

People who seek to measure up to their best ideals may, at times, incur the scorn or criticism of neighbors, but since one lives so much within himself, and wants to think well of himself, why not cling to ideals?

People's Column

To the Editor:
Congratulations on the first place received by your paper in the National Editorial Association's Better Newspaper contest.
CLELAND B. WYLLIE
Editor, University of Michigan News Service
Ann Arbor

Completes Training

Army Pfc. Daniel E. Springer, track vehicle mechanic in Battery B of the 4th Infantry Division's 46th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, recently completed a phase of the spring training held by the 4th Division in Germany. Springer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bradford L. Springer, 647 Vinewood. He graduated from Shrine High School, Royal Oak, in 1950 and attended Michigan State University before entering the army in November, 1953.

Have You Met

The Charles Robert Hendersons, who moved June 14 to 7275 Old Mill road? Coming from Rosedale Park, the family moved into a home built by brother-in-law Richard Haymann of Labor Union field township, the two wives being sisters. The family includes Debbie, 7 and Jenni, 4. Both parents attended U of M, like dancing and golf. Henderson is with the John Crane Packing company's Detroit office.



DOWNWARD FLOWS A BRANCH of the Rouge river, a mere trickle in comparison to the navigable water that passes Ford's Rouge plant and other factories near its entrance into the Detroit river. Looking north from Quarton near Woodward avenue, the photo shows the sparkling stream as it leaves the Endicot farm just below Endicot lake. Within three blocks its waters enter Quarton lake, then narrow again into the stream that joins the easterly branch just above the Maple street bridge. (Eccentric Photo)

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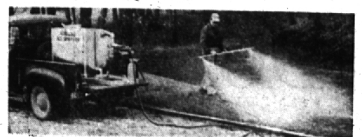
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Nature Provides Woodpeckers With Built-In Safety Devices

CRANBROOK—Occupational diseases among woodpeckers should logically include scrambled brains, loosened eyeballs and ruptured eardrums. But nature, as usual, has a logic of its own in adapting its creatures to peculiar living habits. Besides protection against adged pines, some woodpeckers have extra climbing toes, spiked tails for bracing against tree trunks, and retractable harpoon tongues that curl up inside the cranium when at rest, according to Walter P. Nickel, naturalist at Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills.

HOURS of daily hammering into trees would jar loose many delicate head membranes if there were not a built-in shock absorber of spongy cartilage between the beak and cranium. This buffer functions in the same manner as the cushion on a catcher's mask softens the impact of a ball striking the iron grillwork.

Most woodpeckers, including the red-headed, pileated, downy and hairy woodpeckers, and the well known Michigan flicker have twelve stiff tail feathers to keep them propped in a vertical position on tree trunks and four strong toes, two forward and two behind.

DESPITE the staccato tumult he makes, the woodpecker is seldom working as hard as he sounds. He usually chooses dead trees for the rotten parts of living trees in which to probe for food or to carve out an apartment. Not only is he wood softer and free from oozing sap, but it contains a richer supply of tasty ants, beetles and grubs.

Destruction of harmful insects is the chief service these birds perform for mankind. Part of the flicker's special equipment is a tongue that can be shot out two and a half inches beyond the end of his bill. This tongue is coated with sticky saliva for trapping ants, and has a spiny tip for harpooning grubs deep in decayed trees.

ALTHOUGH trees and tall stumps are the most common sites for woodpecker homes, some of the more enterprising birds dig into telephone poles, the siding of barns and the hollow posts supporting house porches. Sawdust and chips from the chopping are used as the basic nest materials onto which eggs are laid.

Cavity-nesting birds such as the woodpecker have much greater success rearing their young than field birds whose nests are open to a wider variety of natural enemies. Woodpeckers, however, are often pecked by red squirrels and starlings who find it easier to drive away the original builders than to dig their own cavities, the Cranbrook scientist points out.

THE yellow-bellied sapsucker, which sounds more like an epithet than a bird, is one type woodpecker who may be more trouble than he is worth. He is a tippler, and drills

a circular series of holes in living conifers, maples and apple trees to sip the oozings and to eat the insects stuck in the sap. Trees perforated in this manner always grow deformed and often die.

