Passing Review of 1938

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district No. 1 be increased to 8 mills in order to meet requirements for the 1938-39 budget.

No action is taken by the Bloomfield Hills City Commission at a hearing called to consider proposed changes in the zoning ordinance to permit the erection of a 200 family terrace at East Long Lake road and the Grand Trunk railroad.

May 19-May 26

Funeral services are held in Detroit for William Mortimer Purves, Birmingham resident, who died of a heart attack in a train bound for Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Purves, who was general sales manager of the Dodge Division of the Chrysler Corporation was on his way with other sales executives to attend a western sales conference.

May 26-June 2

Birmingham observes Memorial Day by parade through the principal streets of the city, patriotic exercises in Greenwood cemetery and by the closing of banks and shops for a general legal holiday.

Birmingham's thin clads won their fourth consecutive regional track championship at Ypsilanti by piling up an overwhelming lead of 46 points over their nearest rival to win the meet with a final score of 67½.

Barbara Mahnken and Robert Navin are the two honor students whose scholastic standings place them at the head of the 16 Baldwin high School senior receiving cum laude diplomas.

June 2-June 9

Hold funeral services for George E. Roehm of Orchard Ridge road, who died a heart attack in the home of his son, Dr. Harold R. Roehm, at the Shoepac club in Northern Michigan. Mr. Roehm figured prominently in civic life of Bloomfield Hills.

Birmingham's city tax rate is set by the City Commission at $19 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, the same rate as established a year ago.

June 9-June 16

Following his personal appearance before the Michigan Public Utilities Commission when he left resent the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, John E. Martz, Birmingham mayor, sends a special brief to Lansing in which he pleads for a substantial reduction in the toll charge between Birmingham and Detroit.

June 16-June 23

As a result of the school election, Charles S. Kinnison and John H. Rossow continue as members of the Board of Education for terms of three years each, and William A. DaLeo will remain as a member of the board for one year, completing the unexpired term of the late John S. Black.

Donald Lackie, 18 year old member of the high school graduating class drowns in 10 feet of water on eve of graduation.

June 23-June 30

James Vernor III, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Vernor, Jr., of Lahser road, Bloomfield Hills, is injured when the automobile in which he was driving alone was in collision with a truck trailer at Woodward and Nakota avenues, Royal Oak.

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Auxiliary plans for annual tag day.

June 30-July 7

Thirty residents of the southern portion of Birmingham, most of whom live within a few blocks of the southwest corner of Emmons and Cummings avenues, appeared before the City Commission Monday night and argued for and against the creation of a park and playground there.

Harry A. Stormfeltz, Jr., 21 years old of Bloomfield Hills, was sentenced to serve from six months to one year in the Oakland County Jail in Pontiac, in Circuit Court Monday. Stormfeltz had pleaded guilty to performing an illegal operation on an 18-year-old girl.

As a result of the federal government's outright grant to Birmingham, amounting to $137,250, Birmingham will not be forced to sell the entire issues of special and general obligation bonds for the building of its sewage disposal system, City Manager Donald C. Egbert announced this week.

Private funeral services were held Monday at the Temple of Memories in White Chapel Memorial Cemetery for Frederick O. Ball, who died Sunday at Harper Hospital in Detroit, after an illness of two weeks. Mr. Ball was born on Feb. 10, 1872, in Grand Island, Neb.

In keeping with a State-wide effort to mark the anniversary of the 75th birthday of Henry Ford, the Birmingham City Commission passed a resolution to celebrate his Diamond Anniversary on July 30.

Two men driving an old car, forced John Simetz of 727 Purdy street into a ditch on the Telegraph road, Sunday night, and robbed him of $85, Simetz reported to the Sheriff's office.

July 7-July 14

Birmingham experiences one of the quietest Fourths in the City's history. There were no casualties, no accidents in traffic or otherwise and no fires.

Birmingham's second summer recreation program, which began officially Friday, is well under way with approximately 1,000 registrations, Miles W. Robinson, general chairman, has announced.

