

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TOWNS.

Sidelights

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

WHEN the choice you have is the safety of your children or possible creation of bad feelings between your neighbors, what would you choose? There really isn't much of a choice is there? Lathrup, concerned with the safety of its school kids, is thinking of getting tough with erring motorists who pass through their city, but are concerned, too, that residents in nearby communities will get the wrong impression when they see Lathrup's police car doing a land office business on Southfield road.

But when 12 cars run a red light in front of a school in the morning because they are going too fast, something has to be done, regardless of whose feelings are hurt. Just remember this, Lathrup. Those motorists who usually cry "speed trap," are the motorists who are ticketed for going faster than the speed limit. These drivers have a "leave me alone" attitude because they think their rights are being ignored. How about the rights of those school kids, all under 12, who must run the Southfield road gauntlet to get to school? Does the motorist's rights include the right to cripple or kill some unwary child? Or does that confer him a greater right—the right to live? The answer is obvious.



BOARD MEMBERS of the recently-formed Westchester Women's Association were named at a recent election. Here the new board members gather as they will for important future meetings to draft their group's constitution and by-laws and set club goals. Those serving on the board are, (left to right) Mrs. Robert Batchelor, Mrs. Richard Kellogg, Mrs. George Bryant, Mrs. Jack Bell.

TRAGEDY came to Southfield township officers in miniature form when "Southfield" (an alias in real life) self-appointed mascot of the office force gave birth to two kittens which died from exposure and hunger before they were found Tuesday in the little-used records room behind the main building.

IRIS DALRYMPLE, 29150 Inkster, a Southfield township officer, will enjoy a rare treat when she accompanies nine Southfield high school students of Spanish, and their teachers, to a Hammond on a 1-day junket to Mexico City and Acapulco, Mex. Iris, 1 understand, had no objection to the "Southfield" brood, but actually had this trip planned some time ago.

HOACRE Carpenter, vice president and general manager of Northland Center, Inc., said this week that there was no fact in connection with North and has been bought by a New York concern. Carpenter said the rumor, which has existed for six months, is "entirely without foundation," and that no negotiations are being made toward such an agreement.

WESTCHESTER WOMEN'S Association officers are: (left to right) Mrs. Tommy Shannon, vice president; Mrs. Edward E. Bolle, president, and Mrs. John Ruhl, secretary-treasurer. The women's group is open to every woman in Westchester, has over 100 members. Westchester Women's Association is an auxiliary of the Westchester Homeowners' Association.

Southfield's Water Contract To Shift With Politics

SOUTHFIELD—Faced with the probability that all of Southfield will not incorporate into a single city, Donald C. Egbert, engineer-manager of the South Oakland County Water Board, expressed his view this week that re-alignments in Southfield township's water contract may be necessary.

If the area divides into Westwood Village in the north and City of Southfield in the south (or any similar division) the two areas will be in two different pressure districts, with the varying heights above sea level. Egbert said he was trying to set up conferences with officials of the various communities in Southfield to negotiate new contract arrangements.

"Present contract with the township should, as a practical matter, be adjusted and in all probability, two new contracts prepared: one for the new 'City of Southfield,' and one for the proposed 'Village of Westwood,'" said Egbert.

NEGOTIATIONS are necessary now because of impending expiration of the authority system. The authority, said Egbert, is particularly interested in working out plans for serving this area (Southfield north of 13 Mile road) at this time because distribution mains in the area are deficient and undoubtedly will result in substantial pressure loss during periods of peak demand.

"They'll think I'm trying to sell them more water," said Egbert, who pointed out that he had to know what each community would require. Villages such as Bingham Farms and Franklin probably will want to be dropped from responsibility of meeting yearly ready-to-serve charges, because these areas are not ready for such service and would be paying heavily for use of the system at a later date.

"AS A PRACTICAL matter, probabilities are that... Franklin and... Bingham Farms both will continue to receive their water supply from wells and would not be interested in paying a ready-to-serve charge in order to reserve a portion

Mrs. Edward Bolle Heads Westchester Women's Club

WESTCHESTER—Mrs. Edward E. Bolle, 2663 Middlebury lane, was elected president of Westchester Women's Association at an organizational meeting held last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Henry Gluckstead, 2811 Farmingdale.

Other officers are Mrs. Tommy Shannon, 2705 Heathfield, vice president; and Mrs. John Ruhl, 2994 Heathfield, secretary-treasurer. The women's group is an auxiliary to Westchester Homeowners' Association and every woman in the Westchester subdivision is eligible for membership.

