Park Police station is now, to Berwyn Heights, Branchville and the old DC Transit trolley line. We had a cute little shuttle bus

from the street cars (as they were known) to Greenbelt.

Greenbelt was sometimes referred to as "the settlement" in those days, a term we didn't like. The small local news sheet was the Cooperator. I once chatted briefly with the well-tanned Rexford Tugwell. Saw FDR at a distance at least three times, once at Union Station when some of us boys played hookey to see him greet the English King and Queen.

On Pearl Harbor day, we young men gathered as if by instinct at the Center. Nothing much was said, but we were pensive, wondering what was coming next. All the console radios of the day stood on four spindly legs. I had the exclusive right to install "officially approved" antennas. Also, everyone had wooden kitchen drainboards. We boys did a brisk business in sanding and revarnishing them.

**Linda Dove**

6-M Hillside, formerly University Hills, Maryland

We moved into Greenbelt on October 11. We had been living in an old house in the Mt. Rainier-Hyattsville area and after we answered all the questionnaires they sent us, an inspector came out to see what kind of housekeeper I was. She even looked for fingerprints on the doors. Bob had been working on the construction of Greenbelt, but to qualify for a house, he had to resign and find another job. Later Roy Braden let him come back to work after we had lived here for a while.

Those were good days — we made so many good friends and living in Greenbelt was almost like belonging to a country club. We had exercise classes, tennis and softball teams. The women would go out and exercise like mad, then come up to the drug store and have hot fudge sundaes. Lots of times I would put Bill and Bobby in our red wagon, and they would play in the sand box and I would play softball. Ben Goldfaden was our coach.

It was great living. We had gardens and were always getting together with friends. I must have made two or three cakes a week. I took the boys back to our old church the first Sunday, but after that we went to the Protestant service at Center School. The Boys' Club and Scouts formed, and the band. Our boys couldn't join the band because their father worked in Greenbelt.

Greenbelt will always be like home to me.

**Dottie Herbert Graves**

Greenbelt

We moved to Greenbelt in November, 1939. We had heard so many things about Greenbelt, some not true. We heard the windows were so high, that you would have to stand on a chair to see outside. Also, the movie theater closed at 7 p.m., and you could not leave clothes on the line after 5 p.m. If you did, the police would come around and take them down.

Happy  
Birthday  
to  
Greenbelt  
and

Mr. Roosevelt

from

Charlestowne Village

Condominium

Association

**Bob Jacobsen**

First Resident Manager  
Co-op Stores Organizing Team

In the depth of the Great Depression, Toyohiko Kagawa, a Japanese Christian, came to the U.S. as a missionary urging us to set up consumer cooperatives as democracy in the economic field. Edward Filene, a Boston merchant, U.S. promoter of credit unions and visionary of a national chain of consumer cooperatively-owned department stores, furnished one million dollars to set up Consumer Distribution Corporation, whose first projects under Flint Garrison and Herbert Evans, were the co-op stores in Greenbelt, Greenhills and Greendale.

Evans, a big man in more ways than one, hired me at \$25 a week to manage the first coop drug store. Our office was in the Hay-Adams House at 16th and H. My wages did not cover my expenses, so I had to borrow money from my family drug stores in Minneapolis, which could not really afford to finance me. In January 1938, I bought my bride Marna to Greenbelt. She carefully managed our finances so that we could repay my family. She had been a physical education teacher and used her skills to teach dance to the Girl Scouts.

Our first store was a small convenience store next to the theater. Self-service markets were new, Greenbelt's was the first co-op supermarket.

Marna and I agreed that my biggest mistake was to resign my co-op job and return to the family drug store. Greenbelt had and still has, the team spirit. It is more fun to work in cooperative ventures than to constantly compete. We tried to give "parent-service," to give our consumer members the same honest service, we would give to our parents. The press criticized the Greenbelt experiment as "communitistic." Residents disagreed, appreciated the opportunity to be heard in town and co-op meetings.



"We had an athletic club that was second to none with about 250 to 300 members. There was no money for entertainment and there would be 300 to 400 people at the ball games most nights."

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Margaret Smith, Sec.	Linda Hanks, Treas.



**Greenbelt Cooperatives, Inc.**

**In Celebrating  
CO-OP MONTH**

**Salutes Its First Members**

**The Greenbelt Pioneers**



Gladys Braden and Eleanor Roosevelt at the Defense Rally at Center School.

"As each new family moved into town, they were visited by Roy Braden, the town manager, and his wife."

