

The Birmingham Eccentric

40 PAGES AND SUPPLEMENT
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1959

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



50 Millionth Ford
... is off the assembly line.
See photo story on Page 8-C.

Ship Ahoy!
Says Sgt. ...
... as his family awaits him here. Read about the seafaring air force man on page 1-E.

Can Cranbrook Beat B'ham in Track?
... It May Happen Tomorrow. See Page 8-E.

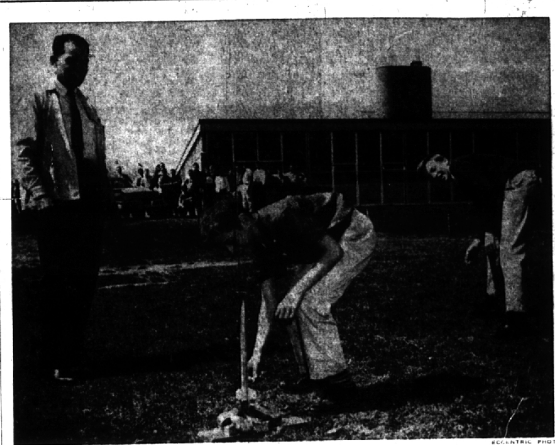
How to Win Friends and Influence Editors
... or what to do when your publicity flounders. See Suburban Scene, Page 1-C.

Going Up On Maple ...
... soon is the addition to the First Presbyterian church. See architect's drawing, Page 6-B.

INSIDE THE ECCENTRIC

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Perhaps you could count on your fingers and your toes the number of men and women who have attained a maximum of wisdom regarding just how to develop themselves in order to win and retain desired personal joy and happiness on this earth. Perhaps the reason that most of us never do win gets a reasonable quantity and quality of these assets is because we have not hungered, sacrificed to deserve them.



Out for the Countdown

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Cape Bloomfield Hills junior high school was the scene of a rocket blast-off two days in a row recently. Young rocketeer Larry Warrillow gets ready to light the missile he made under supervision of industrial arts instructor Harry L. Smith (left). Ready to run is Jim St. John.

while other industrial arts classmates watch in background. Larry, 13, is an eighth grader. Lives at 290 E. Berkshires, Pontiac. His rocket zooms to nearly 1000 feet in the air, then parachutes down. Larry made the fiberboard rocket from a kit.

"HARONS' of obscenity" is the only U.S. post office department calls the ruthless mail order merchants in filth and pornography. "The worst of it," said Reese this week, "that a lot of their advertising is getting into the hands of kids as young as 12 years old. These kids clip a coupon or a coupon and send for something and they get their names on a list. The dealers in obscenity can buy these lists," Reese explained.



But Boys Will Be Boys

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — Momentarily, the interest in the rocket launching turned to other things as a girls' gym class walked by. The girls were attired in shorts for a game of baseball near the site where Larry launched his parachuting rocket.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL—

Executive Outlines Its Role, Problems

By ELEANORE VINALL
Staff Writer

We noticed two things Friday at Maple and Woodward: a cluster of teen-age boys at the curb speculatively watching a group of pretty young girls drift out of a restaurant—and an elderly man idly, wistfully, watching them all.

We were on the way to the Briggs building to meet Charles Mentzer, new executive secretary of the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin Council on Community Services.

We found him using one end of a conference table in the United Foundation offices as his headquarters. On May 15 he'll be established officially in the Community Council's new office at 203 Birmingham Theater Bldg.

LAST WEEK, in the first part of this series, we gave you a history of the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin Council on Community Services, introduced Mentzer who has come from Altoona, Pa., to serve as the Council's executive secretary, and pointed out that some of the goals which the Council set for work toward in the months ahead.

TEEN-AGERS and senior citizens were just two of many things we heard about in the two-hour interview with Mentzer. First we

asked what the Council was designed to do in our community. Here's what Mentzer said:

"Many suburban communities are rather provincial. By that, I mean people are pretty much inclined to consider their community a sort of 'tight little island' unrelated to a greater metropolitan area.

"Suburbanites aren't often aware that their communities have any problems. And, if they are aware, their approach is likely to be, 'We'll take care of it all by our-

selfes."

"LET'S FACE IT. There's not a community on earth that is without problems—both individual and collective. We hear a lot about the problems of big cities—school problems, health problems, housing problems, juvenile problems, problems of people 65 and older.

"And those very same problems exist in every town and village and suburb in the country in some form or other."

(See EXECUTIVE, Page 3-A)

... and insurance business since 1918. Mr. Hascell died Friday at St. Joseph's Mercy hospital.

Most Distinctive Shopping Center' B'ham Business Goal

They Call It Art—Most Call It Smut

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

About the mail order house that sends your children lurid advertisements for pictures of scantily clad women, there's certainly one certain conclusion: the company is not interested in art.

As Birmingham and Detroit postal authorities agree, "These people are interested in making a big dollar out of the curiosity of youngsters."

