

That's it, true that most of the things we fear never do happen. Fearing can become a habit, depriving you of the things you want. Why, one may ask, should an honest human being cross the phantom of fear? It is the thing that comes upon!

74TH YEAR—NO. 15

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1951

24 PAGES FIVE CENTS

# Graduate into Turbulent Era

By G. R. A.  
Dr. Carl Winter, pastor of the First Baptist church of Oak Park, Ill., in his 27th commencement address this year told graduates of Baldwin high school Thursday morning that they were graduating into an atomic age, a shrinking age and a fighting age.

"As you leave high school," he said, "we who are here to honor you sincerely hope that your wishes will not turn walking wells that youth's dreams will not become old age's nightmares."  
"Your diplomas are evidence of what you have done and the keys to the doors which may open for you."  
"You are going out into a turbulent world."  
"The atomic age you are entering can completely destroy mankind or offer a wholly new way of life. It can become a guardian of life or a merchant of death. It is a man standing with one hand on his head and an eye in the other—one as symbolic of destruction the other of hope eternal."

"You, as members of the many classes of June graduates, can make the world the very of heaven or the very of outpost of hell. We are going to have to grow up or blow up and you young people are the ones who will decide it. You, and you, are rolling dice with destiny and we'd better win."

DR. WINTER outlined the attributes of a modern, attractive customer building at Merrill and Henrietta were announced today by Southeast Division Manager D. L. Brown of Pontiac.  
The proposed structure will be brick, stone, steel and glass and is designed to provide drive-in cashier facilities to enable customers to pay their bills without leaving their cars, Brown revealed.  
A large showroom, customer interview room, display area, an office for local representative Arthur F. Blakelee and tellers' cages and rest rooms are included in the 4,000-square foot structure.  
Brown said the total cost of the development would exceed \$40,000.

THURSDAY MORNING daughters of two faculty members received their diplomas along with the daughter of one of the boys of education.  
Barbara Hubbard is the daughter of Eugene Hubbard, science and mathematics teacher at Baldwin high school; Margaret G. Ireland, the daughter of Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent of schools and Mary Lou Gregory the daughter of Amos Gregory, secretary of the board of education.  
The class is the last to be graduated from Baldwin high school and the first June class in the latter half of the 20th century.

ONE MEMBER of the class, William J. McIntosh, completed his scholastic work after finishing his senior course. His father, Lloyd O. McIntosh of 1592 Henrietta accepted his son's diploma for him.  
Two others, Elizabeth Greig Hood and Frederick James Whitcomb were awarded diplomas in absentia.  
This Baldwin high school's activities were brought to a close as its 1951 graduates face a new educational future, members of the junior class look forward to entering the new high school and becoming its first senior class.

Will Soon Release Torry Boundaries, '51 School Census  
Mrs. Irene Stevens, clerk of the Birmingham school system, said Monday that figures on the 1951 census are probably available next week.  
"It is a tremendous task again to carry out," she said, "but it is being done. The census was slowed somewhat by graduation activities."  
Mrs. Stevens added that information on boundary lines for the new Torry school election district also can be ready for release shortly.

RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED  
Another \$1900 has been appropriated this year for development of Birmingham.  
Monday evening the city commission approved the recreation board's recommendation for work during the 1951 season on Poppleton, St. James, Linden, Eton and Harmon parks.  
APPROPRIATIONS include \$600 for Linden, \$800 for Eton and \$700 for Harmon. The commission previously appropriated \$200 for Poppleton park development.  
Improvement of Poppleton Park will include:  
- Immediate installation of drainage facilities prior to development of the area.  
- Planting of trees in the park area is low and there is considerable seepage from higher ground.  
- Completion of one baseball diamond this year.  
- Planting of trees in the proposed top area in the northeast and southwest portions.  
- Planting of a hedge along to adjacent to Hunter boulevard to screen park area. Hedge is particularly necessary at the southwest portion.  
- City Manager Donald C. Egbert was authorized by the commission to serve proposals for erection of a chain link fence from Oxford to Hunter, to cost approximately \$7,000.  
- It was also pointed out that the fence will be set back two feet so the adjoining property owners could plant some sort of screening shrub.  
WORK TO BE done this year at St. James park is: completion of a second ball diamond for the area.