— Delpha McCarl Buese

"At Center School, my husband Robert shook hands with Mrs. Roosevelt. He was in first aid, helping those who were hurt on the job . . . and later was maintenance man at Center School."

— Eva Howey — photo by C. M. Howell

### First Lady Makes Surprise Visit Here

(The following article is reprinted from the Cooperator, December 15, 1937)

#### Mrs. Roosevelt's Syndicated Article Describes Latest Projects In Town

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt spent an interesting day in Greenbelt Thursday. She came unannounced and quietly went about the community with Dr. Will W. Alexander, administrator of the Farm Security Administration.

She delved into every project set up in the community and compared conditions here with what she had found on a previous visit last Spring. Working like an experienced investigator, she didn't rely upon guidance from anyone but went directly to the town personnel and those particular agencies in which she is interested.

Mrs. Roosevelt called at the consumer-owned cooperative store, where she discussed merchandising problems with Manager Templeman.

Introduced to Community Manager Roy S. Braden, and Assistant Community Manager O. Kline Fulmer, Mrs. Roosevelt asked for directions to the school. Making mental notes of what she saw, the First Lady had enough "live news" within two hours to turn out her syndicated column "My Day" which appears in many

dailies throughout the country.

In her column the next day, the First Lady offered this comment:

"They have no street lamps as yet to relieve the darkness at night, but they tell me when all the houses are lit up it is most attractive."

Mrs. Roosevelt made inquiries about the landscaping and learned about a WPA gardener who had salvaged an enormous quantity of trees in Greenbelt and established a nursery project for the community. The gardener, she discovered, had once worked on the estates of wealthy gentlemen, in this country and abroad, but found himself out of a job, when the strong tide of depression set in.

With unflinching tact, Mrs. Roosevelt made inquiries about the local transportation problem, and pressed for detailed information regarding "cooperative medicine", or plans for community medical service, based on either a prepayment or a health insurance program.

Taking several copies of the Greenbelt Cooperator with her, Mrs. Roosevelt walked into school classrooms, into one of the homes, (picked at random), and then smiled tolerantly when a Washington Daily News cameraman snapped pictures for an evening edition.

— L.B.

### It's Over the Top With Four Jeeps And a' Cycle

(Reprinted from the Cooperator, May 14, 1943.)

Four fighting jeeps, the contribution of Greenbelt's Elementary school children to the U. S. Army, will be available for public inspection at the Elementary School on Tuesday afternoon, May 18. Initiated by Group 3, a special drive for the sale of war bonds and stamps from May 3-7 raised \$401875 which was used to purchase the army vehicles.

To subscribe this sum the children undertook many odd jobs such as washing windows, cleaning floors, taking grocery orders, running errands, etc.

It is reported that since Oct. 1st the school children have been buying bonds and stamps at an average of \$205 per week.

Names and sponsors are as follows:

Group 1 — "Kitty Jeep", sponsored by Barbara Ann Colliver.

Group 2 — "Greenbelt Eagle", sponsored by David Mellisch.

Group 3 — "Hitler's Headache", sponsored by Leonard Deibert.

Group 4 — "G for Greenbelt", sponsored by Barbara Blondell.

#### Larry and Betty Brosmer 33-B Ridge Road, formerly Hyattsville, Maryland

We moved into Greenbelt on October 2, with the second group of residents. There was nothing at that time, no street lights, nothing, but it was a beautiful place. We had two boys at the time, 2 and 4 years old, and on December 8 we had a baby girl. We are very grateful for being able to live in Greenbelt and we have lots of happy memories. Our kids all loved it. If we had not outgrown our house, we would have stayed. We feel very fortunate to have been among the people who were able to get housing there.



11—(Newspaper office) "The small local news sheet was the Cooperator." — Richard Benson

Eva Howey

4-C Crescent, formerly Laurel, Maryland

Greenbelt was one of the important achievements of Franklin Roosevelt's administration. He was the founding father. To me he was a great President. He put people back to work and gave the needy homes to live in. President and Mrs. Roosevelt visited Greenbelt. At Center School, my husband Robert shook hands with Mrs. Roosevelt.

When Robert started to work in Greenbelt in 1935, he was in first aid, helping those who were hurt on the job. He also helped build Greenbelt Lake, and later was maintenance man at Center School.

We moved to Greenbelt in July, 1938. I think that was the happiest day of my life. Everything was so new and beautiful. Just to have a home to call our own

was exhilarating.

My husband also worked for Roy Braden under the Public Housing Administration. Robert was in charge of getting all the houses and apartments ready for new tenants. I didn't see so much of him in those days, he worked all day and half the night. But we were happy to have a home and food on the table.

