

Yesterday's vanished problems or troubles... they were yesterday's concern... and yesterday has passed and why carry all of its concern into today... if they should have been solved yesterday, and you have lived through to today why carry all of yesterday's negative memories? Oh, I know that this sounds true, but so many other good suggestions for your guidance. Be forgetful of negatives.

84th YEAR—NO. 29

# The Birmingham Eccentric

52 PAGES  
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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

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Suburban Weekly  
TEN CENTS

## Propose Millage Increase in Now.

### This and That

by George R. Averill

For the first time in nearly 42 years, I begin this comment free from any personal responsibility for the content of this newspaper and its typographical kin, Eccentric Press. Although, like most people, no doubt originally looked forward to a time of retirement, now that it has come upon me I as yet have not felt its essential impact... one hardly can during the first few days.

Nor do I expect, ever to enter that retirement domain when "time hangs heavily on my hands". I will continue to write for The Eccentric, and maintain many of my previous habits as a journalist. As I quickly review my long association with this community, I believe I honestly can say that a great and rewarding phase of being in community newspaper work lies in the making and maintenance of friendships... in public and business relationships, together with the knowledge that one's journalistic efforts can leave their good marks upon various phases of local institutions and activities.

Another warning recollection may include, those reported when an editor-reporter can use his facilities to assist some person back on a better life. And such opportunities do come frequently to a newspaper man who works in a community.

But enough of this for the moment... as time goes on, I probably will now and then recall the past in terms of the lives of certain local citizens (some of them still here, but most of them passed on).

Increasingly, it seems, Birmingham is reaping criticism because of tickets given out for overtime parking. It certainly isn't fair to accuse the police of malice in this regard. After all, parking meters exist basically to assure the maximum of available parking space to motorists who need it. Requiring people to pay for this privilege is one way of assuring available spaces.

A few weeks ago, while in Ludington, Mich., I overheard 15 minutes while doing some shopping. The ticket, affixed to my car, indicated that "you owe to the police traffic debt, within 48 hours, and place a dime in a meter in office, no further penalty will be charged." So, for a meter, traffic violation will be discharged. This I did.

I learned that this method has been in existence in Ludington for many years. If one doesn't pay up within 48 hours, the charge is a dollar. If one parks overtime and gets a ticket, and his car remains where it is for another hour, he has another ticket, and both can be wiped off by paying 20 cents; but if the car is there when the meter makes his meter round, the charge is a dollar.

"I was informed by the officer at the traffic desk. 'We are a free summer resort area, and the parking and holding good will be one of our department's jobs, too. We have found that if you come in overtime parking is from a few minutes to less than a half-hour, the meter is the best way to assure actually only wins our city good will, but it also has a way of causing parking to be more considerate of their obligation toward others, without making them resentful.'"

### Nine Retailers Win Seats on C of C Board

Nine Birmingham retail merchants won seats on the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce's newly organized Retail Merchants Division. Results of a two-week election, in which ballots were cast by some 100 merchants for 16 candidates, were disclosed last Thursday by the Chamber of Commerce.

The board members are: Frank Mulholland, F. J. Mulholland Co.; Martin Frank Higgins & Frank Paul Kurth-Huaton Hardware Co.; Aaron Kershenbaum-Kay Baum, Arthur Shafer-Birmingham Eccentric; D. Larry Sherman-Sherman Shoes; Wilber R. Mason, Jr.-Jacobson's Department Store; Dominick Caputo-Birmingham Community Market; John W. Moss-Moss Florist.

"THE ELECTION was very close," said Charles Mortensen, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, "which indicates that it was

## Art Association Launches Fund Drive



### Presenting a Bell

Presenting a replica in white of the famed Liberty Bell to Mrs. Marvin Brokaw, West Berlin belle, Rocco DiMarco, 17, seems quite at ease in her Birmingham "home." Sponsored by the Michigan Council of Churches, "Ro" will attend Seaholm High School as a senior and will live with the Brokaws at 1166 S. Bates until next June.

## West Berlin Girl Finds 'Home' Here

By IRMA N. DAVIS  
Staff Writer

Although she is too young to remember the war years, 17-year-old Rocco DiMarco has lived with its aftermath almost all of her life.

Her home in suburban West Berlin is one mile from the East German border, just north of the city. However, "Ro" will spend the better part of the year with the Marvin Brokaw family on South Beach Street, Birmingham, and graduate from Seaholm High School next June.

She is in this country under the auspices of the Michigan Council of Churches.

"THE BLOND, green-eyed German girl has found a true 'home' away from home for the Brokaw's daughter, Cheryl, 17, returned to Birmingham from a two-month stay in West Germany only a week after Ro's arrival here. Cheryl's residence abroad was also sponsored by the MCC.

Both girls agree that life as a teen-ager in West Germany is remarkably similar to that of youngsters Stateside. And Ro emphasizes that German parents are not nearly as strict as the average American would think.

THERE ARE MINOR differences, for instance, on such legal points as the age at which each country's young people are allowed to drink or smoke or drive. West German teen-agers may smoke at 16; 18 years is the magic age at which they are permitted to exercise the other two privileges.

