The Birmingham Eccentric

83rd YEAR—NO. 52 | 38 PAGES MARCH. 2, 1961 | BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN | SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

The Nation's Top Suburban Weekly — TEN CENTS

Behind Our Front Page

From one's earliest ability to record and recall, one is almost instinctively impelled to come in love with his home, his home-town, his country, his school—and a host of similar associations. In no small way, these impressions tend to bind us together in the common denominator of our personal environments . . . they develop loyalties, devotions, dedications to patriotism.

Backstage Confusion

. . . at St. Dunstan's Playhouse is portrayed in photographic study on Page 1-D.

Octogenarian Scores High

. . . East Beverly Hills grandpa bowls 'em over. Story and photo are on Page 1-E.

19 Maple Swimmers

. . . qualify for league finals. Story about Friday's meet is on Page 8-E.

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Request Sewage Disposal Plant For Art Center

The Bloomfield Art Association, equal to almost any creative challenge, will go to the city fathers Monday night to ask for the use of the Birmingham sewage disposal plan for its new home.

Robert B. Bender, president of the BAA, announced the group's request today.

"It is our thought," Bender stated, that this building can, with city cooperation, be converted for our educational program, and at the same time, provide an art center for the Birmingham area."

THE PRESENT BAA headquarters are in an elderly white frame house at 361 North Woodward. The association is being forced to find a new location due to the pending development of the northwest quadrant parking lot.

The site the group is seeking, the North Evergreen Sewage Disposal Authority, was vacated when the authority dissolved. The service provided by the Evergreen Interceptor made the facilities unnecessary.

The property and building are located at 1516 S. Cranbrook Road in a wooded and unplatted area southwest of Seaholm High School.

"The Bloomfield Art Association has long felt," Bender added, "that such a development program should be started in Birmingham. We have a proposal which could conceivably serve as the cornerstone of an integrated development of all of the cultural activities of the area."

This proposal will be presented to the Birmingham City Commission at its meeting Monday night.

The Bloomfield Art Association, formed just over four years ago, has been a sponsor of the annual Birmingham Arts Festival and conducts a year-round program of educational classes in addition to programs and exhibits.

★ ★ ★

N. Evergreen Dies; Funds Distributed

The North Evergreen Sewage Disposal Authority died Tuesday morning.

The authority's board of trustees dissolved the authority and arranged distribution of its surplus funds.

Trustees also transferred title of the sewage disposal plant and its seven acres of property back to Birmingham.

THE $68,171.63 surplus funds will be distributed as follows:
Birmingham, $37,072.04.
Bloomfield Hills, $2,806.89.
Troy, $5,289.09.
Bloomfield Township, $23,003.61.

Trustees taking the action Tuesday were City Manager David Firestone, Troy; Supervisor Arno L. Hulet, Bloomfield Township; City Manager Elmer Kephart, Bloomfield Hills; City Manager L. R. Gare, Birmingham, secretary of the authority.

DISSOLUTION OF the North Evergreen was made possible when Detroit, Oakland County and Southfield finally reached agreement of the 8 Mile Drain-Evergreen hook-up.

This and That

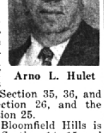
by George R. Averill

Top elected officials in the Birmingham - Bloomfield area have been asked by The Eccentric's Editor & Publisher George R. Averill to write the content of this column for several weeks. This week's guest columnist is Arno L. Hulet, supervisor of Bloomfield Township.

By ARNO L. HULET
Supervisor, Bloomfield Township

Townships, as we know them in Michigan, exist only in the Middle Atlantic and Midwestern States. These townships came into existence by Ordinance of 1787 even before the land was settled so that land could be surveyed and sold.

These "Congressional Townships", as they were called, were 6 miles by 6 miles square, being further divided into 36 Sections, each 1 mile square. The Ordinance of 1787 further provided that Section 16 of each township be set aside for school purposes.



