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The Birmingham Eccentric

85th YEAR—NO. 31 48 PAGES AND SUPPLEMENT BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, OCTOBER 4, 1962 SECTION A



10 CENTS

The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

\$76,544 Torch Drive Quota Set for Area

N. Woodward Traffic Peril Under Study

DEAR PARENT:
 So your child crosses Woodward at Harmon, Vinewood or Oak on his way to and from school, and you are concerned about the traffic hazards involved.
 You are aware that motorists come off of Hunter (U.S.-10) at 50 m.p.h. and must slow down to 30 in a short stretch.
 And you know that vehicles are so numerous in this area during school hours that your child finds difficulty in getting across the street.
 There is a traffic light and crosswalk at Woodward and Oakland—does your child cross there?
 Or does he cross at Harmon or Oak?
 Birmingham city officials believe you should persuade your child to use the Woodward-Oakland intersection.
 He might have to walk 1,000 feet farther each morning and afternoon, but city officials believe it would be much safer.

YOU SEE, the Birmingham city commissioners and the police department are very much aware of the problem in this area.
 Chief of Police Ralph W. Moxley reported on it at the commission meeting Monday night.
 His department surveyed the area following a request from Emil W. Pellegrini, 624 Park St., for a school crossing guard at Woodward and Harmon.
 Moxley told commissioners that this survey showed that the average number of school children using that crossing would not justify a crossing guard at the intersection.
 He said, "The situation would be alleviated if children would use a route to school as suggested by the police department."

OFFICERS ARE working with school authorities in an educational program to get children to use that route, which includes the Oakland crossing.
 Commissioners thought that a solution—at least a partial solution—to the problem of the entire area might be to install a traffic light at Woodward and Oak. This would force traffic coming off Hunter to slow down.
 They instructed Moxley to study this possibility and to make a recommendation.

SO YOU SEE, parents, city officials are aware of the danger to your child and are taking steps to remedy the situation.
 If in the meantime your youngsters are to take the route from school and from home, remember that the authorities believe it to be much safer.

Some suggest that school children use Oakland in crossing both Woodward and Hunter inasmuch as both intersections have traffic signals and there is a crossing guard at Hunter and Oakland.
 What will you tell your school child?

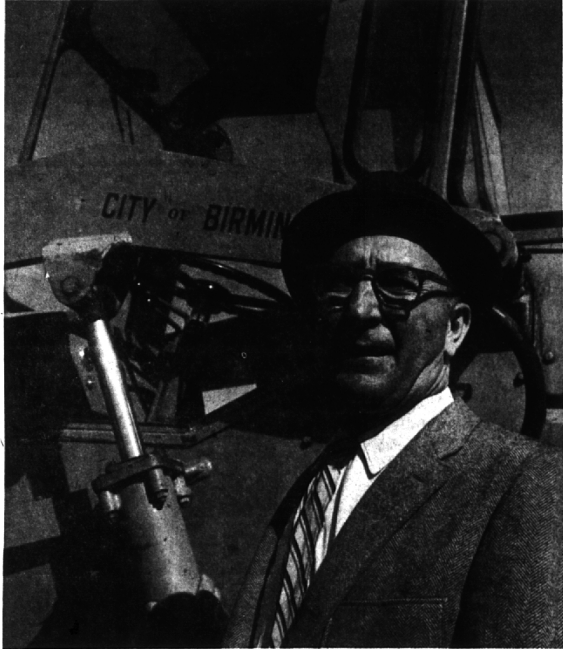
KENNETH B. WEAVER, Managing Editor
 The Birmingham Eccentric

Federal Money Goes To B'ham School

City and Country School of Bloomfield Hills has been awarded a \$2,200 loan under the National Defense Education Act.
 The loans are for the purchase of equipment and materials needed to strengthen instruction in science, mathematics and modern foreign languages.

\$2 Million Art Theater, Hotel Slated in Hills

A plan to build a 900-seat art theater and a 100-room hotel will be brought before the Bloomfield Hills Plan Board by F. T. Takis, owner of the Kingsley Inn. The Eccentric learned Wednesday that Takis said the theater would be for both "art movies and stage plays." Total cost of the project, to be located just south of the Kingsley on Woodward, has been estimated at \$2 million.
 Takis was to meet Wednesday night with his developers to complete plans on the project to present to the Hills Plan Board. He said he hoped construction could start in the spring "or sooner."



HEAD MAN OF Birmingham's 32-member Department of Public Works' staff is general T. C. (Tom) Brien. A veteran of 11 years of working for the city, Brien has been superintendent of the DPW for six years. He had previously worked in the building inspection and engineering department. Brien and his crews have charge of all City-owned vehicles from police cars to a concrete mixer.

DPW, Where Are You? Got a Problem Around the House?

First of two articles
 See Editorial 1-B
 By LARRY EVOE
 City Editor

Is your storm sewer clogged? Call the DPW.
 Misplaced a valuable piece of jewelry and there's a possibility that it was thrown away with the rubbish? Call the DPW.