"That was how Detroit U.S. postal inspectors Inspector Ronald Beaton put it. Birmingham Postmaster Roland F. Reese agrees. Reese says hardly a week goes by without a complaint. His child scene literature, photographs, movies, or slides.

Insights into the smutty advertising is on the increase in the last year, which is why the post office has intensified its campaign against it.

YOU WON'T be able to recognize the smut your little Cub Scout receives until he opens it (a lot of it comes via first class mail, with return address on the envelope, Reese says).

HE WILL oppose incumbent school board president Mrs. Peter Loomis and candidate Theodore J. Szymke. They are only two operating for the four-year term.

Another candidate for the four-year term on the Birmingham school board has thrown the race wide open in the June 10 election.

George J. Fulkerson, 3011 Midland, Bloomfield township, has filed his nominating petitions for the four-year term.

HE WILL oppose incumbent school board president Mrs. Peter Loomis and candidate Theodore J. Szymke. They are only two operating for the four-year term.

Mrs. Dean Beier, 1509 Dorchester, is the only candidate for the one-year unexpired portion of the term she was appointed to fill last January.

Mrs. Loomis, 1548 Dorchester, Szymke, 46, of 1116 Buckingham, and Fulkerson will be vying for two open seats on the board.

The announced retirement of Gregory, 1216 Dorchester, secretary of the board who has served for 15 years, opened up the second seat for new candidates.

Fulkerson, 3011 Midland, ran for the school board in 1957, is married and has two children.

He is a practicing attorney with offices in Birmingham and is a member of the Valley Woods PTA, a director of the greater Westchase Village Subdivision Association and is also president of the University of Chicago Alumni Association of Detroit.

He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and his law degree from the University of Detroit.

Deadline for filing petitions, which must have 50-75 signatures, is 4 p.m. Saturday.

JOINS AAAA GROUP
Charles F. Adams, 6129 Dakota circle, Birmingham, executive vice president of MacManus, John & Adams, Inc., national advertising agency, has been appointed a member of the AAAA committee of the board of the American Association of Advertising Agencies.

Assessment rolls, into which any May 1 changes have been incorporated, will be up for public hearing on May 18.

Prosecuting the offenders is difficult. Most of them operate out of California, where laws controlling such operations are more lax.

Because the distinction between "art" and "obscenity" is slim, many of the filth purveyors operate lawfully by what Reese terms "stretching a point."

STILL, Inspector Beaton says there are a great number of cases pending which he believes will be brought to trial.

Pinpointing obscenity and art, says Inspector Beaton, is a matter of common sense. His department calls obscenity "anything that appeals to the prurient interest."

Don't bother to look that one up unless you're a collector. It means "having lascivious longings," or "lustful."

This and That

by George R. Averill

No matter how many games our Tigers lose, I'll endeavor to remain their staunch and loyal booster. Be sure, I'd very much like to see 'em win a game now and then — to keep up their morale — and also to sustain mine. Just so long as they really TRY TO WIN — they are doing their best. By so doing, then, perhaps that wraith-like phantasm known as Lady Luck may come to visit them—even stay a while. 'Omon fellas ... open the gate for Lady Luck!

Britain's Princess Margaret recently visited Italy and, while in Rome, danced until five o'clock one morning at a gay party in her honor. On her way home I wonder if she remembered the wonder and tune of that nostalgic "After the Ball is Over ..."

Here's proof that life, without love, though lived in Buckingham Palace, is nary as joyful as love in a humble cottage!

If members of Michigan's Legislature and of the nation's Congress had imagination enough to realize that their recent and current wrangling is a poor testimonial for the art of self-government, they might become ashamed of themselves ... and maybe do better. Their maneuvers, political machinations, selfish and covetous grasping for power and privilege ... their unceasing efforts to discredit the opposition (regardless of the harm done to the nation's best interests) all these things bring both confusion and disgust to the public mind.

The Democrats confidently expect to retain control of Congress and also take over the White House, when the 1960 votes are counted. If this comes to pass, the Democrats won't have anybody to blame for their mistakes.

One of the most ancient and practical Michigan officials engaged in decreasing the accident and fatality rate on our highways is James M. Hare, Secretary of State. It is his office that grants drivers' licenses, that maintains continuous data on the driving habits of our Michigan citizens, and finally it is his responsibility to carry out State laws regarding motorists. The fact that Michigan's traffic accidents and fatalities have been decreased in number is, of course, commendable. It is the personal efforts of motorists themselves, however, in adding up all the preventive measures being taken, we cannot overlook the splendid contribution Hare and his department are making to help solve the problem.

MOTHERS' DAY FALLS IN MAY, too, but the mothers that we salute this month are not Mr. Whistler's frail stay-at-homes. We present an article that discusses our more than six-million working mothers—the kind of jobs they are looking for (and finding), their reasons for working, and how they have managed successfully to combine a career with running a house and caring for a husband and children.

Fulkerson Announces Candidacy

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

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Hills Accepts Opyke Road Paving Bids

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — Bids for the paving of Opyke road will be considered by the Bloomfield Hills city council at their meeting Tuesday night.

