

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

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

West B'field Board Names Nine Planners

WEST BLOOMFIELD Nine members to serve on West Bloomfield's newly created planning commission were appointed at the township meeting last Wednesday night.

Their selection was made by township supervisor John C. Reardon and unanimously confirmed by the board.

Appointees become effective Oct. 1. Simultaneously, the present zoning board, whose duties will be assumed by the planning commission, will be dissolved.

FIVE PRESENT zoning board members have been appointed to the commission.

"Their appointment assures experienced membership on the planning commission," Reardon said.

"We tried to make appointments on a mechanical basis, based on answers to questionnaires sent out to township residents who had indicated an interest in serving on the board," he added.

THE QUESTIONNAIRES determined the amount of time an applicant could give, particular field of interest and geographical section of the township lived in.

"The commission membership represents a cross section of interests in public affairs as well as geographic locations," according to Reardon.

Appointed to one-year terms are Henry Moore, 4751 Cove, design engineer, representing industry; Gerald Towne, Union Road, attorney, representing the profession; Milton Howard, 6386 Northfield, attorney, interested in public health.

TWO-YEAR members are John Hays, Sylvan Manor section, industry; Vernon W. Barker, 2530 Oak Terrace, industry; Mrs. Don Connor, 4150 Pontiac trail, education. All three are zoning board members.

Serving three years are Claude Whitmer, 2196 Walnut Lake, present zoning board, usually around 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Within a few hours, a break-in is discovered by some home owner.

That's the pattern associated with the current rash of break-ins in Bloomfield township, including some this week. Police have asked residents to help in their efforts to halt the burglaries.

Chief Norman Dehnke this week asked residents to help in their efforts to halt the burglaries.

"IN ALMOST every case a strange car is seen, usually around dusk," Dehnke said. "We've been finding out about the cars after the burglary is discovered, which doesn't help us much. We would appreciate a call on anything suspicious."

Break-ins last week included one reported Monday morning at 4950 Stonehenge. A woman resident returned home from a weekend trip and noticed curtains she had left open were drawn, and could see into the house. Police discovered the house had been broken into and ransacked. Nothing was reported missing.

Police could not give the amount of cash missing from a home at 4872 Ranch Lane, where a break-in was discovered Sunday. A ring was also missing.

Other break-ins last week occurred in two construction trailers.

Police Ask Reports on Strange Cars

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — A strange car is seen lurking in the neighborhood, usually around 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Within a few hours, a break-in is discovered by some home owner.

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Talk of the Towns

By JULIE CANDLER

The names of the people you are about to read about have been withheld. That's because any recognizable similarity between them and what I am about to tell, and I've had it, Man.

First of all, a certain Bloomfield township resident was talking the other day about my favorite subject, the sewer.

He was reviewing how much they had cost him when hooked up to his house recently.

On and on he went, ending with \$442.67 for a lead line to the house, and \$300 to the town for the tap-in fee.

"Altogether, it cost me about \$1,500," he summarized. "And do you know... our toilets don't work one bit better!"

Then there's a certain Bloomfield township guy whose wife and I are mistaken for one another occasionally. They even tell us we're doubles.

Other night she and I attended a show together with spouses. When it was over, my double's husband looked at us and said, "Okay, now which one do I go home with?"

THEN THERE'S a certain girl who demands a retraction from me. I mentioned recently that she's former college roommate. Not long after, I admitted publicly to an age which she is far younger than I.

So that no one will think she's 40, to I'll explain I worked for five years before I saved up enough pennies to go away to college.

Those pictures of our correspondents which we've just started using, with pride, are the work of a gentleman and a Swede, photographer Gunnar George.

GETTING BACK to "certain" people, a certain board member explained his tardiness in attending a meeting late last week after attending a candidates' coffee.

Board Gets Bid, Nets Gravel Pit

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — New owner of Bloomfield township's "gravel pit" on Opdyke road is Bloomfield Hills board of education.

The school board's bid of \$45,000 was the sole offer received by the township board after it advertised the property for sale recently. The offer was accepted at its meeting Monday night.

Sale of the 30-acre plot was authorized by township voters at the Aug. 2 primary. Proceeds are to be used toward an \$85,000 addition to the township hall, construction of which is already underway.

