'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 TWPS.

Sidelights

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

MRS. HERB STARKEY, 18240 Coral Gables, has been urged by friends to enter the Mrs. America contest. State competition will be held April 3 and 4 at the Veteran's Building.

If she wins, and she has a fine chance, Mr. and Mrs. Starkey will participate in the national finals at Fort Lauderdale from May 7 to 15.

The contest is based on home-making, cooking and charm, and Lathrup's entrant has all these qualifications.

THOMAS B. BROWN, 49 of Livonia, enjoys his freedom, and unfortunately this was his downfall.

Brown, arrested just after the first of the year by Farmington on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident, was sentenced to 25 days in jail.

Friday Brown was released and decided to celebrate.

By Saturday morning he was back in jail after Southfield police arrested him for driving under the influence of liquor.

Arraigned before Justice Edward A. Elsarelli, Brown was sentenced to 15 days in jail, $75 fine and $25 costs and another 15 days in jail if he does not pay the $100.

"THEY HANDLED it very nicely," was the comment from Southfield Police Chief Phillip LaVigne of an invasion by eight young eastside Detroit toughs who barged into the Boys Upper Teens Club of Southfield clubhouse on Northwestern without invitation Monday night.

Looking for trouble the eight, four of them juveniles and the other four 17 and 18 years old, pushed around some of the members in an attempt to start a fight.

But instead of starting a brawl that would have wrecked the place, Teens members phoned police who took the troublesome bunch in tow to the Oakland county jail.

The four older boys are held in jail on $500 bond each, while the younger quartet was released to Detroit juvenile authorities.

DEN ONE of Franklin Cub Scouts (above) pack clothing, which they have gathered for Hungarian relief, at the collection point, McClellan-Ball Co., 850 N. Woodward, B'ham. Cubs are: David Hill, Tim MacKenney, Steve Fraser, Bob Hampson, David Shepherd, Craig Carpenter, Lewis Sell, Jr., and Gordon Smith. Den leader is Mrs. Louis Sell, Sr. So far, about four tons of clothing have been gathered for the relief program. Future clothing collections will be taken at the Community Church Congregational, Lathrup. (See story 1-A).

Audience Supports Lathrup Council Majority in Sewer Relief Program

Mess of Baked Bees For Lathrup Family

By DOROTHY ZATELL

LATHRUP—Just outside their kitchen door the R. W. Monto family of Lathrup Blvd. found a hidden golden treasure last Saturday morning.

It all began when they decided to have a huge elm tree cut down before it fell on their house.

The tree, according to the foresters who cut it down, was about 100 years old, and so badly rotted that it was impossible to climb up into it and cut off the top.

It took a lot of figuring and some very skilled work to drop it in the small space available, but it fell properly, and there in the trunk was the treasure! It must have taken them years, but the bees of the neighborhood had built a four-foot honey comb in it.

MRS. MONTO filled a huge turkey roaster with comb and stuck it in the oven to heat. Then four tablespoons at a time she cooked it in a double boiler and strained it twice.

The process in itself was interesting and a challenge, but little by little drops of honey spilled on the floor and the entire family began to stick as they watched.

The warmth of the kitchen began to wake up the sleepy bees and they did a little resentful buzzing on their own. One curious neighborhood boy felt their wrath with a sting.

WHEN THE processing was finished, Mrs. Monto had five quarts of beautiful tasty wild honey and the Monto family have been enjoying batch upon batch of hot biscuits loaded with honey.

The foresters who cut down the tree took two large pans of the comb along with them. Also sharing in the find were the Ted Garrishs, Dr. and Mrs. Ted Howell and Dr. and Mrs. John Herwack.

Would-Be Lathrup Resident Stranded On Sewerless Lots

LATHRUP — J. R. Wise of 2982 Catalpa, Berkley, is as anxious as anyone in Lathrup to see the city's pollution problems solved. Perhaps more so.

Wise owns two lots on the east side of Lathrup blvd., south of 11 Mile road but he cannot build because there is no sewer there. And that sewer is supposed to be constructed by the subdivider, the Charles D. Kelleys.