In the early years, Greenbelt didn't have any churches or eater. Every religious faith held their services in the school. Robert would always be there to set up the chairs. Greenbelt also held their dances in the school, every one had a ball. Robert and I had a concession stand in one of the rooms. We sold hot dogs and soft drinks.

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Sam H. Dan, Proprietor

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# The Windsor Green Home Owners' Association

joins the citizens of this city in celebrating

the 45th Anniversary of the City of Greenbelt

and

the Centennial of the birth of

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

under whose administration

this community was founded

A Community United through Cooperation and Understanding

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Tastes too good to be called fast food.

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- Mrs. O. P. Ditman
- Mrs. H. Alderton
- Mrs. H. Carr
- Mrs. J. W. Burke
- Mrs. Mildred Parker
- Mrs. H. Bomberger
- Mrs. C. T. Reed
- Mr. D. F. Peeler
- Mrs. D. F. Peeler
- Miss Maidie Craig
- Mrs. R. J. Burke
- Mrs. Robert Mooney
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- Mrs. V. L. Havens
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- Mrs. L. Mitchell
- Mr. T. R. Freeman
- Mrs. T. R. Freeman
- Mr. George Bryant
- Mrs. O. M. Johnson



**Shirley Morrison Clute**

58 Crescent Road, formerly  
Greenbelt

I came to Greenbelt when I was four years old. Our family moved to Washington, D.C. during the Depression so that my father could take a government job with the Veterans Administration. He had been a successful lawyer, banker and member of the Missouri State Legislature, but lost much during the stock market crash. When my father read in the paper about a new community in Maryland that was being built — Greenbelt — he said he wanted to help that town get started. We moved into town in October 1937.

I remember going to kindergarten at Center School, roller skating, going to the movies every Saturday for 12c, sitting through "Pinocchio" four times, wearing Shirley Temple dresses, the smell of a new town, the friendliness of all the people, the sugar and gas ration stamps, collecting Japanese beetles during the war for 25c per quart, the water pageant at the Greenbelt pool every summer (nearly everyone in town participated), band practice every Monday evening, marching in parades through town for every holiday, the great deal of patriotism, the emphasis on children and recreation, the first town fairs in the Center School, the lake where every summer all of the residents of our court attended a picnic together, walking anywhere in town and knowing exactly where each court was, my father calling everyone by name, the gardens at the American Legion home where Dad and I walked on the old two-lane road to tend the beans and tomatoes, the gold stars in the windows, swimming lessons every summer at the pool, listening to the ra-

dio when I was eight years old to hear that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, the fights during the council meetings, the year my father stayed out of all the bickering and was the only councilman re-elected, the time I was stopped by the police at the Center for wearing shorts and almost fined \$5.

I remember how proud I was to be the mayor's daughter. When I was 13, Dad gave me the biggest hug and spun me around the room. He had just gathered the most votes and according to tradition, was named mayor.

I remember, too, when the media wasn't so quick with the news. I was 12 years old and Dad had just arrived home from work one evening around 6 p.m. I told him Franklin D. Roosevelt was dead. Dad hadn't heard the news and didn't want to believe me.

Greenbelt and FDR were the answers to a lot of people's prayers in the Thirties. Progress is necessary and the town must grow; nothing remains the same. But the grass is not greener anywhere than it is in the town of Greenbelt.

still bloom each spring and the hedges around each yard. Since we had an end unit, there was lots of hedge to clip, and it was kept in beautiful condition. MacGregor liked to bring visitors to our yard to show off his plantings and my father's handiwork.

The opening of the Utopia theater was a big occasion. I remember being first in line with my 10c admission fee every single Saturday of my life for many years. In those days the movie changed several times a week. Of course the Saturday matinee with cartoons, serial, feature film, short subject, March of Time, etc. took all afternoon.

While the building of the brick and block homes in original Greenbelt was taking place, there were many workmen in town. One of my friends and I would make lemonade to sell. Later when the frame homes were being built, I remember taking a walk to look at the new construction in the north end of town. It was a sea of mud and we walked on planks in many places.

The sculpted mural on the side of the Center School was one of my favorite things about that school. During the war we purchased war bonds with every penny of earnings we could get together; our parents helped. As a school we were able to purchase four jeeps with the bond money. One day the army brought the jeeps to the school grounds and all of the children assembled outside to examine them. We had a dedication ceremony and I can remember being caught up in the patriotism between the ceremony and the view of the sculptures on

I felt lucky to grow up in a place with so many opportunities for children and a feeling of security. We still come to the Labor Day Festival and watch the parade. It certainly was the best thing that could have happened to our family at a time when we needed something good to happen.

