

'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.

Southfield Tables Action on 12-Towns Drain after Public Hearing Tuesday

Police Chief Resigns

LATHRUP—Police Chief Kenneth M. Farnham, who has headed this city's volunteer police force since the area incorporated in Dec. 1953, resigned unexpectedly Monday night.

In a letter to the city council dated July 15, Farnham said, "The demands of the position upon my time—as I am subject to call 24 hours per day, have grown beyond what I can afford to give and adequately take care of my own personal business.

"I BELIEVE this honorary position should be passed around to other persons in our city. When voluntary municipal jobs are accepted by the public interest they are taken only temporarily; and there are many citizens in Lathrup who would happily carry this responsibility for a while."

Immediate relief, however, delayed acceptance of Farnham's request for relief from duty with a counter proposal that he hold the post until Aug. 1, until a successor could be found.

FARNHAM, the 31-man force (including one full time, paid policeman and 10 volunteers) through a paid volunteer police system, followed by resignations of a justice of the peace, the fulltime police officer, the city clerk and ultimately one member of council.

Farnham proposed no successor but possibly his successor is Lieut. Arley Van Meer, now second-in-command of the volunteers, who acted as police chief during Farnham's recent vacation.

A food broker, Farnham, 63, served on the city's charter commission.

Cuts Grass Once With Mower Before Thieves Steal It

SOUTHFIELD—A new power mower, taken from the property of Willard Lutman, 18611 Jeanette, was recovered Saturday, stripped of the mower's motor.

Durbin said thieves sprang the lock on Lutman's garage Friday and took the mower three days before, to 10½ Mile and Evergreen, where police recovered the remains the following day.

Lutman said he cut his grass only once with the mower before it was taken.

Swarming Bees Make Neighborhood Uneasy

By ANNE YOUNG

A colony of bees swarmed on a small maple tree branch on the lawn of the Harold Humbert home on Leemor drive, while they were out of town last weekend.

Next door neighbor, Alexander Nead, noticed that the weight of the swarm broke the branch and fearful of the unpleasant results if several thousand bees hit the ground, called his brother-in-law, Marion Pajas of Long Crest drive, Southfield township, for any suggestions.

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Wing Lake Kids' Pets on Parade

By VIRGINIA COLE

WING LAKE—Friday marked the event of the annual pet show at Wing Lake school playground. Most of the 110 children enrolled in this summer's program, showed up with a pet of some description.

Included in the menagerie were birds, dogs, kittens, hamsters, goldfish, monkeys, turtles and even two centipedes carefully displayed in a glass jar.

Judges for the event were Mrs. John Graham, Mrs. Edgar Thorne, Mrs. Walter Wegner, Mrs. Ray Darlings and Mrs. Russell Stanford.

Of those showing dogs, first prize went to Ricky Kerhaw of the best trained dog, best groomed to Cynthia McGuire, largest, Chris James and smallest, Bill James with the best dressed dog belonging to Richard and Penny Holmes.

HONORABLE mention went to Tommy Stanford and to David Beebe who, for lack of a real dog, dressed as one and had a pal to lead him.

As for cats, the prettiest was that of Karen Kelcourse, largest to Cynthia McGuire, smallest, Chris James and smallest, Bill James with the best dressed dog belonging to Richard and Penny Holmes.

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'I Didn't Quit,' Says Franklin Road Chief

FRANKLIN—Rumors that Councilman J. Robert Mitchell, the Village's road commissioner, had resigned without notice were denied this week by Mitchell.

The Road Chief said, however that he would like council to find a replacement for him as road commissioner within 90 days.

"I did not quit," said Mitchell. "I could walk away tomorrow and forget it, but I wouldn't do it. I feel, however, that I've done more than my share."

MITCHELL, who has stood squarely against a demand that residents be allowed to spread the roads because he believes that it would be detrimental to the village's roads, has held his post for two and one-half years.