Parents, among Ro's friends at least, are equally generous about use of the family car. Two-car families are a rarity, she said. "My sister is making the license now," she noted. "At 16, the mother and father will give her the permission to drive their car."

HER ENGLISH is excellent but carries a trace of accent that is as charming as her warm and friendly manner. Occasionally she is at a loss for words and then her expressive hands and ever-present dictionary fill the gap.

When asked if dating customs are the same in both countries, she turned to Mrs. Brokaw and said, "Dating? Is that when a girl goes out with a boy?"

Receiving an affirmative answer, she agreed the customs were quite similar. Girls begin to date about 16, she noted. "At the movies, 'cinemas,' concerts, picnics and swimming when they go out together. 'Oh, yes,' she added, 'we like to walk; sometimes we stroll through' (See BERLIN, 3-A)

## Dedicate Gallery To Rocco DiMarco

See editorial Page 8-B

Plans to dedicate its exhibition gallery to the memory of the late artist Rocco DiMarco were announced this week by the Bloomfield Art Association as it launched a campaign to raise \$75,000.

The funds will cover the estimated cost of converting the city's former sewage disposal plant at 1516 S. Cranbrook Road into a Birmingham Art Center. A 23-by-60-foot area will be converted into an art center, at a cost of \$25,000. The gallery will be called the Rocco DiMarco Exhibit Gallery, in tribute to the late artist who was the former art director of a prominent Detroit advertising agency and a resident of Bloomfield Hills.

He was a member of the art association's board of directors at the time of his sudden death last June at the age of 56. DiMarco had been an active supporter of the art association and its goals.

"THE ORGANIZATION'S goals are expressed in the plan for the new art center. It is designed to help enrich the community's enjoyment and appreciation of the arts through an annual program of instruction and exhibits," said BAA President Deborah B. Bender. "When remodeling is completed, the art center will contain—besides the exhibition gallery—classrooms for art instruction, lounges and PAA headquarters office, all to be financed by the balance of the \$75,000.

The center would serve Birmingham and the huge suburban community surrounding it.

ANNOUNCEMENT of the fundraising drive was made Friday by Paul N. Averill, chairman of the BAA building committee, in a letter to the membership. Averill said the Rocco DiMarco

gallery, a 1,980 square feet could house large traveling shows of national importance. Plans are to raise funds for the tribute gallery itself through special gifts of \$500 or more. Averill said a permanent plaque, inscribed to DiMarco's memory and listing names of significant donors, will be displayed in the gallery. Mrs. Donald E. Atkins, 540 Haverhill, Bloomfield Hills, is the building fund committee member in charge of special gifts.

THE COMMITTEE hopes to raise one-third of the \$75,000 goal through three-year plans of the BAA general membership. Another one-third is expected to come from special gifts, while the balance will be sought from the community at large.

BAA officers will review bids next week for work to install flooring, lighting and heating in the former city plant. Flooring would cover existing open pits. Architect Linn Smith, who drew up plans for the remodeling, said the work should be completed about Nov. 1.

BAA MOVED to its present location last June. Its former headquarters building at 361 N. Woodward is now being used for a new city parking lot.

The City of Birmingham has leased its former sewage plant to the BAA for 25 years. Other members of the fundraising committee are Dean Coffin, Max B. Tunnicliffe and Max H. Fruhauf.



GOLDEN MOORE  
LANDERS HOLBROOK  
MILES SEAVARD

## Harry Golden Starts New Town Hall Series

Harry Golden, noted publisher, author and columnist, will be the 1961-62 Birmingham Town Hall series next Thursday and Friday at the Birmingham Theatre. Widely known across the nation as a syndicated columnist and as editor and publisher of "The Carolina Israelite," Golden is also the author of three best sellers, "Only in America," "For Two Cents Plain" and "Enjoy! Enjoy!"

MRS. DONALD S. BAY, Birmingham Town Hall president, will introduce Golden to his audience. Luncheon featuring question and answer periods will be held at the Birmingham Country Club following both the 11 a.m. lectures.

OTHER CELEBRITIES scheduled to make Town Hall appearances this season are British actor and comedian Gerald Moore on Oct. 12 and 13; advice columnist Ann Landers on Nov. 16 and 17 and Hal Holbrook in his one-man show, "Mark Twain Tonight" on Jan. 18 and 19.

On Feb. 8 and 9, Dr. Leland Miles, author and educator, will present "Behind the Book Jackets." The board hopes to have the series will close the week Feb. 22.

## To Construct Westchester School Soon

Construction will begin immediately on a \$675,000 school in the Westchester area, according to an announcement made this week by the Birmingham Board of Education.

The decision to build the new school was made Sept. 12 at a special board meeting.

THE WESTCHESTER Elementary School building will be on a site at West Maple and Westmore. The board hopes to have the school ready for occupancy by September, 1962.

OF single-story construction, the school will contain 12 classrooms and the required service facilities. Two conventional classrooms will be modified with movable partitions for large group instruction. It will accommodate about 600 students.

