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Joan Thorson: Nothing to Do Now But Wait It Out

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Joan Thorson took time to thank Birmingham Saturday.
Bustily engaged in helping to build a defense in behalf of her husband, Robert, who is charged with murdering her mother, Mrs. Thorson said she has received countless letters of encouragement.
"It's a tremendous feeling to know that the community is behind us," she said.
"The Jaycees (Junior Chamber of Commerce) have been wonderful," she said.
"I feel inadequate on how to express our thanks."
THORSON, 31, is in the Wayne County Jail awaiting

trial on a first degree charge of murdering his mother-in-law, Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, in her home in Detroit on Dec. 4.
Mrs. Thorson sat in the living room of their brick home at 2352 Buckingham and talked freely about the case and of what she has been doing since her husband was arrested.
While the examination was going on in Detroit, Mrs. Thorson and her attorneys, Walter Denison and Konrad Kohl, worked long hours in trying to prove her husband's innocence.
NOW THERE is nothing she can do to help her husband until the transcript of the trial is finished.
She is only allowed to visit Thorson twice a week,

on Tuesdays and Fridays. The visits only last about 20 minutes, she said.
"The place where we talk is depressing. We have to look up to see each other, but must look down to be able to talk through the screen."
She said Thorson is in fairly good spirits and has been keeping busy by studying books on accounting and doing some work.
"In fact, Bob is teaching another prisoner the principles of accounting," she smiled.
MRS. THORSON said she is not doing much at the present time except "waiting."
"Now that David (the Thorson's nine-month-old adopted son) is back from his grandmother's, he's pretty

much of a full-time job," smiled the attractive redhead.
A private duty nurse with the Oakland County Nurses Registry before her husband's arrest, she plans to return as soon as the future is "more definite."
A nursery school teacher at St. James Episcopal Church, Mrs. Thorson said she also planned to return to that job soon.
"After taking care of about 10 youngsters, Davey doesn't seem so much work at all," she laughed.
MRS. THORSON said that until the actual decision was announced that her husband would stand trial, he "honestly believed he would be released."
She has no criticism of the police involved in the case.
(See THORSON, 5-A)

MAN OF THE YEAR Hogan Selected For Jaycee Award

Henry M. Hogan, Jr., was named the Birmingham area "Man of the Year for 1962" at the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce's 11th annual Bosses Night banquet Wednesday night.
Hogan, 30, is state representative from the third district. He is practicing attorney and the associate publisher of The Birmingham Eccentric.
The announcement was made at the Kingsley Inn with John C. Coulson, assistant to the sales supervisor of the Automobile Club of Michigan, presiding. Speaker was Mercury Gaskin, president of the Automobile Club of Michigan. Birmingham Mayor Florence H. Willett presented the award to Hogan, who resides at 4253 West Orchard Hill Drive, Bloomfield Township.
The Jaycees presented John D. Sloum, 35, with the chapter's Key Man award. Sloum, who resides at 2634 Windemere, Birmingham, was cited for his "many active years in the Jaycees."
THE JAYCEE distinguished service award is given each year to an area man between the ages of 21 and 35. It is an effort on the part of the Junior Chamber of Commerce to give recognition to citizens for their community service in the local, state and national level.
The 10 other nominees, who will be given special Community Service citations, are:
F. Ward Ouradnik, 1701 Maryland, Birmingham, executive director of the Birmingham Community House.
S. Tenney McGraw II, 690 Kimberley, Birmingham, vice president and cashier of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Bank.
Garvin H. Meadowcroft, 724 Madison, Birmingham, president, WHPI-FM, Birmingham.
STEVEN JAY Radom, 881 Arlington, Birmingham; sales agent, Aetna Life Insurance Co., Detroit.
Charles A. Murray, 66 Wadlington Road, Birmingham, dentist.
Leonard Healy, 20410 Litchfield, Detroit; manager, B. Sigel Co.
Phillip N. Skellern, 1289 Stanley Blvd., Birmingham; agent, New York Life Insurance Co., Birmingham.
George Wolfram Smith, 1882 Melbourne, Birmingham; senior research physicist, General Motors Research.
Walter O. Briggs III, 320 Sufield, Birmingham; account executive