**Bingo**

7:30 p.m.

every Thursday

at

**St. Hugh's**

135 Crescent Road



2—(Center School Frieze) "The sculpted mural on the side of the Center School was one of my favorite things about that school." — Louise Steidle Winker

**Louise Steidle Winker**

(Continued from page one)

a real mess when we got there. The first day of school there were so few children that we met in the principal's office. (She was Catherine T. Reed, for whom the school on Greenbelt Road in Seabrook is named.)

The school was dedicated to "progressive education" and it was unique in the county school system. At first the high school students met in classes on the second floor, until the high school out at the crossroads of Edmonston and Greenbelt Roads was finished. Every day a new student or two would join our classrooms. By the end of that school year the rooms were beginning to fill up. One of the teachers, first grade, lived in our court in 56-B. Her name was Loretta Alderton.

**First Teachers at  
Greenbelt Center School  
October 15, 1937**

- Catherine T. Reed—Principal
- Gee L. Kaufman
- Maidie K. Craig
- Mildred I. Parker
- Hulda Bomberger
- Loretta Alderton
- Ruth Keane—February 1938
- Rowena Whittaker " "

We did a lot of "hands-on" learning. I remember that in second grade we made a bedroom, all of the furniture, curtains, rug, bedclothes. In third grade we put on a play that we had written ourselves and made all of the tickets, programs, costumes, scenery, etc. It was called "Christopher and the Goldfish," and everyone in the class had a part.

One of the most looked forward to events of each summer was the Town Fair. It took place near the end of August or early September, just before school started. The hub of all the activities was at the Center School. There were displays by local organizations, contests for best produce, flower arrangement, baked goods, canned goods, handsewing, yard, garden and others. One year I won a second prize ribbon for cakes, it was thrilling. My father won the first prize for best yard many years in a row. My mother won flower arrangement prizes.

Some of the other events in-

cluded a play by the Greenbelt Players, concerts by bands, swimming exhibitions of diving, and water ballet, Golden Gloves square dancing and talent shows. The Fair usually lasted for several days, each with a full schedule.

There were holiday celebrations for the residents. I remember the first Hallowe'en Party with apple bobbing, dancing, refreshments and costumes. At Christmastime, Santa (Allen Morrison) would arrive at the Center and hand out net stockings with an orange, nuts, hard candy, and a small gift. Many people gathered in the Center to sing carols and celebrate.

Greenbelt was a unique place, so many political figures came to visit. It seemed to me as a child that I was always being dragged off to listen to a speech.

The Fourth of July was another big celebration. Everyone would walk to the Lake for picnics, races, games, contests, and of course the big finale of fireworks reflected in the lake. The lake itself brings back many pleasant recollections. There was a path over the dam through the woods to Indian Springs, which was a cool and beautiful spot. There were seats around some of the big trees and picnic tables and three springs of the coolest, clearest water you can imagine. In the summer some of us kids would pack up our lunches and hike to Indian Springs. My girlfriends and I would rent rowboats at the lake for 25c per hour. When the lake was first opened, there was an area roped off for swimming, but later the lake was declared polluted and no swimming was allowed. In the winter when it was cold, we ice skated on the lake and had big bonfires to keep warm. There was a pavilion where the band played and dances were held or one could picnic when the sun was too hot.

**Angus MacGregor**

The town had a landscape gardener, Angus MacGregor. He and my Dad were best of friends, because my Dad loved to garden. MacGregor was in charge of landscaping the new houses as they were completed and for the maintenance of the common grounds. He was the one who planted all the ornamental apple trees that

**Greenbelt Center School  
Pupils Enrolled First Day**

- George Baurer
- Frank Baurer
- Barbara Brown
- Kenneth Brown
- Eva Bryant
- Lorraine Buck
- Lynn Buck
- Lillian Clarke
- Joe Ditman
- Dudley Fimmel
- Tom Fimmel
- Frank Johnson

- Earl Morgan
- Ruth Morgan
- Joanne Provost
- Dorothy Roehling
- Mary Keane Smith
- Louise Steidle
- Walter Steidle
- Werner Steidle
- Edith Walker
- Arthur White
- Jimmie White
- Robert White

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100 Years — Birth of Franklin D. Roosevelt

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474-1755

# Council to Name Center Area For F.D.R. in Commemoration

by Virginia Beauchamp

A resolution was ready before the public hearing on September 20, just prior to the regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council, concerning the much-debated subject of what feature of the landscape or what structure in Greenbelt would be most appropriate to name after the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. But in deference to the opinions of citizens that might be expressed at the hearing that might in some way impact on the deliberations of council, a space was left blank in the resolution for the item that would be so recognized.