SCHEDULED FOR an estimated cost of \$675,000, the building was authorized by the voters in the \$68,000 bond issue passed in 1957. A decreasing rate in school enrollment growth lessened the requirements for new buildings during the time of the '57 bond issue.

BASIC PLANS were approved by the board more than a year ago and are currently being updated by Wendell Smith, Birmingham architect.

## Operating, Building Questions on Ballot

By LES LANGLOIS  
City Editor

Birmingham voters will be asked for an overall school millage increase of 2.6 mills in a special school election Nov. 20.

An operating and a building proposal for the election were formally adopted at Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting.

In addition to the operating proposal for a 2.6 millage increase, the building proposal asks for bonding authority for \$4,915,000.

However, only the operating proposal calls for a tax increase.

"THESE PROPOSALS," said Malcolm R. Lovell, Jr., acting board president in the absence of Mrs. Kathryn Loomis, "are by far the most important resolutions adopted in a long, long history of the importance and complexity of the increased millage.

Volunteer services of George Whitehead, vice president of the Birmingham Parent-Teachers Council, and Paul Hollingshead, a year's chairman of the Independent Citizens for Birmingham Schools group, are being used in the information program were accepted by the board Tuesday.

THE OPERATING proposal (election ballot proposal B) calls for an actual increase of 2.6 mills over the present six-mill levy which expires in December.

In dollars and cents, the increased amount would be equivalent to a tax increase of \$2.60 per year for each \$1,000 of state equalized property value.

Since the school tax bills are not due until December, the tax increase would not go into effect until December, 1962.

The millage increase, said Lovell, is for providing more operating funds to strengthen the school system's curriculum.

This strengthening would be accomplished primarily in two ways—by increasing the number of teachers and improving teachers' salaries.

ALTHOUGH THE actual millage increase would amount to 2.6 mills, the proposal as it appears on the ballot will ask voter approval for a total of 5.2 mills, or five mills plus the current six-mill levy.

However, as Lovell put it, "It's not the total millage that counts. Accumulation of reserves, increase in property valuations and payment of previous bond issues will enable the education board to reduce the current debt service millage."

Thus, 2.6 mills of what appears to be a five-mill increase would be furnished through additional taxes while 2.6 mills would be provided through reduction of the debt service millage.

SINCE THE additional tax would not become effective until December 1962 and the debt service millage would be reduced in 1962, the net millage increase amounts to 2.4 mills.

All registered voters are eligible to cast ballots in this operating proposal. The building proposal (election ballot proposal A), which requires bonding authority for \$4,915,000, does not call for additional taxes.

Again, the board estimates that accumulated reserves, the rate at which bonds from previous building programs are being paid off and increasing property valuations will yield sufficient funds to meet issuance of additional bonds.

OF THE \$4,915,000 bonding authority requested, \$1,700,000 received approval in 1957. The \$1,700,000 is included in the request for \$4,915,000 and requires a second approval since it was left over from the 1957 funds.

HOWEVER, \$675,000 of the \$1,700,000 was recently set aside for immediate construction of a new school, Westchester Elementary School, located on the Detroit-Pontiac line.

GTWR VICE president and general manager Harry A. Sanders sounded a pessimistic note, however. He said the market research "may turn up some useful information." (See HIKE, 3-A)

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## Masons Launch Drive For \$250,000 Temple

A kick-off rally Saturday will launch Birmingham's Masons' \$250,000 fund-raising drive for a new Masonic Temple.

Emphasizing the theme "The Future Now for the Masonic Temple," the rally will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Birmingham Masonic Association's present building at 327 S. Woodward.

Some 150 team captains and workers, who will solicit more than 1,500 Masons in the area between Saturday and Dec. 16, are expected to attend. The drive is under the direction of Chairman James F. Pedder, 355 Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills.

PRINCIPLE SPEAKER for the rally will be the Rev. Dr. W. Glenn Harris, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham and a 33rd degree Mason.

A member of Birmingham Masonry, Dr. Harris is a past Most Wise Master Rosecroft, Illustrious Brother of the 33rd degree.

Mrs. Florence H. Willett will address the rally. Among Birmingham area Masons attending will be Mrs. Willett's husband, Howard, 655 Pilgrim; Dr. Arnold P. Runkel of First Methodist Church in Birmingham; William T. Arland, 2727 Square Lake Road; and Thomas E. Campbell, 496 Park.

ALSO TAKING PART in the rally will be W. Lytle Bowne, 3195 N. Adams Road, Worshipful Master of Birmingham Lodge No. 44; (See DRIVE, 3-A)

"Plan" Reaches Plan Board; It's Brownfield's Baby Now

By JOE CADARU  
Business Editor

"Here it is, now what are we going to do with it?"

The question was asked by architect Linn Smith who was holding a copy of the master plan for the Central Business District. Occasion was the monthly meeting of the Birmingham Planning Board.

The general business of the meeting had been taken care of by Wilbur Mason had formally presented the plan to the board.

MASON, who heads the businessmen's committee on the plan, also noted "At the meeting presenting the plan, 'We hope it will be a handbook for both plan and city government.'"

"I urge you to give this plan very serious consideration. The overall plan is projected over 20

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