

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

TO EAT OR not to eat—that is the question posed by Frank Gibber, 1610 Buckingham, who brought a mushroom (toadstool) measuring over eight inches in diameter into The Eccentric office Monday. He finds these whoppers in a field near his home, but can locate no one who knows whether or not they are "good or bad". The toadstool (mushroom?) has a scaly white top, large, firm stem, with white gills. This is the second year, he says, for the fungi to appear in this same location.

SEEN AT THE horse show Sunday was a group of youngsters having a terrible time trying to eat cotton candy. The strong wind whipping across the fields would catch a strip of the fluffy stuff and rip it loose from the rest of the mass to send it sailing along like a feather. More than one spectator suddenly found a piece of pink, white or green "fluff" clinging to clothes or face. The only one this Wanderer saw who benefited was a fat black spaniel. He had several tasty morsels practically blown right into his mouth.

YIP-EEE-KI-YO-KI-YAY, it's great to be a land owner in Texas, says Hal P. Buerge, The Eccentric's advertising manager who received a deed in the mail last week to a two-square inch ranch in the Lone Star state. It was one of the famous subdivisions of the Lazy "C" Ranch at Sugarland, Texas. The small size ranches are sold as a gag to let citizens of all other parts of the United States in on the braggin'. "Tex" Buerge received the ranch as a gift from Jerry Snoblen, former circulation manager of The Eccentric who was in Texas on a business trip.

DURING THE NEXT WEEK the Birmingham fire department will have its doors open to the general public as part of the 17th annual inspection of the department's personnel, apparatus, building, deep well pumps and pump houses. The public's visits follows the official inspection conducted Monday night in which Birmingham Mayor Charles W. Renfrew and city commissioners took part. Fire Chief Griffith welcomes citizens to participate in this "open house" to meet officers and firemen and examine the department's facilities.

WHEN THE Oakland county Red Cross joins forces with "ham" radio operators in patrolling highways over the July 4 holiday weekend, several area men will share in the responsibility for making highways safer and offering assistance in case of accidents. Radio cars will be operated by Frank L. Taylor, J. W. Stark, H. P. Estes, R. G. Yingling, William Schultz, Jr., and Vern Nelson. The control station in St. James Episcopal church will be manned by J. F. Abbott and H. B. Smith.

INVESTIGATIONS by the Birmingham police department into juvenile delinquency matters will be done a little less noticeably to the general public when the department gets its new non-uniformed patrol car. The new car will be a standard unmarked blue car rather than the usual black car with identifying emblems. Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley believes the new car will enable detectives and officers to investigate cases without arousing undue neighborhood curiosity.

RUTH HAIGH
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The inspired preacher who, facing a congregation of unpractising Christians, necessarily must assume the role of "trying to save His life" in His own way; his real reward is not in his pay-check.

Demand Is Heavy For Recreation Program in Troy

Attendance in Troy's recreation program which is completing its second week, is much higher than was expected. Seven playgrounds have served nearly 1600 boys and girls.

Big Beaver playground is the central recreational spot and the focal point for all activities. Activities available at Big Beaver are: baseball; softball; badminton; croquet; horse riding; ping pong; basketball; marbles; jacks; checkers; and box hockey.

The arts and crafts department offers clay moulding; raffia work; lacing and weaving. There is also a story-telling group.

Three baseball leagues have been organized. There is a league for boys under 11 years of age and three schools have entered teams in this league. The teams are Poppleton; Troy No. 2; and Big Beaver.

THE REGULAR boys' league is composed of youngsters 11 to 16. A men's softball league has been organized and is composed of four teams. They are Sadlak's Mixers, Jasso's Landscapers, Harrison's Cats and McEver's Blackjacks.

The softball league games are played at the Troy High school on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

The swimming program has suffered from inadequate facilities. The Salt Water pool on Rochester road is being rented one week on Wednesday, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The first week 335 children swam. The second week 300 were forced the staff to issue 100 swim tickets on the playground every Tuesday. These tickets are good for that week only.

THE RECREATION staff includes: Boyd Larson, director; principal of Junior high school; Assistant Director Sam Tassio; high school coach and teacher; Big Beaver Playground Supervisor; Joan Smith; Shirley Schroter; playground supervisor; and Joyce Hocking, playground supervisor.

Troy baseball league scores are: Big Beaver Yankees, W-5, L-0; Big Beaver Tigers, W-3, L-1; Troy No. 2, W-2, L-2; Poppleton Red Socks, W-1, L-3; Colerain Cubs, W-1, L-3; and the Log Cabin Indians, W-0, L-3.

Wayne Figley, 14 year old hurler of the Yankees has kept his team in first place with five brilliant pitching victories. The leading hitters in the league are Jim Coates, heavy hitting catcher of the Braves and Ricky McKinnon, backstopper for the Yanks.

During the past few years the Birmingham fire department has responded to many alarms in partly constructed homes.

Most of these fires have been started by youngsters playing with matches. They ignited highly flammable insulating material or pieces of building paper.

The children either carried the matches to the building or found them in the structure where workmen had left them.

Some children have barely escaped with their lives after they have started these fires. Buildings, heavy hitting catcher of the Braves and Ricky McKinnon, backstopper for the Yanks.

