

## 'round the towns news

## The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM

MICHIGAN

BEVERLY HILLS • BINGHAM FARMS • FRANKLIN • WOOD CREEK • LATHRUP • BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • NORTH ADAMS • SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD CITY

## Beverly Appoints Treasurer

BEVERLY HILLS—New treasurer for Beverly Hills is Robert J. Lakatos, owner of a Detroit accounting and tax service firm.

Lakatos, 43, of 18855 Hillcrest, former village treasurer replaces Mrs. Fannie Adams, who resigned following her election to Mayor in 1958 to the conflicting office of village clerk.

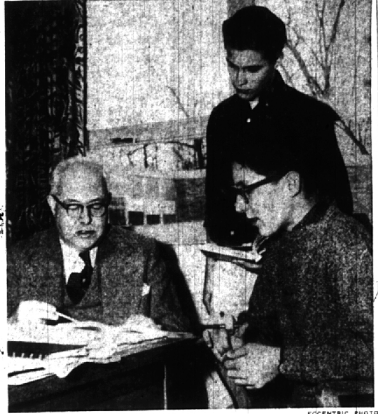
The village council appointed Lakatos Monday night on the recommendation of Councilman Chester F. Guillet, who headed a committee to screen applicants.

Guillet told the council that Lakatos and John L. Grady, 36, of 17810 Beechwood, were equally qualified, but that he favored the older, more experienced man.

LAKATOS' salary was set at \$100 monthly, for what was estimated to require about 20 hours of work per month. He will supervise village bookkeeping and advise on fiscal policy.

A certified public accountant, Lakatos is vice chairman of the Southeastern Chapter of the Michigan Independent Accountants' Association, and a member of the national society of public accountants.

Beverly Hills resident seven years, he has three children.



Mr. F. Alden Shaw, headmaster of Detroit Country Day school, takes teaching seriously and spends many a moment on "extra" explaining for his students. Listening intently are Bob Leahy (center) and Neil Satovsky.

## Mr. Shaw Knows—He Started School

WEST BEVERLY—Detroit Country Day school started its 46th year last September and its Headmaster, Mr. F. Alden Shaw has been with the school from the beginning—he started it.

## Aves Novices Get Samples For More Study

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—It's not because it's spring, that 50 different species of American song birds can be seen in the area.

Though the birds are all native to Michigan, there's one thing unusual about them . . . they don't sing.

They are a mounted collection, recently presented by Dr. and Mrs. Carl H. Rice, 4255 Telegraph road, to the school's biology department.

## Mayor Asks Action On Road Crisis

SOUTHFIELD—"A road crisis faces the City of Southfield which requires emergency action by the part of the council," Mayor Donald L. Swanson told the council in a letter last week.

"The present road break up is one of the most devastating in the history of our area," Swanson said. Swanson advised the council to be ready with material, manpower and equipment to make the roads passable when the frost is gone.

"Births and deaths are no respecters of road conditions," Swanson added.

## Talk of the Towns

By JULIE CANDLER

Everybody raves about the steaming, chugging locomotives that sent their last inefficient puffs of smoke into the air recently. But what about the rugged, stalwart engineers who ran them?

You can sigh over the steam engines, if you want. As for my affections . . . I'm more interested in engineers like Milo Baird. Nostalgic railroad fans by the dozens get special permission to ride in one of the last steam locomotive cars engineered by Baird. The fans came here praising not the engine, but the engineer.

"HE'S ONE of the nicest men I've ever known," says Baldwin, Birmingham station agent H. J. Wichman agrees with him. So do others who rode in the cab with Baird during those last steaming days.

Do you see what I mean about engineers? Cold iron and steel locomotives can be replaced, if necessary.

"But I'll take the flesh and blood engineers like Milo Baird any day—they can't be replaced."