HENRY M. HOGAN, JR.

transurer of the Community House Board; William E. Roberts, Birmingham city commissioner; Harris Machus, Chamber of Commerce president; and Charles Moore (See AWARD, 8-A)

Louise Kelley Dies; Leader In Lathrup

Mrs. Louise Lathrup Kelley, 69, of 27701 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, died suddenly Tuesday in Henry Ford Hospital following a brief illness.
A life-time resident of this area, Mrs. Kelley, a real estate developer, founded the village in which she lived 37 years ago.
Mayor Richard N. Caggar of Lathrup, speaking for officials and residents of the city, said "her death is a big loss to our community."
"Certainly we all have recognized for years the place that she has had in our city and the strong part she has had in the planning and development of Lathrup. We'll really miss her."

SHE IS SURVIVED by her husband, Charles D.; one daughter, Mrs. Carl W. Driscoll of Lathrup Village, and six grandchildren. Funeral services will take place Friday at 1 p.m. in Hill Chapel of the William R. Hamilton Co. Entombment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery.

B of E Studies Switch In School Boundaries

The Birmingham Board of Education will consider during the next month changes in the secondary school attendance areas.
School administration officials presented the board with their recommendations at Tuesday night's meeting.
An overflow audience of more than 400 persons attended the meeting in the board room in the "A People's Column" letter on Page 1-B tells of the Greater Westchester Association's concern over possible school boundary changes affecting children in that area of the community.
The letter is in a section of the paper that was voted prior to Tuesday night's board of education meeting. Since the meeting, the association has withdrawn its objections.
Hill Building to hear the proposed changes.
The new attendance boundaries will go into effect beginning with the 1963-64 school year, according

New Parking Lot Proposed In Birmingham

Commissioners have authorized Birmingham City Manager L. R. Gare to prepare a report on a proposed parking lot in the southwest quadrant.
A possible location for the lot, according to Gare, is the block south of Shain Park bounded by Merrill, Bates, Townsend and Henrietta streets.
Studies over the past two years, Gare said, indicate that additional parking is needed in the southwest quadrant.

"BASED ON preliminary appraisals by the city assessor and one set of appraisals by an independent appraiser, I believe that the development of this block for parking is a feasible one, Gare said.
"Plans drawn up by the engineering department indicate that a lot with metered parking is available for approximately 156 cars.
The cost per parking space will amount to about \$2,000 based on preliminary estimates.
Gare said that the cost was in excess of that of Municipal Parking Lots 1 and 2, but is considerably less than the cost in Lot No. 3. He noted that it was about the same as that of Lot No. 4 which was constructed several years ago.

"IN THE opinion of the administration serious consideration should be given to constructing a parking facility in this area," Gare commented.
The administration will submit a detailed report to the commission outlining land acquisition costs, construction cost, legal costs and a proposed assessment district.
Both Donald Cummings, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and Charles Mortensen, chamber general manager, have endorsed the administrator's recommendations for the parking lot.
Mayor Florence H. Willett asked that the administration look into the costs involved in obtaining only a half of the block for parking but get no support from fellow commissioners.

City Adopts Codification Of Ordinances

Birmingham city commissioners passed a resolution Monday night formally adopting the codification of ordinances.
The new code, including the school bus ordinance, (see page 3-A) will go into effect May 1.
Codification consists of remodeling some old laws, writing new ones and discarding obsolete ones. It is a form of streamlining the laws of the city.
"THE WORK on the codification of the ordinances was started in February, 1961.
Commissioners authorized the city administration to make copies of specific chapters of the codification upon requests from individuals.
Total cost of the codification is expected to be about \$4,800.

