'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1955 • SECTION FIVE

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

In My Opinion . . .

Councilman Mackey Answers Editorial

TO THE EDITOR:

The only way the electors can see their elected servants in action is by attending the Council meetings and public hearings. Here, in Lathrup, the council of a newly created city is faced with the necessity of getting things done quickly and efficiently.

Proposing legislation for the health, safety and welfare of a community cannot be entered into lightly. Therefore, the council members must study, investigate and carefully consider the subject which is being proposed.

MANY HOURS of preliminary work is required in the drafting of an ordinance, as an example. The public is not necessarily interested in the details of the drafting, but rather "will the proposed legislation bring about the desired results?"

At council meetings the electorate see the finished product in as near final form as possible. "Study meetings" are not only necessary, but absolutely essential. To attempt to operate without them would result in a great deal of wasted time and money and would also cause confusion.

Study meetings are NOT legislative, but educational. Official matters are most certainly discussed, but NO official action is taken. There is a vast difference.

IN YOUR EDITORIAL of Thursday, Sept. 15th, you accuse four of the five council members of resisting the answering of questions raised by village residents.

It is true that questions were asked, but they were directed to one individual. The people who raised the questions were entitled to an answer, but from the person to whom the questions were directed, and in this case, he was the only one who should or could give the answer.

I, THEREFORE, emphatically deny the accusation that I was one of the four as named in your paper, who resisted in any way the answering of questions or tried in any manner to curtail public discussion. It is, therefore, reasonable to ask that you immediately correct this indictment.

As a member of the council, I am not going to be drawn into any "clashes of personalities" or feuding. Consequently, any accusations as to "dictatorship" motivated by personal antagonism is positively without foundation and cannot possibly be substantiated.

I AM NOT attempting to express the feeling or opinions of others on the council, but your statement that "four of a five man council assumes that its official business is no business of the people who elected them" cannot go unchallenged.

I would remind you that all official business is voted on, only at council meetings which, by charter are public. The present council is a working council. It has worked hard to protect and serve the residents of our community. It has drawn and adopted many ordinances.

Many more are under consideration, all for the good of the majority of Lathrup citizens. We are resisting, by court action "special interest" who are not interested in the welfare of Lathrup.

YOUR INTEREST in Lathrup affairs, prompted by proper motives and not headline hunting, is indeed praiseworthy, and be not concerned—I will not forget that I am a "servant of the people," and be assured I have no desire to be the master of any one.

Sincerely,

LANTZ L. MACKEY
Lathrup Councilman
18577 San Jose

Councilman Richard Cogger Disagrees With Eccentric

TO THE EDITOR:

The editorial page of your issue of Sept. 15 has been called to my attention and I have just finished reading with amazed disbelief the implication that I, along with other members of the Lathrup city council, am part of a movement to suppress free circulation of the official business of the city.

Since such an implication is so completely foreign to my philosophy of government I feel that I must make my position clear to you.

IF YOU will look back you will recall that I became a member of the Lathrup council largely because of a firm and strongly voiced conviction that our council should act in accordance with the wishes of our people and that it serve the desires of special commercial interests who were bent on abrogating the people's wants to the detriment of the community.

I still firmly believe that our council should serve the wishes of our citizens and should keep them completely informed to the best of its ability, of all official business.

PLEASE be assured that I will do all that I can to see that such a policy is carried through.

With respect to the pattern which was followed during the Sept. 6 council meeting, I did not get any impression that anyone's questioning was not fully answered.

If I had I would have seen to it that no such misunderstanding existed. Your statement that I was a party to a resistance to answering questions is completely without substance and fact and I would like to take this opportunity to correct.

WHILE I cannot speak for other members of the council, your criticism of our study meetings is unfair in my opinion.

The purpose and conduct of these meetings have always been along the lines of study and fact-finding. No official action has ever been, or will ever be taken with my permission at these meetings.

If this type of education and inquiry were reserved for the regular meetings of the council, I am afraid that these meetings would never be completed and that we would be wasting a lot of people's valuable time.

IN MY view only the time of people who are directly involved should be consumed in fact-gathering activities. Facts are presented, and official decisions reached in open meetings, with most efficient results.

Unless I am misinformed, this policy is standard routine with most American governmental bodies.

Let me assure you, the press, and all the people of the Lathrup community, that the official business of the Lathrup council is an open book as far as I am concerned and that questions, comments, criticisms and constructive help are most welcome.

I WOULD only plead for a continued active interest by all our citizens in all of the business of their government.

It is my fervent hope also, that the interests of the few, however motivated, will never be dominant.

Richard N. Cogger
Lathrup councilman
28440 Sunset.

