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Ever notice, these days, on any walk past the homes of people who seem to hear anybody playing, or practicing, on the piano? Indeed, most homes no longer display pianos... radio and television sets, and maybe his, having taken over. By the way, is piano tuning becoming a thing of the past?

80TH YEAR—NO. 16

Parents Protest Pool Prices

Families Say Fee Scuttles Budgets

The "ole swimming hole" has changed. This summer Birmingham youngsters can swim in two shiny, Olympic-size pools with outdoor terraces.

But the pools may as well not be there, say many outraged parents protesting the fee of 35 cents per child for 40 to 50 minutes of daily swimming at the new Derby Junior high school and Birmingham high school pools.

The letter at right is typical of comments voiced by parents since announcement of the more than doubled price raise, termed a real blow to recreation budgets of large families. Swimming in previous years has cost 15 cents per child for 30 minutes at the Derby Junior high school, a smaller pool, now closed down for the summer.

MANY MOTHERS are circulating petition for presentation to Birmingham city commissioners next Monday night, according to Mrs. Gilbert Goode, Jr., of 955 S. Bates, Birmingham.

Queried on the Birmingham recreation board's decision to charge 35 cents a swim in the summer program it sponsors, board member Roland Reese and Recreation Director Robert E. Girardin both laid the cross of the problem to swim lessons.

HE SAID "SWIMMING" time without instruction "might be" arranged at the pools mornings.

At each of five sessions at the two pools from 12:30 to 1:00 daily, Girardin said half of each period is devoted to lessons from a qualified instructor.

Salaries of instructor, plus two locker room attendants and a life guard, Girardin said, total \$100 weekly at each pool. In addition, the recreation board pays the school board \$20 hourly for use of the pools, covering cost of such services as janitor, filtering and heating water.

The 35 cent fee for children and 75 cent fee for adults on family and adult nights, Girardin said, would cover about half the total cost of operating the pools.

"It was either let the city pay for the rest of the expense or let the participants pay for it," Girardin said. "We are certainly trying to pull a box on people. If we find that this charge is greater than necessary, we will certainly cut it back."

Retaliated Mrs. Goode, the mother of five, in answer to the city's decision to let participants pay. "This program should be for the children whose parents can't afford to provide swimming at home."

A Birmingham area real estate broker will be arraigned Monday in Oakland county circuit court on charges of larceny by conversion.

Thomas J. Elston, 43, of 1547 W. Long Lake road, was charged on the charge last week by Judge John J. Gaffin in Birmingham circuit court. Elston is free on \$1000 bond.

Charges against Elston, who operated the military yards, Maple and Telegraph roads, were brought by J. Denton Anderson, 639 N. Glenhurst, Birmingham. Elston is accused of using a \$3,000 deposit made in a real estate transfer to buy a car to be held in escrow.

Ground Breaking Starts Academy

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new convent and academy of the Sacred Heart, Kensington road, Bloomfield Hills, will take place Tuesday, July 2, at 2:30 p.m.

The site is located just north of Division road on the east side of the railroad, bordered by Kensington on the west and Royal road on the east.

THE RELIGIOUS of the Sacred Heart, who have completed 106 years of education in Detroit, conducted a private day for the kindergarten through high school present school property, located on Lawrence and Woodrow Wilson avenues, Detroit, has recently been sold. The sale necessitated the immediate construction of the new building.

Because there was no time to issue formal invitations, Mother Wanhara extends a welcome to all friends of the convent to be present at Tuesday's ceremony.

THE SCHOOL year 1957-58 will be the last at the Lawrence avenue address, where the Religious of the Sacred Heart have been teaching since 1918.

Letters to the Editor

Here Is Typical Reaction:

To the Editor: June 19, 1957
So everything costs more money... and those who have large families find it more and more difficult to stretch a dollar so that their children are fed, clothed and have wholesome and healthful recreation.

And now it's the city's pools, operated by the City Recreation Department. The price per child to swim for 40 to 60 minutes in either Derby of Birmingham high school pools now 35¢ compared to 15¢ per child to swim in Barum pool last year.

What are we parents of four, five and six children to do about letting our children swim, too? Did the city commissioners and board of education members consider the large families when they approved an operating budget for the recreation department which was so inadequate that 35¢ per child must be charged?

