

Bloomfield Hills South of Maple

Family Opens Track To Area Go-Karters

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP SOUTH—Bill Mirbach says he feels sorry for the kids restricted to private property who can only run their go-karts up and down the driveway. "But it's better than not having one at all," he adds philosophically.

The 10-year-old son of Leon J. Mirbach has had no such trouble since his dad built the go-kart track on the extra lot by their house and he invites other go-kart enthusiasts to join him.

The track was built this spring on part of the five acres the Mirbachs own at 1195 Forest lane, just north of 14 Mile road. It was leveled by a grader and is periodically raked and packed down by cars driving around it.

THE MIRBACHS realize the difficulties of finding a place to run go-karts. "We've been kicked out of some of the best places," they claim.

They have built a road directly from the track to the road and invite other boys to take advantage of their facilities providing they use the proper precautions.

Helmets, safety belts and brakes are musts and parents are encouraged to accompany their children. Mirbach said he believed the track could be improved greatly with the cooperation of other parents.

GO-KARTING, far from being just a children's sport, is a growing million dollar business. Adults have formed clubs throughout the country and built their own race tracks. The youngsters have no organizations and it is the lone karter that gets into trouble trying to find a place to drive.

The cars were described in a recent magazine as "a cross between a lawn mower with illusions of grandeur and a plumber's mistake."

They stand about roller skate height, and because of the low center of gravity are very difficult to turn over even in tight turns. A push starts them off and they often obtain speeds up to 50 miles per hour.

MIRBACH ADDES that they are also good training in auto mechanics as well as preparing the youngsters for future highway driving. "It's very exhilarating," Mrs. Mirbach said. "Because you're so low it feels much faster." She admits trying the go-kart occasionally but is not a real enthusiast because of the amount of dirt kicked up by the ground-skimming vehicle. The Mirbachs 16-year-old daughter is also a frequent driver of her brother's go-kart.

Go-karts sell for \$180 to \$220 and may be put in the back of a sedan for easy transportation, Mirbach pointed out.

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Laurene Kortkamp Enjoys High School Graduation Gift

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP SOUTH—Laurene Kortkamp who graduated in June from Bloomfield Hills high school, enjoyed every minute of her graduation gift: a Hawaiian vacation.

Accompanied by her mother Mrs. L. L. Kortkamp, she flew to Honolulu on July 13 and spent two



Leon J. Mirbach, 1195 Forest lane gives son Bill's go-kart a starting push. The Mirbachs have invited other go-kart enthusiasts to join them on the dirt track they have built at the rear of their house.

Shopping Center Surplus Bothers Zoning Board

SOUTHFIELD—Two shopping centers, where only one should be, is one of the problems the zoning board must face this week.

A rezoning request from Rodney Lockwood for a 30-acre plot on the east side of Southfield road between 12 and 13 mile roads to build a three million dollar shopping center has been recommended for approval by the zoning board.

Another shopping center builder the Southfield Shopping Center Building Co. which owns property directly south of the Lockwood plot has had a similar request previously turned down.

Last week the Oakland County Circuit court issued a restraining order preventing Southfield from allowing construction of the Lockwood center and orders the city to show cause why it should not be restrained from granting the Lockwood petition.

BIRMINGHAM FARMS—Mrs. S. A. Hebert, of St. Louis, Mo. was a recent visitor at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Hebert, of Woodbank drive. Mrs. James Hebert, with her children Steve and Larry, drove the senior Mrs. Hebert back to her home and remained in St. Louis to visit her mother Mrs. F. G. Miller. Mrs. Miller returned with her daughter and grandchildren for a ten day visit at their Woodbank Drive home.

Aug. 28 the Heberts and their children will leave to spend a few days as guests of Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Robbins of Chicago at their summer home at Saugatuck.

MEADOW LAKE—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gerick with their youngsters Kristin and Holly have returned to their home on Hayland road after a week's vacation at a cottage on Lake Huron.

WESTCHESTER—Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Inermat and son Larry of West Breckenridge lane have returned from an extended trip to Miami Beach, Nassau and Tampa.

Their week's stay in Tampa included a visit with her aunt, Mrs. Shimborg, and side trips to Sarasota, Clearwater, Tarpon Springs, Cypress Gardens and Lakeland.

BERKSHIRES—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phelps returned recently to their home on Old Mill Road following a tour of the British Isles.

They were particularly impressed with the beautiful scenery and charming customs of the people they encountered as they traveled from Southampton into Scotland and on to Dublin, Ireland.

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Have You Met ...

Dr. and Mrs. John Ziegler and daughter, Kathy, who are enjoying their new home on Northwood road. Former residents of Royal Oak, they previously lived for two years in a picturesque villa overlooking the Mediterranean at Montclair, France. While there the doctor was working with Dr. Claude Gros at the Department of Neurological Surgery. Dr. Ziegler has his offices in Highland Park. Swimming is one of the family's interests.

Land Owners Protest Delay

SOUTHFIELD—Property owners at the Telegraph-Northwestern intersection in Southfield demanded last week that councilmen approve the east-west expressway or issue building permits for the area.

"We've been waiting two years," a spokesman said. "Our money and land are tied up and we're at the end of our rope."

Plans for the expressway call for a huge interchange. The city has refused to issue building permits in this area.

The business men claim there are about 22 in this group and \$2 million in property is involved.

Births

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NORTH—A daughter, Katherine Ann, was born July 11 to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ludwig of Sheringham. The Ludwigs have four other children, Susan, Mary, Ann and Bill.

WALNUT LAKE—A daughter, Karen Lee, was born Aug. 3 to the

Mr. and Mrs. William Croy of Putnam, drive. They have three other children Billy, 9, Mark, 8, and Kimberly, 2.

BEVERLY HILLS—A son, Bennett Frederic George was born Aug. 2 to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. HEUSER of Kirkshire.

SOUTH BERKSHIRES—A daughter, Katherine Helen, was born Aug. 7 to Mr. and Mrs. R. SCHWEIKART of Plantation. They have one other child, Karl.

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SELECTION OF LAKE FRONT PROPERTIES

ON CHALMERS LAKE. An elegant ranch home with carpeting, draperies. 260' facing on the lake. Both the dining room and screened porch have barbeques; living room fireplace; family-style kitchen; two car attached garage is heated. The third bedroom features paneling. There are 2 1/2 baths. In the Bloomfield hills school district. \$59,500.

PRIVATELY-OWNED LAKE ANGELUS. 5 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath floor plan is arranged with the luxurious master suite in one wing and guest accommodations including a second kitchen and living room in another wing. On approximately four acres, completely landscaped. Over \$150,000 invested, but estate sale is \$91,000.

WING LAKE, Bloomfield Hills P. O. Balcony porch overlooks the water. 35' living room. 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, library-guest room. In the huge el-shaped activities room is a fireplace and bar complete with range, refrigerator, and sink. Open stairway, deluxe kitchen, detailed features must be seen to be appreciated. \$59,500.

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