

The Birmingham Eccentric

This New Year and every New Year, I know, will bring me in return only what I put into it. If I wish success, I must work for it; if I wish to be friendly, I must be friendly; if I wish happiness, I must deserve happiness. Justice balances the scales.

Events of July - December Complete Review of Local News Highlights of 1949

(Continued from Page 1, Part 1)

report, recommended by the city plan commission and made public last Thursday was formally accepted by the city commission Monday night and preliminary steps were authorized for placing the matter before the voters at a subsequent election.

Biggest news to Birmingham residents since they learned in 1951 that Birmingham had become a city, was the announcement two weeks ago by Frank R. Pierce, 421 Arlington, president of Dearborn Motors Corp., that his company was moving its general offices, research laboratory and warehouse from Highland Park to greatly expanded facilities at Coolidge and E. Maple avenue, only a few hundred yards from the eastern city limits.

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company this week announced a \$14,500 expansion of the local switchboard to help provide service to priority applications pending the inauguration of Birmingham's new \$2,225,000 dial system next summer.

Issue of July 14
The Michigan State Highway Department has chafed up another "first" by receiving Public Roads Administration approval of its program for installation of a complete new modern sign system on the 9,400 miles of state trunkline in the state. Highway Commissioner Charles H. Ziegler announced this week.

At last week's reorganization
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meeting of the Birmingham Board of Education, all officers were re-elected for the 1949-50 school year.

Fifteen-year-old Bill James, 4805 N. Adams, in a photo finish in his 4th heat of the Soap Box Derby Saturday at Rouge Park, lost out to a semi-finalist. However, Bill ranked 9th in the meet.

Township school board members, meeting last Thursday with the newly formed Southside Township Committee for Better School Management, apparently have ironed out to the satisfaction of most of the members of the committee, various matters of school administration, particularly with regard to the proposed new high school here.

Bloomfield Hills police spent a busy week enforcing the statewide slogan for July—"Speeders Lose". All speeders are being given special attention in the court of Justice Alva Richardson.

Neighbors complaining of an open basement excavation on Westchester Way just south of W. Maple, were assured by the city commission Monday night that unless the owner took steps by August 1, to abate the nuisance, the city would prefer charges in criminal court.

Issue of July 21
The postal delivery service in Birmingham is going to be better than ever according to acting postmaster Bernard E. Fowler, who announced this week that he has received notice from Washington to increase the number of city mail carriers from the present 12 to 23. Notice to employ the extra eight carriers was given by V. C. Burke, 1st assistant Post Master General.

Sixteen members of a Michigan State College summer school class in homemaking, under the direction of assistant professor Meta Vossbrink, included the home economics department of Barum Junior High and Baldwin high school in their field trip itinerary Friday.

Local police are investigating the theft and malicious destruction of a 1949 Mercury owned by Marc T. Patten of West Long Lake road. Patten reported the theft of the car July 15. He had it in front of the home of S. T. Creighton, 735 Shirley drive, and had been in the house only 10 minutes when he discovered the car gone. Patten said he had not seen the keys in the car.

Having read in the metropolitan newspapers that the Detroit Edison Company is seeking permission from the city of Royal Oak to start a new high-voltage power line in that city which will extend north to Pontiac, many Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills residents have wondered if action has been taken by the utility company to gain permission to put the line through these communities.

Northbound traffic on Woodward avenue was tied up for half an hour Friday after a trailer, containing four new cars, crashed into a truck and was sent spinning across the parkway and came to a stop across the inner three lanes on the north route.

Issue of July 28
A \$100,000 fire late Saturday night completely destroyed the three-story Bloomfield Hills mansion of H. W. Bird, together with its contents. Apparently out of control when the Hills fire department received and responded to the call at 10:59 p.m., the only things that were saved were a bed, comforter and the family pictures.

Another group this week hit the Michigan Bell Telephone Company's proposed exchange name for Birmingham - Pinhurst - and claimed that "Pietly Hill" would be more appropriate for this community.

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley announces the appointment of Lamar V. Gilchrist to the Birmingham police department.

A new church is to be built on 14 Mile road in the Sheffield Estates by the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, a Michigan ecclesiastical corporation of 908 West Seven Mile road, Detroit.

Summer Recreation Program Featured Police Academy, Fencing and Rifle Instruction



Patrolman Merle Holmquist in July told members of the Junior Police Academy the legal steps involved in accumulating evidence in hit-and-run cases. The academy was part of the summer recreation program, sponsored by the city recreation board.



It was cold steel in August as Dick Grimm (second from left) instructed fencing classes, introduced as part of the recreation program last summer.



Enjoying a refreshing pause between firing periods are (from left) George Collins, Peter Brink and Warren Hardy. Instruction in rifle marksmanship on the police department range was also introduced to the recreation program.

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