EITHER Bloomfield Hills has a sweet tooth, or Bloomfield Hills' young high school students could sell olives for a dollar. They're contributing the \$2500 profit to fund furnishings for the student lounge in their handsome new school building.

Teacher Nore Althouse, Student Council sponsor, advised on the project. But the youngsters themselves did the work.

Chairman Chris Anderson, ninth grader, reported the results to the Bloomfield Hills board of education last week. As he did, he thanked the community's residents for lowering their sales resistance so cooperatively.

With his background of the Boston Latin school and Harvard college, Headmaster Shaw has always held great stress on academic standards. In 1938, having been alarmed by the decay of standards associated with the name "progressive education," Mr. Shaw helped organize the Essentialist Association whose program is practically the same as is now being adopted by so many schools since the advent of Sputnik. He looks back with great satisfaction on his efforts in this movement.

ONE OF the questions someone asked of him is, "How do boys of today compare with boys who enrolled at the school's beginning?"

The Headmaster feels that to day's boys have a much wider horizon of outlook and also knowledge of many areas unknown to former students. On the other hand he wonders whether there is the same spirit of adventure today as there was 40 years ago.

Have conditions produced a feeling for security on the part of youth that was not present when the school began?

Fundamentally, however, it's the same type of fine boy who entered the school when the doors first opened.

AS THE time draws near when younger shoulders must take on the responsibility of helping prepare youth for an uncertain future, Headmaster Shaw feels confident that today's youth will be equal to whatever problems lie ahead.

## Recount Demanded in Lathrup Election

LATHRUP—An election mix-up developed Monday in Lathrup Village over the legality of some of the votes cast for three sticker candidates. Only one of the three—John R. Kohl—was elected to the council, according to the ruling of City Clerk Frank Derby and the city election commission which he heads.

The three candidates, meanwhile, have hired Pontiac Attorney James D. Hartrick to represent them in action to contest the results. The group's first action will be to demand a recount, once the vote is canvassed.

The official vote, according to Derby, places Kohl on the council with 414 votes, along with incumbent Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, 413 and Vincent A. Zetoli, 412.

IT GAVE defeated sticker candidate Richard H. Anderson 391 votes, while Vernon M. Peel trailed with 387 and sticker candidate Arley Meier polled 379.

Good weather and a variety of candidates brought out 45 percent of Lathrup's registered voters for the election of three council members. A total of 890 votes were cast.

The new council members are scheduled to be installed at the next regular meeting to be held Monday in the house-in-the-woods at 7:30 p.m.

There were conflicting rulings through the day," said Mrs. A. R. Simpson, 1846 Ruglova. "The first sticker slot was so big that some of the people voted in slots 2, 3 and 4. Later City Attorney Everett Hayes said only sticker votes in slots 1, 2 and 3 could be counted. Some people put all the stickers in one slot."

Others claimed that improper slots were taped shut on some voting machines, but not on others.

CHALLENGERS present at the

vote count claim that 134 sticker votes were disqualified, mainly because incorrect slots on the voting machines had been used.

But City Clerk Frank Derby said Tuesday that any figures on the disqualified votes did not come from his office.

"I was watching to make sure that all good votes were properly counted," Derby said. "When we tallied them, we balanced right out to the right number. I couldn't watch the challengers, who were tallying the disqualified votes."

The three members of the election commission—Derby, Hayes and Councilman H. Earl Hanson, besides all the election workers, verified the count, Derby said.

"On sticker candidates, according to law," Derby said, "you could only use as many slots for stickers as there were candidates on the ballot."

The machines are arranged so

that every vote for one sticker candidate blocks out the regular candidates. When it became apparent that stickers were being placed in more than the three proper slots, Derby said, he asked for a ruling from Lansing.

DERBY said Attorney General Paul Adams ruled that votes in slot No. 4 could not be counted.

Kohl said he contacted the defeated sticker candidates immediately after learning the results of Monday's vote, suggesting that the three retain an attorney.