But Kelley, asked when he will put in the sewer, says it is up to the board of health, and Kelley indicated health officials would not be willing to approve new construction until the city's pollution problems are settled.

Wise, who paid $500 as his share of the 11 Mile-drain assessment cannot understand why he should have to wait to build. Neither can some councilmen who would be willing to let Wise build a septic tank and tile field—if local ordinance did not forbid such action.

Lawrence Elected Berkshire President

BLOOMFIELD—F. O. Lawrence of Parkhurst lane was elected president of the Bloomfield-Berkshire Improvement association at a meeting last week at Wing Lake school.

Other officers are: Mr. Roderick J. Brandon of Parkstone lane, vice president; Robert Reason of Old Mill road, treasurer; and Mrs. Henry J. Croteau of E. Greenwich drive, secretary.

New board members named were: Harold P. Meloch of Lincoln road, district one; Mrs. Croteau, district two; and Roland Starr of Old Mill road, district three.

Lawrence, reporting on roads, said before roads can be blacktopped they must first be repaired with four inches of slag. Roads being considered for blacktopping are Old Mill road, Parkhurst lane, Parkstone land and East and West Greenwich.

Franklin Police Chief Asks 'Why?'

By NATALIE YINGLING

FRANKLIN — "What do they think their teen age sons are doing when they are out at night aimlessly wandering the streets of Franklin just looking for mischief?" is the question Jack Roberts, police chief, would like to ask some parents.

Last Wednesday every man attending the Men's Association smorgasbord, bought tickets to the dance on Feb. 15, sponsored by the police department to raise money to buy sport equipment for a youth recreation program.

AFTER DINNER it was discouraging to come out and find that local boys had broken off the rear view mirror and antennae from 25 cars parked around the community hall. A similar incident occurred last fall during a Village Players rehearsal.

This last outrage happened on a school night.

"WHY WEREN'T the boys at home doing homework, or with their families? Where did the parents think their boys were?", continued Chief Roberts. "These are questions some mothers and fathers should ask themselves for the good of their sons and their community."

"Youthful destruction of property has been prevalent in other areas (and much publicized), but Franklin is a fine residential community with good homes and nice people.

"There is no excuse for boys brought up in this environment to commit such acts of vandalism, in this particular case against friends and neighbors."

Police chief Roberts asks, "Why? What is the answer?"

Invite Bloomfield Candidates to Air Views Publicly Tues.

BLOOMFIELD—Candidates for township office in the Feb. 18 primary have been invited to speak at a public meeting Feb. 12 at the Bloomfield Hills high school at 8 p.m.

The meeting is sponsored by The Bloomfield Township Citizens Committee, a non-partisan organization. Duties of officials and problems facing the township are on the agenda. Public is invited to the event which will be held in the cafeteria.

Want Review On Flood Relief Issue

LATHRUP — Between 30 and 40 residents gave silent testimony Monday that they were willing to go along with council majority opinion as to the best way to approach a city sewer relief program.

The residents had turned out in response to a letter circulated last week by Mayor John G. Campbell asking them to support the Mayor in his bid to place a $543,000 general obligation bond issue for sewers on the April 1 ballot.

Campbell, reviewing council efforts to build storm and sanitary sewers in Lathrup, told those present the average age of over 30 years would be about $24 per year per family, and would mean an additional $60,000-$70,000 for cleanout of the Evans ditch from 12 to 10½ Mile roads, the latter to be paid for by special assessments.

THE SAME resolution was presented last week by Campbell with the same results—it was not seconded.

Then Campbell turned to the audience to ask support for his motion from the floor, but they remained silent.

"The reason that I am insistent and persistent in bringing this up tonight is because this is the last regular meeting at which this proposal can be put on the April 1 ballot so the people can decide whether we want it," Campbell said.

Campbell wants the bond issue to pay for a $103,000 sanitary sewer which would collect sewage now being emptied into the Evans ditch from several lines and carry this sewage to a central point where it can be treated or run into the Evergreen interceptor line to Detroit.

