

"Private Roger Young" was an infantry soldier whose heroism on New Guinea won him, posthumously, the Congressional Medal of Honor; his act will live for generations among foot soldiers—an act committed spontaneously, as are most of the great deeds that are scattered over the pages of history.

# The Birmingham Post-Herald

PART TWO

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 1

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1945

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## Bits of Birmingham

Everywhere the Wanderer wandered Sunday he found automobiles, hundreds and hundreds of them, and golfers and picnic parties in almost the same proportion. It was the grandest day of spring and folks were taking advantage of the opportunity to get out of doors. Thousands just were out for that reason alone. The cars parked along the "highways and byways and with people walking out on good old Mother Earth.

Not often do those real bald eagles come into the Birmingham area but the other day one was seen flying leisurely along over beyond Walnut Lake. The big bird appeared in search of food as he was flying low. Eagles are not believed likely to nest in this area. Reports also come in that the sandhill cranes have returned to Southern Michigan and are seen in lower Michigan wildlife areas. These birds usually winter in the Texas-Florida regions, the Wanderer is told.

A group of Birmingham fishermen was noted in deep discussion the other day—one of those warm, cloudy days when the fish usually bite in real fashion—and that reminded the Wanderer that he, too, should be making up his fishing schedule. Fishing, all fishermen agree, is a great sport and should be indulged in real often. Wall-eyed pike are expected to begin their early run soon while perch fishing is likely to be very good. Of course for bass one must await the June 25th opening. But the trout fishermen are getting all set to go—the streams throughout Michigan where they believe they will land a limit, catch of big ones the opening day.

Bloomfield Township's tax collection department has broken all records this spring in the percentage of taxes collected. It was reported the past week end that a total of 96 per cent of the year's tax assessment for county, school and township operational costs, had been collected. The total of the roll is about \$138,000. Back in 1932 the reports disclose the collection at this date in the year was 25.6 per cent of the roll. Township officials told the Wanderer this week that they believed the collection record for this year was about as good as would be found in any nearby township.

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Irene Hanley, Birmingham city clerk, told the Wanderer today that she expected to have those voting machines all set up and ready for the general city and state elections on Monday, April 2. Instruction ballots have been prepared and regular ballots for the machine markings. With several candidates for the city commission and with several important state offices to be filled, Miss Hanley said she anticipated a fair vote in Birmingham. The election will be conducted according to the new Michigan legal time—Central War Time, the clerk said.

Perry Vaughn, Bloomfield township supervisor, has been named county polling superintendent for the coming polls conservation and land use planning special election in the townships April 16. Residents of the county will vote on whether or not to adopt a land use planning program. The vote will be from 7 to 10 p. m. in the several township voting places throughout the county.

Mrs. Leon B. Miller, Route 3, Birmingham called the Wanderer the other day to say that she thought it was grand that one of the returned veterans is now employed by the post office as a letter carrier. The carrier's name is Richard E. Brown, of Bates street.

The Community House was a regular hive Monday evening with so many members. The upstairs kitchen had to be turned into a meeting place. The Wanderer sort of wandered in looking things over and he found the Hi-Twelve club using the men's lounge and later the auditorium; the Dumbarton Oaks committee; Boy Scout committee; United Clothing Drive committee; with the Red Cross surgical dressing work group busy upstairs. Someone said: "We're having a five-ring circus here tonight. If you can't find a committee group you can attend go upstairs and do a bit of Red Cross work."

Lt. Earle B. Wilson, who is with Patton's 3rd Army in Germany, writes that 75 per cent of the German cities are completely destroyed and that the other 25 per cent, that he has seen, are hardly worth salvaging.

"Happy me," declared Mrs. E. W. Croft, 1375 Bessville, Sunday afternoon when she inspected her flower garden and found a purple violet in bloom. Mrs. Croft believes these flowers are blooming a full month ahead of their usual time. "But," she says, "I guess we have been having weather a full month ahead of the usual. Anyway the weather we had Sunday was beautiful enough for mid-summer."

When Oakland County Circuit court convenes April 10 at 8 a. m., Central War Time, in the court house in Pontiac, members of the jury will include Mrs. Harry Barten and Mrs. W. J. Pearce, Birmingham, and Virginia Richardson, Bloomfield Hills. The list of jurors to serve at the April court term was made known late last week. It is said there are enough cases listed to occupy the attention of court and jury for several weeks.

Sgt. Bob North, writing from upper Assam province in India where he has a crew of eight telephone technicians with an American army communications company, tells of building a fireplace of mud and broken bricks, at one of their camps on the Ledo road, and combining some of the GI rations for a hot stew. He also told his parents, who live on Purdy street, Birmingham, of having secured some onions and lemons and making a salmon salad which was "quite tasty." Sgt. North and his men went by boat about 18,000 miles to Bombay and then across India by train and motor caravan to Calcutta and on northeast to the Ledo road.