Detroit Boy Hurt In Head-On Crash

A 12-year-old Detroit boy was treated by a doctor for face and arm cuts Friday morning as the result of a two-car collision at the Bates street entrance to the Wabek parking lot.

The boy Jeffrey Frank, was a passenger in a car driven by his father, Martin Frank, 4743 Sturtewant, Detroit.

Frank told police he was driving north on Bates when a southbound car cut sharply in front of him and struck his car head-on.

Driver of the southbound car, Mrs. Margaret Frahn, Vassar, Mich., was ticketed for failure to yield the right-of-way, police said.

PLAY IT SAFE Unfinished Houses Not Playgrounds

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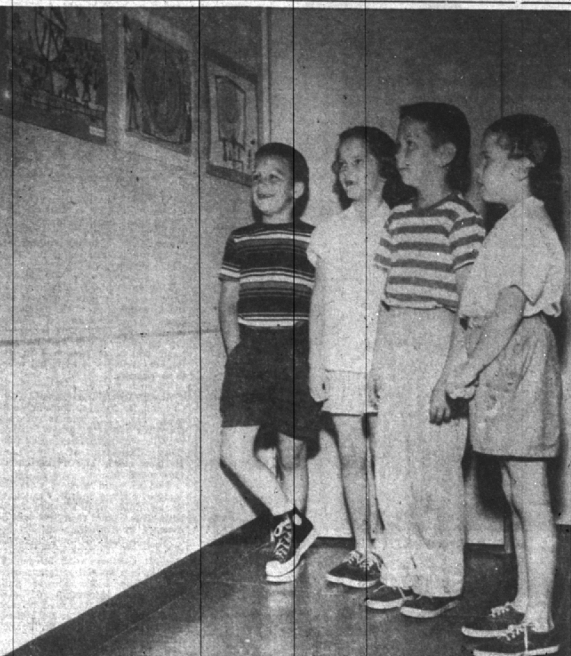
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IN ADDITION, many children have been injured while playing in these buildings, falling through



OFFICERS OF THE GARLING Construction company and Sullivan Smith, Inc., Detroit developers, broke ground last week on the Mercier farm in Bloomfield township for the start of the \$20 million Westchester Village. Ultimate plans for the 323 acres call for 600 ranch type homes. Pictured from left to right, as the first soil is turned on the property are, Harry M. Steffey, assistant director, Detroit office of the FHA; Vincent M. Sullivan, president, Sullivan Smith, Inc.; Fred C. Garling, president, Garling Construction company; Mrs. Fred C. Garling, James C. LaBau, vice-president of Garling Construction; and Robert C. Smith, secretary-treasurer of Sullivan Smith. See story on page one, part one.

The Birmingham Eccentric



CHILDREN AT CRANBROOK'S Summer Institute view the artistic expressions of Baldwin school students at the Cranbrook Institute of Science project of second graders at Baldwin after the class had toured the Institute early this month. The pupils selected different Cranbrook scenes to illustrate and each artist wrote a note on the back of his picture thanking Cranbrook staffers for the tours. From left to right are David Craig, Lee Sage, Tom McKenny and Natalie Wernet. Second grade teacher who directed the art show was Mrs. Virginia Akers. (Eccentric Photo)

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32 Boys Bound For Oscoda Camp

Thirty-two boys from the Birmingham area boarded the bus today, July 1, for Camp Nissokone on the shores of Lake Van Etten near Oscoda, Michigan. This is the 39th season for the camp which is a memorial to Philip H. Gray.

The boys will engage in a series of activities involving boating, canoeing, overnight trips, nature, camp-outs, crafts, dramatics, riflery, sailing, fishing and the like before they return to their homes on July 29.

Those making the trip included: John Alic, Wayne Andreae, Mark Baxley, Robert Baxley, William Bartling, Walter Bromley, Robert Brookman, David Cargill, Tim Coughlin, Ward Dunham, Robert Egley, Richard Garlick, William Graham, Elliott Kimberley, Lawrence Kimberly, Bruce King.

Henry Leiphart, Robert Maxwell, James Olson, Bill Hardy, Jerry Purdy, Kent Rakes, Carl Reynolds, Neil Reynolds, Donald Robinson, James Scott, Lewis Smart, Stephen Smart, Nicholas Spicer, Donald VanDoren, and Tom VanDoren.

Troy Plat Referred To Zoning Board

A proposed 20-acre plat submitted by John F. Englehardt of Royal Oak, was referred to the township zoning board by Troy board members Monday night.

The plat which includes a six-acre parcel for future construction of a Presbyterian church is north of Derby road, and the Troyton Manor subdivision recently approved by the township.

YOU CAN HELP US NEXT WEEK BY ...

Submitting editorial and advertising copy early for next week's issue of The Eccentric.

The July 4th long weekend will find The Eccentric's doors closed, limiting our publication time.

Through your help we will be able to give the proper treatment to news stories and advertising material in the July 8 edition.

Submit Amendment

A charter amendment to allow the South Okland County water authority to make connection within the city of Birmingham has been approved in form by Gov. Williams' office. Voters will find the proposal on their Aug. 3 primary ballot.

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