AND THE MAYOR wants $438,000 to pay for 10 storm water relief lines that would empty into the Evans ditch water which has flooded basements and left streets under water.

But other councilmen are not sure that this is the best method of ridding the city of its storm water.

Councilmen last week voted 4-0 to meet with engineers and State health officials to study several plans for storm water relief and when they meet today (Thursday) hope to come up with a plan which will take the best and least expensive portions of these several plans and put them into operation.

COUNCILMAN Richard N. Cogger stated that a $543,000 general obligation bond debt would put the city close to its present general obligation bond maximum of $700,000.

This and a little over $300,000 maximum which could be raised through water use charges would bring the city's total bonding limit up to about $1 million, said Cogger.

But if half of this is used up on sewer relief, how will Lathrup—if it is forced by the State to build a $600,000 sewage treatment plant to end Rouge pollution—pay for that plant or other needed improvements in the city in the next 30 years.

"IT ISN'T anywhere near as simple as the Mayor has presented it to you," Cogger told the audience. "We could make a very bad mistake if we went into this (relief project) without properly organizing our program."

"We're trying to look at this on a realistic, businesslike basis," said Councilman Lantz L. Mackey. "We shouldn't jump into this thing hastily. We've only had this (plan for relief sewers) three weeks."

Councilmen agree that it is one solution, and may well be the solution they will decide upon today after consulting with engineers, but they want to look at other proposals, including one which would use open ditches to carry storm water to the Evans ditch.

COUNCIL points out that under Campbell's proposal, some storm sewers would have to be treated, whereas if the storm and sanitary lines are separated it would mean storm water could flow to the Evans ditch without treatment and it would also mean that Lathrup would not have to pay for treatment of storm water sent to Detroit in the sanitary lines.

City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski said it appeared that the Evergreen interceptor sewer to Detroit by six area communities, including Lathrup, would become a reality.

Southfield has advanced $5,000 for engineering on the line from 14 Mile to Eight Mile road and have put a millage proposal on the April 1 ballot which, if passed will be used to pay Southfield's share of the sewer.

LEGISLATION to allow the (See RELIEF, Page 2-E)

Anti-City Group Names Candidates

SOUTHFIELD—Two men who worked together for defeat of the first City of Southfield charter now find themselves on opposite sides of the fence in this the third and last campaign.

Marvin R. Marsh of 16964 Beechwood, East Beverly, and Henry M. De Meyer of 24107 Glenelyre, Oakland Village, combined forces against what they considered a poorly-drafted first charter.

Marsh, in addition, was against any form of incorporation, and formed the Citizens for Southfield Township group to fight incorporation.

De Meyer and Marsh were elected to the second charter commission, which was defeated at the polls last December. It must be explained that Marsh, though a charter commissioner was opposed to incorporation. According to Marsh he became a commissioner only to safe-guard northern interests should the charter be adopted.

NOW MARSH has re-vitalized his Citizens for Southfield Township organization, and has joined forces with the Westwood Village committee which wants to incorporate the Beverlys and Berkshire Hills into a homerule village if they can halt the Southfield incorporation attempt.

And De Meyer is one of the leaders of the southern Southfield attempt to organize that area into a strong pro-city voting block. They have presented a nine-man slate which would, if elected, speed the charter-writing process and have a vote before June 6.

WESTWOOD GROUP, headed by Ted Shurtleff, and Marsh met last week to select a late of candidates for the charter commission election April 1.

Their aim in opposing the southern slate, chosen two weeks ago, is to put enough members on the commission so they can stall off a third vote long enough to let incorporation slip by the two-year deadline June 6.

If no vote on a charter is taken by that date Southfield reverts to complete township status and two petitions, one for incorporation of northern area and another for the south, will be acted upon by the Oakland county board of supervisors.

CANDIDATES selected last week by the anti-incorporationists are: Chester Guilmet, Ted Shurtleff, Robert B. Reed, Dr. D. J. Wood, Marvin Cline, Jan McClain, Ted Sara, Arthur C. Prine Jr., and Donald Drittich.

