

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • WEST & EAST BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD AND WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIPS

Appoint Swem Southfield Supervisor

Detroit School Teacher On S'field Board 2 Years

Eugene Swem, of 21368 Telegraph, and Southfield township board member, was appointed by other trustees at a special meeting held last week.

Swem, in his second term as township trustee, was selected to take the place of William Rooser who died May 29 at Beaumont hospital.

A business law and arithmetic teacher at Redford high school in Detroit Swem has lived in Southfield township 14 years. Next year marks his 50th year of teaching.

ON business leave now, he hopes to take a leave of absence for a part of the next school year to handle supervisor's duties and to aid in the preparing of a charter for the newly-established city of Southfield.

Swem is one of nine charter commissioners elected June 7, who have up to 90 days to ready a charter. If the voters reject the charter, the commission has up to two years in which to have the residents adopt a charter.

THE Commission, however, can only submit three charters within a two-year period. If the voters reject three charters, they automatically revert to township status.

"We're not going to model our charter after any community," said Swem, "but I think it is the general idea among the elected commissioners that a commission-manager type government, similar to Lathrup's, is what we want."

"That's why we can get skilled management even though the manager does not live in the city, and the policy making will still be in the hands of the residents of the city," Swem added.

AN organizational meeting of the charter commission is expected sometime this week, said Swem, but the county must release the voting machines after they determine after the next five highest unsuccessful candidates for the commission do not wish to have a recount of votes.

Re-Elect Roberts Carey Lane Head

WING LAKE—John A. Roberts was re-elected president of the Carey Lane association at a meeting held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Odle.

Two newly elected officers are James B. Grisson, vice president, and E. H. Nurne, secretary-treasurer.

The association voted approval of optional individual donations to the Michigan Citizens Protective association, to be used in fighting the proposed Flat Rock-Saginaw turnpike.

Plans were also made at the meeting for a two-section dock to be built at Carey Lane waterfront on Wing Lake and June 19 was designated beach clean-up day, with all members expected to pool their efforts in this project.

Kiwanis Delegates Will Meet June 26

SOUTHFIELD—The Kiwanis club sending a delegation to join 10,000 other Kiwanians from the United States and Canada at the International convention in Cleveland, June 26-30.

Club president and Mrs. Tom Myers, club secretary and Mrs. Caperna, and past president, W. Muir, will make up the delegation.

Myers has been appointed assistant sergeant-at-arms by International President Don E. Engdahl. The appointment is partly recognition of the outstanding rating of the Southfield club in program achievement.

Meet Franklin's New Principal

Edwin Crandell will be Franklin school's first full-time principal. It was announced this week.

Crandell, who takes over full responsibilities next September, has been assistant principal to Marjorie Votey who continues as principal of Bloomfield Village school.

Crandell has been with the Birmingham school system for four years. He attended Alton college, getting his A. B. and Master's degree from Wayne University.

With a Doctor's degree in Education as his goal, Crandell will continue his studies this summer at the University of Colorado.



EDWIN CRANDELL

Trust Fund Left By Crash Victim For Needy Blind

BLM. TWP.—Mrs. Genevieve Skinner, 64, of 3518 Franklin road, who died May 18 after an auto crash, left a \$1,000 fund to care for her dogs and other household pets plus a trust fund to supply financially needy blind persons with leader dogs.

Her will filed last week in Oakland County Probate court, lists real estate and personal assets totaling \$20,000.

The fund for purchasing leader dogs is to be used for 20 years and any excess money will be distributed to charity.

Mrs. Skinner, a former insurance company representative, left valuable household goods and small cash gifts to two great nieces and several friends.

Homer Pratts Have Two Honor Grads

BEVERLY HILLS—Graduation activities are centering in Birmingham for the Homer Pratt family of Wetherly. Son James L. arrived last week to see his sister Marilyn's graduation here from Birmingham High school rather than return to Harvard for his degree the same day.

In the meantime, he and Mrs. Pratt are visiting his grandparents in the west. Graduating in history and literature, cum laude, he has been accepted at Yale Divinity school for next fall.

His sister's honors include National Honor society and Quill and Scroll, and she hopes to attend Oberlin college.

We Heard It Said By: Mrs. R. D. Wertman, 31550 Westlady, Berkshires

"My personal opinion is that the Eccentric is an excellent local newspaper. I enjoy reading it and get a great deal of information from it. I do hope that the present high standards and quality of new coverage more than one button," said Worthum, who added that most of the children were accompanied by at least one adult.

Will File Answer To Vickers' Bill

TROY—Township officials are expected to file an official answer this week to the bill of complaint filed in Oakland County circuit court two weeks ago which attempts to set aside the incorporation election results.

The bill, filed by Vickers, Inc. of Detroit, was shrewdly by circuit judges until after the election.