As far as the Roosevelt Centennial Committee had been concerned however council had already delayed far too long in reaching agreement. With or without a naming ceremony, plans for the centennial celebration of Roosevelt's birth had already been completed. (See the detailed account in last week's News Review). Only one member of the committee attended the council hearing—city employee Dorothy Lauber, who indicated the committee's "mixed feelings" on whether the lake or the Greenbelt Center mall should be named for FDR. "Both areas are of enough significance," she reported the committee felt. According to Lauber, they agreed that whatever was named for Roosevelt should be "something of considerable size."

This position was disputed by Ann Pisano, who felt that renaming of the Center would be confusing for people. She thought the North End School, which will become a city facility and must in any case be renamed, would be an appropriate structure to name for Roosevelt. The Boxwood Civic Association, in a letter from its president, Joe Isaacs, stated their approval of renaming the Center—an area which "epitomizes time past." "This was a city born of the 30's," the statement read.

One speaker, retired city employee Henry Thurston, objected to the decisions being made by the five council members and not by a vote of all citizens. But Mayor Richard Castaldi insisted that it was too late for any such action. The decision has to be made now, he said.

In effect, when the agenda item at the city council meeting came up concerning the recognition of

Roosevelt's connection with the founding of Greenbelt, council both decided and failed to decide. After suspending the rules to allow for both first and second readings of the resolution, council filled in the blank of the previously worded sentence to read "the Center area of the planned community." Did that mean only the shopping mall? The original Greenbelt community—A and B blocks? Did it include the Center School? The Library? And what specifically was whatever-was-to-be-named going to be called?

Possibly council assumed a description among several options prepared by city staff in preparation for the public hearing:

"Name the center area. One of the significant features of the Greenbelt Plan was the clustering of business, civic, educational and recreational facilities in the center of the planned community with the houses placed in blocks curving around the center. A commemorative sign could be placed at the entrance to Centerway identifying the Roosevelt

## High School Diploma

Greenbelt CARES Youth Services Bureau offers another chance to get a high school diploma. Starting on October 5, CARES will be providing free classes to prepare for the General Education Development - G.E.D. Exam. Instruction will be given in the five test areas—math, social studies, science, literature and grammar, as well as test taking skills. The only requirements for enrollment are to be officially withdrawn from school and 16 years old or older.

These classes will be given Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Greenbelt CARES offices. To reserve a seat,

Center and indicating the significance of the area to the original planned community."

Something was said about referring the matters of definition and of choice of name to the Community Relations Advisory Board or (and?) to the Roosevelt Commemoration Committee. Whoever decides, it seemed that Thurston's injunction was prophetic—"not you five."

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## Golden Age Club

by Blanche E. Lee

Reservations are still available for the October 13 Woodlawn Plantation trip to Mt. Vernon, with seafood lunch at the Old Town Restaurant. The trip is also open to Senior Citizens non-members. (345-3904).

The Greenbelt Club was again saddened by the recent death of another loyal member, Margaret "Peg" Baldwin. Peg served the Club as chairman of the Sunshine Committee before her illness.

as class size is limited, or for more information, please call Johnnie at Greenbelt CARES at 345-6660.

**TO SAY THANKS:** To Cindy for reporting the fire so promptly, to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and all the firemen for responding so quickly and working so diligently, to Jim Giese, City Manager, for his offer of assistance and his concern, to the workers of Capitol Electric Company who unhesitatingly came to our aid and to all the members of GHI who were so tolerant of the inconvenience. Thank you.