At the same time the northern leaders decided to have a fund-raising committee to finance their battle expenses.

"I can see it isn't going to be any routine election this time," said Shurtleff. "I think it will be the most interesting charter election that has been held anywhere."

Lathrup Council Rejects Traffic Control Review

LATHRUP—By a 2-2 vote, which in effect is a "no" vote, council turned down a proposal to review traffic control signs on the city's streets.

"Let's make up our mind and stick with it," said Councilman Lantz L. Mackey, who with Councilman Frederick C. Johnson voted against asking the road committee to review their own recommendations which council turned into law last Nov. 5.

"Let the people put their objections in writing," said Johnson, who did not believe council should change its mind on the basis of phone calls to the police department or individual councilmen.

COMPLAINTS have been received about the four-way stops at Wiltshire and Bloomfield, at Glenwood and Santa Barbara and at Bloomfield and Bungalow.

Police department recommended that these stop signs be removed or replaced by "yield right of way" signs because of the "burden" on Lathrup residents to stop at these intersections, where, they say, traffic is not heavy enough to warrant use of stop signs.

Mackey and Johnson wanted to give the signs enough time to prove or disprove their usefulness. Councilman Richard N. Cogger and Mayor John G. Campbell, while not necessarily favoring a change, want a review of traffic control to see if the present program is working satisfactorily.

Plan 32-Lane Bowling Alley In Southfield

SOUTHFIELD — Ground-breaking ceremonies for a 32-lane Star Lanes bowling alley on the south side of Northwestern highway about half a mile west of Telegraph, took place Monday morning.

Owners Harry Thomas, Hank Nosakowski, and Lester Satovsky, Detroit-area men, say the building will be ready for the 1957-58 season. Construction has already started.

Attending the ceremonies were bowling stars Eddie Lubanski, Lee Jougard, Dee Wroblewski, Anita Cantaline and Marge Merrick.

SOUTHFIELD township was represented by Supervisor Eugene Swem and Building Inspector B. Frank Gidley. Thomas Meade, AMF automatic pinsetter company district manager was also present.

The $¾ million enterprise will feature the "under alley" ball return, meeting rooms and restaurant. According to Thomas there will be parking available for about 500 cars on the nine-acre site.

Another Star Lane feature will be the Starlite Room where teenagers will be able to hear their favorite bands and entertainers, as well as hold meetings and banquets.

Car-Train Crash Kills S'field Woman

SOUTHFIELD—A township woman was killed Saturday when the car in which she was riding crashed into a freight train south of Highland.

Mrs. Vida Irene Wohlart, 42, of 25855 Samoset Trail, the victim, was pronounced dead on arrival at Pontiac General hospital.

Her husband Albert, 43, driver of the car, and daughter, Joan, 10, were returning from a fishing trip at Pettibone Lake when the accident occurred.

Mrs. Wohlart was thrown from the car but Wohlart and his daughter were not hurt. Wohlart told police he did not see the train as he approached the C & O tracks at Lakeview road, one mile south of Highland.

Same News— New Names

Starting this week, column readers from Gilbert Lake, Wing Lake, Foxcroft and the easterly part of Orchard Hills will find their news under the heading "Maple West".

Residents of Meadow Lake, formerly part of the Orchard Hills area, will be under the new heading "Bloomfield West" which includes the news formerly covered by the Walnut Lake Area column.

Dedicate Walnut Lake School Addition Monday

WALNUT LAKE—Formal dedication of a $250,000 six-room addition to the Walnut Lake elementary school will take place Monday in the school's multi-purpose room.

Construction began near the close of the 1955-56 school year, and was completed for children from kindergarten through grade three on Jan. 28.

Besides class rooms a new hollow room for the entire school, a remodeled and enlarged kitchen for a hot lunch program, completion of the library and renovation of the teachers' and health rooms, are included in the addition.

DR. DWIGHT R. Ireland, superintendent of Birmingham schools, will introduce guests, including members of the board of education, school administration, architects and contractors. School principal is Albert Schumm.

