

The Birmingham Eccentric

The young men and women who use much of his so-called leisure time to improve his body, mind and spirit will go further toward the goal of human happiness than one who wastes his leisure hours. Knowledge is power... power to learn how to contribute responsible values to the lives in which one lives.

Eccentric Reviews Local News Coverage of 1956



THE FIRST BABY of 1956 in the Birmingham area was Shelagh Crook, pictured here when 19 days old with her mother, Mrs. William G. F. Crook, Brady Lane, Bloomfield Hills. The baby's birth at 7:12 a.m. Jan. 1 made the parents the winners of The Eccentric's first 1956 baby contest as well as a shower of gifts from Birmingham merchants.



"THEY'RE OFF." Skaters (from left) Harold Wilber, Tom Haydon and Deke Livy, need no urging as Birmingham opens Eton Park Skating rink Feb. 4.



SGT. ROBERT EMMETT (left) who retired early this year was awarded a gold badge commemorating over 25 years of service with Birmingham's police department by Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley. Emmett was honored with a banquet at the Community House Feb. 17.

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 1)
At 10 a.m. the first accident was reported when a car driven by Miss Marcel O'Hara, 62, of 1866 Barbary, was involved in a collision with a second car driven by Louis A. Miller, 67, of Detroit.

Issue of January 12
"Wash room" bandit holds ten men captive for five hours Friday in the basement men's room of the new Michigan Life insurance building, Woodward avenue and Coolidge road. Wearing a hooded parka jacket and dark-tinted glasses, the bandit entered the building about 8 a.m. and as the men entered the wash room, each was tied and gagged. The bandit's plans

were to capture assistant treasurer Edwin A. Jacobs and force him to open the company safe, but Jacobs never showed up. After a futile five hour wait, the bandit forced one of the men to walk out of the building with him and on the outside ordered him to walk east while he headed south. Police are still looking for the bandit.

Osage, Michigan's 18th Women's National Farm and Garden association branch held its organizational meeting this week. Membership is drawn from the Pine Hill, Hickory Heights and Charnwood districts. Six stained glass windows, three on either side of the chancel were presented to the First Methodist church in

memory of Lawrence H. Pomroy. The memorial was dedicated Sunday by the Rev. Arnold F. Runkel.

Leonard A. Watchowski, Lathrup city administrator, asked township board to consider accepting rubbish hauling contract for Lathrup. Lathrup has trouble keeping private contractors because there isn't enough profit in the one-day-a-month job.

The new Lathrup Village office of the National Bank of Detroit, West Eleven mile road at Southfield, is nearing completion with occupancy scheduled for Jan. 27.

Issue of January 19
Notice of intent to resign his position as Birmingham city man-

ager, effective April 1, 1957, was given by Donald C. Egbert to the city commission at an informal meeting Saturday. He has served Birmingham in several capacities for the past 26 1/2 years, 19 as manager.

Franklin Community church members plan building opening, as the church building is progressing rapidly. A committee has been appointed to plan appropriate festivities for the opening. The committee will contact former pastors and members and will also create a brochure containing a history of the church, organized in 1840.

Wrigley's new supermarket on Hunter boulevard opened last week. The building contains 20,000 square feet of space, allowing for 1 ft. 3 in. wide aisles, eight magic-eye checkout stands and more frozen food display space than has been provided in other markets. Parking facilities for 175 cars are provided in an adjacent parking lot.

Southfield high school student, Kay Koval was chosen D.A.R. Good Citizen in a contest sponsored by the Three Flags chapter D.A.R. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Koval, 21915 Fairway drive.

St. Dunstan's Guild will mark the 25th anniversary of its founding at a formal dinner dance held Saturday at the Pavilion.

Issue of January 26
Eight projects, all centering around creation of municipal parking facilities in the northeast downtown business quadrant will be discussed at the Birmingham city commission meeting. The commission expects to decide the necessity of: a proposed 172 car parking lot on the north side of Hamilton avenue; a smaller parking lot on the south side of Hamilton; construction of crossover to northbound Hunter blvd. traffic can get onto Hamilton avenue; a mid-block pedestrian access between Hamilton and Maple avenues; right of way acquisition to open Ferndale through to Hamilton; paving of Park and Ferndale between Oakland and Hamilton; acquisition of an alley behind the frontage on the north side of Hamilton and improvement of that alley.

Paul Wilson, 962 Puritan, was named "Layman of the Year" by the Detroit Council of Churches (See '56 REVIEW, Page 2, Sec. 3)



NORMALLY SEDATE Rouge river in downtown Birmingham climbed its banks following torrential downpours in late April and early May, flooding the Rouge valley and even threatening the retail area of downtown Birmingham.



1956 WAS LEAP YEAR and two Birmingham babies born on Feb. 29 will have to wait four years for their birthdate to roll around again. Mrs. Gustave Miller,

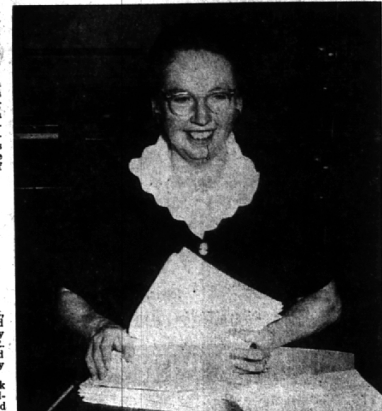


(right) 468 W. Lincoln, holds Cynthia and Mrs. Thomas N. Urquharts, 1041 Norwich, is pictured with her son, Gordon.



ROGER M. KYES (center) of Bloomfield Hills was awarded the Exceptional Service Award, the Air Force's highest civilian award April 23 for outstanding performance while U.S. deputy secretary of defense.

Defense Secretary C. E. Wilson smiled approval as Air Force Secretary Donald A. Quarles presented the award.



MRS. FANNIE ADAMS, Southfield township clerk for 25 years, was honored on her silver anniversary of township service with a dinner at Devon Gables Jan. 31. The popular and efficient clerk received a wrist watch and the warm wishes of fellow township residents and others at the well-attended event.



FIRST SALE of March of Dimes 1956 Blue Crutch was made to Herbert H. Gardner, president of the Birmingham National bank. Making the sale were Mrs. Ernest R. Luth (left) and Mrs. H. B. Barrett, co-chairmen.



WATER FROM SOC Water Authority poured into Birmingham in June. Here Director L. R. Gare, turns the valve which sends water coursing into Birmingham pipes as Bob Rothe, representing the authority's consulting engineers, watches.



GEORGE L. MILLER (left) Birmingham high school instructor, and Benjamin C. Tousey Jr., of 1309 Shipman became good friends while at William Beaumont hospital in May—Miller from automobile injuries and Tousey with jaw trouble. In December doctors lost the fight to save Miller's badly damaged leg which was amputated.