Arno L. Hulet

Certain sections of our township have severed connections, so to speak, and have taken the identity of a city. The City of Birmingham is now what was Section 35, 36, and East ½ of Section 26, and the South¾ of Section 25.

The City of Bloomfield Hills is now what was Section 14, 15 and the South ½ of Sections 10 and 11. The City of Pontiac absorbed approximately ¾ of Section 3; also part of North ½ of Section 4 and North ½ of Section 5.

THIS LEAVES approximately 25 square miles remaining in Bloomfield Township proper.

Township government in Michigan dates from 1837. There have been practically no changes in the form of township government from that day to this. Township government thus was developed during the middle 19th century, when the most important feature of democracy was that all officials were elected in order to bring government "close to the people."

Today we are equally concerned about making democracy work by making it possible for the citizen to lay the blame for action or inaction on the proper public official.

TOWNSHIP government was intended to be simple local government suitable for rural areas.

All officials of the township are elected. They are the Supervisor, the Clerk, the Treasurer, and four Trustees.

These seven officials make up the TOWNSHIP BOARD. Township officials act as both the administrative officers and the legislative body of the township.

As an administrative officer, the supervisor has two main duties:

1) He assesses property in the township for county, township and school district taxes;

(See THIS & THAT on Page 2-A)

BUYING?
SELLING?
RENTING?
Get Results
From An Eccentric Classified
It's as easy as calling
MI 4-1100

'Courtroom' Becomes An 'Adult Ed. Class'

By KEN WEAVER
News Editor

There was no "courtroom battle" at this week's Birmingham City Commission meeting.

Instead, it was—as one member of the capacity audience declared—more like an adult education class.

Attorney John Manikoff, who last week engaged commissioners in a session of "cross-examination," was contrastingly pacific this week.

Commissioners settled the matter by voting unanimously to exercise options to purchase the so-called Frost and Wabeek-Jacobson properties for the proposed 400-car northwest quadrant parking lot.

They assured Manikoff, his clients and the rest of the audience that there have been "no secret deals or commitments" in connection with the options.

SEVERAL BUSINESSMEN attested to the soundness of the commission's plans and the value of this proposed lot, along with the entire municipal parking lot development program.

Manikoff had little to say this week until near the end of the discussion. Then he questioned restrictions imposed on the City in land contracts for the Wabeek-Jacobson holdings.

Voicing most of the opposition this time was Earl Lowe, 915 Puritan. It was Lowe who likened the meeting to an adult education class. He questioned the soundness of the City's plans from a business standpoint. Said Lowe, "I think you're being clobbered."

THE OPTIONS as approved call for payment of $33,000 in cash for the Wallace A. Frost property at 277 N. Bates and $200,000 each to Wabeek Corp. and Jacobson's with $40,000 down payment to each and the balance on 10 year contracts with quarterly payments of $3,200 to each, plus interest, for 12½ years.

Manikoff's partner, Ray Munde, asked for clarification of the options, saying that the City actually had two options on Wabeek-Jacobson holdings.

City Attorney Dean Beier explained that the City had options of $600,000 in cash and $400,000 on a land contract.

HE SAID that when the options were obtained, Wabeek-Jacobson's were not willing to sell their 231-car parking lot without enlarging it. If the City was willing to enlarge it by acquiring the A. H. Meyer and Frost properties, purchase price for the W-J land would be $400,000.

Otherwise, W-J would want the larger amount.

"By making it possible to enlarge the lot, we are able to purchase the property for $400,000," said Beier.

Commissioner William E. Roberts later pointed out that this was the amount W-J paid for the property eight years ago and said this "explains why this is a good price now."

IN ANSWER to a question by Lowe, Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham said a planning study showed "a great deficiency of parking" in the W-J area "in spite of the private parking facilities already there."

He said the purchases for the northwest quadrant lot were decided upon "to provide more parking and to protect what parking is already there."