The Birmingham Board of Education is awaiting confirmation of the announcement by Congressman George A. Dondero, that an allotment of $175,230 for School improvement of the Pierce Field, has been approved by the Work Progress Administration.

Registrations are finished at the Barnum school where the Michigan State Employment Service and the Unemployment Compensation Division are taking applications, according to Oscar A. Goes and Charles D. Meadows, administrators.

Mrs. Dorothy Kemp Roosevelt of Channing Cross road will achieve widespread recognition when she appears as piano soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington D. C. under the direction of Hans Kindler, at an open air concert on July 3.

July 14-July 21

In an effort to make more effective the international service program of the Rotary International, representatives of the 45 Rotary Clubs in the eastern Michigan and western Ontario-Districts met at Ann Arbor Wednesday of last week and listened to speeches and suggested activities pertaining to the subject.

In his monthly report to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, Fire Chief Vernon W. Griffith remarked that his department responded to 11 silent alarms during the month of June. The estimated loss on buildings due to fire hit a new low with a sum of $28, while the estimated loss on contents was nothing.

For the month of June eight people were injured in a total of 19 accidents, it was disclosed this week in the monthly report of Police Chief John P. Hackett to City Manager Donald C. Egbert.

Draper Allen, of Westwood Drive, Birmingham, chairman of the Oakland County Democratic Committee, and now manager of the Michigan State Board of Tax Administration, Sales Tax Division, has announced that he will not be a candidate this fall for Congress.

Frank E. Quisenberry, for many years active in Detroit banking circles, recently assumed charge of the local bank on West Maple avenue, founded by the late Senator James Couzens several years ago.

Rudolf R. Sterling, who has been a resident of Bloomfield Hills for the past seventeen years, died late Saturday night in Sterlingcroft. Mr. Sterling was born on April 20, 1858, at Sterling's Mill, Canton Center, Mich.

July 21-July 28

Something of the problem of separating the several interests of three units of government in Bloomfield Township, when two portions of them incorporate as cities, is evidenced in the final accounting between Birmingham, City of Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township.

Hal G. Trump, of Franklin, was elected Thursday to the presidency of the Detroit Adcraft Club for the ensuing 12 months, the results of the club have announced.

A total of 3,338 pupil hours of supervised play were handled by the Birmingham Recreation Association last week, nearly doubling the amount of hours supervised in the 1938 summer program, announced Miles W. Robinson, director of the program.

The property owners in Bloomfield Hills City, whose holdings are assessed on the Birmingham School District's books at $926,800.00, Monday night appeared through representatives before the School Board here and petitioned for the transfer of their property to District No. 2, which includes the remainder of the City of Bloomfield Hills.

In an effort to lower the high pupil-teacher ratio at the Baldwin high school for the school year 1938-39, at the regular session on Monday evening the Board of Education confirmed the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Howard D. Crull, and appointed Lloyd G. Chapman to a teaching position in Birmingham for next year.

Birmingham's annual summer taxes are being paid in at a slightly increased amount over a corresponding period of a year ago, according to information made known yesterday by Harold H. Corson, City Treasurer.

Because Birmingham's financial history since the "boom days of the late 'twenties" has not manifested a degree of debt liquidation consistent with maintaining a par value list price for its bonds, no definite bids were received last week when the date arrived for opening them on its advertised issues totalling $200,000, the funds to be used for local sewage disposal projects.

July 28-Aug. 4

Action on a petition submitted to the local Board of Education by Bloomfield Hills property owners for a transfer of property from Birmingham Fractional District No. 1 to Fractional District No. 2, of Bloomfield Hills, was deferred at a special meeting of the Birmingham Board Monday evening.

A total of 35 persons, 27 men and eight women, entered the sixth annual tennis tournament, conducted annually to determine Birmingham's outstanding novice net star.

John Truesdale, treasurer of Troy township, died of a heart attack, Thursday, July 21, at 6:20 a. m. in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac.