THE SCHOOL board plans to use the property, which fronts on the east side of Opdyke road, north of the Grank Trunk railroad lines, as a future school site. Funds for its purchase come from sale of building and site bonds authorized by the school district in 1955.

Its additional use as a garage site for the twenty odd buses owned by the school system has also been discussed at board of education meetings.

This possible use was brought up at the township board meeting among the township trustees. Trustees opined that its use, other than as a school site, would be a matter for township zoning board of appeals.

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The gravel operation has left the township with a gravel pit on Opdyke road badly scarred.

Township officials expressed their confidence that in selling the property to the board of education, the restoration and beautification of the property would be assured.

Others are Mrs. W. Chalfant, J. C. Metty, L. W. Smead, Martin C. Lee, Mrs. Arnold Thomas, N. D. Aliv, Marvin Mallis, Mrs. Rosina M. Roy, Mrs. William Webster, Mrs. Vern Bradburn and Mrs. Duvivier.

Martin Lee heads the drive. Leonard Rose is co-chairman.

Going Full Speed Ahead on SS Hope

When the SS Hope sailed from San Francisco last Thursday, she carried a cargo of medical supplies, technical skills, and good will to the struggling people of Indonesia.

A number of Birmingham-area people have played important roles in the launching of Hope. Two will travel with her to Indonesia to make a public service documentary motion picture about Project Hope on behalf of the American people.

They are Ralph C. Charbeneau and Dale Brubaker.

Sponsors of the film are the packaging equipment division of Ex-Cell-O corporation, manufacturers of the widely used Pure-Pak milk cartons. Supervising the film for Ex-Cell-O will be Charbeneau, director of advertising and public relations for the Packaging and Equipment Division, and a resident of 27050 Wellington, Franklin.

HE IS also acting as ex-officio director of communications for Project Hope. In this capacity he will assist newsmen Jim Vinal in relaying his broadcasts back to the United States.

Charbeneau's short-wave radio set will carry many of Vinal's broadcasts as well as messages from members of the Hope staff and crew to their families at home. Charbeneau is a prominent ham radio operator (call letters W8JLJ).

Also on board will be Brubaker, account executive on the Ex-Cell-O account at MacMann, Jost & Adams, Inc. He lives at 6884 N. Chalmers, Bloomfield Township.

The trip of the Hope's 28,000-mile journey will take about six months. Brubaker and Charbeneau, however, will return to the States around Nov. 15.

IN ADDITION to the documentary they are filming, the packaging equipment division has dedicated a \$4,000 milk packaging machine to the SS Hope. It will combine sea water with powdered milk solids and supply free milk to the underprivileged wherever Hope puts its port.

Two Bloomfield Hills residents played a key role in the launching of Hope. Ernest R. Breech, chairman of the financial committee of Fort Motor company, acted as the chairman of the fund-raising committee for Project Hope.

George D. Scott, vice president of Ex-Cell-O corporation which is producing the Hope documentary, lives at 561 Rudgate, Bloomfield Hills.

Regularly scheduled broadcasts from the SS Hope by newsmen James Vinal and Ernest R. Breech will be carried by radio station WJR between 7 and 7:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, this week through Oct. 26.

Reckless Piloting Leads to Arrest Of Bloomfield Man

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — Trial date for Gordon Laramie, a 35-year-old Bloomfield Township man, has been set for Oct. 19.

Laramie was arraigned last week in a case involving reckless piloting of the Peace Francis Castelletti on charges of recklessly piloting a 14-foot motorboat on the Black River near Metropolitan beach.

Laramie, of 1015 Joanne court, was accused of traveling at speeds up to 40 miles an hour, sending waves over docks and lawns and crashing boats against their moorings. Speed allowed on the river is five miles an hour.

TO BECOME part of Beverly Hills, the three home owners would have to request a special election, they would be voting on it.

What helps convince the residents to stick with status quo is a \$500 deposit demanded by the county before the election can be held.

The rediffed election was explained to the trio by Village and Township Clerk Fannie Adams recently. Mrs. Adams contacted the couples at the Beverly Hills council request.