The Management and Staff of GHI  
September 23, 1982

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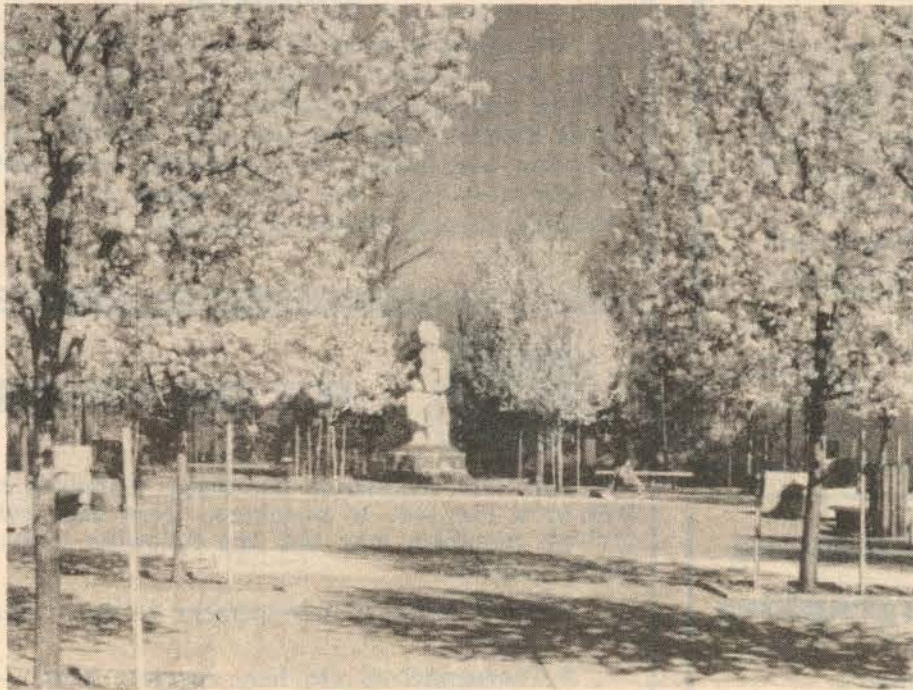


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# The 1983 Life in Greenbelt Calendar



This special calendar composed of Greenbelt photos includes dates of particular interest to the planned community of Greenbelt. Produced by the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Member & Community Relations Committee.

## A UNIQUE MEMENTO OF GREENBELT

\$3.00 each

Calendars will be sold from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 2 in the City Municipal Building and from 1:30 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 3 at the Lake. Afterwards, the calendar will be available on weekdays in the GHI Office Building. GET YOUR COLLECTOR'S ITEM TODAY!

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# Greenbelt Being Filmed As "City of the Future"

("The City" will be shown at the Utopia Theater Saturday at 7:30 p.m. The following article, written at the time of filming of this 30 minute documentary, is reprinted from the August 31, 1938 issue of the Cooperator.)

by Vernon Hitchcock

Greenbelt, the eyes of the world are upon you!

When the motion picture, "The City", now under production in Greenbelt, is completed and goes on display at the New York World's Fair, it will, before the Fair is ended, be subject to the praise and criticism of probably fifty million people who will flock into New York from all over the world to visit the Fair.

When American Documentary Films selected Greenbelt as being "representative of the city of the future", they put the town on a mighty pedestal to withstand the scrutiny of the world, and it will take the wholehearted cooperation of every citizen here to maintain that position without bringing a deluge of criticism down upon us.

Willard Van Dyke who, with Roger Barlow, is now photographing the Greenbelt sequences, says that one reel of the planned three-reel production will be devoted entirely to Greenbelt in showing how the world is reaching the stage where the cities are planned in advance and such important items as play space and safety for children are taken into consideration. The other two reels will be series of sequences leading up to the "city of the future". In them will be shown how the growth of industrial developments has slowly blotted out the bright attractive homes of the earlier settlers, and how congested cities have risen in their stead with thought only for ha-

bitat near the scene of activity and with no provision for the welfare of the inhabitants. From there the sequence leads to the great metropolitan centers with their inevitable slums and unhealthy living conditions where innocent children must grow up in an atmosphere of crime and degradation; then the congested, unplanned highways which are in large part responsible for approximately 35,000 traffic fatalities annually.

Then comes the planned highway, designed for the greatest possible safety to driver and pedestrian and, finally the planned city.

In photographing the Greenbelt sequences, Mr. Van Dyke says he is stressing the child angle, showing how the many playgrounds have been provided and how the main streets are designed with the sidewalks leading underneath them, so the child can go out to play, to school or to visit the neighbor without the mother wondering whether it will ever reach home again. The athletic interest and the facilities available are also given consideration, showing that, while the child is adequately provided for, the rest of the community is by no means neglected. The community cooperative medical plan also comes in for its share of attention.

In going about his work, Mr. Van Dyke says he has been very much impressed by the marvelous cooperation given him by the

children of the community. Moving his many pieces of equipment from one setup to another would ordinarily be a problem, but in Greenbelt, he says, there is always a crowd of youngsters on hand eager and willing to help him. In fact, his biggest problem here, he says, is keeping peace among the children when several of them insist on carrying or holding this or that piece of equipment, and in getting them to quit work long enough to go home for lunch.