B'ham Is Not A Member of Antitax Group
 Birmingham city commissioners made it clear Monday night that this city is not a member of the Vigilance Tax Committee—and does not want to be.
 Although they did not say so, they apparently were prompted to comment by a story in last week's Eccentric which stated incorrectly that Mayor Florence H. Willett had threatened to pull Birmingham out of the VTC.
 This she could not do, because Birmingham is not a member.
 Actually, what Mrs. Willett had (See GROUP, 5-A)

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BIRMINGHAM RESIDENTS call the Department of Public Works the average of 200 times per month with various problems.
 No matter how big or small the problem is the DPW can usually handle it.
 The 32-member department, under the direction of superintendent T. C. (Tom) Brien, is on call seven days a week.
 Second only to the police department in manpower and in budget, the DPW operates around the clock.

RUBBISH CRAWLS are on the job at 7 a.m. picking up refuse in the downtown area. The after-midnight hours will find the sweeping crews on the streets.
 "What is the DPW?"
 "An organization to maintain and provide service to the community," says Superintendent Brien.
 Brien, who has been head of the department for six years, welcomes calls from residents.
 "The more they contact us," he said, "the better they'll understand our functions."
 The DPW works from an overall

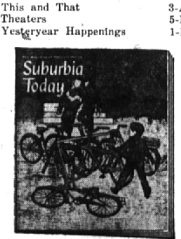
budget of \$274,640 of which more than half is spent for the pickup and disposal of rubbish.
 Last year \$126,952 was spent by the DPW on clearing the city of 8,471 tons of refuse.

MAINTAINING Birmingham's unpaved streets is another big item on the department's budget. Over \$34,000 has been earmarked for that purpose during the current

RR, Realty Firm Request Zoning Change
 A rezoning request that would have a bearing on a piece of property in Bloomfield Township is now the subject of a court suit is under study today in Birmingham.
 The request, made by the Grand Trunk Western Railroad Co. and Cranbrook Realty Co., was referred to the plan board Monday night by the Birmingham City Commission.

The two firms seek to change from R-1 residential to B-2 neighborhood business a triangular piece of land adjacent to the east side of the Grand Trunk right-of-way on the west side of Adams in the Sheppard-Tottenham area.
 It lies on the Birmingham-Bloomfield Township line and abuts property in the township which is the subject of a zoning suit in which the commission has voted to intervene.

THE TOWNSHIP board has rejected a zoning change that would have allowed commercial use of the property in question at Big Beaver and Adams.
 Residents of the area and the City of Birmingham have been allowed to intervene in the suit. The property is now zoned residential.
 Commissioners decided Monday (See CHANGE, 2-A)



All makes of inner spring mattresses receive One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, LI 5-0000.

Board Delays Meeting on Prayer Issue

The prayer issue in the Bloomfield Hills School District will be discussed at the next meeting of which all board of education members can be present, the board has announced.
 Original plans were to discuss the district's policy on prayer in the Bloomfield Hills School System at the Oct. 16 meeting, but the board since has learned that at least one of the members will be unable to attend.
 Every effort will be made, the board indicated, to keep the agenda free of other items when the policy matter is scheduled, with ample notice provided well beforehand.

THE DECISION to postpone discussion was made at a special meeting of the board Monday night. The meeting was called to open bids on tax anticipation notes which the district needs for school operating expense, pending receipt of state funds which again will be delayed this year.
 Low bidder was the Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit, which bid 1.52 per cent on \$700,000 in notes. Maturity date is April 1, 1963.

Minister Says Prayer Issue Over-Rated

A local clergyman "zered in on the issue of prayer in the schools" in a sermon delivered at Christ Church Cranbrook recently.
 Stating that "the hue and cry have been out of all proportion," the Rev. Gerald B. O'Grady, Jr., said it was "important that we explore the issue" raised by the June 25 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court.
 Mr. O'Grady noted that the prayer issue had caused feeling to "rise to an incredible pitch and there was practically NO sign of the Christian's ability to disagree in love... while searching for a solution."

HE EMPHASIZED that the issue is "only one tiny thread in the whole tapestry." The Founding Fathers, he said, in writing the Constitution made assurances about the freedom of religion which were "meant only to prevent there being one established church and required forms of prayer."
 "The trouble, he said, comes from 'you do something you shouldn't'."

Little 'Angel' Arrives

BEVERLY HILLS—This village welcomed its first native resident last week, and got a little "Angel" at that.
 Apparently out of step with the population explosion, this four-year-old village had never before recorded a birth within its limits.
 Mary Ann Angell decided to change all that and arrived at 13174 Lauderdale at 2:30 a.m. Sept. 17. Waiting to present her with the keys to the village were her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sexton Angell, and her four

brothers, Charles, 20, Thomas, 17, James, 16, and Robert, 5.
THE 7-POUND, 13-ounce little girl then accompanied her mother to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac.
 When Village Clerk Betty Chin received the birth certificate for recording, she noted that no permanent record book for births existed. Since there are no hospitals within the village limits, it will probably be at least another four years before the second native is recorded.