REPORTING back to the council last week, Mrs. Adams said, "I told them if they did not annex Beverly Hills, there would be no way to get a special election to put them into the city of Southfield."

Two of the families hinted to Mrs. Adams that they would prefer to join Beverly Hills over Southfield.

But things are all right as they are, says Vinal. Since his house is across the street from a Southfield home, the city picks up his rubbish picked up by Beverly Hills.

ROAD SERVICE is terrible, admits Yank, whose stretch of road comes under Oakland county road commission jurisdiction. They don't get around much any more.

Cities like Southfield can annex the village of Franklin, Attorney Thomas Dillon pointed out to the council, so why can't villages do it?

Why not? asked the village councilmen, who resolved to ask State Representative James S. Clarkson and the Oakland county board of supervisors to join in engineering research development.

But fate had different plans for Southfield.

School Board Eyes 3-Year Junior Highs

SOUTHFIELD — Consideration should be given to putting seventh grade students in the same building with eighth and ninth graders in a 6-3-3 grade plan, the Southfield board of education resolved Monday night.

The board plans to study the restructuring of junior high programs at a year or more with a view toward possibly adding facilities for housing all seventh, eighth and ninth graders in one school.

The action to consider integration of the three grades points up a need for additional facilities in the school system. Seventh grade pupils are now instructed at elementary schools. Eighth and ninth graders attend Rigney or Lederer schools.

A GROUP protested two weeks ago before the township board of education, the board authorized a need for additional facilities in the school system. Seventh grade pupils are now instructed at elementary schools. Eighth and ninth graders attend Rigney or Lederer schools.

At a special session between the parents, Southfield school board members Theodore Mink and Assistant Superintendent Norman Olmsted the next night, the parents heard an explanation from board representatives that lack of room would make transfer of the school system involved impossible.

Monday's resolution to consider the 6-3-3 structure for grades (six elements in three junior high, and three high school) was proposed by board member Dr. Ira Atskuler.

In other action, the board authorized purchase of four acres at the village of Beverly Hills and Southfield city. The boundary lines left only 28 homes in the unincorporated portion of the township. The remainder of the township is incorporated into the villages of Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills.

BESIDES the three township homes that ended up with their back yards in the city, the boundary lines left only 28 homes in the unincorporated portion of the township. The remainder of the township is incorporated into the villages of Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills.

Cab Driver Dies Of Crash Injuries

SOUTHFIELD — Tragic climax to a 25-year-old man's life was reached Monday when he died of injuries received when he was pulled from his blazing taxicab following a collision at Twelfth and Myrtle, Detroit.

McCluskey died Saturday of injuries received when he was pulled from his blazing taxicab following a collision at Twelfth and Myrtle, Detroit.

Members of the senior class are selling "Spotlight" as their project for the year, proceeds to go to a scholarship fund.



Telling the nation about Project Hope through WJR newsmen James Vinal (left) and Ernest R. Breech. Both Scott and Breech are Bloomfield Hills residents.

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Volunteers to Hear Final Instructions At Fund Meeting

WEST BLOOMFIELD Final instructions will be given volunteers heading West Bloomfield's fund drive at a meeting tonight at the township hall.

Area directors superintending the effort to raise \$21,144 in the township are Kenneth DeConick, Mrs. Charles Vasmach, Joseph Arno, James Hengemueh, John Payne, Mrs. Angus Wallace, Leonard Rose, Mrs. Anthony Olson, William H. Henson and John Jans.

Others are Mrs. W. Chalfant, J. C. Metty, L. W. Smead, Martin C. Lee, Mrs. Arnold Thomas, N. D. Aliv, Marvin Mallis, Mrs. Rosina M. Roy, Mrs. William Webster, Mrs. Vern Bradburn and Mrs. Duvivier.

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Subdivision Okayed In West Bloomfield

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Tentative approval of a 12-home subdivision plan was granted by West Bloomfield township's board last night.

The subdivision, as yet unnamed, lies south of Maple between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads. Developer is Bert Smolker Co.

The plan contains a minimum of 10,000 sq. ft. of land, a sewer system and a water system and sewer connection into the Farmington intercity system.