Lowe countered, "I think it's just

(See COURTROOM on Page 4-A)

Adventure Series To Present Film About the Congo

"Kayaks Down the Congo," only existing color film of the headwaters of the Congo, will be presented by the young California explorer John Goddard for the World Adventure Series at the Birmingham Community House at 8 p.m. Saturday.

In flimsy kayaks, Goddard and his British companion battled 300 miles of rapids, camped in crocodile-infested marshes, filmed lion and other big game as well as remote and primitive tribesmen.

Goddard also filmed Elizabethville, a colorful parade of African troops, rich copper mines, the ancient technique of copper smelting and tribes, cities and regions prominent in today's news.

Harry Golden to Start '61-62 Town Hall Series

SEVAREID LANDERS MOORE GOLDEN MILES HOLBROOK

Landers, Sevareid Other Headliners

Birmingham Town Hall's 1961-62 series will present six celebrities whose subjects will range from the arts to commentaries on today's hectic world.

Viewing the contemporary scene from vastly different vantage points will be Eric Sevareid, Harry Golden and Ann Landers.

Literature, music and drama will be represented by Dr. Leland Miles, Gerald Moore and Hal Holbrook with his celebrated one-man show, "Mark Twain Tonight".

ANNOUNCEMENT OF the new program was made today by Town Hall president, Mrs. Donald S. Bay, from the stage of the Birmingham Theater, where a capacity audience was on hand to hear this season's last scheduled lecturer, columnist James Reston.

Leading off the new fall series on Sept. 28-29, will be Harry Golden, who dispenses his own brand of homespun philosophy in his newspaper, "The Carolina Israelite", his best-selling books, "Only in America", "For 2c Plain" and "Enjoy, Enjoy", and his widely-read newspaper column.

A CHANGE OF pace is scheduled on Oct. 12-13, with the appearance of Gerald Moore in a lecture-piano recital entitled "The Accompanist Speaks".

A favorite accompanist of scores of musical greats including Flakstad, Chaliapin, Melchior, Casals and Elman, Moore is also noted as a raconteur with a wicked flair for mimicry.

ON NOV. 16-17, in response to hundreds of requests, Town Hall will present Ann Landers, whose name is a household word throughout America.

Her advice column, noted for its down-to-earth approach, is carried in 415 papers here and abroad.

DR. LELAND MILES, author, educator and humorist, will appear on Jan. 11-12, in a review of current books entitled "Behind the Book Jackets".

Moderator and producer of the popular TV program "Casing the Classics", he is also a versatile writer and is director of the English program at the University of Cincinnati.

ON JAN. 25-26, Hal Holbrook will bring to Town Hall audiences his enormously successful "Mark Twain Tonight".

After enjoying a long run in New York and leading European capitals, this show, or portions of it, has been presented on nationwide TV, in record albums and at a recent White House Correspondents birthday celebration for former President Eisenhower.

THE SERIES will close with the appearance on Feb. 22-23 of Eric Sevareid, CBS News correspondent, author and one of the most honored men in journalism.

Currently on roving assignment for CBS, based in the London bureau, Sevareid will speak on "The Shape of Things to Come".

BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL, now in its seventh season, is sponsored by St. Anne's Guild of St. James Episcopal church. Information may be obtained by writing Birmingham Town Hall Office, Box 3, Birmingham.

10 B'ham-B'field Entries Race for 7 City Offices

By LES LANGLOIS
City Editor

They're off and running in the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills city races for the April 3 elections.

With final entries posted by last weekend's deadline, 10 candidates have responded to the starter's gun in three contests for seven city offices.

Pacing the field in Birmingham for two three-year term city commission posts are Carl F. Fischer, Robert W. Page and Ralph A. Main.

Jockeying for two three-year term library board positions are Arthur J. Underwood, Charles B. Kass and Edwin S. Snyder.

ALTHOUGH BLOOMFIELD Hills offers a larger field, the odds remain the same with Robert A. Frye, John S. Bugas, Dominick Vettraino and Lyman J. Craig pushing for three two-year term commission posts.