Contractors submitting bids must have them in by 10 a.m. Tuesday and specifications for the job can be obtained from the Bloomfield Hills city hall or city consulting engineer Ralph Mann.

The commission will also start preliminary hearings on the 1959-60 budget and will call a public hearing later this spring.

More than 10 miles of street roadways will be considered at a meeting May 11 before the Bloomfield Hills city commission.

Notices are in the mail to the thousands of property owners who will be assessed for the improvements. This will consist of either light oil, oil mat and seal, or seal.

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Shrimp Salad Gets Hostess in a Stew

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

This bit of chronicling may sound like fiction ... but it is a proven fact. It happened ten days ago.

Not far from Birmingham a lady was preparing some fancy shrimp salad for her next day's bridge ladies' party, eight, with herself. It was a new recipe. When completed, she

imagined it looked not quite up to her expectations. She tasted it, thought, "Anyway, it's the best I can do against her skirt ..."

"Ah," she decided, "I'll try it out on my cat."

Next afternoon, the bridegroom liked it, too. At every bit of it, the hostess' joy was

front view, as she was quite happy over her culinary success. The bridegroom concluded, the ladies went home.

BUT—AND THIS is a mighty BIG BUT!—the hostess' joy was short-lived, as she discovered, a half hour later, she was shocked to see her own cat lying prostrate, feet upwards.

Immediately she thought of her shrimp salad and realized she had also had frantic imaginings of a possible connection as members of her bridge club.

Being a woman of quick action, she rushed to her telephone. Luckily, in a short time she had informed her seven guests of the cat's demise, plus the relation of the shrimp salad.

There followed an equally quick conclusion (at the hostess' vigorous and demanding imploring) seven separate visits to the nearest hospital where stomach pumps were put into speedy operation.

JOYFULLY, THERE were no lady fatalities ...

But, before the doctors had completed their activities (so our secret informant tells us) the next-door neighbor came over to the deceased cat's mistress and embarrassedly explained: "I am sorry that, as I was backing my car out of my drive about an hour ago, I ran over your cat ... I didn't discover it, of course, until I just returned from the store. I'm very sorry ... I tell the bridge girls that, after all, there was nothing wrong with that shrimp salad! The hostess asked her husband, when he came home from work. He bent his head scratching his ear, though in deep and serious thought.

"No, I don't believe I would," he answered. "I think that this is one episode you ought to try to keep very top secret."

Must Start Now, Group Agrees

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor

Their downtown commercial area, a strategic economic crossroads, 35 Birmingham businessmen and 4 property owners Tuesday night took the first steps toward what they believe will eventually make their city Michigan's most exclusive and distinctive shopping center:

They named a nine-member nominating committee whose job will be to pick a chairman to spearhead a revitalization and strengthening of Birmingham's central business core.

They set Tuesday, May 19, at 8 a.m. in the municipal building's city commission room for an organizational meeting.

NAMED TO this committee were: Carl Barton, Sam Brunl, Dr. Carleton Foxe, Jack Korshinsky, Wilbur Mason, John Maynard, Eugene A. Moore, Fred Pew, and Robert Wilson.

On the committee as liaison with other important local groups are Commissioner of Public Works Robert Roberts, City Manager L. R. Gare, Chamber of Commerce Manager Charles Mortenson, Birmingham City Planner Herbert Herzberg, and a plan board member to be appointed.

Herzberg who staged Tuesday's initial meeting, indicated local businessmen have much to gain if they take steps soon.

"I'VE ALREADY noted an important increase in office and store vacancies," Herzberg warned. "And these vacancies are longer on the average, than they have been in past years."

"Why, one store on W. Maple ... our most important business area ... has seen three tenants in the past year."

He said the businessmen should be concerned about Birmingham's future downtown commercial area will be.

COMMISSIONER Roberts gave a warning to the group: "We talked for only a few years about getting together on our parking problems. We had to reach the critical stage of advertising section I hope we don't have to reach the critical stage before we do that."

Now Michigan's 12th largest retail sales market—\$98,300,000 last year — Herzberg sees impending danger if there is no aggressive campaign to improve Birmingham's commercial resources.

"We now have quality sales territory for the 'quality' merchandise and services we sell," the young planner said.

"HOWEVER, some enterprising individual is certain to come along and improve this prime commercial area—probably to the west of Birmingham," he said.

If that happens, the lid will pop here in Birmingham, Herzberg predicted.

He said Birmingham can do much to head off a nearby competitive shopping center by taking action now to improve, enlarge and broaden Birmingham's present commercial facilities.

HE SAID he has no ready answer but advised that the commercial area—probably to the west of Birmingham—will be a part of a comprehensive plan for the entire city, Herzberg explained.

Paul W. Averill, Birmingham Eccentric business manager, asked Herzberg how the downtown project would be financed, voluntarily or compulsory?

"Usually, the original study is financed voluntarily by businessmen, while the implementation is done by special assessment," the planner explained.

IN VERY GENERAL form, Herzberg predicted what he

(See CENTER, Page 3-A)

All names of lower ranking members of the nominating committee are listed on page 3-A.