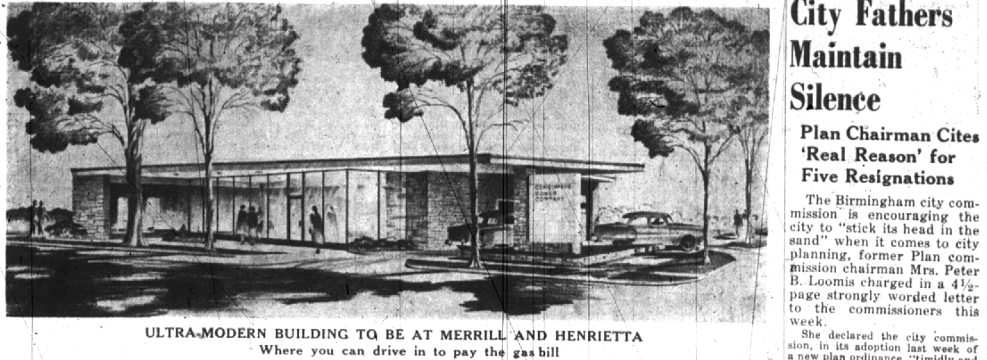
RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED (continued)  
SOUTHEAST (ETON) PARK: Determination of final location for one hard ball diamond.  
- Ploving of areas for diamond and outfield.  
- Seeding and grading sufficient area for diamond.  
- A \$600 appropriation for this location was requested by the board from funds available for recreation improvement.  
- Harmon Park development will include:  
- Installation of four-foot chain link fence along Woodward from Harmon to the bridge and along Harmon for a minimum distance of 100 feet west of the corner of Woodward.  
- Installation of a drinking fountain.  
- Grading and seeding of south portion of park.  
- \$700 appropriation was made for work on this area.  
RECREATION Board Chairman W. C. Holt also recommended that the board be permitted to use the Derby and Lincoln well properties for recreation purposes. He pointed out that this use will be restricted to very small children and small swings and slides would be placed in the areas.  
He also stated that the area west of the Derby well could be used for a small skating rink area.  
Commission approval on the use of the Lincoln well for recreation was withheld until it is known exactly how much of the areas are needed for that use.

Lincoln Residents Will Be Notified Before City Acts  
West Lincoln residents like their street lit the way it is. They want no parkways removed, they want no street widening and they want no changes in the present parking regulations. The only thing they hope for is more rigid control on speeders. Everything else, they feel, is fine the way it is.  
A large group from the area informed commissioners of their desires Monday evening when they attended the meeting which they believed would see action by officials to "change" their street.  
City Manager Donald C. Egbert and city commissioners assured them no city action would be taken and no hearings set without their having at least 30 days notice.  
EGBERT ADDED that he felt their claims were justified, at present, but questioned that they would remain so in the future.  
Egbert pointed out that the traffic volume over West Lincoln will be expected to increase greatly after the completion of the new high school, which is to be located in the area. He said he felt requests would be coming in from the sidewalk since many students will be walking to school.

Time Schedule for Recreation Board Program  
Master schedule for this summer Birmingham recreation program, which starts this week, was announced this week by Director F. W. McKinley.  
Activities, times and places are:  
- Basketball, Hill school, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Torry, 12:30-1:45; Barnum, 1:45-2:45; Clark; baseball, St. James, 1:45-2:45; draft shop, Barnum, 1:45-2:45; dramatics, Barnum, 2 a.m.-12; golf, Springdale, Mondays, 8 a.m.-4; music, Hill school, 8-12.  
PLAYGROUNDS, Adams, Pembroke, Quanton, Pierce, 9-12; Torry, 12-2; 1-5; Barnum, 1-5 p.m.; rifle shooting, police range, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9-12; softball, city diamond, 9-12; softball, city diamond, 9-12; shoveler pool, Howard park, 1-5 p.m. (unsupervised); softball, city diamond, evenings.  
Swimming, Barnum pool, 12:30-9 p.m.; Stormer golf, Barnum playground, 1-5; tennis, Hill school, 9-12; and trampolining, Barnum playground, 1-5 p.m.

Early Copy Next Week Please!  
Because of the JULY 4 HOLIDAY, which falls on Wednesday next week, The Eccentric must go to press one day earlier... Therefore...  
All Deadlines (News and Advertising) Will Be Monday at 5 p.m.  
This will permit The Eccentric to be delivered to you at the regular time Thursday.

# The Birmingham Eccentric



ULTRA-MODERN BUILDING TO BE AT MERRILL AND HENRIETTA Where you can drive in to pay the gas bill

New Consumers Power Bldg. Will Have Drive-In Service  
Consumers Power Company's plans for construction of a modern, attractive customer building at Merrill and Henrietta were announced today by Southeast Division Manager D. L. Brown of Pontiac.  
The proposed structure will be brick, stone, steel and glass and is designed to provide drive-in cashier facilities to enable customers to pay their bills without leaving their cars, Brown revealed.  
A large showroom, customer interview room, display area, an office for local representative Arthur F. Blakelee and tellers' cages and rest rooms are included in the 4,000-square foot structure.  
Brown said the total cost of the development would exceed \$40,000.  
THE PROPOSED building, scheduled for construction as soon as National Production Authority permission is obtained, is ultra-modern in design and incorporates vast spans of glass wall area, over-spans a flat roof which covers a flagstone exterior floor. The design is by Swanson Associates, a r. c. h. t. s. of Bloomfield Hills. Contracts for construction have not yet been let.  
In the rear of the building will be a large garage where two service vehicles will be housed to handle service calls in the Birmingham area. A gas meter storage and repair room is also located there.