Concerned With Children's Safety

TO THE EDITOR:

I was very disappointed to note that your newspaper failed to publish an account of the school bus-truck accident which occurred on Sept. 9, 1955 at Southfield and Beverly roads.

Our son, age nine, happened to have started across Southfield at the green light and was most fortunate in that he saw the truck and realized it was not going to stop in time, therefore, he ran, thus avoiding possible injury or death in the collision.

ALL PARENTS are concerned for the safety of their children, whether aboard the school bus, walking, or riding in private cars. Since this is an especially dangerous corner—a five-way intersection—special precautions must be enforced to protect these children.

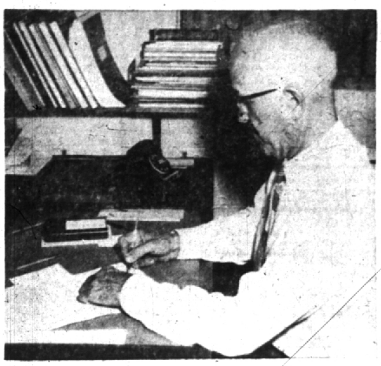
School crossings are customarily marked with painted crosswalks, large lettered SCHOOL pavement markings and sometimes have adults on duty to assist the patrol boys. The painted markings at this intersection have not been renewed this semester and are not visible.

Beverly school cannot be seen from this intersection so every means must be employed to warn approaching motorists that this is a school crossing. The traffic light alone is insufficient.

Yours truly,
Howard Palmer
12214 Beechwood

Panel Discussion

SOUTHFIELD—Daniel Julien of Southfield high school speech department and four members of the high school debate club were guests of the Southfield Kiwanis at their meeting Sept. 21. Students conducted a panel discussion on "Federal Aid to Education."



EUGENE SWEM, Southfield township supervisor, here signs the order which proclaims the week of Sept. 25-Oct. 1 National Business Women's Week in Southfield township. The proclamation, approved by the township board last week, recognizes the Southfield Business and Professional Women's club's contributions toward "improvement and progress of business, industry and civic needs in our community."

S'fld High News and Notes

Southfield sophomores will initiate the social season tomorrow evening at 8 p.m. with a "Sock-Hop" in the school gym. On the planning committee are Mrs. Huel Wright, sponsor, Jim Stoia, Jim Blackford, Sharon Bradley, Carolyn Nepstad and Dave Krause.

Paul Pieti, a June Southfield graduate, has been awarded a scholarship to the College of Mining and Technology at Houghton.

Although the new semester has just begun, seniors are already making appointments for their yearbook photos, and a meeting has been planned to discuss the senior trip.

As part of the in-service training program, Southfield teaching staff registered Sept. 20 for a course in local school curriculum planning. The group will meet each week on Tuesday until the end of January with their instructor Dr. Chester McCormick of Wayne University.

Glenn Schoenhals, superintendent of Southfield schools attended a meeting of the Michigan Association of School Administrators in Traverse City, Sept. 16-20.

A full color motion picture on advanced car design was presented to Southfield high boys at assembly on Sept. 21. Ralph Beebe, a field representative for Fisher Body Craftman's Guild spoke to the boys on the opportunities and advantages in making a hobby pay off.

Newly appointed to the membership committee for the next three years, Marinus Van Ameyde, principal of Southfield High, attended the first meeting of the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of Cooperative School Studies at Farmington high school Sept. 21.

Purpose of this meeting was to consider committee plans for the current school year, and to discuss a proposed state council on secondary education.

Daniel Julien will represent the high school at a work shop to be held in Lansing on Sept. 23-24. Through the Michigan Speech Association this meeting will cover a coach-judge speech clinic. With other members of a special committee, Julien will draw up a final draft on a revised course of study to be used by all Michigan teachers of speech.

Officers for the debate activities group were elected at a Sept. 15 meeting with Daniel Julien, advisor. They are Elaine Hunsicker, president, Margaret Gray, vice president, Elizabeth Robertson, secretary, and Mary Bloch, treasurer.

S'fld Kiwanis Entertains Kids Sept. 24

SOUTHFIELD—Kiwanian members are anticipating about 50 of Southfield's spastic, mentally retarded and crippled children at their Kids' Day party, Saturday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m. at Southfield high.

Chairman Gerald J. Ashley, 23465 Lee Baker drive, requests parents of these children to contact him or other members of the committee for reservations so the club may make proper arrangements for food and party favors.

Entertainment for the youngsters is not as yet lined up, Ashley reported, but will include a magician and probably a dance and baton act.

MEMBERS of Southfield Kiwanis working on the Kids' Day project include Ashley, George Maier, John Hipple, Ray Chauvin and Carl Gilgallon.

