

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

**RATTLER OR MILK SNAKE** is the question plaguing the Bredel family on Beach road. They have found a snake in their garden which, when annoyed, "shakes its tail". A call to Cranbrook and another to the Detroit Zoo revealed that milk snakes have this characteristic, but make no noise. Mrs. Bredel said that it was when they saw the tail twitch they didn't stop to listen! However, they have promised to try to catch one, hoping it is a milk snake, because none of this species is listed among zoo inhabitants.

**RETIREMENT ALREADY IS BRINGING STRANGE** experiences into the life of Fire Chief Vern Griffith. In a brief conversation with this Wanderer last week, the retiring head of the Birmingham fire department admitted it seemed very strange to go out of town for a day off without leaving a message on how to reach him for an emergency. "I worked on the Scout cabin the other day," he confessed, "and didn't tell a soul where I was going to be. It sure seemed funny after all these years. I suppose I'll get used to it, though."

**BECAUSE HE IS PLANNING** to motor to Los Angeles in July, Russell Harris, 18603 Parkside, inserted a Classified Ad in The Eccentric, offering to take four passengers in his Cadillac, at \$50 per person. He originally ordered the ad to be published six times. But after one publication he told us: "Please cancel my ad. I have gotten tremendous results, far exceeding my idea on the ad. Thanx a million!"



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## School

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 1)

**JOHN V. NAHABEDIAN**, also a candidate for one of vacant seats, with long list of civic and fraternal activities, enters the election ring with a nine-point platform.

...with B. S. and M. S. degrees in education and a study of law and accountancy. Nahabedian has been teaching in the public schools of Detroit since 1939. ...include among some of his classes have been special ones for socially-maladjusted boys, and classes for crippled children at the Sigma Gamma Hospital School.

...Past president of the Walnut Lake PTA, and member of the executive committee of the Birmingham Council PTA, Nahabedian includes in his program of proposals such points as expansion of school buildings for adult education, community projects and recreational activities; to survey a need for special education classes for the mentally retarded, maladjusted and crippled children; establishment of teacher tenure, representation on the school board of principal districts and the policy making in the hands of the school board, with the Superintendent as constant administrator.

**HE SAID THE** board must "retain competent persons to supervise and facilitate the building program" in order to alleviate the inefficiency which has been displayed in the past four years.

The "inefficiency" Nahabedian referred to was the purchase of land in Troy township, where he said "the city refused to commit itself in the matter of providing water and sewer facilities and as a result the city is providing water and sewer facilities for the benefit of taxpayers of Troy."

Another example of inefficiency is the way the roof of the Bloomfield Village school addition was handled," he said.

LEAVING the board after 11 years is Mrs. Lewis B. Sappington, who is not seeking re-election.

On the Monday ballot voters will make a decision on the proposed \$5,000,000 bond issue for school building expansion.

SCOTT, a former teacher in the Detroit school system and attorney who obtained his B.A. degree from Michigan State Normal College in 1928 and Doctor of Jurisprudence degree in 1934, is presently general manager of the Ford Manufacturing Services Division.

Also active in the PTO, Robert H. Hoffman is making his first run for the school board.

**HOFFMAN**, a resident of Bloomfield Hills since 1939, was a member of the original PTO in the district and now is treasurer of the committee.

**Southfield B of E**  
In the Southfield race where two vacancies arise, four candidates seek election World War II veteran and member of the board since 1947 who is up for re-election.

**REHBEIN**, 25175 Farmbrook, has lived in Southfield township for 20 years and was chairman of the organizing committee for incorporation of the school district in 1947.

**COVERDILL**, who is a teacher of Trade Drafting in Industrial and Vocational Education at Chadsey high school in Detroit, earned his B.S. and Stanley E. Veigley, 17357 New Hampshire drive, and Mrs. James L. Molnar, 20982 Rouge Court.

**VEIGLEY**, production manager of the Ellis company of Detroit, has been active in the building and construction activities of the township.

**MRS. MOLNAR**, who unsuccessfully ran for a board seat last year, has also been quite active in civic affairs of the township.

**Hills B of E**  
Two vacancies and two candidates will give Bloomfield Hills a takeover election. Leaving the Hills board of education are Robert C. W. Sadler, after two terms, and Mrs. Rita MacKenzie after three terms.

**Troy B of E**  
One full three-year term vacancy and a two-year seat created by the resignation of Clarence Lowe are to be filled in Troy township.

**ARTHUR R. LOVEJOY**, 850 Sylvanwood, recently appointed to fill the unexpired vacancy, is a candidate for completing the two seats, with Lloyd A. Stage, 8427 Alpine, also a candidate for the seat.