Area Library System Might Solve Problem

(Fourth in Series)
By IRMA N. DAVIS
Township Editor
Despite the rapid growth of Birmingham in the last two decades, the surrounding area has mushroomed even more and promises to almost double its population by 1970, according to the experts.
During this growing period, Baldwin Library has continued to serve a widening area almost single-handedly in terms of facilities.
Birmingham city and library officials are doing all they can to meet the needs of nonresidents, to protect the interests of Birmingham taxpayers and at the same time maintain amicable relations with neighboring municipalities.
SAYS Frederick Westeman,



Joan Thorson—sure of husband's innocence

Get a Ticket in B'ham? You Go to Court, Sir

Traffic violators in Birmingham go to court.
In a system in operation since November, all persons who receive a moving traffic violation must appear in Birmingham Municipal Court.
Not only residents are required to appear but anyone who receives a ticket in Birmingham that lives in the metropolitan area must come to court, according to Municipal Judge John Emery.
Judge Emery initiated the program after studying reports and recommendations of the traffic court program of the American Bar Association.
"All moving violations are dangerous and therefore must be treated seriously," Emery said.
"THE ONLY exceptions to the rule are two new traffic regulations that are not yet familiar to motorists, Emery said.
Court is opened at 8:15 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for arraignments. Trials on violations take place on Wednesday mornings when the city attorney is present.
Emery said that arraignments are scheduled so that each person's driving record is in front of the court.
"ACCORDINGLY, in some cases when the person has been driving

City Adopts Codification Of Ordinances

for a great many years and has no record, we will dismiss the charge as a first offense, with a warning, if the offense is a less serious one," Emery said.
"In cases where there are convictions on the record but no moving violation for four years or more, a person may receive a suspended sentence if the offense is a less serious one," the judge continued.
When a person has had a record in the past, the sentences grow increasingly severe with a careful explanation of the reason for the severity, Emery said. He said also that he is using probation more often as a penalty.
"In all cases, we explain the basis for the sentence and endeavor to educate both the driver before us and the audience on the dangers in violations," Emery said.
EMERY POINTED out that the new system gives the court much greater flexibility in sentencing. He said that both the police and the public have received the system quite favorably.
"We have received many compliments from people in court who have felt that the experience of coming to court, even for the first offender, or perhaps especially for an offender, is a very good one," Emery said.
Reference and advisory services were used at about the same rate by both groups in 1960; however, a survey in the same year showed nonresidents borrowing over one-third of the books circulated.
RESIDENT BORROWERS, including juvenile users, totaled 10,822 persons as of September, (See SYSTEM, 5-A)
All makes of lower spring mattresses available in ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, LI 2-6000.

Township Electors Face Millage Vote On Library Issue

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer
A one-mill tax increase to provide facilities for Bloomfield Township will be voted on by its electorate at the April 1 election.
A petition to place the proposal on the ballot is to be filed Monday, according to Mrs. Horace Sheldon, chairman of a citizen's library committee. The committee is a volunteer group of township residents organized to promote a library system as a cooperative project in conjunction with the Birmingham library," Mrs. Sheldon said.

THE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL on the ballot will be in two parts. The first provides for "establishment and maintenance of a free public library and a one-mill levy for its operation and maintenance. The second section specifies that the one-mill shall be in excess of the 15-mill property tax limitation. A default on one part of the proposal would mean a defeat of the entire proposal.

A ONE-MILL LEVY would provide approximately \$138,000 a year for operation of the library, based on present property valuation in Bloomfield Township.
The levy could only be used for operation and maintenance of a library and could not be used for creation of a library building.
If he proposal passes, procedure would call for the township board to appoint a provisional library board, according to Mrs. Sheldon. The board would work out details of operation and determine location and type of service.
AT PRESENT, officials of the township and members of the li-

brary committee have been meeting with Birmingham library board members and staff to work out arrangements for a cooperative library system.
Working out an area-wide library system for Birmingham and Bloomfield Township was recommended by a library study committee report made in 1961.
"Libraries can function most effectively with a large population base. They operate more economically and give better library service," Mrs. Sheldon stated.
She added that a bonding issue for a library building or buildings would have to be considered by the library board in the future.

Birmingham voters will elect candidates to fill seven offices in the April 1 election.
Three positions on the city commission are open as are two on the Baldwin Library Board and the two Municipal Judgeships.
With the announcement last week by Mayor Florence H. Willett that he will not seek re-election, at least one new face will be on the commission.
Commissioners William E. Roberts and William H. Burgum have both announced that they would seek re-election.