The photographic work for the entire production will require approximately 45,000 feet of film, according to Mr. Van Dyke. When the trimming is completed, and the scenes are omitted which are unsatisfactory because of faulty photography, lack of interest, etc., and the film reaches the final stage, only 3,000 feet will remain, of which 1,000 feet will be devoted to life in Greenbelt.

### MOWATT TO SHOW FILM

The Living Word, a new film produced by World Wide Pictures, will be presented by Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road, on Sunday, October 3, at 7:30 p.m. The showing is free and open to the public.

Featuring narration by Billy Graham and Cliff Barrows, the film weaves together Scripture passages, great works of religious art, music, and some color footage filmed in the Holy Land.

### NORTH END

(Continued from page 1)

caused by motorcyclists who gather in the vicinity of the Mobil station at Crescent and Gardenway Council directed the city manager to ensure that the police are aware of the disturbances and that they take action to see that residents of that area are not disturbed late at night by unnecessary noise.

### Computerized Crime Records

Richard Cripe, a member of the Crime Prevention Committee, appeared before the council to explain a proposed plan for computerization of Greenbelt crime statistics. Cripe alleged that statistics as currently made public are not useful to citizens in their efforts to keep themselves safe from crime. According to Cripe, the proposed computer model would be the first of its kind in Maryland and, possibly, the first in the U.S. The model would be jointly owned by Putens Associates, Inc., a firm operated by Councilman Edward V. J. Putens and the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology of the University of Maryland. Cripe emphasized that the resources of Putens Associates, Inc., would be donated to this project for the first year. Afterwards a charge would be made only for computer time actually used. The council referred the proposal to the staff and the Crime Prevention Committee.

### Swim Team Starts Winter Swimming

The Greenbelt Swim Team announces the beginning of another season of winter swimming. Coach Ken Blue and his staff will be on hand at the White Oak Swim Center (at Jackson Road off New Hampshire Avenue) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings starting this Sunday, October 3, and running through April 24, 1983. Swimming will be geared to swim team members, but it is expected that one lane will be set aside for adult swimmers and to run a "beginners swimming class" for future team members.

A full season of swimming is planned, including competition between the participating teams (Greenbelt, Adelphi and Suburban). For further information call Diane Pisano, 474-8342 or Bob Greig, 474-0332.

Among other items taken up by the council was a resolution which sets out policy and procedures for the recognition of employee organizations. According to this resolution, which was introduced for first reading, employee organizations consisting of ten or more members may be officially recognized upon submission of a petition. Official recognition does not include recognition for collective bargaining, which is governed by laws set forth by the City Council or the State of Maryland.

## "Rick" Barber, GRI, CRS

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- Drop cloths (5 per member to cover furniture) — Free
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### Youth Skating Party

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church is sponsoring a Youth Skating Party on Saturday, October 2 from 1-4 p.m. Donna Hardman will provide the organ music for roller skating on the (newly resurfaced) parking lot behind the church. There will be a nominal fee to cover skate rental. No skate boards will be allowed. Refreshments will be available.

**MUST SELL TONITE!** 580 Honda Acord Hatchback 5-speed air, stereo cassette. 474-9200.

**SALE**-69 V.W. \$300. Call after 5 p.m. 982-0695.

**FOUND:** Brown puppy on Greenbelt Rd. near Springhill Lake area. 474-9118.

### YARD SALES

**YARD SALE**-7-J Research, Oct. 2, 9-5. Rain date - Oct. 9.

**YARD SALE** between 14 and 16 Courts Ridge. Oct. 2, from 10 to 2. No early birds. Books, magazines, antiques, freebies.

### Genealogical Soc. Meets

The Prince Georges County Genealogical Society will meet Wednesday, October 6, at 7 p.m. in the Greenbelt Library. Donald Wilson will speak on the topic "Researching and Understanding Colonial Records."

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**YARD SALE & FLEA MARKET** -Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Buy a table for seven dollars. Phone 345-9595. Ask for Vera Coyle. Greenbelt Nursing Center.

**PARKING LOT SALE:** Sat., Oct. 2, 10-3. Tools, jewelry, rubber raft and more. Refreshments. Paint Branch Unitarian Church, 3215 Powder Mill Rd.