Food arrangements will be handled by Southfield Kiwanis wives including Mrs. Ashley and Mrs. Gilgallon.

Following the entertainment, refreshments will be served and each child will receive a party gift.

Meetings Changed Back to Mondays

LATHRUP—A motion by Councilman Richard N. Cogger to change council meeting dates back to the first and third Mondays of each month was approved unanimously by the council Monday night.

Two weeks ago the council had resolved to hold meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month but promised to reconsider action after reporters protested.

LOIS ERICKSON, 7, of 15924 Dunblaine, Southfield township, suffered a forehead cut when the bus (above) on which she was riding, collided at Southfield and Beverly with a pickup truck driven by Russell Galster, 25, of Detroit, also treated for head and arm cuts. Southfield Police Chief Phillip LaVigne (right) looks on as the bus is hooked to a wrecker. Driver of the bus was Agnes Handing, 37, of 256 W. 9 Mile. No one was ticketed.

Water Shortage Closes School

Tighten Water Controls

LATHRUP — Hot weather continuing into an otherwise cool autumn month brought water-needy citizens to the council Monday night with demands that water sprinkling bans be enforced.

Council resolved to limit all sprinkling to odd-and-even days for all residents and curtail 12-to-6 a.m. sprinkling allowed under restrictions adopted earlier this year.

BOOSTER pump owners came close to losing the use of their expensive machinery when Councilman Richard N. Cogger moved that all such pumps be barred until emergency shortages ended. The motion was not seconded.

Closing of the school Monday at 11 a.m. because of a water shortage united the council and citizens seeking relief, in solving the problem.

A resolution was also passed directing Leonard Watchowski, city administrator, to ask Southfield township to enforce Lathrup's sprinkling regulations nearby in North Hampton, a subdivision which draws its water supply from the city.

WATCHOWSKI was told to see if the township would not try to halt indiscriminate sprinkling in areas south of Lathrup which are on the same water line to Detroit, the area's water source.

Home owners complained that in many instances they could not raise enough pressure to meet their sanitary needs on the second floor of their homes, and some said they could not draw water from first floor taps when pressure was extremely low.

The sprinkling ban also requires homeowners to halt lawn watering between 3 a.m. and 9 a.m. and between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on all days.

The odd-even system allows homeowners with house numerals ending in an odd number to sprinkle their lawns on odd-numbered days and those with numbers which end in even numerals to sprinkle on even-numbered days.

Township Sets $13,200 UF Goal

W. BLM. TWP—The township United Fund Drive quota was set at $13,200 at a Community Chest regular meeting held last week at the township hall.

The budget for 1955-56 is as follows:

Oakland County Townships United Fund, $10,000; Boy Scouts of America, $2,400; Emergency Welfare Fund, $400; Visiting Nurse Fund, $100; and General Fund, $300.

The fund drive will start Oct. 1 with door-to-door canvassing. All agencies participating in the 1954-55 campaign received their full quota.

Those people living in W. Bloomfield township who make contributions in Detroit where they work are reminded that this money is not pro-rated back to the township.

Fund Drive officials urge that such donations be divided so local agencies can profit by these contributions. Drive leaders also ask that all township residents contribute to the drive so the township can reach its $13,200 goal.

High School PTA Meets Sept. 27

SOUTHFIELD—All parents of high school students are urged to attend the first PTSA meeting to be held in Southfield high gym Tuesday, Sept. 27.

The school band and choir will present a musical program and principal Marinus Van Ameyde will introduce the faculty. Teachers will be presented with boutonnieres and corsages by the association.

After the meeting refreshments will be served by twelfth grade parents in the cafeteria.

CALENDAR

TODAY

Beverly branch of WNFG ass'n trip through Cranbrook house and gardens, 2 p.m.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs school PTA meeting, 8 p.m. in social hall of church.

SUNDAY

Novice Model Airplane meet, 2-5 p.m., Wyeliffe and Inkster roads.

MONDAY

Altar Society, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, 8 p.m. in social hall of church.

TUESDAY

Southfield high PTSA meeting, 8 p.m. in high school gym.

Southfield township special election for township roads.

Southfield township board meeting at Township offices, Berg road.

Franklin Girl Scout leaders meeting, Franklin Community church, 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Day Circles of Lathrup Community church, meeting at church.

Franklin Promenaders, Franklin Community hall, 8:30 p.m.

HIGHEST POINT GATHERER at the Walnut Lake WNFG club Flower Show Saturday was Mrs. Maurice B. Norland of 1950 Lone Pine, Bloomfield township, who scored 99 out of a possible 100 for her table arrangement and flower centerpiece.

