

## CD: A Newcomer To Birmingham

The following is another in a series of articles The Eccentric is presenting on the various departments in the city of Birmingham. It deals with the history and operation of the Office of Civil Defense.

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

Birmingham's Office of Civil Defense was born on Nov. 7, 1955. That night, the city commission adopted an ordinance defining the duties and powers of the mayor and the director of civil defense and other personnel, to establish a civil defense organization and to authorize the use of the material resources and manpower of the city in civil defense operations.

Under the ordinance the city manager was to function as the director of the Office of Civil Defense.

From that time until December of last year little was done in the way of civil defense preparations.

ON DEC. 26, 1961, the commission authorized City Manager L. R. Gare to hire an administrative aide to carry out most of the civil defense work. Under the resolution, Gare would remain as civil defense director but his aide would handle most CD matters. The aide is also available for duties other than those of the civil defense director.

John F. Saeffe, retired Army officer, was selected to serve in the position.

Civil defense in Birmingham covers not only enemy attack but also natural disasters such as fires, floods, epidemics, tornadoes, etc.

IN THE EVENT of a national emergency, the word would be passed to various city department heads and an operations center would be set up in the basement of the municipal building.

Staffed by the city manager, the city engineer and other city personnel, the center would be the hub of Birmingham governmental activity.

Each city employee would have a specific job and would act only on instructions received from the emergency headquarters.

The operations officer (in Birmingham it would be City Engineer William T. Killen) and the city manager would evaluate the situation and decide on the course of action to be taken.

IN CASE OF emergency it is the responsibility of the local government to protect life, property, public health and welfare and to assure the maintenance and repair of public property.

Birmingham officials would issue official warnings and designate hazard zones. They would also enforce evacuation from threatened areas, provide means of rescue and evacuation and direct, handle and coordinate all government departments and agencies.

Saeffe points out that citizens should not expect a lot of personal help from the city in the event of a disaster.

He said that civil defense is the job of each individual and that individual citizens must know how to take care of themselves.

BIRMINGHAM'S Office of Civil Defense does far more than write reports on what would happen in the event of an emergency.

Saeffe, a Building Official Richard Schlosser have inspected all the schools in the Birmingham School District and have observed drills and discussed emergency procedures with school authorities.

The office also conducts classes in CD at various schools in the area. At the present time two such free classes—Emergency Medical Training and Emergency Welfare

and Disaster Planning — are in session.

Capt. Dick Nunneley of the Birmingham Fire Department has a group of well-trained volunteer workers on his CD rescue squad.

Saeffe ALSO has the authority to designate public fallout shelters in the area if they meet the requirements established by the Department of Defense.

Soon 10 buildings in Birmingham will officially be designated as public fallout shelters, according to Saeffe. These buildings will be stocked with some emergency food, water, medical and radiological supplies.

Saeffe noted, however, that this does not mean that Birmingham CD plans are completed and said residents must stay on the alert.

"The 10 buildings will only hold a total of 1,016 persons," Saeffe said. "Birmingham has a population of over 25,000."

## 2 Foreign Students Get Village Keys

See Photo 2-A

BEVERLY HILLS—Keys to the village were presented to two foreign exchange students Monday at the council meeting.

Councilman John A. McClanahan gave the awards to Willie Wong, of Manila, Philippines, who is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Winkel, 25701 Franklin Hills Road, Franklin, and Oya Given of Istanbul, Turkey. Mias Given is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. John Meinhardt, 20900 Smallwood, Beverly Hills.

Each girl will have the opportunity to introduce her doll, whether a newly arrived Christmas gift or a tried and true old friend. The story of "Miss Flora McWhimsey's Christmas Eve" will be told, followed by two short films of favorite fairy tales and refreshments. Girls of all ages are invited to come and bring their favorite dolls, library officials report.

## WOOD CREEK FARMS

# It's Small in Size But Large in Heart

Last of three articles

By NITA HARD  
Special Writer

WOOD CREEK FARMS—There is a kind of pristine quality to Wood Creek Farms. It is devoid of pretense, historically and socially.

A neat square mile in size, it makes no apology for being a product of the mid-century, outward thrust of an exploding metropolis. Self-directed and unhampered by sentiment or sophistication, it has a solid sense of citizenship.

With most of its 170 homes built within the past 20 years, there is a cheerful crispness to the rolling landscape. Wood Creekers are enthusiastic about their homes, their children and their way of life. Good natured and robust, they obviously subscribe to the common denominator that "good will towards men" begins at home.

## Doll Party

Dolls and their proud mothers will be honored guests at the Baldwin Public Library Thursday afternoon, Dec. 27, at 2 o'clock.

Chatty dolls and baby dolls, teenage dolls and peasant dolls, are expected to be "among those present" at the traditional annual party, in the Mary Lambie Room for Boys and Girls.

Each girl will have the opportunity to introduce her doll, whether a newly arrived Christmas gift or a tried and true old friend. The story of "Miss Flora McWhimsey's Christmas Eve" will be told, followed by two short films of favorite fairy tales and refreshments. Girls of all ages are invited to come and bring their favorite dolls, library officials report.

A COMMUNITY characteristic is cleanliness.

With relatively new homes creating each well manicured hill, the area has a freshly scrubbed look. Village ordinances, reasonably minimal, serve as a gentle nudge to the occasional slacker to remind him that he is expected to keep his own house in order.