To Pour Oil on 58 Troubled Streets

Forty-six Birmingham streets or portions of them this summer will get a new oil mat and seal coats, and 12 others will get a light oil dustproofing treatment.

Special assessments for these two types of projects have passed the city commission. City Manager D. C. Egbert said supplemental programs would include a number of other streets.

Catalpa Paving Project Dropped

Paving of Catalpa, between Pierce and Grant, has been dropped by the Birmingham city commission. It refused to confirm the special assessment roll following considerable objection from property owners.

Commissioners originally felt Catalpa might be included along with several other neighborhood streets which have been approved for paving.



BIRMINGHAM'S ROTARY club installed officers Monday noon when retiring president Arthur Blakeslee (right) presented the gavel to his successor, Victor Peck. Other officers installed are Paul Grant, secretary; James Schmidt, assistant secretary, and James Moore, treasurer. Directors are Stuart Sheil, Leon de St. Nicholas, Blakeslee, John Wakevainen, Jack Ball and Moore. President Peck, in assuming office, appointed chairmen and members to the group's 20 standing committees. (Eccentric Photo)

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Says Part of Sewer Can Be Constructed

Construction of the portion of the Evergreen interceptor sewer above 14 Mile road was urged this week by County Drain Commissioner Ralph A. Main.

"In this way, it will be ready to go and can be constructed or approved construction by the time Southfield is legally able to authorize construction south of 14 Mile," Main said.

Southfield, because of its recent incorporation vote, must become a city or revert to township status again before it can finance its portion of the giant project, municipal officials say.

Thousands of people read The Eccentric Classified Ads. So remember, if you want to sell that hard-to-get-rid-of article, advertise it in the Want Ad section of the Birmingham Eccentric.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

First—a tribute to the men and women of our country who made this day possible.

Second—a fervent prayer that we may somehow become worthy of their selfless effort and sacrifice.

And now to the land made free by our forefathers and laded over by the insectivora and by the weeds (from Lady's Thumb to Daisy Fleabane).

We have been neglecting the "round the yard" details lately so let's see what devilish duties we can find for you to do.

1. When the first blooms of the delphinium have bloomed, cut the stems and foliage to 3"—dump one or two handfuls of GARD-N-GRO around the plants (one for a small one—two for a large one (the dictionary explains the difference between small and large—cultivate lightly and PRESTO (that's the fertilizer) new blooms.

2. Since there are no weeds in the garden now—ha, ha!—cover the soil with 2 inches of BUCKWHEAT HULLS and forget it.

3. Since there are no weeds in the shrub beds now—ha, ha!—cover with BUCKWHEAT HULLS or PEAT MOSS or spray with CRAG HERBICIDE—1.

4. Judging from the size of our stock of AGRINITE, REGAL LAWN FOOD, GRO-SOD, STADLERS XXX and AGRICO TURF you are not believing what we said about Summer fertilizing of the grasses.

Okay, we will tell you what will happen. When you water, the grasses will grow—not the lawn grasses but the Crab and Quack grasses and the Chick Weed and Buckhorn, Pussycat, Gillover-the-ground (or Ale-hoof), Heat-All, Pennywort, Shepherd's Purse, Speedwell, et cetera.

Now if you want the grasses such as KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS, FESCUE, et cetera, to grow when you water you MUST FEED THEM.

5. The Summer solstice having arrived you can indulge in late evening GRILLED steak suppers by lighting up the inexpensive, electric cordless, practically non-breakable, rustproof, handsome HAWAIIAN TORCHES and or HURRICANE GARDEN LAMPS. (This is an ad.)

6. For people who live in the dark—that is, who have darkish halls which don't get any sunlight or who have living rooms so large that the sunlight does not penetrate to the innermost recesses—we have MINIATURE AFRICAN DATE PALMS. They actually hate sunshine. They are dainty, gay, not colorful but graceful. FILL the dark corners of your life with THEM.

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