Mrs. Bolle appointed Mrs. Vernon M. Fitch, 2950 Middlebury lane, to serve as the club's representative to the homeowners' association.

NOMINATING committee, chairmaned by Mrs. John Drake, consisted of Mrs. Andrew Seed and Mrs. Robert Mason. Activities outlined by the group as areas of interest were art work, baby-sitting, book, book study groups, bowling, bridge, flower arranging, car pools, gardening and landscaping, golf, music, public affairs, sewing, knitting and handicraft, and social work.

Mrs. Bolle will name committees from her 120 members.

Southfield Schools' \$2,300,000 Budget Highest in History

Southfield board of education approved a \$2,300,245 budget, the highest in its history, last Thursday. This represented an increase of \$300,500 over the present year's budget of \$2,000,552.

While salary increases of \$200 to \$250 are provided for all of the staff, Superintendent Glenn Schoenbals said that much of the new budget increase will cover the increased operating expenses and the school pool which will open this fall.

On the new salary schedule beginning with a 10 percent increase, the school pool will open this fall. The three boys left about 7:30 a.m., and parents began the search an hour later. When no trace of the boys was found at noon a general search began.

SCHOENBALS said the board took no action at this time on fringe benefits sought by the teachers and still has to consider additional pay for counseling and music teachers. He emphasized that the board will have to go to the people for a millage increase to cover the increased operating expenses and to continue its building and site program. He said this may not result in a tax rate increase as some of the school bonds now are being retired.

Lathrup Will 'Get Tough' With Southfield Road Traffic

LATHRUP — Councilman Richard N. Cogger said he would review suggestions made by Automobile Club of Michigan traffic experts to decide what action should be taken by Lathrup and the Southfield school board to lower chances of accidents to school children along Southfield road.

Memory Overtakes Suspects

SOUTHFIELD Routine police investigation and a good memory resulted in the arrest of four youths suspected of breaking into Southfield township tool company last week.

Pulick Lietz, Melton Sackett and Patrick Richard Swemer stopped a car at 2:30 a.m. April 18, at the time they noticed a clock which they learned the next day was similar to one taken from their Tool Co. at 29210 W. Eight Mile along with beer, cigars and office equipment that same night.

Lost Trio Found After 8-Hour Hunt

SOUTHFIELD — Two brothers from Ferndale, and a playmate from Beverly Hills, were found Sunday in a wooded area near Clawville for eight hours Sunday.

Relatives and friends of the trio were joined in the all-day search by State and county police.

Robert Mellott, 10 and 1/2 brother, Thomas S., sons of Mr. and Mrs. Burton S. Mellott of 17425 Lakeshore, and Loren E. Schimmelman, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Schimmelman, of Ferndale, were finally located at the end of a lead-end road, four to five miles from the cottage, cold and hungry.

THE TWO families were spending a weekend at the Schimmelman's cottage. The three boys left about 7:30 a.m., and parents began the search an hour later. When no trace of the boys was found at noon a general search began.

Women's GOP Club Officers Elected

Suburban Women's Republican Club of Birmingham formerly the Southfield Township Women's Republican Club elected Mrs. Herman Lathrup as club president at a recent meeting.

Other officers are Mrs. Marshall Chambers, first vice president; Mrs. A. D. Sheldon, second vice president; Mrs. George Witherspoon, treasurer; Mrs. H. Henderson, recording secretary; Mrs. Charles Baker, corresponding secretary.

Children's Safety Is Goal

LATHRUP — Councilman Richard N. Cogger said he would review suggestions made by Automobile Club of Michigan traffic experts to decide what action should be taken by Lathrup and the Southfield school board to lower chances of accidents to school children along Southfield road.

At a recent public demand for less speeding on Southfield road, Lathrup changed hours of its daytime policemen at Monday's meeting so that he can ticket traffic lawbreakers during school and evening rush hours. An electric timer will be used to time traffic.

MAYOR Lantz L. Mackey said he did not want Lathrup to be tagged a "speed trap" by residents of neighboring communities, "but if that's what it takes to slow traffic, maybe that's what we'll have," he added.

Councilman Frederick O. Johnson suggested that school authorities direct parents around to the rear (east) of the school to pick up children so that Southfield would not become congested with parents' autos.

State resident also mentioned that slow-moving buses, which hold up long lines of motorists, should pull off the road to pick up and deposit passengers, allowing traffic to move steadily along Southfield road without unnecessary holdups.

