

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

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

Schedule Hearing On S'field Road Plan in Lathrup

LATHRUP—An 8 p.m. public hearing on the widening of Southfield Road is scheduled as part of Monday's council meeting.

"We'd like to hear what everybody thinks on the question," said Mayor Richard N. Cogger, following a meeting of the council with Oakland County Road Commission members Monday evening of this week.

Cogger said that businessmen along Southfield Road would be asked to attend the hearing on the county-proposed widening project.

DISCUSSION at the meeting with road commissioners centered on the "crossing-safety" problem in front of Lathrup School on Southfield, Cogger said.

Advantages and disadvantages of overpasses, underpasses, light timing, safety islands and other possible arrangements in front of the school were discussed, according to the mayor.

ALSO COVERED was the question of center stripes, ranging from "eight to 80 feet" and other matters relating to the proposal, said Cogger.

The commissioners and the county board of supervisors will have the final word on the project, according to Cogger, who said his mind and that of council members "has not yet made up" as to the solution.

"OUR APPROVAL is being sought, naturally," said the mayor, but indicated that the school crossing is of paramount importance in council consideration.

The widening of Southfield and part of 12 Mile Road in Lathrup was proposed in early October by the county as part of a road network plan involving area communities.

It would be shared on a 75-25 per cent basis instead of the usual 50-50 basis, with communities paying the smaller share of the cost.

B'field Police Give Report On '61 Activity

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—The township police force answered a total of 7,288 calls during 1961, according to a recent annual report made by Chief Norman H. Dehnke.

The total does not include any complaints handled by the police operator in the home by the police operator.

Of the total, some 3,472 complaints were miscellaneous—including such categories as suspicious cars and people, open doors and windows, sounding alarms and the like.

DURING 1961, according to Dehnke, 813 tickets were issued for ordinance violations.

The department had 173 court cases (other than tickets) and was responsible for towing away 101 cars from the road.

THE LIST continues: Fights and trouble with drunks—89; molesting complaints—12; breaking and entering—66; breaking and entering closed—23; family trouble—263; stolen cars—16; recovered cars—20; fire calls—280; dog complaints—248.

Property damage accidents—561; personal injury accidents—169; fatal accidents—3; suicides—2; drownings—2. Total scout car mileage was 323,807.

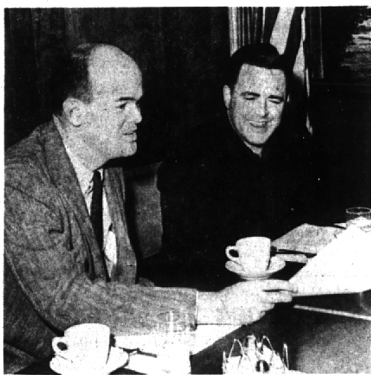
Fire Breaks Out In Company Elevator

SOUTHFIELD—A fire in an elevator at the Michigan Bell Telephone Co., 2550 Northwestern Highway, caused at least \$2,000 damage according to firemen.

The fire broke out about 7:35 p.m. Monday. It was confined to the elevator. Cause of the blaze has not been determined.

Elsewhere in the Eccentric

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Reports on Con-Con

SOUTHFIELD—Oakland County Con-Con Delegate Richard C. VanDusen (left) discusses current activities of the Constitutional Convention at a breakfast held last Saturday. Listening to the report, Southfield Mayor S. James Clarkon, delegate from the fourth district, is chairman of the Rules and Resolutions Committee and also serves on the Finance and Taxation Committee of the convention. The breakfast, open to the public, was followed by a question-answer session. VanDusen resides at 32205 Bingham Road, Bingham Farms.

Lathrup Swim Club Sues City of Southfield

LATHRUP—A suit in Oakland County Circuit Court to have five of eight zoning restrictions removed in the city of Southfield has been filed by the Lathrup Village Swim Club.

The suit alleges that the five restrictions imposed by the Board of Zoning Appeals of Southfield are "arbitrary, illegal, unreasonable, unjustified and equivalent to a rejection."

The suit also alleges that the Southfield zoning ordinance sets no conditions for use of land for outdoor exercise and recreation and that land use is left up to "whim or caprice."

THE LATHRUP swim club applied March 21, 1961 for use of land on Evergreen at Saratoga, outside of Lathrup's western city limit but within Southfield.

On July 8 of last year, the zone board gave its approval but included several restrictions.

It specified that 100 of the club members must live in Southfield and be signed up within six months. It also required that the membership committee be composed of two Lathrup and two Southfield residents. A third requirement specified that the club pave Saratoga from Evergreen to the Lathrup city limits. The cost for the paving has been estimated at about \$13,000.

