

## 'round the towns news

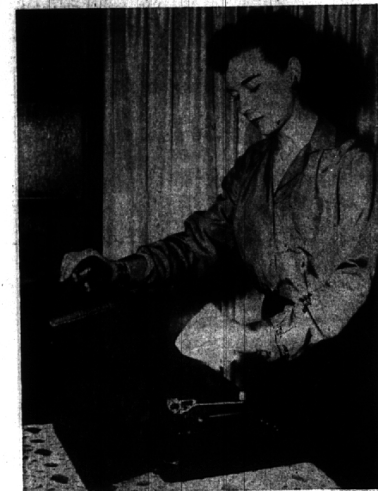
## The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM

MICHIGAN

WESTWOOD • BINGHAM FARMS • FRANKLIN • WOODCREEK FARMS • LATHRUP • BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD CITY

## Housewives Take Note Of Westwood's Affairs



Helen Nowak dusted off her typewriter and began pounding it for Westwood village.

BY JULIE CANDLER  
Township Editor

**WESTWOOD** — Two community-spirited Westwood housewives dropped their pots and pans, brushed up on their shorthand and secretarial know-how recently. Then they picked up their notebooks and headed for the village hall.

They were answering their new village's call for a helping hand. Both are glad they did it.

and taxpayers can be glad, too.

Mrs. Stewart S. Barton, of 15188 Dunblaine, volunteered first. She read an item in The Birmingham Eccentric last July, saying that the village zoning board of appeals needed "a volunteer secretary-stenographer to keep track of its actions" at twice-monthly meetings.

THOUGH she hasn't worked since shortly after she and her husband moved to this area from Vermont 21 years ago, Mrs. Barton responded to the call.

The same thing happened when the new Westwood village planning commission asked for a volunteer through a story in The Birmingham Eccentric in October.

"The planning commission is asking for volunteer help so their work can be done in a business-like manner," the story quoted Village President Marvin Cline, who added that any of the commission's cases could become court cases.

"THAT WAS all," Mrs. Clemens J. Nowak, of 15891 Kinross, needed. She called village officers. With time out for a brief illness, she has been taking notes at the commission's twice-monthly meetings ever since.

"It's interesting," says Helen Nowak, who was a secretary with General Motors for nine years, "brings you closer to your community, and keeps you abreast of the action that is being taken."

TO MRS. BARTON, it's fun "listening in" at her board meetings.

(Mrs. Barton's picture is mislabeled in the photo.)

Along with Mrs. Barton, she met with other zoning board members, including a former secretary who has been called "Help Wanted."

"They handled the recording themselves for a while," Mrs. Barton, "but men don't like to be bothered with details."

Of late the number of people appealing zoning restrictions for buildings has increased. Mrs. Barton, wife of the assistant sales manager of a tool and die firm, "I copy down their reasons and what they want to do. The village clerk handles the mailing and minutes."

MRS. NOWAK's village job means taking detailed minutes of the planning commission's actions, then typing them on the portable at home for delivery to the commission's secretary, Herman Draskovic for duplication.

Typing voluminous pages of copy is new to this young housewife. She once typed a two-inch-thick volume written by her husband, a Fisher body company engineer. His wife's typing "marathon" was for his thesis upon graduation from General Motors Institute in 1951.

Both women are helping Westwood village's new government, organized only last February, to hold down village expenses (and therefore taxes) by using volunteer instead of paid help. They're part of a host of others who give up their valuable time to make the village's government work.

It's people like this who make democracy work.

And taxpayers should love them.

**Councilman Named Ad Agency Vesp**

Westwood Councilman Ted Shurtliff last week became president in charge of public relations for a new firm and most of his associates at the Detroit advertising agency, Holden Chapin LaRue, have organized.

The new firm was incorporated at LaRue-Cleveland, with headquarters at 19418 W. Nichols, Detroit.

Shurtliff, a Detroit Free Press reporter before last year, was named public relations director of Holden, Chapin LaRue, an ad agency which has a \$2 million dollar annual billings. Shurtliff lives at 21714 Sheridan, Westwood.

**ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC**

Jan. - June 1958

Highlights Reviewed

Women Get Advanced

Peek At Christmas

Bloomfield Deb



## 'Neither Rain, Nor Sleet, Nor Snow ...'

The busy buzzing postoffice at the House-in-the-Woods in Lathrup village is handling some 20,000 pieces of mail this Christmas season. According to Postmaster Dave Redwood, his staff is doing a good job keeping up with the flood of mail passing through,

even though it seems "back breaking" to Joe Redmond (above). Open until 6 p.m. every day and standing knee deep in boxes and bags of mail, he is still optimistic about being all caught up by Christmas.

## Bloomfield Mans New Fire Station Monday Morning

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP** — Firemen manned the new Bloomfield township fire station Monday at 8 a.m. The \$45,000 station on Westview road near N. Adams will serve the portion of the township east of Woodward.

