

'round the towns news The Birmingham Eccentric

BEVERLY HILLS • BINGHAM FARMS • FRANKLIN • WOODCREEK FARMS • LATHRUP • BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD CITY

Hiland Thatcher Resigns As Township Supervisor

WEST BLOOMFIELD—Hiland M. Thatcher, for 11 years supervisor of West Bloomfield township, tendered his resignation last week at the township board meeting.

The resignation, which was accepted by the board "with regret and best wishes," becomes effective Dec. 10.

Reason for Thatcher's move given in his letter stated, "I have entered my name for appointment to fill a vacancy on the Oakland county road commission. The two positions are not compatible."

THATCHER'S RESIGNATION did not come as a surprise. His candidacy for the \$7,500 road commissioner job has been public knowledge for several weeks.

Thatcher earns \$9,200 a year at the township. If he is appointed by the county, it would mean a \$1,700 pay cut but he would not have to face re-election campaigning every two years.

The board has not considered a possible successor; it is doubtful that any positive action will be taken until after Dec. 14, the date when Oakland county supervisors will vote on the new road commissioner.

Thatcher explained that he was not, legally, an eligible candidate for county road commissioner, so long as he held the supervisor's job.

Asked as to what he considered his chances for election to the road commissioner vacancy, Thatcher said, "There has been heavy campaigning for the office. Because there is more than one candidate for the job, the balloting will be secret. There is no way to know that all the votes promised me will come through."

The road commissioner's job is vacant through the resignation of Lee Brooks, who has held the office for the past 20 years.

THATCHER'S LONG experience on the board of supervisors should weigh heavily when that body votes on Dec. 14.

Among the positions he has filled from the board of supervisors are vice chairman of the board, a member of the ways and means committee, chairman of inter-county highway committee and chairman of general projects for the inter-county supervisors committee.



Last Minute Details

Hiland Thatcher, who will end his work Dec. 10 as West Bloomfield township supervisor, finishes up official duties before turning his attention to candidacy for the Oakland county road commissioner post.

THIS LEAVES open the possibility that if Thatcher is unsuccessful in his candidacy, the board would appoint him to succeed himself. Thatcher's term of office, to which he was elected last spring does not expire until March 31, 1961.

IN THE MEANWHILE, three board members have been appointed to screen applications for the vacancy left by Thatcher's resignation. They are Mrs. Sue Warner, township treasurer, Walter Whitmer and Emmett DeConick.

The supervisors' office will have to be filled by Jan. 1, as West Bloomfield's tax notices are sent on that date, and they must be signed by the supervisor. A flood of applicants for the job is expected to follow Thatcher's resignation.

After The Board Meeting

Six youths caught at drinking spree

BEVERLY HILLS—Six youths were arrested last week-end by Beverly Hills police for a drinking party at Riverside drive and Evergreen. For details see story on page 1-A.

Santa Has No Library For Lathrup This Year

LATHRUP—Dear Lathrup: Santa can't bring you a library this year, but he does have something else for you—a water rate increase.

Council members opened the library file Monday evening. Letters have been filed on since early July, when Mayor Richard N. Cogger asked Lathrup organizations to make a study on a library for Lathrup and report their findings.

Letters poured into the file, with comments on a special millage increase or a joint library project with the City of Southfield. But opinions were divided as to whether or not Lathrup should have library service now.

COUNCIL members agreed that a request for additional millage at this time is out of the question. They are going to have to ask residents to vote an increase on their tax load in February for a storm sewer project.

Councilman H. Earl Hanson said Lathrup could not join the Southfield library project at this time, even at a very nominal sum because the city's budget is skin tight.

Mayor Cogger will write Southfield an "if-ty" letter asking what it would cost if Lathrup had the funds, and if Southfield would let them join their project.

IN A widely circulated letter to (See SANTA, Page 3-E)

Don't 'Fly Low' In Lathrup—You Are Being Watched

LATHRUP—Residents in Lathrup who are late for dinner and fly low along streets exceeding speed limits may find a police car lurking around the corner.

Council members ordered a tighter patrol of inside city streets Monday evening—it was a choice between more stop signs or closer watch on speeders. "Let's keep the police car on duty inside the city and out of Southfield and 11 Mile road for a while," was the report of the council to Administrator Joseph Stinson.