THE SWIM CLUB suit also charged that the Southfield zoning ordinance sets up conditions such as greenbelt, hours, parking and food from vending machines that are not related to the public health, welfare and safety.

A club spokesman said the pool will not be built until the case is decided by the court.

Village to Help Finance Sled Run

BEVERLY HILLS—The village council Monday appropriated \$200 to assist Southfield Township in the construction of a 20-foot sled run in the township's Dodge Park on Beverly Road.

The money will be used to pay for outfitting the run.



Bridge Event to Help Buy Books

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—Both moms and students at Conant Elementary School are taking Friday's telephone bridge seriously. Mrs. C. J. VanHalteren (left), Mrs. R. E. Stanford and Mrs. Douglas Campbell (right) are preparing for the event which will help buy new books for the Conant library. Marjorie VanHalteren, a fifth grader at the school, does some research for the committee. Parents have been asked to invite friends into their homes for one or two tables of bridge. Mrs. VanHalteren is chairman of the school library committee. Mrs. Stanford and Mrs. Campbell are working on arrangements for the event.

Storm Sewer Trial Delayed Until Feb. 28

LATHRUP—Trial of the Louise Lathrup Kelly suit against the city will be continued Feb. 28. Pre-trial statement was taken by Oakland County Circuit Judge Clark J. Adams on Wednesday of last week.

Representing Lathrup was City Attorney Everett Hayes; Mrs. Kelly's attorney was Charles Smith. The state water resources commission was represented by Assistant Attorney General Victor H. Meyer.

IT IS EXPECTED that testimony will be taken at the Feb. 28 appearance, according to Mayor Richard N. Cogger.

Mrs. Kelly alleges in her suit that she would be paying taxes to retire a bond issue, approved by voters last year, for storm sewers that would not service her land.

THE SUIT has halted the city's storm sewer program—under a court-ordered deadline for completion by June 1, 1962. The water commission was a party in the suit against Lathrup, settled by Circuit Judge H. Russell Holland on July 1, 1960.

Bingham to Vote On 2 Amendments To Village Charter

BINGHAM FARMS—A full council met in a special session Monday to place two charter amendments on the March 12 ballot for Bingham Farms voters.

These will enable the village to participate in the Evergreen Interceptor sewer project through the creation of special assessment districts.

ON THE recommendation of Village Attorney William Hartman, Village President Haskell Wright called the meeting so the resolution could be adopted in time to meet publishing schedules.

One question on the ballot provides that only public lighting and water system or supplies shall require approval of three-fifths of the electors voting at any general election or special election held for that purpose. This removes sewers from the charter limitations.

AND, THE question also permits the council to determine that the cost of sewers can be defrayed by special assessment. Upon the property especially benefited. Under a procedure prescribed by village ordinances.

The second question amends Chapter Nine of the charter to permit the council to authorize bonds for the payment of such special assessments.

YOTERS WILL elect a replacement to complete the balance of Kelly's term, one year. Also to be elected are two other councilmen for two-year terms at the coming general election. A candidate for the post last March, Oberschulte said he would seek election again this year.

A resident of Franklin for the past 21 years, Oberschulte has had an active part in community affairs. Recently he has been serving as an area representative on the road advisory committee.

THE COUNCIL was advised Monday night that village president Calvert Thomas would not seek reelection this March when

Hills School Board Votes To Reverse Prayer Policy



Near 500 Attend Meeting

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Before the largest crowd ever to attend a Bloomfield Hills Board of Education meeting, the Hills school board removed its recent restrictions limiting religious expression within the district schools.

A resolution adopting a written religious policy allowing teachers to give oral prayers and the use of the "music, decorations and symbols commonly associated with religious holidays" was passed at the board meeting Tuesday night.

THE BOARD'S ACTION was not unanimous. Three members voted for the policy, one member voted against and one member abstained, one member was absent and one member, acting as chairman, pro tem, could not vote.

The resolution was presented by Board Chairman David Lee, seconded by William Bachman. The third vote in its favor was cast by Mrs. Jean Martz.

The dissenting vote was cast by Max Miller, board treasurer. Abstaining from voting was W. Earl Givens.

Dr. Charles Bowers, chairman pro tem in order that Lee could present his resolution, could not cast a vote. However, his views expressed before the meeting were in favor of the majority vote.

Board member Merrill O. Bates was absent from the meeting due to serious illness of his mother-in-law, who was scheduled for major surgery Wednesday morning.

SOME 500 PATRONS of the school district met to express their views on the controversial issue. An overwhelming majority represented a spontaneous movement opposing a month-old policy of the board which allowed the school to use religious symbols at Easter and Christmas.