I HAVE CONSIDERED my brood of five using pool facilities every day, as many will, and the price comes out \$8.75 per week or \$70 for the season! There are some swimming clubs on the outskirts of Birmingham where the entire family may swim all day and all weekend in fine pools for \$150 per family for a two and a half month period. And that includes mom and dad, too!

As a life-long resident of Birmingham I ask: What is this city coming to when we pay taxes which are supposed to be ample to run our city and then we must pay this kind of admission charge for pools which our dollars helped to build?

WHEN CITY AND school officials tax adults until it's a sacrifice, we go along with it. But believe me, parents really resent when their children must sacrifice their pleasures, too! And that's what is happening to swimming in Birmingham. The parents of children who happen to have one or two brothers or sisters. Let's face it!

Bank Director

William C. Newberg, Chrysler Corp. automotive group vice president, Tuesday was elected to the board of directors of the Detroit Bank & Trust Co., which maintains three branches here.

Newberg, 46, has directed Chrysler's automotive vehicle manufacturing and sales divisions since a year ago.

Early Copy for Our July 3rd Issue Will Help Us Immensely

Next week's issue will be out a day earlier because of the July 4th holiday.

So all The Eccentric's News and Advertising Deadlines are moved up a whole day earlier to Monday, July 1

Sheffield Ass'n Holds Election

The 175 active members of Sheffield estates civic association recently elected new officers, naming John McGill, 1257 S. Eton, Birmingham, as president.

Other officers are M. P. LaLonde, 1550 Cheltenham, vice president; Mary Boettcher, 1857 Broadview, secretary; and C. Shepherd, 1515 Penitence, treasurer.

Forgetting Costs

With the cost of living rising constantly, it is no surprise to learn that it's even going to cost more to be forgetful. Baldwin public library announces that overdue books will now cost borrowers 3 cents a day, instead of the present 2 cents.

BOOKS and REVIEWS

A New Weekly Feature Starts Today in The Eccentric It's on Page 6-B

THE DERBY POOL

gate will be as good as locked most days this summer for the five Bacon children here looking in. At 35¢ per 40 or 50-minute swim, cost would be \$1.75 daily for five of them or \$8.75 a week, \$35 a month. Like many parents, their mother says they can't afford it. From left are Douglas, 8, twins Tom and Bob, 10, Jacqueline, 12, and Sharon, 14. They live at 540 Abbey.

They split 4-8, against charging the corner to business B, which would permit the most heavy type of retail businesses, same as there is directly south across Bowers street.

Monday's commission action in all probability ended auto dealer Harold Turner's interest in the property. As a prospective purchaser he had petitioned for the business B zoning for employ parking and to store new autos as well as damaged vehicles for his collision shop across Elm street.

He was offered a parking C zoning, which the commission offered to create, which would permit longer than 24-hour car storage.

Four Accidents At Bloomfield Intersections

BLOOMFIELD TWP.—Four injuries accidents at township intersections were reported by police last weekend.

Saturday afternoon a car driven by Charles F. Vanokerec, 32343 Mayfair lane, Birmingham, collided with one driven by Donald R. Allen, 2681 W. Outer drive, Detroit, at the intersection of Overhill and Broadway in Bloomfield Village. Neither driver saw the other approaching.

Passengers in Allen's car who were treated at Beaumont hospital, Royal Oak, were Gertrude Anderson, 20704 Pearl, Farmington, a 14-year-old girl, and a 12-year-old boy, Plainville, Detroit, leg injury; Terry Elliott, 19223 Faust, Detroit, head cuts.

Another accident occurred Saturday afternoon at Telegraph and Maple. Arthur Temski, Jr., 236 S. Denwood, Dearborn, going north on Telegraph, collided with a car driven by William F. Ankum II, 27650 Forestbrook, Farmington, going south on Telegraph. Ankum and Melvin Squires halted their car, which had been speeding at 90 mph.

Four of the six youths have been charged with resisting arrest and being drunk and disorderly. These will be tried in Birmingham municipal court tomorrow. Patrick W. Robert, secretary and C. Shepherd, 1515 Penitence, treasurer.

THE DRIVER OF the car, Roger R. Boyte, 19, of Ferndale, is charged with driving under the influence of liquor. Police said he and Robert McClough, 19, of Troy, broke a water pipe in the car after being jailed.