"We ran as an independent slate together, and we are going to stick together, as long as there is a chance of working this out," he said.

"We are not aligned with Mr. Kohl (Lathrup trustee Charles A. Kelley) or anyone else," Kohl said.

HE CLAIMED the sticker candidates should be seated on the council because, "There can be no doubt in anyone's mind, when only three councilmen were being se-

lected and no other offices open, of just what the voters had in mind when they went to all the trouble necessary to place the stickers for Anderson, Van Meer and Kohl in that machine."

"With 134 votes not counted, it won't matter what way they split, the other two sticker candidates are in," he said.

The present five-man Lathrup council recently proposed a \$700,000 bond issue to finance construction of drains in the city. Voters rejected the proposal overwhelmingly.

Sticker candidates claimed they could obtain a more economical drain for the city, now under court order to end pollution of the River Rouge.

Derby said that approximately 20 votes were lost when stickers were placed on the backs of the voting machines. These had to be scraped off by election workers before the machines could be used again. A few votes, not more than five or six, were lost, Derby said, because stickers came unglued and fell off.

## S'field Tax, Budget Cut In Hour

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP—Eleven persons approved a \$47,890 budget Saturday that will cut township taxes for fiscal '60.

The estimated income fund jumped from \$53,778 to \$52,278 when it was discovered that the township had not anticipated a \$125 monthly income of rent from Beverly Hills village.

Under the budget, \$19,845 less than last year, real estate taxes should be approximately 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, compared to \$1.01 levied last year.

On state equalized value, the new rate for taxes should be an estimated 34 cents per \$1,000. Last year's was 67 cents.

THE ONLY change made officially by the board was a \$1,500 cut in total amount that will be paid to the Detroit school district. The estimated income fund jumped from \$53,778 to \$52,278 when it was discovered that the township had not anticipated a \$125 monthly income of rent from Beverly Hills village.

THE OUTCOME of a county case against Southfield city and Southfield could possibly up the figure, depending on the court's decision.

The county is asking for approximately \$26,000 from the city and the township for special election expenses incurred since 1952. The case is due in court Monday.

A BREAK DOWN of the budget shows general township operations (salaries and fees) at \$26,220; general and administrative at \$13,670 and capital improvements at \$8,000.

Items of note in the budget include a \$2,500 allotment for an anticipated increase in election costs; a \$1,000 donation to the Franklin fire department; \$3,500 for repairs to the township hall and the service road.

The board also appropriated part of the \$2,000 contingency fund for possible participation in a four-township fire communications project that is presently under consideration in the area.

## B'field Child Drowns in Pool

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—A 11-month-old boy, drowned last week in a freak accident when he fell from his crib into a diaper pail.

Thomas Siegemund, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Siegemund, Jr., of 318 Hugh Cross, was found floating in a diaper pail in the nursery. The pail was partially filled with only a few inches of water.

ONE of triplets, the youngest was dead on arrival at Beaumont hospital. One of the triplets died nine days after birth.

The third, James J., survives with Siegemund's three older children.

## Elsewhere in the Eccentric

B'ham Incumbents Back in Office

Northminster Starts Building Plan

Genevieve Maxwell To Speak April 12

At Community House

## B'field Township Budget Increases, Tax Still Same

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—A \$29,000 budget for 1960-61 was adopted without opposition at Bloomfield township's annual meeting, Saturday.

The budget is \$85,000 more than last year's. It necessitates no raise in taxes, however, because of increased valuations in the township.

THE 69 VOTERS attending the meeting also gave unanimous approval to three proposals backed by township officials.

These include an \$85,000 addition to the township hall, placement on the Aug. 2 primary ballot, a proposal to sell 30 acres of township property on Opdyke road and purchase of group insurance for 47 township employees at a cost of \$6,600 a year.

MORE THAN 50 per cent of the budget increase goes to operation of township police and fire departments, each of which will get three additional employees. The increase covers cost of planning consultants, recently employed to produce a master plan for township development.