In keeping with the Good Friday program in Birmingham it has been announced that the Community house will be closed from 12 o'clock noon through the remainder of Friday.

Worst has come to worst! Lloyd Cooper, coach of the Birmingham High School track squad, reports that the team's brand new brass shot disappeared from track practice at Pierce Field last Friday afternoon and cannot be found anywhere. There were numerous youngsters watching the thinheads work out that day and during the afternoon's routine Lloyd called the squad in for a meeting. It lasted about ten minutes and when the shot putters returned to the pit the "big beeh" was nowhere to be found. A thorough search of the premises was made and still the shiny brass ball kept out of sight. The Wanderer makes an appeal to the friends of Baldwin High to be on the lookout for the 12-pound ball. It is doubly important that it be returned because it cannot be replaced during these times.

The Local Lions club celebrated its eighteenth anniversary at the Community House last evening. Dinner was served to nearly 100 Lions and guests. Entertainment was furnished in a unique, original manner by members of the club. Among the leading persons, among the pseudo guests were Adolph Hitler, Benito Mussolini, President Roosevelt and several other well known men of today's world, all impersonated by members of the club. Lester Stinson and Stephen K. Williams were accepted by the new members and given pins and certificates of membership. In another ceremony Lions Raymond H. Peck, Walter L. Moreland and Claude Morrow were given special pin awards for having perfect attendance for five years.

"More Victory Gardens in '45" was the plea of Wm. Le Favinger, regional director of the National Victory Garden Institute, Inc., in a talk to the Exchange Club at their regular weekly luncheon at the Community House Tuesday noon. Six hundred thousand Victory Gardens in the Detroit area the goal this year as against 300,000 in 1944 and 50,000 in 1943," he said. "Forty per cent of the garden stuff raised in the United States last year was food in Victory Gardens. That represented eight million tons of food and amounted over \$2,000,000 worth of produce raised in our own back yards." How about your Victory Garden in Birmingham this year?

Permission has been granted by the City Commission for St. Joseph Mercy hospital to hold its annual tag day on the last Saturday in June. The Auxiliary raises funds for various hospital undertakings.

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## Lt. L. L. Heideman Killed In France

News of the death of his brother, Lt. Lawrence L. Heideman, USNR, 31 years of age, reached George H. Heideman, 445 Henley drive, since the fatal crash of the Army transport plane he was riding in over France March 3. He was engaged in a Navy special secret assignment, involving a dangerous mission, according to word received from the Navy Department.

Lieutenant Heideman, who for years lived with his brother, enlisted in the Navy at the outbreak of war; he had been bomb disposal officer in Iceland for a while, then was sent to Europe and led 11 Naval Combat demolition units on the Normandy invasion beachhead, during which he was subjected to heavy enemy rifle and artillery fire, 40 per cent of his personal belongings either wounded or killed. From that action he received the Bronze Star and a Presidential citation. His unit cleared eight 50-yard stretches of beach.

After the invasion he was made Naval attaché and ordnance officer at Quebec. Desiring to get back into action, he was sent again to Europe, and while flying to the front over France March 3, the airplane crashed, killing all on board.

Lieutenant Heideman was a law graduate of the University of Michigan. His brother, George, is chairman of the Michigan State Board of Tax Appeals. Lieutenant Heideman is also survived by his mother, who lives in Calumet, Mich.

## At Eastertime

When Spring is uppermost in the minds of young and old what could be nicer than a walk into the open country to consider an ideal site for your "post war" home?

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- IN BIRMINGHAM**
- "HARROWGATE" (North and West of Quarton School)
- "QUARTON LAKE ESTATES" (North of Maple, West of the Rouge)
- "NORTHLAWN HEIGHTS" for Ranch Houses (on Lincoln Boulevard West of Southfield)

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## John W. Knecht Realtor

John W. Knecht, who resides with his family at 239 Pilgrim Road, has announced the opening of his own real estate office at 1692 S. Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Phone 4670, directly across Woodward Avenue from Sheffield Estates, an extensive smaller ranch-house type project which he is developing along with his general real estate business. Knecht is well known in Birmingham and Detroit through his many years of real estate activities and membership in the Detroit Real Estate Board, Michigan Real Estate Association, National Association of Real Estate Boards, American Legion, Orchard Lake Country Club and the Economic Club of Detroit.

Although he has been licensed in the real estate business for twenty years, Knecht began his career following graduation from Pennsylvania State College as an Industrial Engineer. Real Estate attracted him from the beginning, however, and he soon found his way into that business where his experience has been wide and successful.

He is a partner in a development of several subdivisions in the Village of Oak Park and is secretary-treasurer of the Ridgewood Corporation which owns and operates the Astor Court Apartments in Detroit. He is also Vice-President of the James L. Hurley Corporation, developer of Sheffield Estates.

From his new office he will specialize in real estate services for the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills area, although he will maintain a branch office at 2800 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit 2, Phone Madison 5928.