The action was ordered when the road and traffic safety committee recommended a possible five additional stop signs. Rather than check the free flow of traffic, the council will wait a police report on speeders before approving the additional signs.

Heavy drivers won't have any trouble remembering speed limits—17 new reminders have just been posted.



Just Like the Turkey: Station Wagon to be Stuffed

BEVERLY HILLS—Taking her 11 children to Jackson for a family Thanksgiving day get-together, Mrs. Kenneth E. Smith ponders a problem: how to get herself, her husband and the children into a nine-passenger station wagon. Lining up tomorrow for the loading will be: Kathy, 14; Patty, 12; Jim, 11; Lucy, 10; Susan, 9; Geraldyn, 7; Judy, 6; Mary Sharon, 5; Matthew, 3; Tommy, 2; and Peter, 1. Slight jam-up forms at head of line. There'll be 22 around the turkey day table at the home of Smith's sister. On the way, the

loaded station wagon will rendezvous with the car of the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl H. Smith of Grosse Pointe Park, and part of the cargo will be transferred. Until then, there will be four children in the third seat, six in the middle seat (two older children will hold younger ones on their laps) and three people will be in the front. Smith is chairman of the University of Detroit aeronautical engineering department. The family lives at 32075 Arlington, Beverly Hills.

Would S'field Women Vote for a Horse?

SOUTHFIELD—An Eastern citizen entered a horse's name on the ballot and some 20 votes were cast for the horse!

To encourage more intelligent voting, a group of Southfield women are initiating a move for a unit of the League of Women Voters. The League is non-partisan and adopts study programs covering local, state and federal problems.

Mrs. Frances Snelham of the field service division of the Michigan league will meet with Southfield women at 8 p.m. Nov. 30 at the home of Mrs. Warren Shelden, 24527 Santa Barbara, Southfield.

Southfield women are urged to attend to help form details for the area league.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

- 1-A Youths Arrested At Beer Party in Beverly Hills
- 1-B Brant New Band News Nickell-Rated
- 1-C Unitarians To Dedicate New Church
- 2-B Holly Berry Fair Draws Shoppers
- 3-C Special Tabloid Toy Section In This Issue
- 3-E Maple Cagers Start Season

Road Canvass Set in Bingham

BINGHAM FARMS—Bingham Farms Councilman Donald Morse is going house-to-house along Bingham road soon to get a consensus about further road improvement spending.

Forestalling council action regarding a possible spring ditching and culvert program for better drainage, Morse's person-to-person poll got council blessing Monday night.

Morse said the village should determine if a ditching project meets with general approval before special council consideration.

"LET US find out first if our neighbors agree to better drainage to protect the money they invest in road," said Morse. "In private discussion, I think we may get a better understanding of the merits of the Bingham land ditching project last spring convinced most of the council that ditches along Bingham road would be advisable."

"Until we improve our drainage, we will have to repeatedly spend road money on minor maintenance," said Morse. "Bingham lane is proof that roads hold up better, longer after drainage is provided."

FIVE 20 MPH signs will be installed on village roads to curtail speeding, the council also decided Monday.

Talk of the Towns

By JULIE CANDLER

While everybody's talking about moral situations like payola and quiz fixes, here's a good one. If you were a policeman, and you caught the mayor of your town speeding, would you give him a ticket?

Remember, he's your boss—and you wouldn't want to antagonize him. Still, your job is to enforce the law.

All I can say is—it would be a tough decision.

Looks like Beverly Hills police will never be faced with such a decision when it comes to their head man. I asked Village President Marvin Cline last week if he had ever received a ticket from his hometown police. I got an emphatic no.

HE SELDOM gets a ticket, and he says, "I'm always especially careful when I get on the home grounds. As soon as I drive past the 'Entering Beverly Hills' sign, I start watching it. I wouldn't want to get caught in my own home town."

Birmingham City Manager Dick Gare laughs about his stacks of parking tickets—but he says his wife doesn't.

"If I'm parked overtime, I deserve to get a ticket," he says. "One time I parked in front of the municipal building to run some errands. I got inside and got tied up."

WHEN HE went back several hours later, there—right in front of the city manager's office—was the city manager's car decorated with a city police officer's calling card.