With veteran runners unopposed in Bloomfield's constable and justice of the peace races, the winner's circle is a sure bet for Homer J. Murphy and Justice Alva J. Richardson.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION

CARL F. FISCHER, 1235 Lyonhurst, who operates Fischer Buick at 808 S. Woodward, is taking his first crack at politics.

Formerly a Birmingham Oldsmobile dealer in partnership for 12 years with his brother, Richard, at Suburban Motors, Carl took over Fischer Buick last year when the pair acquired Sumner Motor Sales.

ROBERT W. PAGE, 40, of 2468 Manchester, who heads electronic data processing programs for production control at Ford Motor, is seeking election for the first time.

A planning board member since 1953, Page has been a city commissioner since August when he was appointed to fill the vacancy created by Lance C. Minor's resignation.

RALPH A. MAIN, 56, of 1819 Fairview, a local civil engineer, is no stranger on Birmingham's political scene. He is a former mayor, city commissioner and Oakland County drain commissioner.

Among Main's many civic interests are the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club and Oakland County Engineering Society.

BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY BOARD

ARTHUR J. UNDERWOOD JR. 898 Mohegan, manager of the Detroit office of Katz Agency, Inc., national advertising representatives for radio, television and newspapers, is making his debut in politics.

A Birmingham resident since 1933, Underwood is a member of the Friends of Baldwin Public Library.

CHARLES B. KASS, 56, of 1028 Chestnut, staff engineer for the Ethyl Corp. in Ferndale, is seeking re-election. A board member since 1956, he was president of the board from 1957-59.

Kass, who has lived in Birmingham for the past 20 years, is a member of the Torch Club, Community House board of directors and North Oakland Planning Division of United Community Services.

EDWIN S. SNYDER, 63, of 823 Colonial Court, vice president and trust officer of Detroit Bank and Trust, is also shooting for re-election.

A board member for the last six years, Snyder has resided in Birmingham for 25 years. He has been a trustee of the Community House for the past 12 years.

BLOOMFIELD CITY COMMISSION

ROBERT A. FRYE, 43, of 1255 Trowbridge, Detroit attorney in

(See RACE on Page 2-A)

Special Section Tells Story of Community House

A special tabloid section devoted entirely to the community House will appear with the March 9 issue of The Birmingham Eccentric.

It is being prepared by 22 volunteers, including three executives of a national advertising firm.

They are Thoburn H. Wiant, a vice president and account supervisor with Young & Rubicam, Inc., and James Rast and Wayne Kline of Y & R. Wiant is a Community House board member.

Purpose of the section is to help familiarize Birmingham-Bloomfield residents with the Community House and to help assure success of the March 6-20 fund drive for $50,700.

TO DEFRAY costs of the special section, advertising is being solicited by Les Lempke of Ladies Home Journal; Comeford McLaughlin, Fortune Magazine; Richard McLaughlin, Reader's Digest; Richard Pohl, Better Homes & Gardens; Robert Salsman, Sunday Magazine; John Sterling, Cresmer & Woodward; Jack Thompson, Saturday Evening Post; Bing Murray and William Albaugh, Newsweek Magazine, and William Holman, Successful Farming.

Writing articles for the tabloid, in addition to William Hutchins of Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., are Mrs. William R. Candler, Mrs. J. H. Carr, Mrs. Charles E. Gathers, Mrs. Gilbert Goode, Jr., Mrs. R. P. Lambeck, Mrs. David Miller, Mrs. Sheldon Moyer and Mrs. Humbert Mularoni, Jr., all area residents.

Services Friday For G. W. Miller. Builder-Realtor

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Friday in the Bell Chapel of William R. Hamilton Co. for George W. Miller, president of Miller Homes, Inc.

A prominent area builder and realtor, Mr. Miller, 67, died Sunday in Daytona Beach, Fla., while en route to a vacation at his winter home in Fort Lauderdale.