The question of extending the franchise between the Detroit Edison Company and Bloomfield Township was settled Monday by popular vote for another period of 30 years. Eleven votes were cast, all in favor of the franchise. Records show that there are between 800 and 900 voters registered in the township.

Street dances have been added to the summer recreation program, the first to be held at Barnum school the night of Aug. 4.

The bid of Stranahan, Harris and company of Detroit was accepted by the City Commission Monday evening in the sale of $90,000 in bonds, at the rate of 4.5 percent interest.

Aug. 4-Aug. 11

The City Commission cast a unanimous vote Monday evening to amend the Zoning Ordinance, at a public hearing called to consider plans for the erection of a 102-family dwelling on the so called Jewett property bounded by Woodward avenue, Lakeside drive and Quarton road.

With finals scheduled to be played off before Friday, participants in the Novice Tennis Tournament being sponsored by the Birmingham Eccentric in conjunction with the Detroit News, matches were being played today in an attempt to finish up before the deadline tonight.

In the gas-filled kitchen of his home at 547 Hanna street, the body of Donald C. Mann, 34 years old, was found Tuesday night by his brother Ernest. Cracks in the kitchen had been stuffed with paper.

Birmingham awaited with open arms Saturday night for the return of a hero in the person of William Bell, who captured fourth place in the Soap Box Derby sponsored by a Detroit newspaper.

At the close of the present session of Camp-Mahn-Go-Tah-See, Oakland County Y. M. C. A. camp for boys, the camp will be taken over by a group of 100 boys from this county whose expenses will be paid by Mrs. James Couzens, widow of the late Senator Couzens, according to an announcement made today by Robert D. Lynd, of Birmingham, director of the camp.

August 11-August 18

Commission rejects second proposal to allow erection of multiple dwellings at Woodward and Vinewood avenues. Property owners clash with City Fathers in hour hour debate. Those who opposed original plans also argue against request for more footage.

Death takes Joseph Mack at Age of 78. Funeral services held in home on Quarton road before burial in Detroit. Founder of Oakland Hills Country Club was prominent figure in printing and real estate world.

Swimming pool nears completion at Oakland Hills Country Club. Program by aquatic stars and dance will mark opening, Sept. 3.

Lilah A. Johnston and Howard E. Johnson are defeated at tennis finals in Detroit, after winning titles in Birmingham play.

Two sites are chosen for town hall in Bloomfield. Special township meeting, Aug. 13, will give qualified electors opportunity to express desires on site and erection of new building.

Killer ends own life after shot from ambush. Allen Tomlin of Route 2, Pontiac, kills wife's ex-husband, Orrin Miller on Lake Oakland, because latter had refused to testify in Tomlin's divorce suit against estranged wife.

August 18-August 25

Harry S. Graves organizing for rallies in county. He includes A. J. Hart, George R. Averill, David Levinson and John E. Martz from Birmingham and W. F. Evans of Bloomfield Hills, on committees from every unit of county.

Lightning is cause of fire in residence of John Groehne of Tottenham road. 20 percent of attic destroyed. Ignition failure in fire truck with booster pump is cause by heavy rain, and small truck makes delayed appearance to save remainder of home.

Mrs. Lydia Hunt, Birmingham pioneer, passes away at home on Hunter boulevard, after long illness. Funeral services held from Baldwin Avenue Methodist church. Burial in Greenwood cemetery.

Harry Hart, Jr., 22 year old athlete is drowned in Lake Orion after light practice with varsity crew of Michigan, where he was a senior.

Sept. 29-Oct. 6

Vernon L. Griffith, Fire Chief, announces plans are under way for fire prevention School Children will again participate in measures hazards. Pupils will be instructed.

Ralph Dalling, doing exchange

Leather Packing Company.

Consolidation of Birmingham, Ferndale and Detroit Wabeek State Banks is announced by president. Institution will be known as Wabeek State Bank of Detroit, with branch offices in other cities.

Death closes long career of Ellsworth C. Plumstead at East Maple residence. Was known to audiences of 50 years ago as impersonator and entertainer. Began theatrical career in Detroit and later played on show boat and in Chatauqua.