Franklin officials are not going to permit indiscriminate oiling, said Mitchell. The council, however, indicated that it would consider oiling but citizens would have to obtain a permit before such action would be allowed.

Wellington road, however, will serve as a test strip and cost of maintenance will be subject to a citizens' road committee's review.

LATHRUP—Council authorized expenditures of up to \$500 to clear a blocked sewer in the Glenwood-Rosewood-Lathrup Blvd. area where five homeowners on the upper end of the line have had flooded basement problems.

for his combination of a toad and parakeet in the cage together and called, "Beauty and the Beast."

PRIZE for the largest pet went to Mark Miller for his nine-month-old rooster, "Susie" and the smallest was to Craig Starnaman and Vivian Dixon for their centipedes.

The most unusual pets were the two squirrel monkeys belonging to Paul Kelcourse.

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Shish-Kebabs—U. S. Style

PUTTI THOMA, left, 20-year-old German girl who left Franklin Wednesday after spending a year in this area, and her father, Heinz Thoma, tackle a couple of charcoal-broiled shish-kebabs at the

Charles Peterson home on Irving road where Putti had been living during her sojourn in the United States. Center is the Petersons' daughter, Anne.

Powderpuff Ambassadors

By NITA HARD

FRANKLIN—Unbeknownst to very many Franklin people, two charming young German girls have been living in the village for a whole year, getting their impression of America in general from the life, they observed and experienced here.

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relaxing their previous position were poorly conceived and ill-advised; this is understandable.

GOOD, TIERED men, who spend their days in business occupations and then attempt to serve their neighbors in the village, they also become tired of the complainers who call their homes at all hours of the night and day to criticize.

In this one respect all instincts of common decency and common sense have been violated.

It is well at this time to consider whether or not the current controversy is worth the time and energy devoted to it.

NOTHING can so damage a community as continual hesitation, and a willing consent over such a trivial substance as salt and/or oil.

Nothing can give greater strength to a community than singleminded devotion to values which are worthy of respect.

May I suggest that a worthy project to share in common would be a community center and recreational area designed to serve the youth of the area and their parents. I believe we could agree on such a project.

WHEN a community is a going concern it derives clear strength from the willingness of all its members to work for the success of their respective undertakings.

We have a remarkable opportunity to become a unique and outstanding village. We have also run closely controlled taxes and self-imposed taxes. It can be a fine experiment in co-operative government.

These last three words are most important.

Meet to Form Junior Players Group

MORE THAN 25 Franklin area teen-agers gathered Sunday evening at Franklin community hall to form plans for a junior players group in the village. Sponsored by the Franklin Village Players, the young the-

plans will present a western comedy, "They Went Thataway," this fall. It has been tentatively set for Sept. 8.

Franklin Teen-agers Respond To Idea for Junior Players

FRANKLIN—Lookin' for somethin', mmm? Franklin teen-agers, with summer time on their hands, responded to an offer of grease paint and footlights Sunday and have found a project which will keep them occupied for the next six weeks.

IT IS also planned that there will be two separate casts and two performances on the same day. Cast members of the matinee show will turn crew for the night performance while daytime crews will tread the boards in the evening.

So far, the group consists of 25 youngsters ranging in age from 13 to 17. However, late-comers still have a chance to join and should attend Sunday's meeting or call Mrs. Don Odle.

THE DIRECTOR, who will be an adult player, has not been announced nor has the assistant been named, although the post will be held by a junior member.

Sponsored by the Franklin Village Players, the teen-agers have organized a junior players group and will present "They Went Thataway," a western comedy, tentatively set for Sept. 8.

PRELIMINARY plans have been framed with the help of an adult committee to get production un-

when the village youngsters held their second official meeting starting at 7 p.m. at the community hall.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

Protest 14-Year-Old Motorbike Riders 1-A Suburban Scene 1-B Area Streets, Lakes Carry Names of Early Pioneers 1-D Workshops Stress Creative Art 1-B Business Briefs 5-D