Mr. Miller lived at 850 N. Glengarry Road, Bloomfield Township.

A WORLD WAR I infantry captain, he was graduated from Penn State University and later obtained his law degree from the University of Michigan.

He entered the building business in Detroit in 1919 and between that time and 1957 he built more than 15,000 homes in the Detroit area. He also published 17 books on home building.

MR. MILLER was a life member of Palestine Lodge No. 357, FA&M, and a member of the Moslem Shrine, Detroit Consistory and Detroit Commandery No. 1,

(See MILLER on Page 4-A)

GEORGE W. MILLER

Here's Your Chance for a Free Vacation

Merchants' Travel Contest Starts Today

Thinking of making vacation plans?

How does 12 days in the Caribbean sound?

Or a weekend in New York?

Or a weekend Great Lakes cruise?

Or, to top it off, how about going for free?

Somebody's going to — for these are the three prizes in the Birmingham Merchants' Travel contest.

SPONSORED BY The Birmingham Eccentric and the Retail Division of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, the contest starts today and ends at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 25.

All you have to do to win is estimate the value of coins on display in a treasure chest in the window of Birmingham Federal Savings, 99 W. Maple.

Entry forms and ballot boxes are available at the 61 participating stores. (See full-page advertisement, page 1-B.)

You may enter as many times as you wish; no purchase is necessary. Prizes will be awarded on the basis of the closest estimate of the actual amount of coins in the chest.

NO ONE will know how much money is in the chest until the contest is over. Winners will be announced in the April 6 issue of The Eccentric.

Anyone is eligible to enter except management of Birmingham stores and employes, management and families of Birmingham Federal Savings, the Chamber of Commerce and The Eccentric.

Several high school students from the Birmingham Business Club will be chosen to pick the winning entries from the ballot boxes. Judges are the board members of the Retail Merchants Division. Their decision will be final.

In case of a tie, an additional estimate will be required.

Winners may choose their own time for their trip within one year of the contest deadline.

Several leading stores will have special Caribbean window displays this month to help promote the contest.

GRAND PRIZE will be a 12-day trip for two by air to the Caribbean, including transportation, first class hotel accommodations, meals and sight-seeing.

Included in the itinerary are Miami, Fla.; Montego Bay, Jamaica; an around-the-island tour of Jamaica, covering the middle districts as well; Port au Prince; tour of Haiti; tour of San Juan, Puerto Rico, with a three-hour trip to the El Yunque National Rain Forest.

Second prize will be a weekend trip for two by air to New York City, including transportation, hotel accommodations, Meals and sight-seeing.

Third prize will be a weekend cruise for two to Cleveland, O., and Buffalo, N.Y.

LAST YEAR, there were 50,000 entries. Winner of the first prize — a new compact car — was Miss Judith M. Bollman, 18, of Pontiac.

Troy to Study Route Of Chrysler X-Way

TROY — Troy city commission and planners will meet at 7:30 p.m. Friday to discuss the route of the Chrysler Expressway through Troy.

The matter was on the agenda for Monday's meeting but was postponed for further study. The State Highway Department is seeking the final approval. According to highway officials, the expressway will cost $9.7 million through Troy.

Sheriff Dept.'s Posse Column Topic In Suburbia Today

Oakland County Sheriff Department's 32-man posse, a mounted division, is the subject of a column item in the March issue of Suburbia Today, magazine supplement which will appear with the March 9 issue of The Eccentric.

Also in that issue, poll-taker Dr. George Gallup interprets a nationwide survey underway to determine where the "happiest people" live.

THERE'S AN Easter feature article about how to make beautiful birds and flowers out of blown eggs, a bit of dye and simple materials like pipe cleaners and crepe paper.

For a magazine chucked full of interesting, informative articles, be sure to read Suburbia Today in next week's Eccentric.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for ENterprise 8310.