Every spring the council sponsors a "Clean-up, Paint-up, Spruce-up" week and residents respond with inspired vigor. Backed by the Wood Creek Farms Civic Association, the annual campaign gets door-to-door publicity. Non-combustible rubbish is piled directly in containers at the foot of driveways. Yards are swept clean of the winter's debris. The event is timed with the monthly rubbish pick-up and is conducted with a remarkable feeling of earnestness.

AT THE END OF the campaign, a committee headed by the village's building inspector checks each neighborhood. Residents not only

## Real Shurtleff Stars on TV

To tell the truth, ladies and gentlemen, that was Ted Shurtleff of Beverly Hills on TV Monday night.

The Beverly Hills councilman had a starring role on a popular program on which four panel members tried to guess which of three guests matched a certain description.

Panelist Peggy Cass of "To Tell the Truth" guessed Shurtleff's identity on the basis that "he was too young to be the national director of personnel for Kelly Girls Service."

Shurtleff returned Friday from a trip to New York where he taped the CBS program. Thus, he was able to see himself on the air before heading for Monday night's council meeting where he accepted the plaudits of fellow councilmen.

SUDDENLY COUNCIL President Marvin B. Cline rose to his feet and said, "My name is Ted Shurtleff." Councilman Claude A. Shephard slowly got to his feet. "My name is Ted Shurtleff."

Several council members said in unison: "Will the real Ted Shurtleff stand up?" The councilman was described on the TV program as a man with 70,000 girls on his payroll.



**"The Littlest Angel"**

There's no doubt as to who "The Littlest Angel" is in this household. Just ask young Bobby, 5, who's holding his baby sister, Mary Ann Angell. Big brothers (from left) Thomas, 17, Charles, 20, and James, 15, also think this Christmas will be the merriest. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harry

Angell, Jr., 16174 Lauderdale. In addition to her status as reigning princess in the Angell household, Mary Ann also boasts another distinction: she is the first and only native born resident of Beverly Hills and achieved that rating the day she was born, Sept. 17.

## This and That

by George R. Averill  
Special Writer

The Word Is A Seed!

That journey, taken long ago, by Joseph and his blessed Mary, ushered in the birth of One whose Word of Truth did clearly carry Themes of Love to all mankind—thus human hearts were boldly strengthened—

And since that day of Jesus' birth man's trail toward God has wisely lengthened.

The Star that shepherds followed then still shines in Heaven's hallowed glory;

Likewise, within the hearts of man is written Love's sublimest Story!

Ah, friend, what is the meaning of the yearly Yuletide, Christmas season?

Most surely not just giving gifts — there is a larger, better reason:

Does it not mean that each of us serves best when Love is ever guiding

Our thoughts, our hearts, our hands; when we in Him are faithfully abiding?

One seed brings tree — the forest follows; One Star shines through earth's blackest night . . .

So, word of Truth spreads as it conquers human lusts—the age-old fight

To overcome earth's many evils . . . to place in thought the spirit's Good—

This is the meaning of each Christmas—planting seeds of Brotherhood! —G.R.A.

## Settle Issue Over Arm of Interceptor

By KAY SMITH  
Special Writer

BEVERLY HILLS—Without admitting in any way that the village's use of the 12 Mile Arm of the Evergreen Interceptor was illegal, the council voted Monday to authorize Manager Robert E. Murphy to make a settlement with the City of Southfield for the use of the arm, and to enter into a contract with the latter city.

In explaining the advisability of the move, Dr. Douglas J. Wood, village chairman of the sewer, water and public health committee, told the council that reimbursing the City of Southfield to the tune of \$78,564.95 would cost villagers less than the \$180,000 necessary to build a 12 1/2 Mile Road arm to the proposed South-Road Interceptor.

THE CONTROVERSY over the 12 Mile arm erupted Nov. 12 when the Southfield City Council demanded that the village stop using the arm, putting a termination date at Dec. 13.

At that time, Village President Pro Tem Hugh G. Allerton, Jr., pointed out to Southfield that there was nothing illegal about the arrangement and that the project was approved by the county DPW.

Monday's motion, prepared by Village Attorney Thomas J. Dillon, reiterated this point, stating that connecting with the system was entirely legal and was done with full knowledge and approval of the Oakland DPW, which has original jurisdiction over the interceptor arm.

The cost of the total assessment against the arm for Southfield is (See ISSUE, 5-A)

## Lathrup to Intervene In Kelley Court Suit

of somewhat similar ordinances in other cities.

LATHRUP—Multi-purpose action at Monday's council meeting was headed by a decision to intervene in a court suit brought by Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Kelley against the county road commission.

Other action included authorization for city Attorney Everett Hayes to draft an amendment to the swimming pool ordinance; approval of a second payment to the storm sewer contractor; and naming of architects for a proposed municipal building project.

HAYES REPORTED that, at a hearing Monday, an order to vacate 98 feet of right-of-way on either side of 11 Mile Road through the city had been dismissed.

In order to protect sewer and water easements in the area, both present and future, Lathrup will intervene in the suit, against the Kelleys, to prevent the abandonment of the land which the Kelleys have asked.

Hayes also was directed to draft an amendment to the swimming pool ordinance which would provide that the prospective pool builder would need 70 per cent agreement of property owners within 200 feet of his home in order to construct a pool.

Hayes said he believed that the ordinance amendment would hold up in court on the basis of a study



BIRMINGHAM CITY Manager L. R. Gare (right) and Administrative Aide John F. Saeffe discuss a problem in disaster control and recovery in the city's emergency civil defense headquarters. In the event of a national emergency, Birmingham's government would move into the headquarters in the basement of the municipal building. Complete phone service and emergency radio networks have been set up in the center.

## Last Minute Gift Selections

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