Farms' Officers Known If Charter Is Okayed

BINGHAM FARMS—If voters here approve the proposed charter at the polls Oct. 4, their first village president will be William King of 32700 Bingham lane.

Only one complete slate of officers was provided when Saturday's deadline arrived.

Other names which will appear on the ballot are: for trustee, Frank A. Lamberson of 31435 Bingham road; William A. Hyland, 30620 Telegraph; James McQuire, 23600 West 13 Mile; Albert F. Meadows, 31910 Bingham road; Clyde L. Hawley, 29750 Bristol lane; and James C. Nunneley, 32967 Bingham.

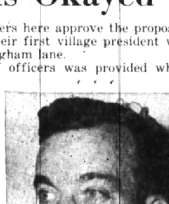
FILING for clerk was Mrs. H. G. Colwell, 32834 Bingham lane; Walter J. Gerick, 23101 Sager Ct., for assessor; and James H. Barrett, 32627 Bingham lane, for treasurer.

Only charter commissioner not seeking office is Carson C. Bingham, 32515 Bingham. Other commissioners are King, Lamberson, Hyland and McQuire.

King, commission chairman, said the charter would have to be adopted before any serious consideration could be given to rumored annexation of the Farms territory to Franklin Village.

"I THINK it is highly desirable for the two cities to consolidate and form a fifth-class city. I understand Franklin is forming a committee to investigate the various pros and cons" (of an annex ation), King said.

He added that he has been invited to attend Franklin Village council's meeting Oct. 10.



WILLIAM KING

Lathrup Charter Makers Honored

LATHRUP—Nine persons who held the future of this city in their hands two years ago were honored Monday night by the city council for their part in drafting the city's charter.

All charter commissioners and their attorney, Loren B. Cross, were on hand to receive from Councilman Lantz L. Mackey a certificate of appreciation and a gold badge for service to the city.

Commissioners were: Ralph A. Vogt, Kenneth M. Farnham, John G. Campbell, Richard H. Anderson, William D. White, William H. Harvie, Mrs. Lee Baker, and Mrs. Everett Nelson.

In part, the certificate read, "The citizens of Lathrup Village are grateful for your diligent work in the interest of our community and this gold badge is a token of recognition for this service."

Oakland County census figures show a growth in Southfield township of 10,013 in the 10 years that followed the 1940 census of 8,486.

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SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT'S special education services received an extra boost with the recent hiring of six specialists in the field. The teachers and their subjects are: (first row, left to right) William Greenman, mentally retarded classes; Mrs. Mildred Bechard, speech correctionist); Albert Pierson, mentally retarded classes; (second row) Miss Dawn Proteau, speech correctionist; Mrs. Edith Blake, referral consultant; and Mrs. Merelyn Marshall, visiting teacher.

Tea Table Setting Scores Highest At WNFG Show

Among those winning blue ribbons at the Walnut Lake WNFG association flower show, held Sept. 17 at Walnut Lake school, were Mrs. Maurice Norland, Lone Pine road, Mrs. E. F. Murray, Meadow Lake road, and Mrs. E. J. Monteith, Old Orchard drive.

Mrs. Norland received 99 points out of a possible 100 for her arrangement of a tea table; Mrs. Murray, a blue ribbon for her orchid arrangement and Mrs. Monteith for her flower arrangement in an unusual container—a man's shoe.

Through the fine work and cooperation of our chairmen, Mrs. Otto Fockler, Mrs. Cass Brovarney, Mrs. Reginald Smith, Mrs. E. C. Pinta and Mrs. John Smith, our show was a huge success," Mrs. Murray, chairman of the flower show, said.

Receive 3 Special Assessment Bids

LATHRUP—Three bids were received Monday by the council on the special $56,000 assessment to aid in paving several of the city's streets.

Leonard Watchowski, city administrator who reviewed the bids, said that low bidder was National Bank of Detroit with 3 per cent interest on bonds maturing Oct. 1, 1956 to 6% in 1958, and 2¾ per cent on bonds maturing on Oct. 1, 1959.

Bramy Bosworth and Co., of Detroit offered to sell the bonds for 3¼ per cent interest for the 1956-58 period and 2¾ per cent for the last year.

ALSO bidding was Kenower, MacArthur and Co. of Detroit, who offered 3¼ for the first three years and 3 per cent for the last year.

City Attorney Everett F. Hayes assured members of the audience that it was legal to indebt the city generally without vote of the people in creating special assessment districts.

The council did not officially accept any bid.

Attend Convention

SOUTHFIELD—Attending the district convention of Kiwanis in Lansing, Sept. 25-28 will be Southfield Kiwanis president Thomas H. Myers, vice president Glenn Schoenhals, and Secretary Don A. Cameron.