COLLATERAL Police Chief Kenneth Farnum proposed to put policemen on the roads at night and weekends to aid in the slow-down campaign.

Council will investigate chance of getting lighted signs which allow only a 30 mph limit in front of the school instead of a 40 mph limit now existing.

State police said it would be difficult to enforce a slower limit, and that Southfield road was developed for, and should be used as, a limited access highway.

At a special Thursday morning meeting Charles E. Gordon, Auto Club's assistant traffic research specialist told city, county, school and State police officials that:

- 1) STANDARD school signs should be erected between 300-500 feet on each side of the school.
- 2) Children should be encouraged to school whenever possible to avoid auto congestion.
- 3) "Slow down" signs should be painted on each side of the traffic light in front of Lathrup school.
- 4) Parents should be encouraged to pick up their children at a designated parking lot on the east side of the school. This would eliminate running between parked cars onto Southfield by children.
- 5) Prohibit parking at the north end of the service drive in front of the school.
- 6) ENTRANCES and exits should be properly marked.
- 7) Parents should sit at a farther away from the main road.
- 8) The North service exit should be widened and the service drive away from the traffic light area entirely.
- 9) Adult guards should be properly identified.
- 10) Law enforcement should be stepped up in the school zone.
- 11) Develop parking lot and possible consideration of another service drive at the south end of the school, isolated from school bus traffic which uses the service drive.

TO Sponsor Polio Clinic LATHRUP—St. Edie's church will sponsor a polio clinic for adults for ages 15 through 50 in this area. Date for the clinic awaits the release of more Salk vaccine but it is expected to be in the near future.

Third Charter Commission Holds Meeting

SOUTHFIELD — Newly-elected charter commission met in a hasty session last Thursday night to make sure they met State law requirements which call for the commission's first meeting within 10 days after election.

Last Thursday was the tenth day but the new commissioners were not aware of the legal requirements until it was brought to their attention by Southfield attorney, Thomas G. Kavanaugh, 32565 Faircrest.

ONLY business enacted was election of Marvin E. Cline as temporary chairman and Robert Reed as temporary secretary. All nine commissioners were present.

For the first time in three charter commission elections the county has announced it will not continue to winning candidates until those candidates file a list of personal expenses incurred in the campaign.

Next charter commission meeting will probably be next week after all successful candidates have received certification of their election, said Cline.

Report of Justice

LATHRUP—Justice of the Peace James K. O'Leary, clerk who handled 31 justice of the peace cases in March and collected \$445 in fines and costs.

My Neighbors

"We're invited over to Mr. and Mrs. Eardenters. Better take a sandwich and a good book."

Speedway, City Speak Different Sign Language

LATHRUP — Speedway Petroleum Corp. officials will be told that they cannot erect two signs at the site of their Lathrup station, 12 Mile and Southfield roads, city officials decided Monday.

And if Speedway carries out the plan to erect the signs anyway, council said it would counter with an injunction.

City officials said that original drawings, approved by council, differ from those Speedway plans to use to construct two signs, rather than the one approved previously.

LATEST plans call for a sign which violates city zoning and lighting laws because of its size, because it would project over the sidewalk and because a light on the sign shines upward.

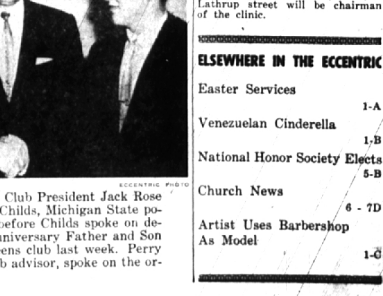
Patrolman Charles N. Cogger advised City Administrator Leonard A. Watchkowsky that present city objects of art also violate existing lighting laws and should be brought to Speedway's attention.

Players to Stage Drama, 'Kind Lady'

FRANKLIN — A suspense drama by Edward Chodorov titled "Kind Lady" is the choice of the Franklin Village Players to be presented at the Franklin Community hall May 2, 3 and 4.



BOYS UPPER TEENS Club President Jack Rose (right) meets Joseph A. Childs, Michigan State police commissioner (left) before Childs spoke on delinquency at the First Anniversary Father and Son Banquet at the Upper Teens club last week. Perry Huellmantel, (center) club advisor, spoke on the organization's future.



Artist Uses Barbershop As Model ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC Easter Services Venezuelan Cinderella 1-A National Honor Society Elects 1-B Church News 6-7D Artist Uses Barbershop As Model 1-C