One fireman will be on around the clock duty to start with, and two men eventually. A new fire truck is housed at the station. Since calls are dispatched from the main station, all township fire

## Detroit Bank, Trust To Collect Taxes For Southfield

Detroit Bank and Trust branches will collect taxes until deadline time for Southfield township, City of Southfield, Redford township and Detroit.

Signs designate the tax payment window in each office. Funds will be collected until deadlines marked on each bill. Overdue taxes must be paid to the governmental unit treasurer or county agents, depending on each area's arrangements.

Southfield city taxes can be paid at Northland or Woodward-14 Mile road branches.

Redford Township and Detroit taxes can be paid at any Detroit calls will continue to be phoned to Midway 4-5555.

## Santa's Visited Suzy Already

By DOROTHY ZATELL

**LATHRUP**—Fun has come back to Lathrup Village for Suzy Gormsen. Life is gay—life is worth living again—school is out for the 35 youngsters who live in the Bloomfield-Sunset neighborhood!

Kristine Gormsen is home. Where Kristine is, Suzy is, happily trotting along, patiently and politely waiting outside or dancing a little for a kind word or a pat on the head.

Suzy is seven, a shaggy brown and white cocker spaniel with a tendency toward pugnacious. Her short, shabby tail was gaily even when the busy youngsters pay no attention to her.

DURING the summer months Suzy keeps watchful eyes on the younger set from backyard to backyard. Sometimes their restless wanderings leave her panting and exhausted. Then she hunts out a cool spot under a tree and waits for their next exodus.

Suzy's favorite playmates, when Kristine is busy, are four-year-old Joanne Osborne and her three-year-old sister, Margie and little two-year-old Betty Martin who are "associates" at the Detroit ad agency, Holden Chapin LaRue, have organized.

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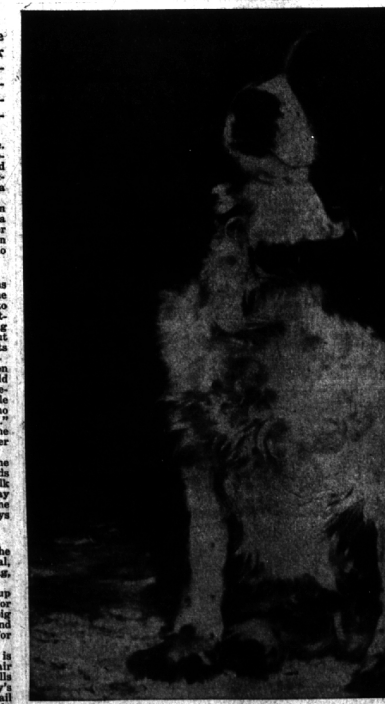
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**WHEN SCHOOL starts and the weather turns damp and dismal Suzy just sits forlornly. Waiting, waiting.**

Each morning she rounds up her friends and invites them for a romp or a game, but the big yellow buses swallow them up and the long day of waiting begins for Suzy.

Now that Christmas vacation is here, busy youngsters fill the air with their happy voices. Snowfalls form in the long hair on Suzy's feet. But she limps along, tail wagging and bright tongue flapping.

Christmas has come for Suzy. She sits waiting for Santa but the pleasure of being with her friends.



Suzy sits wide-eyed and lonesome in front of just anyone's garage in the neighborhood, hoping to catch a glance of some child to play with. Her forlorn expression has

## 14-Southfield Change Advised

## Westwood Planners Recommend ERO Zone

**WESTWOOD**—Two corners of the Southfield-14 Mile road intersection are being recommended for ERO (educational, research and office) zoning by the Westwood village planning commission.

The group made the decision at their meeting last Thursday night, at the same time determining to hold up a decision on a village planning consultant until they interview additional applicants.

Recommended to the Council for reasoning from residential to ERO were five lots at the southwest corner of 14 Mile on Southfield. The change was requested by Knight-Monard company to permit construction of a branch of the Wayne-Oakland bank on the corner.

PLANNERS held that the ERO zoning was reasonable for a lot across the street from a gas station and retail stores.

The same thinking governed the commission's decision in favor of rezoning six lots on Southfield at the southeast corner of the intersection. ERO was requested by owners Archie Addison, of Birmingham, and Miller Homes, who gave no definite plans for construction.

All of the eight plan commission members present voted for the southwest corner rezoning, with the exception of Oliver C. Lilly, who opposed it, and Chairman Herbert Herzberg. He abstained because the property was adjacent to Birmingham, where he is city planner.

HERZBERG was abstained in the vote on the Miller-Addison property. Lilly and Herman Draskovic voted against it.

Both rezonings were reviewed at a public hearing to which abutting property owners were invited early in November. The residents protested the change vehemently, submitting a petition against it.