TWO WOMEN HAVE taken out nominating petitions for the commission.
Mrs. James F. (Mabel) Murphy, 1313 Dorchester, and Mrs. John K. (Elizabeth) Bagby, 672 Oxford, have announced their candidacy. In addition, attorney Frederick G. Blair, 1217 Washington, has taken out nominating petition.

ON THE LIBRARY board, Mrs. F. Chalmers Smith, 1836 Oak, has announced she will not seek an office.
(See ELECTION, 2-A)

actively with a large population base. They operate more economically and give better library service," Mrs. Sheldon stated.
She added that a bonding issue for a library building or buildings would have to be considered by the library board in the future.

B'ham to Fill 7 Positions in April Election

Mrs. Sheldon as co-chairman of the library committee is Albert Weinlich. Other members include Mrs. Weirich, Horace Sheldon, Mrs. Dean Heber, Mrs. Robert J. Brynes, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Caldwell, Mrs. John C. Costello, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore N. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. John H. King, Henry Noonan and Mrs. Roderick Spann.

Mrs. Sheldon said that hundreds of residents have been contacted in the township who have volunteered to help in campaigning for the passage of the proposal.

John Dickey Named Principal of New B'ham Junior High
The Birmingham Board of Education approved the appointment of John Dickey as principal of the new junior high on 14 Mile Road and Bellevue, Beverly Hills.

Dickey, currently principal of Birmingham Park High School, was picked from a field of 28 considered by a committee headed by Kenneth F. Nagley, director of personnel. He is not related to Otis M. Dickey, superintendent of schools.

THE JOB was filled now so that necessary staffing, equipping and organizational work can be done prior to the scheduled September opening of the new building.
A native of Belgrade, Mo., Dickey received his B.S. degree from Wayne State University in 1948 and his M.A. from WSU in 1952.

Beverly to Vote on 3 Issues

PLACE ROAD PROGRAMS ON BALLOT

By KAY SMITH
Special Writer
BEVERLY HILLS — Climaxing over a year of study and discussion, the council voted Monday to place the village and county road programs on the March 11 ballot as three separate propositions.
The first two propositions cover village participation in county programs. If passed by voters, the cost to Beverly Hills will be \$189,900. The third proposition, involving a village program without county participation, will cost the village \$799,100.
If propositions one and two fail, the village will have to pay \$239,400 for the portion of 14 Mile Road which is included in the county program and which would, then have to be paved at village expense alone.

"We have received many compliments from people in court who have felt that the experience of coming to court, even for the first offender, or perhaps especially for an offender, is a very good one," Emery said.
Reference and advisory services were used at about the same rate by both groups in 1960; however, a survey in the same year showed nonresidents borrowing over one-third of the books circulated.

ALTHOUGH AN advisory vote was suggested and studied, the council finally decided to put the proposition up for actual voter participation to sell the bonds. An advisory vote, even if favorable, would barely allow for construction of the 1964 program.
An affirmative vote of 60 per cent of those voting is required to pass the program.

IF PROPOSITION one and two are passed, the cost of the village program will be reduced from \$1,032,600 to \$799,100, as a portion of 14 Mile Road in proposition one

will be paved as part of the county program.
The first proposition is part of the county program. It includes the widening of Greenwood to four lanes; Southfield to five lanes; and

Approval of this proposition will authorize the village council to sell general obligation bonds in the amount of \$145,900 as the village's share (25 per cent) of this part of the county program.

PROPOSITION TWO, also a county program, will provide for construction of new 24-foot concrete pavement along 14 Mile from Evergreen west to the village limits.
Approval of this proposition will authorize the village council to sell general obligation bonds in the amount of \$145,900 as the village's share (25 per cent) of this part of the county program.

PIERCE FROM 13 Mile to Beverly will be paved 27 feet wide, without curbs. Evergreen from 13 Mile to Beverly will be paved 24 feet wide, without curbs. Fourteen Mile Road, from Evergreen to the west village limits will be paved without curbs, 24 feet wide. Concrete pavement 30 feet wide will be built along Riverside from the River Rouge bridge west to Evergreen.
The roads without curbs will (See ISSUES, 6-A)

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