

'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.

Fear Rain Poses Typhoid Threat

Pond Contaminated; Ask County Action

BY LES LINE

WALNUT LAKE—A move to band several area subdivisions together to force action on a problem which poses a serious health threat to residents of the Walnut Lake-Meadow Lake area has apparently prompted the county, after more than a year, to finally seek a solution, The Eccentric learned Monday.

Cause of the health threat is a year-old drainage ditch—prone to contain raw sewage as well as a high bacteria count. Dr. R. H. Jokec, Walnut Lake dentist and a member of the board of directors of the Braes No. 3 association, warned late last week that the conditions existing in the ditch could result in an outbreak of typhoid or other serious illness.

He charged that although Oakland county drain and health officials were first notified of the situation more than a year ago, they have taken no action to alleviate the condition.

AS A RESULT, representatives of six subdivisions in the area joined last week in an effort to force a showdown. Dr. Jokec stated that if necessary, the matter would be taken to the state health department and to the state legislator from the area.

Dr. John D. Monroe, Oakland county health director, told The Eccentric Monday from his Pontiac office that his department will be asked to work on a solution which may include some consultation with the state health department.

A letter from Albert Schumm, Walnut Lake school principal, to pupils' parents warns them of the condition at the northeast corner of Inkster and Walnut Lake roads—less than two blocks from the school.

The problem centers around the old Graves open ditch drain, dug in 1905. According to a written report to the Oakland county drain commission, Ralph A. Main, on June 1, 1956, from Vern Griffith, drain commission maintenance superintendent, the 42-year-old drain has "now grown up with trees, roots and vegetation to a point where it cannot serve this highly populated area until it is cleaned out."

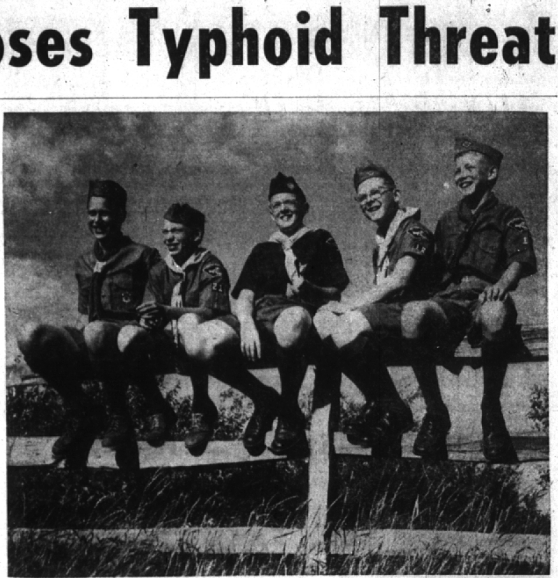
GRIFFITH'S REPORT also stated that "people living west of Inkster road are dumping raw sewage in the highway drains that collect in a low area east of Inkster road and sets up a terrible odor that is carried by prevailing west wind to the subdivision where the people who complained live."

The report was made following the original Braes complaint, sent to the Oakland county drain commission on May 10, 1956. Dr. Monroe told The Eccentric there are two solutions—septic tanks and sewers—the latter more remote than the first.

He also stated the condition exists elsewhere in Oakland county. Under the law, Dr. Monroe said, this department cannot do anything about the drains. He said the county's new septic tank law passed last summer—applies only to new permits. He said his department's legal council is now considering the question of whether the law can be made retroactive.

A stagnant pond with its appurtenant sewage content causes greatest concern. Children have been reported playing near and even in the water. Dogs and other pets and animals frequent the contaminated area.

TYPHOID, dysentery or other (See POND, Page 2-C).



To Head for Valley Forge

High, wide and handsome are the prospects for these five Franklin Boy Scouts who leave next Tuesday for two weeks at the international Scouting Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa. First to ever represent Troop B-11 at the annual affair will be (left to right) Steve DeOrlow, Jay Madge, Hoyt Hill, Jon Zieh and Davis Dillow. The boys have been issued new Troop numbers for the event. Jay is with Troop 21 while the others will be in Troop 15 with Harold Dillow as assistant scoutmaster. Boys from many corners of the world will attend the 14-day outing, competing in camping skills and exchanging fellowship.



Crash Scatters Water Bottles

About two dozen five-gallon bottles of distilled water were smashed and the glass scattered over the 10 1/2 mile road-rail intersection in Southfield township Friday morning when a car struck a water delivery truck (top) broadside after the truck had apparently stalled in the middle of the intersection. The front of the car (bottom) was demolished and the driver, Mrs. Flora M. Elick, 23, of Dearborn, was taken to Mt. Carmel Mercy hospital in Detroit with a fractured right leg and severe facial lacerations.

Franklin Revamps Budget, Fire Department Gets Funds

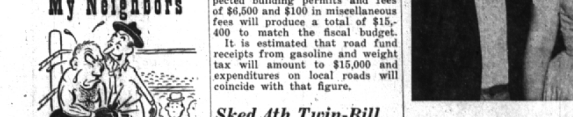
By NITA HARD

FRANKLIN—A brief special meeting held Thursday night by the Franklin village council resulted in the restoration of a \$250 contribution for the fire department in the proposed budget and the obliteration of an undeveloped youth fund.

Boys' Upper Teens Club of Southfield Building Fund Progress

\$90,000
85,000
80,000
75,000
70,000
65,000
60,000
55,000
50,000
45,000
40,000
35,000
30,000
25,000
20,000
15,000
10,000
5,000
\$1,000

My Neighbors



Income tax — state and county taxes — sales taxes: Atta boy, Tiger—now Go Get Him!

Stage Operation West Bloomfield

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Four hundred "evacuees" will overrun the 400 evacuees' members of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's club to the demonstration area by bus.

West Bloomfield Commercial Dispute In Court's Hands

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Trial was scheduled to begin Tuesday in the suit by Craig Building Co. of Detroit requesting West Bloomfield township to show cause why the builders should not be allowed to construct a commercial development at the southeast corner of Maple and Orchard Lake roads.

Plan Fireworks In Lathrup on 4th

LATHRUP — Lathrup Police Youth association has announced it will hold its annual fireworks display Thursday at 8:30 p.m. at Southfield and Rainbow roads.

Lathrup Village May Get Direct Mail

LATHRUP—Direct mail delivery for Lathrup has been tentatively scheduled for July 13, according to David B. Redwood, Lathrup postmaster.

Engage Architects for New Southfield Elementary School

SOUTHFIELD—O'Dell, Hewlett & Luckenbach, Birmingham architects, were engaged by Southfield board of education at a special meeting last Wednesday to draw up plans for a new elementary school on a 20-acre site at Evergreen and Eleven Mile Roads.

Franklin to Get New \$18,000 Fire Truck

FRANKLIN—A new \$18,000 combination pumper-tanker fire truck will be placed in use by the Franklin volunteer fire department in October and will incorporate several engineering features never before used in fire equipment.

July Bible School Stated in Franklin

The 1957 Daily Vacation Bible school sponsored by Franklin Community church will be held from July 8 to 19. Sessions will start at 9:30 a.m., and close two hours later, Mondays through Fridays.

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