**'That Tax Boost' Was Our Fault**  
While taxes—all kinds, too—are admittedly higher than the average taxpayers would like to see, those for the Birmingham school district are not as high as the example The Birmingham Eccentric used last week.

Because school districts so often overlap several municipal governmental units, there is such a thing as an "equalizing factor" which enters into the determination of what taxpayers in one unit pay per their assessed valuations compared to assessed valuations in a neighboring unit.

**SUPT. OF Bham Schools** Dwight B. Ireland (who so generously devoted a good share of his Memorial Day weekend to getting the answers to 24 questions The Eccentric suddenly asked him about the proposed bond issue) had the equalizing factor worked into a statistical table.

Part of District Operating Taxes for Total Tax

|                          |       |       |       |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Bloomfield Township      | 18.44 | 16.95 | 35.38 |
| City of Bloomfield Hills | 19.08 | 17.52 | 36.60 |
| City of Birmingham       | 13.39 | 12.28 | 25.67 |
| Southfield Township      | 18.78 | 17.24 | 36.02 |
| Troy Township            | 29.54 | 27.12 | 56.66 |
| West Bloomfield Township | 19.64 | 18.04 | 37.68 |

**TO DETERMINE** your cost per \$1,000 of assessed valuation: Take your assessed valuation and multiply it by the particular millage—either operating, or debt, or total—for the particular municipality you live in. This is your Birmingham school district tax. You may obtain the assessed valuation of your property from your most recent tax bill, or by calling the clerk of the municipality in which you reside.

**Selling your home?** Advertise it in the "For Sale-Houses" columns of The Eccentric.

**The Birmingham Eccentric** Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Michigan, in The Eccentric Building, 320-324 No. Woodward Ave., by The Birmingham Eccentric, Inc. Telephone MI 6-2026.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES** (In Oakland County)  
One Year \$2.00  
Six Months \$1.00  
Three Months \$0.50  
(Outside Oakland County)  
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## This and That

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 1)

work, even the dull, routine, monotonous tasks, is easier than a rule, he is not governed by the intelligent use of leisure.

**"THE DOCTOR** is eminently suited to attain a well rounded existence. Loving his work as a hobby—music, art, literature, and disappointment as they do to all human beings, will have borne fruits of satisfaction not often attained by others.

"Most doctors are possessed of a hobby—music, art, literature, sand, photography, woodworking, gardening, farming—and for virtually all the continuance of their education through regular perusal of the medical literature takes a good share of the spare time which comes at irregular intervals.

"Those who seek for themselves and others what they call the good things of life will be faced more and more with the necessity of combatting the tyranny of leisure, with the necessity of averting the thralldom of idleness, of finding something useful to do, even to the dull, routine, monotonous tasks which will no longer be so because they will have given a purpose to a life made meaningless by pleasure."

**60 Cubs Turn Out For Annual Picnic**  
LATHRUP—About 60 Cub Scouts from ten Lathrup dens accompanied by 45 fathers, took part in the annual Cub Scout picnic at Cubs Benton park on June 4.

**Dramatic Award**  
SOUTHFIELD—J. Claire Utz of 17350 Roxbury, won the "best characterization" award in both comic and serious roles when the Masque Guild gave awards last week at the Northwood Inn. The guild is an affiliate of Mercy College's speech department.

Are you thinking of buying a new home? Then read the "For Sale-Houses" columns on this week's Eccentric.

## Next Budget Would Need 19.7 Mills

A \$10,500 boost in the tentative Birmingham city budget for 1955-56 was approved by commissioners at a committee meeting Saturday morning.

And at Monday night's preliminary budget hearing, so one was present to question any of the proposed expenditures.

**THE BOOST** would require a two-tenths increase in the millage over this year's 19.5 rate.

**THE PROPOSED** budget would total \$1,415,808.90, or \$79,953.90 more than the current year.

As the budget stands now, and which will be up for adoption next Monday night, June 13, it anticipates a \$7,000 increase in the contingent fund to provide for these departmental increases should they arise, a \$2,000 boost in the recreation board's budget to provide for grading and siding of baseball diamonds this summer, and \$1,500 scattered in relatively small increases in a number of city departments.

Copies of the budget are available in the city clerk's office.

Here's what to buy... for your FAVORITE GUY

Remember... FATHER'S DAY Sunday, June 19th!

The Revolutionary Parker Pencil

LL LIQUID LEAD Pencil

\$3.95

Writes a clean erasable line miles long!

Point never breaks, never needs sharpening!

LL Liquid Lead will not smudge!

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CHARM—The lines of this beautiful home invites friends—once inside the wonderful use of wood, paper and special Early American carpeting carries out the tradition we are all so proud of.

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