Bob Hope TV Show 'Star' Her

SOUTHFIELD — WITH STARS in her eyes, as well as adding some to her crown, Carol Christensen, talented 23-year-old beauty from the City of Southfield, will appear on the Bob Hope TV show. At that time she will be named Deb Star of 1961.

Carol is one of 12 young actresses recently chosen by Hollywood make-up artists and hair stylists as most likely to succeed in the coming year.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Christensen, of Marthe Washington road, Carol attended Southfield high school. She majored in mathematics and science, intending to follow in the professional footsteps of her father, a Jeweler in engineering research development.

But fate had different plans for the young lady. Carol took a job with her father's company and rose to become secretary to one of its top executives.

HER BEAUTY caught the attention of the firm's publicity department. She was frequently "borrowed" to pose for publicity pictures.

Eventually she was persuaded to resign her job and become a professional model. From this she progressed into television commercials and acting, first in Detroit and then in New York.

Southfield Students Publish Book For Community

SOUTHFIELD — A new book is just off the press and students at Southfield high are assured it's going to be a best seller. Since they wrote it, their optimism and pride is understandable.

"Spotlight on Southfield," written by twelfth grade Journalism classes, relates the history and growth of a community.

Under the guidance of faculty members James Owen and Daniel Julian, the group of teen-age students worked for two years compiling the data, doing research, developing skill as writers and publishers. This was done after school hours, with no academic credit given.

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Election Called, Board Goes Home To Watch Debate

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — A light agenda and speedy conduct of business enabled Bloomfield township board members to adjourn at 9:20 Monday night, with ten minutes to get home to hear the Kennedy-Nixon TV debate.

Before adjournment a general election would take place Nov. 8 in the township and precincts. Election to that effect, setting the hours from seven a.m. to eight p.m. for the township's 13 precincts to be held open.

Rate of pay for election officials was set at \$25 a day for chairman, \$20 for inspectors, custodians at \$2.50 per hour and helpers at \$2 an hour.

Telephone Call, Abandoned Car Are Only Clues

WEST BLOOMFIELD — A telephone call from a woman motorist and an abandoned car found in a Detroit parking lot are the slim clues on which the Ferndale police have their continuing search for William and Edith Ritter, fugitive Royal Oak nursing home operators, and their two children, Bryan, 5, and Linda, 5.

The telephone call to a Detroit newspaper came from Mrs. William Murphy, of Bradenbury, Ky., who said she had given a family she believed to be the Ritters a ride into Bradenbury. Here, she bought a meal for four persons. She said they told her they were headed for Dallas.

THE COMPACT Car identified as Ritter's car was found in the parking lot at the Greyhound station. Police said the car contained no clues. It was taken to the Ferndale police pound.

The couple have been sought since Sept. 11 on a warrant charging Ritter, 45, of 2261 Midvale, West Bloomfield township, with cashing a worthless check.

Police believe Ritter may have swindled Detroit-area people out of some \$600,000.

Bloomfield Man Heads Association

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — The election of Donald L. Richardson, 855 Pine Hill drive, Bloomfield Hills, as president of the Township Association of Detroit and Michigan has been announced by the association.

Richardson begins a one-year term Oct. 1. He is a member of the Detroit firm of Nauman - McFawn, Inc. he was elected at a recent election of directors meeting in Detroit.

Franklin Village Steals Limelight

FRANKLIN VILLAGE, the "town which time forgot," is the star in an exhibit to go on display at the Detroit Historical Museum, through December 1.

The collection of paintings, entitled "Spotlight on Franklin Village," illustrates the village's past and present.

77-Year-Old Poetess Receives Ike's Thanks

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — An 87-year-old grandmother who says she's "just got to be doing something" sat down and wrote a poem a few weeks ago.

"I'll to our President! The best in the land, An honor to our country. He's taken things in hand. There's Washington, Teddy Roosevelt, Lincoln, Hoover, too. He's taken things in hand. How about you?"

"May God's richest blessings Go with him day by day. Lead him into greener pastures."

ALL the rest of life's way. "We hope to get another Just like the one we've got. Well—if we don't—we know We'll miss one on a spot."

PEOPLE ENJOY her understated, uncomplicated poetry. It comes "right from the heart."

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