Vickers officials had hoped to halt the election because a certified census by the state completed June 3, did not meet the state law requiring 500 persons per square mile before a community can become a home rule city.

"PRO incorporation leaders feel, however, that with the overwhelming 10 to 1 vote in favor of home rule, that the state and judges will favor the township and not Vickers who prompted incorporation petitions when they attempted to have a 70-acre parcel in the township annexed to Royal Oak.

Township residents, fearing loss of the tax income from the proposed \$2 million headquarters planned for the 76-acre site, immediately began incorporation proceedings. Whether or not they failed to receive the \$20,000-a-year tax money from Vickers property is now in the hands of the courts.

Truck Crashes Into Franklin Man's Car

FRANKLIN—A fiery crash resulted on the Lodge Expressway Tuesday when a car driven by Gordon Shaw, 27194 Gardenway, Franklin Village, was struck from behind in a chain crash of two cars and a truck.

A semi crashed into Shaw's car which immediately burst into flames. It took firemen 40 minutes to put out the blaze. Truck driver Donald B. Huemmer, Detroit, was killed for reckless driving.

Shaw suffered minor cuts, but his auto was demolished.

Says Voters Were Lax in City Vote

SOUTHFIELD—Persons who voted "no" on the incorporation of the township as a city June 7, disenfranchised themselves because they did not also cast a ballot for charter candidates, according to Howard A. Palmer of 17211 Beechwood.

"Those in the Beverly Hills area of the township were, according to registered voter totals, entitled to four representatives in the charter commission, but because they failed to vote for the candidates, they only placed two representatives on the commission," Palmer said.

Fannie Adams said that in the Beverly voting districts 3, 7, and 13, there were 3,520 voters registered, which is about one-third of the 12,125 who were registered to vote throughout the township.

Palmer pointed out that in the coming charter election, when commissioners or councilmen also will be voted upon, those voters who vote "no" on the charter should still vote for the candidates or they will lose their representation.

Clarence Laidlaw To Head Building Inspection Dept.

FRANKLIN—Clarence O. Laidlaw, consulting engineer, was appointed by the village council Monday night to assume the building inspector's responsibilities as outlined by Laidlaw in a letter to the council.

Laidlaw asked that he be given 75 percent of gross fees for issuing of permits, intermediate inspections and final certifications, plus 25 percent of all electrical and plumbing permit fees.

Overhead would be paid by the village and the contract would be retroactive to March 1, 1955 and would run one year, until July 1, 1956.

Laidlaw has been acting building inspector since March in place of Jack Garstecki who resigned.

Village clerk Faye Hank pointed out that the village presently has not been getting an inspection fee because of an inadequate fee system.

"We'd like to get similar contracts with electrical and plumbing inspectors," said Harold Roseberry, village president. "We also are trying to establish a simplified system of building inspection fees."

Laidlaw will be represented to the council through Roseberry until later this year when a proposed building code, if adopted would set up a committee on building.

Elden Aukers Visiting At D. E. Irwins

WALNUT LAKE—Elden Auker, the former Detroit Tiger pitcher star, his wife and son, Jimmy, of Shrewsbury, Mass., formerly of Birmingham, arrived at the Donald Irwin home on Westmore road, last Sunday for a week's visit.

Irwin, whose business headquarters are in New York City, managed to come home on Tuesday to spend some time with his guests.

Mrs. Auker, who was back for the first time in two years, was honor guest on Tuesday afternoon at a cocktail party for 20 of her close friends.

Today the Aukers will be dinner guests of the Irwins at Oakland Hills Country club, preceding the amateur talent show at the club in which Mrs. Irwin will participate.

We Heard It Said By: Mrs. D. R. Campbell, Birmingham Lane

"I liked very much the recent discussions of the pros and cons of township incorporation which appeared in The Eccentric."



FAREWELL GIFT FOR PRINCIPAL Miss Marjorie Votey honored. (Eccentric Photo)

Students Give Retiring Principal Farewell Gift

WALNUT LAKE—Through the president and members of the student council, the Walnut Lake school students presented their principal, Miss Marjorie Votey, with a picnic table and chair lounge—a farewell gift for Miss Votey who is leaving the school.

The furniture is for the home which Miss Votey and her mother, Mrs. F. A. Votey have bought near Traverse City and are busy remodeling. The retiring principal has been with the Walnut Lake school for eight years.

Members of the service squad, student council and safety patrol also presented sixth-grade teacher, Mrs. Inesgene Bergum with gifts. Skits by each of the grades, reports from each officer of the student council, and school committee and a history of the sixth grade from its kindergarten days, was the program for the assembly. This was followed by refreshments.

Crockett Day Produced Variety of Little Davys

All last week excitement ran high in Lathrup Village as garage doors were kept locked and fathers had to park their cars in driveways. There was whispering and giggling and great secrets, and then as the sun came out on Saturday morning, children began to gather from all directions.