NOVADAYS we lead a child to his room. That's punishment? He has two TV sets, his own refrigerator and \$30,000 worth of toys.
TURNING HIS attention to the modern father, he said "he's the best natured school in our history. If you look the word 'father' up in Webster, it says, 'see pal.'"
 "My father asked us the same questions that any psychiatrist does today and he did it for nothing." (See LEVENSON, 2-A)

Levenson Humor Spices Message

By IRMA N. DAVIS
 Township Editor

Backstage at the Birmingham Theater, Sam Levenson said he "was scared to death of flying but had finally found the answer."
 "I just don't put all my weight down in the seat," he chuckled. Onstage a few minutes later, he made his weight felt as he spanked an assortment of American institutions and gently rapped the knuckles of modern parents.
 And the Birmingham Town Hall audience rocked with laughter—not at the portent of his speech but at the side-splitting humor that accompanied it.

LEVENSON laughed as boisterously as anyone in the theater, frankly admitting that he enjoys his own jokes.
 They were worth it. Including his own family in his chattering critique, Levenson said, "My mother and father had eight children and no theories—my wife and I have 37 theories and two kids."
 "A value system" to guide parents and children is what is needed, he said.
 "All children should major in one subject—humanity. Give them all the good things, the things we got: love, character, time, religion, strength."

"THIS IS THE first generation of kids who 'know their rights,' he added. "We should teach them early that they're not really 'free as birds.' They're human beings."
 Recalling his own childhood, he said that his mother had a simple method. She raised her children on the basis of "guilt until proved innocent—punishment in advance."
 "You'll know what to expect if you do something you shouldn't."

CITY COMMISSIONERS had a chance Monday night to take action on banning parking on Maple in downtown Birmingham—but passed it up without a vote.
 Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham brought the subject up under general business. The commission rarely takes definite action in such cases, usually preferring to wait for a full report and recommendation from the city administration.
 Ingraham said he had observed that the "stagnant traffic" in the downtown area was caused—at least on one occasion—by Birmingham residents and not by motorists passing through town.

HE MADE a motion to remove parking on the north side of Maple from Adams to Southfield from 4 to 6 p.m. every day except Sunday (See PARKING, 2-A)

THE SOUTHERN Oakland region is headed by co-chairmen Mrs. W. L. McCracken, 26890 Meadowlark, Southfield, and Mrs. Harry Tillson, Royal Oak.
 Regional chairmen have named divisional chairmen in each community. In their turn have appointed area chairmen, who have recruited district chairmen, who are in direct charge of volunteer solicitors who call on neighbors.

THE 1962 Torch Drive will be (See QUOTA, 6-A)

Homemaker of Year Search Continues; Story, Photos 2-CC

Comments from...



Traffic Stopper

It took three hours of hard work and four wreckers to right this truck which flipped onto its side and into a ditch on West Maple Road shortly before noon Saturday. Bloomfield Township police said the driver, Everett Johnson, 59, of 296 Hickory Grove, Bloomfield Hills, lost control of the truck on the shoulder of the road as he attempted to pass

Local Fund Goals, Leaders Are Revealed

EVERYONE benefits from Torch Drive, see Editorial 1-B
 The Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin region has been assigned a quota of \$176,544 to be raised in the 1962 Torch Drive, according to Mrs. Charles C. Hilton, 1241 Westwood, Birmingham, regional chairman for Bloomfield Hills.
 Of this amount, \$73,533 is to be raised in the annual house-to-house canvass, \$80,355 from advance gifts and \$8,656 from the business community.
 A breakdown by communities shows Birmingham with a goal of \$53,659; Bloomfield Hills, \$75,282; Bloomfield Village, \$14,695; Oakland Hills \$9,577; Wing Lake, \$4,988; Franklin, \$5,033; Beverly Hills, \$7,850; and another \$5,460 from advance gifts within the region.
WORKING WITH Mrs. Hilton at a leadership level in the campaign will be divisional co-chairmen Mrs. Frank Atkinson, 243 Ravine, and Mrs. Thomas Vandegrift Jr., 1491 Villa, for Birmingham; Mrs. John Mitchell, 6420 Long Meadow, for Bloomfield Hills; Mrs. John L. Thornhill, 2945 Bradley, for Bloomfield Village; Mrs. Kenneth Busha, 110 S. Williamsbury, for Oakland Hills; Mrs. Frederick Benkema, 4140 Sandy Lane for Forestville; Mrs. Joseph G. Juet, 4635 Walnut Lake, for Wing Lake.
 Mrs. C. A. Rasmussen, 26009 Hersheyvale, for Franklin; and Mrs. John Canavan, 16184 Marguerite, for Beverly Hills.

THE REGIONAL quota is made up of total quotas of all divisions. This figure is part of the total Oakland region quota of \$259,009. This is made up of \$114,782 for the Southern Oakland County region, \$170,544 for Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin region, and \$38,595 for the Oakland County townships region. All of Oakland County except nine townships is included in the Torch Drive.
 The Torch Drive in Oakland County is headed for the third successive year by Mrs. Clyde C. Bennett, Jr., 1274 Westwood, Birmingham, as county chairman.

City Ignores Chance to Ban Maple Parking

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Comments from...

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 (A friendly advisor of The Eccentric will help you work your classified ad.)