

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

'round the towns news

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TOWNS.

Westwood Safety Head Appointed

WESTWOOD Robert Murphy, 51, retired Detroit police inspector, is the new public safety director of Westwood.

Murphy has been lieutenant of the Lathrup police force since Nov. 1. He retired from the Detroit police department last August.

WESTWOODS present force consists of three men working shifts up to 12 hours long, and a German Shepherd dog, named, trained for police work.



Platforms, tunnels, trains, ships—all can be made from the big, sturdy wooden blocks invented by a Lathrup man.

Block Building Business Takes Lathrup Abroad

By DOROTHY ZATEL, Staff Correspondent

LATHRUP—Children all over the world from Siam to Alaska play happily with big sturdy wooden blocks that got their start in Lathrup Village.

It was just 20 years ago that Dorothy Stone, one of the first residents of Lathrup attended a series of meetings given by the Merrill-Palmer school for mothers.

MAKING USE of a neighbor's workshop, Dick built a set of blocks. He worked out a simple interlocking principle that made the first set of redwood.

Today, 250,000 blocks later, Dick is still building blocks for youngsters and shipping them all over the world.

The Woodcraft Company of Birmingham manufactures the blocks of first quality pine, which proved to be lighter than redwood and very strong.

ELECTRONICALLY welded by a special Woodcraft process, the blocks are so sturdy that they will stand through generations of pecking and climbing youngsters.

LATHRUP—Council was informed Monday evening that two new members, Daniel M. Hines and Fred Harris, had been added to the Forestry Advisory committee.

LATHRUP trees will be sprayed early this year, said A. B. Plummer, chairman of the committee.

Police, Papas Collaborate To Teach Rocket Lesson

WESTWOOD—Four well directed sparkings and some fast foot work Sunday solved the explosion problem in Westwood.

Richard Vogries was the police hero. Four Westwood youngsters, ages 11 and 14 years old, were the culprits.

Left to right in our picture are Ronald Smith, owner of Woodcraft company that makes the blocks; Richard Stone, who first thought them up; and Calvin Landmesser, who works for Smith.

3 Boys Are Hurt When Car Rolls

BLOOMFIELD—Three teenage boys were injured Sunday morning when their convertible car rolled over on Telegraph road north of Quaker.

There are a few new customers for the blocks right in the Stone family. Daughter Charlotte is now Mrs. John Davenport of Detroit.

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Campbell Blasts Lathrup Council on Sewer Issue

LATHRUP—Sewers exploded into the limelight again Monday when a letter to the council was read accusing it of being "un-American," "unfair" and "arbitrary."

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It seems that this present council is determined to saddle Lathrup with excessive debt, the letter went on.

Registration Hours Reported for S'field

SOUTHFIELD—Registration deadline for Southfield township residents who want to vote in the election is set for March 24 at 8 p.m.

Petitions Available For S'field Hopefuls

SOUTHFIELD—Petitions are now available at the Southfield township hall for persons who wish to be candidates for office in the proposed city of Southfield.

Projected Village Budget

4.8 Mill Tax

Tax Protest Meeting Set At Bloomfield

BLOOMFIELD—A taxpayers protest group will hold a mass meeting Thursday to protest the 1958 reassessment of property in Bloomfield township.

FRANKLIN—A proposed amendment and a full ballot promise to bring out a good percentage of the voters to vote on the tax ballot in the general election Monday.

Construction Vindictive of the charter amendment has been set to every village resident by Robert Vingling, street administrator.

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Charter Amendment, Full Ballot Promise Heavy Franklin Vote

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Westwood Appoints 5 Officials

WESTWOOD—The village council Monday swept through a full agenda, appointing four officials, setting a salary for its clerk, Mrs. Alice Spencer, passing two ordinances and giving preliminary consideration to a village budget.

THE TOTAL revenue required is \$100,600. Estimated income from (See WESTWOOD, Page 2-E)

Lathrup School Parents Object To Lunch Edict

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Elsewhere in the Eccentric

School Bus Law Passes Senate Final Two Town Hall Speakers Signed Birmingham Women's Club Competes in National Contest Mock UN Settles World Problems in 1 1/2 Days at BHS B'ham Swimmers Pace League Qualifying