It looked like a modern version of the old Pied Piper story, they came on gaily decorated bikes, trikes, wagons and pushing their doll carriages. There were Indians and early settlers and numerous Betsy and Davy Crockets wearing their fuzzy coonskin hats. From young Gordie Boyd, 2, riding docile Snookey a Shetland pony, to 6'4" Jim Gorman, Davy was there.

SNOOKY, who really belongs to Pam Boyd, was transported to Lathrup by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Snyder from Livonia especially for the parade.

Carrying a grinning bear-skin, and wearing a hat made from the hide of a raccoon he had hunted down himself, Jim Gorman marched with the children and added an authentic air to the day.

For weeks Girl Scout Troop 165 had practiced marching and formed a proud honor guard for the parade.

A special note of thanks is due to the members of the Lathrup Civil League for making the party and parade possible; to the men of the Village who contributed time and money; to the efficient kitchen help who kept the hot dogs and milk coming for the hungry and thirsty paraders.

CHAIRMAN of the Davy Crockett Day parade was Clarence E. Worthum. Assisting him with funds as well as time and energy were: Charles McJannet, Victor Almes, Alvin Plantree, William Shy, Marvin Meade, P. Heister, and Mrs. Vincent Zattel.

"I guess there must have been almost 200 kids at the parade, because I handed out 200 Davy Crockett buttons and only one boy received more than one button," said Worthum, who added that most of the children were accompanied by at least one adult.



MARCHING CROCKETTS GET UNDERWAY AFTER RAIN DELAYED ACTIVITIES About 200 children turned out for Davy Crockett Day Parade in Lathrup.



MAYOR JOHN C. CAMPBELL MODELS COONSKIN FOR YOUNG DAVYS Youthful paraders wait for Crockett buttons and refreshments.

MARK MACKAY GRETCHEN MOYER Davy's Bar' came dressed up as a 'Teddy Bar'. (Eccentric Photos)

Demonstrate CD Readiness

WALNUT LAKE—Civil Defense Unit will give a demonstration of disaster preparations Saturday from 12 to 2 p.m.

Air raid sirens will sound at 11:45 a.m. and the first 200 citizens who arrive at the Walnut Lake school will be cared for and fed.

A demonstration will be held by the Walnut Lake fire department, assisted by Keego Harbor firemen, and the fire department's demolition and emergency police will be on hand to give assistance.

DURING the demonstration the location of 14 emergency housing stations, which can handle up to 1,000 persons, will be shown.

"All residents of this area are welcome and urged to participate in this drill," said area chairman A. M. Bortman, who has been named by the Board of Menoch. "Come and find out to what unit you are assigned in case of emergency."

In charge of recreation are Joseph Anderson and Cass Brovarney.

LOCAL men's and women's clubs will be in charge of the preparation of food which has been supplied by Kroger's, A & P and the Walnut Lake Grocery.

Feeding will start about 1 p.m. First aid stations will be set up to care for the injured, and the first department will have a resuscitator on exhibit.

Commission Holds First Charter Meet

BINGHAM FARMS—First meeting of the charter commission was held Monday night at the home of William King at 32700 Bingham lane.

King was elected chairman of the five-man commission and James McQuire was named secretary.

"Considerable progress was made in formulating a charter," said King. "We do expect a charter in a very short time. Now we are checking technicalities."

Next meeting of the commission, composed of James McQuire, William A. Hyland, Carson C. Bingham, and Frank A. Lamberson, will be Monday night at King's home.

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Local Youth Earns Law Degree at Yale

FRANKLIN—Judson Lewis Levin of 1420 Franklin road, was among 27 students from Michigan who received degrees from Yale university at commencement exercises held Monday morning. He received a bachelor of laws.

Wins Florida Trip

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Eccentric Achievement Award. For other area news see: School News—Page 7, Sec. 2 Church News—Pages 6, 7, Sec. 3 Society News—Page One, Sec. 2

Boy, 4, Killed In Car-Truck Crash

BLM. TWP.—A four-year-old township boy died last week when the car in which he was riding went out of control and crashed into a gravel truck on US 10 at the Genesee-Oakland county line, according to police.

The victim was Mark VerWiesbe, son of the G. C. VerWiesbes of 4041 McEwen. The boy's father, driving the car, and the truck driver, Steve Chappira of King, were not injured.

The boy's mother, Evelyn, 46, was treated at Hurley Hospital in Flint for shock.

Surviving besides his parents, the Gerhardt Ver Wiesbes, are three sisters, Mary Lou and Kathryn at home, and Mrs. Irene Rogers of Flint.

Rosary was held Friday at the Huxton Funeral home in Pontiac with burial in Holy Sepulchre cemetery, Southfield township.

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