Thompson said he and Squires were joined by two Bloomfield Hills patrolmen shortly after the six youths swarmed out of the halted car at Woodward and Lone Pine roads and accused them. The four officers were unable to subdue the youths until two state troopers came to their aid.

Don E. Ahrens is chairman of the building fund drive for the school which will open at its new location in September, 1958.

Boy Recovering

Five-year-old Joseph Monaghan was described by his nurse at Beaumont hospital as "getting along nicely." She said the boy, who suffered a skull fracture in a fall from a horse last week, would probably return to his home. He is the son of the Peter J. Monaghan, 110 Lone Pine road, Bloomfield Hills.

Boy Recovering

Another new member still must be appointed. CHAIRMAN BENNETT ROOT won election to the Birmingham board of education in the June 10 election, and William Burgum has declined reappointment to spend more time with his business.



Cannot Agree Upon Exact Business Zone

Three 60-foot lots on the northeast corner of Elm and Bowers still are zoned income bungalow today, only because Birmingham city commissioners could not decide what type of business zoning to impose there.

Neighbors and city officials readily admitted that a residential zoning was impractical and unreasonable directly across from existing business B to the south.

BUT THEY suggested that business C would be the best transition between heavy retail and residential. Business C permits only professional offices and similar uses.

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He was offered a parking C zoning, which the commission offered to create, which would permit longer than 24-hour car storage.

TURNER SAID he wasn't interested. As the vote was announced, real estate broker Fred Pew cautioned the commission not to use business C zoning as a stop-gap for these kinds of zoning problems.

"I think Birmingham is playing dangerously with business C by enlarging its uses and projecting it into these fringe situations as their solutions," Pew said.

At Conference

In Ann Arbor this week for the tenth anniversary conference on zoning at the University of Michigan was Alice W. Burlingame, (Mrs. William H.) of 3891 Oak Hills drive, Bloomfield township. Well known for her work in horticultural therapy, Mrs. Burlingame was a program participant.

STRICTLY FRESH

An old-timer is someone who can remember when "pool room" was something other than sufficient space for a water-filled hole in the backyard.

Fence in your back yard and the neighbors will know exactly where to find their children.

Atomic fall-out is what occurs when you argue the pros and cons of the subject with a friend.

Fellow across the desk from us says that men who smoke cigars have an air about them. What they require usually is a strong breeze.

A leaky faucet is a sure sign that the home handy man is out of spare washers.



Barkless Dog

IT MAY SOUND crazy, but this is a picture of Kigwa, a Basenji, from Aca Waca Umba. Kigwa is the dog's name which, translated from Egyptian, means "Little Twip." Basenji is the breed—a rare Egyptian breeding dating back to the pyramids—while Aca Waca Umba is the name of the Canton, Ohio, kennels where Kigwa came from. Also translated from Egyptian, it means "House of Little Devils." The boy is the dog's proud owner, Danny Puddington, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Puddington, 312 E. Brown. The dog, incapable of barking, was a gift to Danny on his third birthday in April from John Puddington, Mrs. Puddington's stepson and owner of the kennels. The only sound the Basenjis are capable of making is a shrill, all-human scream. They are extremely fast and are used for hunting in England. There are only six of the Basenjis in this country, according to Mrs. Puddington. Kigwa, a female, is 5 months old.

This and That

by George R. Averill

Now that the Mayflower II has reached the eastern shores of America, we should be grateful that this small ship was able to negotiate the course from Britain to Massachusetts. From 1620 to 1675 is a long span of years. Much human progress should be made in this space of time. It has, long ago, our people quit fighting the Indians so that they could be ready for world wars.

You have read that maybe some of these days we'll have to put a quarter in the television set in order to see a baseball game being played. Will that include a fee to holler back at an umpire... and what about hot dogs and peanuts coming from the set—another quarter or two, of course!

Ancient Chinese philosophy fitted its day and its fits our day, today. One saying goes: "If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

Nancy, wife of Gov. Williams and mother of his three good-looking youngsters, recently was given an honorary doctor of laws degree at Eastern Michigan College. While I may disagree with much of her politics, I heartily approve of the honor bestowed upon her. She is a hard-working girl, walking more than the extra mile for those projects in which she believes. Too, she has been a devoted booster for the Soap... and, which, we are reminded, is the bounden and loving duty of every wife to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with her hubby. Wear your academic cap proudly, Nancy!

If all mankind minus one were of one opinion, and only one person

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