**GREENBRIAR YARD SALE**  
Location: Greenbriar Community Building  
7600 Hanover Pkwy, Greenbelt  
When: Sunday, October 3rd  
Time: 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.  
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**PRUDENTIAL**

(Continued from page 3)

The presence of Coakley & Williams spokespersons prompted Councilman Richard Pilski to ask whether the firm had given further thought to putting in something better than the Comfort Inn now proposed for construction. Pilski recalled that Councilman Thomas White had earlier raised this question. (Last April, White expressed to the developers his "lack of excitement" about the Comfort Inn name, which he associated with a "budget" type of lodging. He asked that they upgrade their hotel.)

Christopher Heslin, Vice President-Development with Coakley & Williams, explained to the council that his firm dislikes being involved in what he called "food and beverage operations," such as motel restaurants. In addition, a market survey done for them a couple of years ago showed so much top-of-line and mid-line competition in place or to be built along the Beltway between Routes 1 and 450, that they thought they had better go to the lower end of the scale. Comfort Inn was chosen because of its pricing, its standards of quality and cleanliness, and the fact that an in-building restaurant is not required. Another factor, according to Heslin, was that a Comfort Inn, as a branch of the Quality Inn chain, could later be upgraded to a Quality Inn or even to a Quality Royale.

Heslin told the council that his firm is now going through its own internal debate as to the level of hotel service it should provide at this location. He agreed that the Comfort Inn image might not match up to the image being achieved by the Maryland Trade Center, and that it would be ridiculous to put in a low-line inn that does not match the quality

**Flea Market on Saturday**

The Cultural Arts Center will hold the first Flea Market on October on Saturday, October 9, from 10-4 p.m. Greenbelt residents can sell housewares, furnishings, crafts, books, games, clothing and jewelry, both new and used. Commercial enterprises are encouraged.

The Flea Market will be held on the mall of the Greenbelt Center shopping Center. Persons interested in renting tables please contact the Pisanos at 474-7841.

of persons who visit the Center. Mayor Pro Tem Gil Weidenfeld urged that the inn be upgraded. He noted that other builders in the past have thanked Greenbelt's city council for encouraging quality development.

**Other Items**

In other business, the council authorized acceptance of a bid of \$8,640 to sandblast and resurface the city's diving pool. The council also agreed to ask Prince Georges County for Community Development Block Grant funds for the reconstruction of Plateau Place and for the adaptive reutilization of North End School.

The council considered briefly preliminary staff thoughts on establishment of a nonprofit corporation to deal with public access aspects of Greenbelt's forthcoming cable television system. The new system being installed by Storer Communications will include a channel for community programming. Storer has agreed to make an initial grant of \$10,000 and to contribute one percent of annual gross receipts paid by Greenbelt residents for cable service, to assist in providing such programming. The council directed city staff to develop further specific proposals as to membership and functions of such a nonprofit corporation.



**OCTOBER IS  
CO-OP MONTH IN GHI**

During Co-op Month, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) joins other cooperatives throughout Greenbelt and the Nation in recognizing the contributions of cooperatives.

**Membership Participation**

GHI is collectively owned and operated by and for its members. When people become members of GHI, they receive an equal voice in the operation of the cooperative. Members participate in GHI affairs through voting at annual and special membership meetings, joining GHI committees, and serving in elective offices.

**Historic Significance**

GHI's variety of moderately-priced homes include one-, two-, three-, or four-bedroom units of masonry or frame construction. The original homes were built over 45 years ago as part of a planned community under the Administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Greenbelt residents formed the cooperative in the early 1950's to buy their homes from the Federal Government. Since its formation, GHI has been one of the largest and best-known housing cooperatives in the world.

Today GHI is undertaking the large-scale rehabilitation of its homes. Financing for much of this program comes from another cooperative, the National Consumer Cooperative Bank. GHI will mark this Co-op Month with the completion of the electric heat and hot water conversion portion of its Rehabilitation Program.

GHI takes this opportunity to thank its members without whose cooperation and support GHI could not continue as a viable housing cooperative.

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<b>FOLONARI WINES</b> Lambrusco or Bianco 750 ml Case 12 Bottles <b>\$2.79</b> <b>\$29.95</b>	<b>HIRAM WALKER COFFEE BRANDY</b> 7.50 ml <b>\$3.99</b>
<b>PASSPORT SCOTCH</b> 80 Proof 1.75 Liter <b>\$10.36</b>	<b>OLD FORESTER BOURBON</b> 86 Proof 1.75 Liter <b>\$11.39</b>
<b>PRIDE OF BALTIMORE VODKA</b> 80 Proof 1.75 Liters <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>BOOTH'S GIN</b> 90 Proof 1.75 Liters <b>\$9.99</b>

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