The small number of patrons expressed their approval of the restrictive religious policy which the board had voted on Dec. 12, 1961. (See POLICY, 5-E)

Betty Chinn to File For Clerk's Post In Beverly Hills

BEVERLY HILLS—Betty J. Chinn, 31155 Pierce, announced this week that she will seek the post of village clerk.

Presently she is deputy village clerk. Mrs. Chinn said two weeks ago that she had originally decided not to run but had since changed her mind.

Her opposition to date is Lynda Chinn, Beverly Hills clerk since 1959. A resident of Beverly Hills for seven years, Mrs. Chinn has been deputy clerk since July, 1960 when she was appointed to work part time under the direction of Mrs. Fannie Adams who was elected to the clerk's post in March, 1960.

MRS. ADAMS, who also serves as the Southfield Township clerk, has been earning \$1,200 a year as the Beverly Hills clerk. In 1959 she told the council she felt it would be economical for Beverly Hills if they cut the part-time job's pay from \$3,600 to the \$1,200 figure. She indicated that she would be able to work both positions because they would be housed in the same building.

MRS. ADAMS announced two weeks ago that she would be unable to carry on with the village clerk's work this year and was not going to seek reelection. She said that more time because of a heavy election schedule. She also advocates that the village clerk's job become a full time position.

MISS CHAMBERS took out petitions for the clerk's post a week ago. William F. Baby Jr., 10010 Buckingham, has taken out petitions for the council.

PETITIONERS FOR the offices can be taken out now. They are to be taken out at the village offices between Jan. 29 and the final deadline on Feb. 12.

Residents who wish to register to vote in the March 12 village election can do so until both positions because they would be housed in the same building.

The village offices are at 18500 W. 13 Mile Road. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

Fire Away

LATHRUP—The city's traditional Christmas tree bonfire Friday night brought warmth to the hearts of local teenagers who enjoyed the spectacular sight along with a skating party, sponsored by the Police Youth Recreation Department. Ice weather the week before forced the Lathrup DPW to postpone the usual tree pickup and delayed the annual bonfire until time for the young people to break out their skates—proving that even bad weather has its good side. The cheery events took place at Rainbow Drive and Southfield Road.

Appoint Oberschulte To Franklin's Council

By NITA HARD Franklin Correspondent

FRANKLIN—Richard Oberschulte, 32544 Colony Hill, was appointed to replace Councilman Eugene Kelly Monday night.

At a special meeting of the village council, Oberschulte took the oath of office to serve until the March 12 election. He will fill the vacancy created when Kelly resigned last week because of a business transfer.

THE COUNCIL also prepared specifications for calcium chloride bids, based on 85,000 gals. in approximately three applications. Thomas urged that an earlier application of chloride be considered for the spring road program.

A CIVIL DEFENSE committee was appointed Monday night with Councilman Don Hunter as chairman. Serving with him to study C.D. programs of neighboring communities and determine local needs are Donald Hooper and Ted Keller, representing the Franklin Community Association.

Road advisory committee chairman Stan Hunter was authorized to negotiate for the purchase of a (See COUNCIL, 2-E)

Vote Registration Dates Set in 3 Area Villages

With Franklin, Wood Creek Farms and Bingham Farms villages holding general spring elections March 12, their village clerks have announced registration deadlines with places and times when registrations will be taken.

In Franklin, village offices, on Franklin Road at Wellington, will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 3 and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Feb. 12—the registration deadline.

THE OFFICES are also open every morning during the week from 8 a.m. to noon. Applicants may also phone for an appointment if these hours are not convenient. Mrs. Elsie Garwood, village clerk said.

Bingham Farms Clerk Mrs. Carl Kalmbach will be registering voters by appointment at her home on Hickory Hollow. She will be available Feb. 8 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., registration deadline.

MRS. EVERETT BILLIU, Wood Creek Farms clerk, announces Feb. 12 is the final date in that community. However, voters may register with her at any time, including evenings and Sundays, by coming to her home at 29122 Uley Drive. Mrs. Billiu recommends making appointments by phone.

Taking a Pole

It may take a minute to get lined up but Ann Peterson will be ready in just a moment to show Teb Barnard how she manages cross-country skiing. The two ten-year-olds, children of the Charles Petersons and Richard Barnards, respectively, recently accompanied their fathers on a cross-country skiing jaunt down the white passes of King Mountain in Ontario and eventually up to the summit of the 2,000 foot high peak, second highest in the Canadian province. A rare moment, they agreed, and well-worth an overnight trip on skis.

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