City Buys More Insurance  
Insurance recommendations submitted by Harold T. Hagan, agent of reinsurance, were considered and some approved by the city commission Monday evening.  
Approval was granted to increase recommendations for power and similar equipment, two-way radios for police cars, voting machines and boiler insurance.  
Insurance for their coverage for automotive equipment was approved but because there was a mix-up in voting by commissioners, it probably will be considered again Monday.  
IN ADDITION, an opinion will be sought from City Attorney Forties Havelock concerning the city's liability in connection with contracts existing between the city and public utilities. Havelock was also asked to check the possibility of claims arising from property damage as a direct result of the condition of some of the city streets.  
Approval for the honesty bond coverage was also held until Monday. Commissioners felt that the honesty bond coverage should be approved by both honesty blanket portion bond coverage and faithful performance of duty.  
Only persons who will come under faithful performance of duty will be the city manager, city clerk, and the treasurer's employees. All other city employees will be under honesty bond coverage.

Three Positions at Stake in Hills  
Bloomfield Hills school electors will meet in caucus July 4 to elect three school board members.  
Terms of Trustees Mrs. Rita MacKenzie and Max Fruhauf are up for reelection. Mrs. MacKenzie is the incumbent position.  
Perry A. Vaughan, who resigned last fall.

INSURANCE COVERING \$14,487 for power and similar equipment was also held until Monday. Commissioners felt that the honesty bond coverage should be approved by both honesty blanket portion bond coverage and faithful performance of duty.  
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City Fathers Maintain Silence  
Plan Chairman Cites 'Real Reason' for Five Resignations  
The Birmingham city commission is encouraging the city to "stick its head in the sand" when it comes to city planning, former Plan commission chairman Mrs. Peter B. Loomis charged in a 4 1/2-page strongly worded letter to the commissioners this week.  
She declared the city commission, in its adoption last week of a new plan ordinance, "timidly and regrettably set aside a good ordinance and substituted a weak one."  
Mrs. Loomis' letter discloses that the city commission asked that all work on the proposed city master plan be halted while the ordinance was reconsidered.  
SHE CHARGED that the city commission had determined, "before meeting with us, to scrap the earlier ordinance."  
These private meetings between the groups were held on May 24 and June 1.  
Mayor Chad Ritchie read the complete letter to the 60 or 70 persons who packed the commission room Monday evening, principally to be heard during a discussion of West Lincoln traffic problems.  
When he finished, Ritchie asked, "Are there anyone who would like to comment on the letter?"  
"There was a noticeable silence," Mrs. Loomis commented, "Well, then we'll get on to the rest of the agenda."  
MRS. LOOMIS specifically attacked two of the three major changes in the ordinance—removal of the plan commission from under the state enabling act and the new requirement that plan board members, as the group is to be called now, be Birmingham residents.  
She said the old plan commission had been given enough responsibility to hold the interest of capable members.  
"The plan commission could only recommend to you—you could override its recommendations in a hearing," she said, "but now, purely advisory plan board can be ignored and wither up, if future commission is so chosen."  
SHE SAID that the requirement for Birmingham residence "is a distinct indication that the dominating group is the Birmingham majority in the plan commission is short-sighted and playing petty politics."  
"This 'dominating group,' as her list evidences further, on commission and elected plan board member, she believes.  
She said she felt it was time someone on the plan commission "spoke up" concerning the recent resignations of J. J. Hogan, Elliott S. Kinney, Harry Denney, Jr., Harold Klein and Thomas R. Navin.  
They have sent in "courteously phrased resignations, as the fulfillment of planning work, not supported by an understanding city commission, has become unbearably evident to them," she explained.  
"THE COMMUNITY ought to know the real reason for the resignations of such top-notch men," she said.  
In closing her letter, she said she did not wish to be considered for membership on the new plan board, but hoped the remaining members—Arthur Forster, James Pedder, Harry Denney, Jr., and Ernest W. Seaholm—would be willing to serve if asked.  
Pedder was indicated to a few close friends that he wishes he would not be considered for appointment to the new plan board because of new business pressures that will require considerable attention.  
Although the new plan board ordinance goes into effect June 28, new board members will not be appointed until the July 2 city commission meeting.  
THAT EVENING commissioners will vote on the names of candidates handed in this week by each citizen.  
Mrs. Loomis emphasized Friday to The Eccentric that the opinions expressed in her letter were her own and did not necessarily express the feelings of other plan commissioners.  
However, several other planners have privately said they concur (See COMMISSION, Page 4)