Robert Macoskey, assistant pastor of First Baptist church of Birmingham, will give the invocation. Two numbers by the Walnut Lake orchestra with Maurice Felton conducting will be presented, along with a history of the Walnut Lake school by fifth grade student, David Breedlove.

Ernest W. Seaholm, board of education president, will cut the ribbon which will officially open the school addition and close the program.

TEACHERS in the new addition will be Harriett Merritt, Kindergarten; Eva Johnson, first grade; Rosene Markley, first grade; Joan Beemer, second grade; Bernice Deighton, second grade; and Marianne McDonald, third grade.

Local girl scouts will baby sit for parents who would otherwise be unable to attend with children in the three to six year age bracket. An adult will supervise babysitters. Walnut Lake school enrollment this year is 384.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

Birmingham Town Hall Announces Next Year's Program — Page 1-A

Annual Jaunt to Mexico Is 16th for Lathrup Couple — 1-B

Photo Page — Page 1-D

200 Women Participate in St. Bede Society — 6-D

School News — Section A

Bloomf'ld Village News — 4-B

North Adams News — 7-C

CIVIC AND GOVERNMENTAL leaders in Bloomfield township gathered last week at the township hall to organize an advisory committee to gather facts on important township problems for township board consideration. Here Phillip D. French (standing) of 4665 Dover, discusses problems with other residents who form the core of the advisory staff. In the foreground are Township Treasurer Homer W. Case and Supervisor Arno L. Hulet who requested formation of the advisory committee.

Bloomfield Advisory Chairmen Appointed

BLOOMFIELD — Eight "trouble-shooting" subcommittee chairmen were selected last week as Supervisor Arno L. Hulet put into action his plan to form an advisory committee to help township officials study knotty problems which have beset the area with the influx of population.

Hulet and Township Treasurer Homer W. Case moderated the meeting which was attended by about 25 interested citizens.

This advisory group of civic leaders would wrassle with such problems as sewers, roads and fire protection. They would gather facts, weigh them and after studying all possible courses of action, make recommendations to the township board.

KEY TO THE entire structure seems to be method of paying for these services and improvements. Heading this committee on finance is Phillip D. French, 4665 Dover court.

It will be to French's committee that other committee chairmen turn when they want to know how much their plans will cost before making a final selection. Or having settled on a plan, they will turn to the finance committee for a method of paying for the project.

OTHER COMMITTEE heads and their areas of study are: Vern Fitch, 2950 Middlebury lane, incorporation; Samuel Reeves, 6495 Telegraph, Sewers; Clarence Behm, 7150 Parkhurst, roads; G. L. Seibert, 5920 Indianwood trail, fire; Frank Rockwell, 5859 E. Millerway, civil defense; Hillman Fortney, 1749 Hamilton, police; and Merle Voss, 2250 East Hammond Lake drive, water.

Committee chiefs are looking for committee members who have experience or knowledge in these various fields. Anyone interested in serving on one of these committees should contact the committee chairman or Hulet.

IT'S YOUR township and it's my township and I hope we're all working together," said Hulet. It was the consensus of the group that Hulet was "on the right track" with his advisory committee proposal.

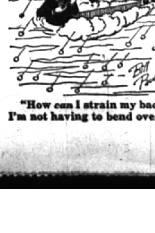
About incorporation Hulet said, "I'm not asking for a committee to agree with incorporation. When someone starts talking incorporation we can talk intelligently (with information supplied by the incorporation committee.) We get a lot of pressure here to incorporate the township."

EXPLAINING the half-mill tax for fire service, Hulet said, "We don't have the fire protection in Bloomfield township that we should have. Fire rates are class 10 unless (buildings) are within two miles of the township hall."

"Everything you need is going to cost money," said G. L. Seibert. "We don't have enough property zoned business (to help carry the tax load)."

In reply to requests that a zoning committee be set up, Hulet said a zoning board was already working and that it would cooperate with the advisory group.

Advisory group will meet within a month to report organizational progress.



"How can I strain my back? I'm not having to bend over!"