Bloomfield Hills seeks P. W. A. appropriation of $10,000 on proposed new town hall. J. Robert F. Swanson's early American design is accepted by officials. $12,000 is transferred by voters from general fund to building and site fund.

Outdoor community sing at Pierce Field on Friday, Sept. 16, will mark formal closing of summer recreation program. William Spence will lead sing.

Sept. 15-Sept. 22

Frank D. Fitzgerald carries Birmingham as well as state in heavy primary vote. County goes Republican by wide margin; George A. Dondero wins by easy majority. City Clerk describes polling as one of heaviest on record for a primary in a non-presidential year.

Birmingham agrees to terms of Troy Township on separation of property commonly owned. Deal will include payment to city of $8643.14.

Public school enrollment is under figure of year ago. First week's membership shows slight decrease since 1937. Total number of students is 2,603, as compared to 2661 for last year.

Birmingham will participate in meeting of Michigan Education Association. Raymond Mercadis, Paul McPharlin and Baldwin High School a capella choir will all appear before various meetings.

Sept. 22-Sept. 29

Lawsuit may be outcome of dispute on division of school districts, called unjustifiable by Bloomfield Hills resident. Local Board of Education and group of Hills property owners tangle when latter attempt to withdraw from school district.

City Commission adopts bicycle ordinance. New law to go into effect on Oct. 2, when licenses will be issued to owners. No one may operate bicycle without license after that date, when law becomes effective. Penalties are provided in attempt to lessen thefts.

Heart attack proves fatal to William Lynch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Lynch of Maple and Short, but brilliant career of 22-year-old athlete is already closed after light practice with varsity crew at Michigan, where he was a senior.

Sept. 29-Oct. 6

Vernon L. Griffith, Fire Chief, announces plans are under way for fire prevention. School Children will again participate in measures hazards. Pupils will be instructed.

Ralph Dalling, doing exchange student at Breslau, near Sudetenland, and son of Mr. and Mrs. F. DuBois of Baldwin Avenue, cables that he is "safe and happy" despite threats of war.

Heart ailment causes death of Robert W. Clark, 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Clark of Berkshire road. Classmates at Barnum School act as pallbearers.

Expanded recreation activities are revealed in plans of Y. M. C. A. board. Game room will open in Pierce School; other schools to follow groups also.

Roll Call for Red Cross to begin early here. Mrs. H. H. Corson is chairman.

Questions of parents regarding current public school administration will be answered at Adams P. T. A. meeting. Parents and faculty will give short talks.

October 6-October 13

Dog question on slate for discussion. Commissioner Frank S. Packard asks for vote on ordinance by residents. City Manager Donald C. Egbert will prepare amendment for informal consideration.

Gordon G. Robinson of Bennetville avenue dies on Woodward, near Normandy road, the victim of hit-run driver. Royal Oak school girls, later tentatively identify driver as Leland Hartsig of Blanck street, Warren Township.

Birmingham lifeguards for the coming year include Wilson Bevins, Dick Bevins, Jr., and Jack Dalton.

October 13-October 20

City Commission votes charge of pound fees. Dog ordinance amended by new measure which specifies problems. Extension of option to against placing ordinance on ballot for November. Mayor John E. Martz says problem is one of financial and governmental concern.

Halloween party committees continue with plans. Civic organizations, with parents, teachers and schools in charge, work for event.

Death ends long career of public service as James V. Bayley, clerk of Bloomfield Township since 1927, and in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital.

Needlework Guild elects Mrs. Fred M. Brack to second term as president at annual membership meeting, at which time Mrs. Brack announced plans for Tuesday, Oct. 25.

John Carter of the Metropolitan Opera Company will appear at special events planned for winter by Birmingham Musicale.

Bloomfield Hills Library houses largest collection of books in history of institution, 14,158 volumes.

Dinner on Monday, Oct. 17, will serve to open Y. M. C. A. drive. Young C. Smith, chairman of finance committee, sets this year's quota at $3,000.