Gare says he doesn't know if the local police recognize his car or not.

P.S. He pays the fines. The receipts are produced and come in very handy, when somebody asks him to "fix" a ticket.

I ALWAYS liked Birmingham School Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland. Until I heard this. And it gave me such an inferiority complex that my sentiments changed.

Ireland has been driving for 45 years. He has never had a ticket of any kind—not EVEN a parking ticket. He has never had an accident—not EVEN a denied fender. However, he admits, someone once bumped into the rear of his

B'field Democrats Hear Justice Black 'Convention' Talk

BLOOMFIELD—Justice Eugene F. Black, hosted by the Bloomfield Democratic club here Nov. 19, detailed the legal tribulations of the constitutional convention in Michigan as the topic of his talk.

Justice Black, who spoke at the home of corporation lawyer Joseph Radom, talked off the shoulder about constitutional conventions "raising many of Michigan's woes, including its present financial crisis to a failure to revise the Hoosier and huggy constitution which restricts the legislature's control over fiscal and financial matters."

HE STATED that the present constitution was based on the assumptions of a stable dollar and agricultural economy, neither of which now exists.

Citing historic Michigan cases for his reasoning, Black condemned the system whereby judges are compelled to cowtow to party conventions to receive nomination and within 30 days claim nonpartisanhip.

HE ADVISED the Democrats not to repeat the mistake of the Republicans by refusing not to play ball unless it can get everything its way.

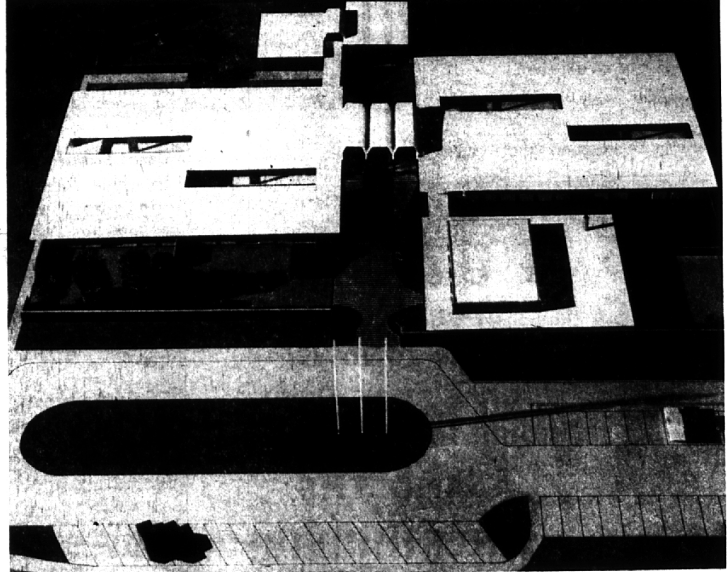
25-Foot Fall Injures Man In Southfield

SOUTHFIELD—A 38-year-old Farmington man was reported in "critical condition" Monday by Beaumont hospital officials, following a 25-foot fall from the top of a crane in Southfield.

The man was riding the top of the crane on 10 Mile road near Southfield at 5 p.m. when the accident occurred.

Trying to keep the crane from striking overhead utility pole wires, LaFond was struck in the neck by a wire he did not see. He lost his balance and fell, police said.

He is employed by the Nelson Sharrow company of Marston City.



Design for Modern Learning

This architect's model of the proposed Westchester school shows the structure to be built on a plot approximately 1,200 feet west of Cranbrook road, on the south side of Maple. First phase of construction calls for a 16-classroom school, with all-purpose room and kitchen, and administrative area. The outside half of the left wing and the wing to the rear will be added at a later date, increasing capacity by six classrooms and two kindergarten rooms. The elementary school designed by Eberle M. Smith, Associates, Birmingham architects, will be built on a 400

foot site. The Birmingham board of education gave its approval to the preliminary plans at its November meeting, although bids probably will not be let until June. Assistant School Superintendent Richard Featherstone said. Construction will be financed through a 1957 bond issue.

"The citizens committee predicted the school would be needed in Fall, 1958," Featherstone added, "but growth has slowed down, and though we still need the school, we aren't pressed for time."