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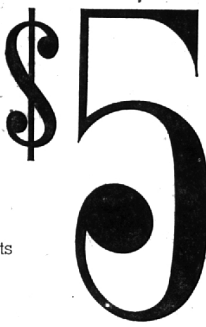
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PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Offers 'Food for Thought' In School Prayer Wrangle

To the Editor:
Last week I had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Thelma James of Wayne State University at the Franklin Forum. She spoke on "Folklore" and she expanded on proverbs and folk sayings. (One of my favorites to share with you: "She was pure as the driven snow, but she drifted.") Don't say it in exclamatory fashion.)

Now I should like to use some proverbs or old, familiar phrases to highlight my feelings and some questions in my mind about the recent Bloomfield Hills School Board reversal resolution.

The Eccentric carried the fullest coverage of that Jan. 16 meeting that I have read... my thanks to writer Savilla Sloan.

TWO WRONGS don't make a right... Our School Board made a fairly serious error in judgment when they set down a policy on religious free discussion of views without informing the community first, and allowing for and encouraging free discussion of views points and reasoning then, before the initial resolution.

I imagine they merely hoped to avoid unnecessary controversy by putting into words what they thought the schools in December existing. Surely they should have learned from what followed!

Yet on Jan. 16 they reversed summarily what had been presented as a unanimous board policy with no attempt to take time out for discussion or cooling off.

There was no special notification of the Jan. 16 meeting to those outside of the specially prepared group of patrons... it was menacing.

Weather Creates Few Problems for Area Communities

Despite freezing rain and falling temperatures, Birmingham area residents and motorists survived Monday's hazardous road conditions with a few difficulties.

Although school buses ran slightly behind schedule, all schools in the neighboring communities were open.

Traffic flow and accident rate in the Birmingham and township areas were reported normal with the exception of Lathrup, where several cars skidded into ditches.

A WATER MAIN on Cranbrook Road, south of Maple, in Bloomfield Township broke Tuesday, disrupting water service for several hours in a four-block area.

Three other mains in Southfield broke during the last week due to cold weather. The latest break occurred Sunday afternoon on Jeanette Street, about 400 yards from the police station. Other breaks were at Emmett and Neegaunee Streets and on Westover, west of Southfield.

Each of the breaks disrupted water service to about 15 homes and each was repaired within an hour-and-a-half, according to Southfield water department officials.

tion in the newspapers and that is all... there was never any indication that they would take a vote that night, with one important board member actually absent. My husband and I were present and left at 10:30 to relieve the babysitter, something we would have done everything to avoid had we dreamed there would be a vote that night.

THE ENDS do not justify the means... seems to be the philosophy adhered to faithfully in our country... the reverse, the absolute reverse, would be true of Marxist philosophy and Communist (or most any totalitarian) practice.

In itself the END the present resolution seems to seek is a fine one for most of us... increasing our children's awareness of the need for Divine guidance. But does this justify the means... weakening one of the most essential (to a God-fearing nation) and time-honored American guarantees of personal freedom. Shall we bring the pressure of the public schools (where attendance is compulsory) to bear upon those individuals who happen to differ from the majority? Will this be an example to our children of the private, truly humble way to seek God?

A TEMPEST in a teapot... This is the actual comment I hear most frequently from good friends and neighbors of all kinds and sizes and backgrounds.

As it affects my family personally that is probably all that it is. We are not only satisfied with, and positively pleased with, and proud of the Bloomfield Hills school our children happen to attend... we do not want to cause trouble and controversy over a "tempest in a teapot"... the trouble is that to me this recent school board decision

B'hman Resident Active in GOP Contab

Steve Stockmeyer, University of Michigan undergraduate, will lead the Michigan Young Republicans annual convention in Fort Huron.

The College Young Republicans expect 24 schools to be represented at the convention with more than 350 voting delegates present.

Stockmeyer is the nephew of Wayne County GOP Chairman Norman Stockmeyer, a long-time leader in the party's Liberal Wing.

George R. Romney, a Bloomfield Hills resident and presently active on the political scene, has been extended an invitation to address the convention.

and the manner in which it was reached seem to be more like "a hole in the dike".

FOOD FOR thought... These opinions expressed above are offered as just that, food for thought. It seems we would have been thinking on this Bloomfield Hills School Board action would be valuable.

SALLY B. HEAVENRICH
28 Faculty Way
Bloomfield Hills

Named President Of DAC for '62

Directors of the Detroit Athletic Club, at a meeting Friday evening, elected Semon E. Knudsen president of the club for 1962. He is a vice president of General Motors Corp., and general manager of the company's Chevrolet division. He lives at 31500 Bingham Road.

Knudsen succeeds Raymond T. Perring of 545 Yarrow Road, Bloomfield Hills, as president of the DAC.

The club's 18-man board of directors also elected Norman J. Fredericks, president of the Koenig Coal and Supply Co., as vice president. Fredericks lives at 4219 Lathrup Road, Bloomfield Hills.

Directors Semon Knudsen elected for three years from the Birmingham area were: John Dykstra, president, Ford Motor Co., who lives at 1147 Glenary Road; Robert W. Englehart, chairman and president, Parker Rust Proof Co., who lives at 500 Long Lake Road; Russell G. Ford, manager assembly plants, Chevrolet division, GMC, and William Crawford, president of Atlas Foundry Co.

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