October 20-October 27

Giant feast centering around steer donated by S. O. Wylie Bell, will be attraction for estimated 2,000 guests at city's annual Hallowe'en party for young people.

Harry E. Bissett is elected to head Birmingham Retail Merchants' Association, at dinner meeting.

Credit Manager, Walter T. Elliott tells Exchange Club that 80 percent of today's business is done on credit.

Seniors of Baldwin High School triumph over juniors in field day meet. Program includes decorating of class trees, parade, cheering and physical tests.

Teachers plan program for American Education Week. Open houses will be held in all schools during evenings, so parents may attend and meet teachers.

Oct. 27-Nov. 3

Birmingham joins recovery program. Merchants back job crusade by sales campaign. Three-day drive will find support for those for better times. Local shops will have bargain spree over week-end, to aid business.

County candidates will be heard at meeting Nov. 3 local League of Women Voters will sponsor non-partisan gathering, that other voters may hear and see those running for various offices.

Hugh Chapman is largest in history of Independent Club. Tally will probably pass 2,000 mark, officers indicate.

City awaits huge annual Hallowe'en celebration. Wilson Bevins, lifeguard, time of march for costume parade, as final step in preparations.

Aged resident expires after brief illness. Margaret Ann Addison, who lived in Birmingham 22 years and in Oakland County for 71 years at 77.

Former resident takes own life. Frank Bowman, at Richmond, Mich., after despondency over ill health.

Archers from Birmingham, Detroit, Flint and other towns, prove big drawing card at annual meet on Robin Hood Park, in old River Rouge valley. Intricate type of moving course are complicated by windy weather.

November 3-November 10

City prepares for heavy ballot-ing. Voters will settle State contest for executive office of Frank D. Fitzgerald, G. O. P. gubernatorial candidate, and Frank Murphy, Democratic boss of Oakland County. Birmingham polls in five precincts are equipped to avoid delay. Sound trucks, backed by non-partisan League of Women Voters, will drive about city on Monday and Tuesday, reminding citizens to make trip to polls early.

Candidates give views at meeting of League of Women Voters. Attentive audience listens to about 10 speakers for almost three hours.

Mrs. Harriett Allen Koontz of Bates street dies at 91. Had lived in Birmingham since 1883.

Hallowe'en party draws record crowd of about 2,000. Carnival mood prevails at fourth municipal celebration. Police report that evening is almost free from mischief.

Leak of gas causes explosion and worst fire of the year, in which Norman F. Smith of 1112 Bennaville avenue, loses his life. Family of dead man escape injury in catastrophe.

Nov. 10-Nov. 17

Fitzgerald wins contest for governor. Voters approve G. O. P. slate by wide margin. Birmingham backs Republicans with support in all precincts. Early voting establishes new record. Balloting heaviest before noon in four out of five precincts.

Birmingham will mark anniversary of Armistice. Public schools will observe minute of silence; Post Office and Banks will close, as will city offices. No parade is planned.

Franklin home of Mrs. Margaret Smith is gutted as spark ignites roof of Inmates escape injury but neighbors and Bloomfield Hills firemen are unable to check $5,000 damages to home.

Dr. Frank Slutz, noted educator, will speak on Friday, Nov. 11, as climax to local observation of American Education Week. Speaker's appearance will be first of two sponsored by Birmingham Study Club.

Mrs. Lee-A White of Brookside drive is elected vice-president of the Trustee's Section of the Michigan Library Association, at dinner in Lansing.

November 17-November 22

Merchants launch holiday campaign. Big awards are in store for contestants. Boys and girls may enter Miniature Mansion Class, Court of Honor, through collecting vote with every purchase. Prizes will be given to attendants.

Maples and Acorns gird for Silver Anniversary at Richmond, Mich., after despondency over ill health.

Archers from Birmingham, Detroit, Flint and other towns, prove big drawing card at annual meet on Robin Hood Park, in old River Rouge valley. Intricate type of moving course are complicated by windy weather.

November 3-November 10

City prepares for heavy balloting