At the hearing the planning commission postponed their decision, pending further study.

Herzberg said residential use of the property was undesirable, and that the non-retail professional (ERO) zoning would act as a buffer between the gas station and stores to the north and the homes to the south of the property.

THE BOARD could possibly consider spreading the millage over a longer period of time, the letter said.

No action on the request has been made by the board. It will meet with the salary commission later to discuss the problem.

Present starting salary for Bloomfield Hills school teachers is \$4,600 yearly for a teacher with a bachelor's degree, \$4,800 for a master's. An annual increase of \$200 is added annually, up to a maximum annual salary of \$5,800, and \$720 with a master's degree.

There has been no review by the board of teacher salary scale since 1954.

**People's Column**

**Woman Comments On the Defeat Of School Tax**

To the Editor:

I do not know the reason for the recent defeat of the school tax issue in the Bloomfield Hills vote. It may have been the weather, the interest, ignorance or just a feeling of apathy at the prospect of additional taxes on an already overburdened state of our society.

However, I do know that the philosophy of good education, as it exists today in the educational milieu, is that the system as it is does not effectively and economically train children for a positive and constructive participating citizenship in a Democracy.

THE FIRST responsibility of a fine educational system is to search out a child's interests, needs and abilities to provide the environment that will make it possible for each child to develop maximally.

An overburdened teaching staff and large classes cannot do this. The quality of democracy depends upon the quality of thinking and the action of individual citizens. Thinking and action depend upon the knowledge, the deepest attitudes of its citizens. A modern school system undermines this quality.

THE FORMER president of Harvard, Dr. J. P. Combs, and Dr. Griswold of Yale attest to the fact that a good system costs money, and since the founding of our nation, there has always been opposition from those who valued money more than the quality of education.

I believe that in the crisis of our times a good educational system is one that provides for the continuity and of liberty itself.

CAROLYN KLASIO  
Bloomfield Township

## Two Bloomfield Groups Progressing on Merger

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP** — Negotiations are continuing toward the consolidation of Suburban Home Owner's association and Federated Civic association, two groups representing a total of 87 Bloomfield township civic associations.

A spokesman said this week that a recent meeting of officers of the two groups produced some agreements, and that "we all feel real progress is being made."

He said the organizations had decided to refrain from taking a definite stand on the controversial Bloomfield Hills school district tax millage increase, which may or may not come in another election.

BOTH SHO and FCA are continuing their efforts in the Oakland County circuit court suit of Van Horn vs. Bloomfield township. Real estate man Charles Van Horn charges that the township's refusal to approve a commercial zoning for residential zoned property on the east side of Telegraph near

## Talk of the Towns

By JULIE CANDLER

Between "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" and "The First Noel" I spotted Westwood Village President Marvin Cline and his pretty spouse at Derby junior high school last Wednesday night.

There among the junior high school girls tittering in their first high heels and the orchid-coraaged teachers, we were proudly waving our offspring present a Christmas program. Cline and I, and about 1200 other parents, that it wasn't until after "Joy to the World" that I spotted the Robert T. Eddy, of 4721 Heather lane, out Walnut lake way. Their daughter, Kathy, was their reason for being there.

OTHER PARENTS present in junior high schoolers were ran into: Birmingham police officers, Detective Richard Chambers and Lt. Robert Schaefer, former Birmingham police officer, and members A. Sauerbrun, and Don Parry. All of us were there for the one big minute when it was our youngsters' turn to step up and sing.

After I spent an evening at that one, my husband and I spent the next evening at the Christmas program my Adams school fifth grader performed in. Morning after that I took in the program at Adams school my third grader appeared in.

You can call me Scrooge if you want, but sitting through three of those things is too much.

ONCE MY little chicks walk off the stage with the rest of the kids in the back row, I'm ready to go home.

Trouble is, you have to be nice and sit politely while everybody else's kids walk on stage for their big moment.

There must be a solution. But I don't know what it is. All I know is, by the time I go through the Sunday school Christmas program and the Cub Scout Christmas program and the office Christmas program and the Girl Scout Christmas program and a couple of those Christmas programs, two words come to mind. Baa. hoo!

My junior high school daughter says it's very strange—most of the girls in her glee club are also, and most of the boys are sopranos.

Pretty nice comment Bloomfield Farms in West Bloomfield township got from the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Alfred D. Gray. He's the retired minister who's filling in so beautifully during the interim while Birmingham Congregational church has no minister.

He came here from Canada, to which he had retired for the third time, each time being called again to an interim ministry. This time he announced, (see the church page) that he has decided to retire permanently to Bloomfield Farms.

He bought a house there, says the Birmingham area has some beautiful scenery from any residential area he has ever seen. And make a house, he says he and his wife also chose the Birmingham area because they find the people charming, delightful, interesting, and stimulating.