A \$150,000 building program in the township last year has created property valued by \$600,000. Taxes on the increased valuation will cover the budget increase, without additional millage allotment.

## West Bloomfield Head Slaps Annual Meet

WEST BLOOMFIELD—About 50 residents approved West Bloomfield's \$298,695 budget Saturday at the township annual meeting, a custom which should be abolished, Township Supervisor John C. Reharr said this week.

Reharr said unofficial opinions expressed by a number of residents at the township annual meeting system, agreed Saturday's session with him that "under the township annual meeting system, small pressure groups could control the operation of the township."

He plans to ask the township board to place a proposal to abolish the annual meetings on August ballot.

"A TERRIFIC amount of time goes into the planning of township activities," Reharr said this week. "In my humble opinion, the thing to do is to turn the management over to an adequate board elected by all the voters."

"Under the present system, one group with purely selfish motives could upset all of management's planning," he said.

No groups attempted to win pressure at Saturday's "peaceable" meeting, Reharr said.

THE BUDGET, originally estimated at \$243,695, jumped to the \$298,695 total when \$55,000 was transferred from the township general fund to the township sewer account. The money will be held to meet the township's first payment of \$104,000 on the Farmington interceptor sewer, due April 1, 1961.

With the huge added expense for the township's share of the sewer, its 1960 budget was \$73,000 higher than last year's.

## Vote Slams At Annual Meetings

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—The spring thaw, which annually plays havoc with unpaved roads in Bloomfield township, is indirectly responsible for churning up the issue of whether to do away with annual township meetings as an instrument of Bloomfield township government.

The issue was raised at this year's annual meeting last Saturday, when a resolution from the floor to create a special tax assessment district to pave Lone Pine road from Lahser to Telegraph was barely defeated by a vote of 35 to 34.

Those who opposed assessment of more than \$100,000 of taxes on a special group, without advance notice to the group, immediately called for a meeting of township members voting affirmatively.

The vote was merely an expression of opinion without legal status. The issue can be resolved only by a general election vote, after being placed on the ballot by a vote of the township board.

THE RESOLUTION to create a tax district to pay for paving Lone Pine road was made by James F. Lovett, 4821 Keithdale, on behalf of a group of Lone Pine Village subdivision residents, who must use Lone Pine road for access to their subdivision.

The subdivision residents swelled attendance at the annual meeting to approximately 100. Residents of other subdivisions were present to pass on township matters which must be approved by a majority vote.

Lovett's resolution came as a surprise to township authorities, who had no idea that the Lone Pine was to be brought up at the meeting.

Also a surprise, was the fact that, legally, a special assessment district for roads could be passed at an annual meeting.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY, Floyd Blackless, was called upon to read a Michigan statute, passed in 1956, as to whether such a measure was possible. After reading the law aloud, Blackless opined that the resolution was legal. Board member Henry Hogan, a lawyer, expressed a difference of opinion with Blackless.

Speaking against passage of the road resolution, board member Robert Reid said that "inherent in the township meeting system is the danger that a small organized minority could be voted in as a measure of just such a measure as this."

## B'field Okays 96-Home Subdivision

SUPERVISOR Arno Hulet pointed out that Bloomfield township, with more than 10,000 voters, has the lowest percentage of the voters at an annual meeting. He said that Michigan law allows a township to reach a population of 5,000 before a referendum is required when paving of a road is set up by petition, which is the method by which the township is paved.

Mrs. Nancy Carriek, 4821 Keithdale, said she had a question about the resolution, said after the meeting that the issue had been raised at the story of Easter.

IN DEFENSE passage of the special road assessment at the township meeting, Lovett testified that residents living off this section of Lone Pine had tried, in vain, to get 65 per cent of residents on Lone Pine to agree to the paving of the road. (The township is required when paving of a road is set up by petition, which is the method by which the township is paved.)

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