

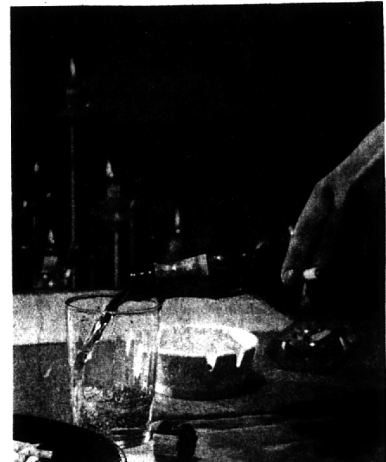


The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

Church Council Backs Civil Rights March

No PTA Action On Cigaret-Liquor Law

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Eccentric Photo by Bill Thom
Cigarets and whisky—should they now be made available legally to anyone between 18 and 21?

'Discussion' Only on Age Cut Proposal

A clarification of the Birmingham PTA Council's position on the "possibility of reducing the age limit for the purchase of cigarettes and liquor to 18 was issued today by the council's president, George W. Whitehead.

No action on the matter has been taken by the council, he explained.

In a prepared statement, Whitehead, who is serving his second term as head of the PTA organization, said he wished "to correct the misinterpretation of the report of the (PTA Council) meeting of Oct. 28.

"The major business of the evening concerned two resolutions adopted by the members of the council, which read as follows:

"Resolved that the Birmingham PTA Council hereby serves public notice to all whom it may concern that the council is unalterably opposed to the prevailing practice of selling tobacco to minors, in violation of Michigan statutes.

"BE IT HEREBY Resolved that the council condemns the practice by which minors are able to procure beer and liquor, whether through direct illegal sale or through devious channels of accommodations.

"(The Birmingham Eccentric had been informed that the council had started preliminary plans for a campaign to change the law governing the sale of liquor and tobacco from 21 to 18.

The council as presented to The Eccentric were reported accurately in the Oct. 31 issue, said Kenneth R. Weaver, managing editor.)

WHITEHEAD SAID the two resolutions adopted Oct. 28 were to support the work of the Parent-Teacher Committee in its efforts to involve the parents of the community in giving serious consideration to the tobacco and liquor problems which exist among youth.

He said basic to these are the problems of maintaining respect for law and the consistency expected by the community in the enforcement of existing laws.

"Informal discussion was held on various ways of enforcing (See PROPOSAL, 2-A)

Bandit Gets \$634 At B'ham Motel

A lone bandit with a silk stocking on his nose and carrying a knife held up the Birmingham House Motel early Sunday morning and made off with \$634.

The motel's night clerk, Frank Hooker, told police he was forced at knife-point to turn over the contents of the safe. He said he fled around the back when he returned to the motel's office after getting a soft drink, shortly after 3 a.m.

The bandit told Hooker to lie on the floor for 10 minutes while he fled from the motel.

The holdup was the second early morning robbery of the motel in the last five years, according to Birmingham police.

proposing a smoking age reduction," he said.

Dr. John R. Smith, with the current emphasis on damage to health because of tobacco, any reduction of age should be accompanied by a campaign to make young people aware of the dangers of tobacco.

"I would be opposed to the reduction of the age limit to 18," he said.

(See SMOKING, 8-A)



Mrs. Shain To Receive U-M Award

Mrs. Charles J. Shain of Birmingham will receive an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Regents of the University of Michigan Saturday, Nov. 23.

Presentation will be made in Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, in conjunction with a concert performed by the U-M Men's Glee Club and the Men's Glee Club of Ohio State University.

THE AWARD was established by the regents in 1958 and is given to alumni recommended for the honor by faculties of the schools and colleges.

The widow of the former Birmingham mayor and druggist for whom Shain Park is named, Mrs. Shain lives near The Community House at 813 Pierce. She became the first president of The Community House and led it through its organizational years from 1929 to 1930. In 1946 she was named its honorary president.

Mrs. Shain has been teaching an international affairs class for the American Association of University Women since 1921.

Lower Smoking Age, Yes; Drinking, No

Second of a Series
By LARRY EYOE
City Editor

Clergymen and educational leaders in Birmingham generally agree it would not be a good idea to lower the legal drinking age in Michigan from 21 to 18, but do think there is some merit to reducing the age limit in statutes governing smoking.

The Birmingham PTA Council has discussed the possibility of looking into the lowering of the age requirements.

Dr. John R. Smith, Birmingham's new superintendent of schools, came to this area from a school district (Greenwich, Conn.) where drinking by youngsters was somewhat of a problem.

"GREENWICH is the last community in Connecticut before you cross into New York state," Smith said.

"Youngsters would go into New York, drink legally and then return home sometimes in a drunken condition and be in violation of the law," he said.

He noted that unsuccessful attempts were made by both New Jersey and Connecticut to have New York raise the age limit to 21. Smith feels a lower age limit would make it easier for 16- and 17-year-olds to get alcoholic beverages.

"When you permit an immature youth to drink, it can be detrimental to society, whereas smoking is more of an individual matter," Smith said.

"Twenty-one does seem to be an extremely high age level to prohibit smoking," he said.

DR. G. ERNEST Thomas, pastor of Birmingham's First Baptist Church, said he was definitely opposed to lowering the drinking age.

"The greatest single source of personality problems and family disagreement is alcohol," Dr. Thomas said.

"The problems of a minister would be decreased considerably if it were not for alcohol and would be undoubtedly increased if 18-year-olds would be allowed to buy liquor," he said.

Dr. Thomas discounts the belief that lowering of the age would make it harder for 16- and 17-year-olds to purchase liquor.

"WITH THE use of makeup, youngsters of 14 or 15 can be made to look much older," he said. "I believe it would increase the work load of the police departments.

"There may be some logic in



School Talk

James Liddle (with book), principal of Bloomfield Village Elementary School, Birmingham, explains school procedures to (from left) Mrs. Richard LaDue, Mrs. W. D. McDonnell, Mrs. Earl A. Maxwell and Richard LaDue. Liddle hosted Bloomfield Village

area parents Monday night as part of the local observance of American Education Week. Open houses and exhibits will be held at Seaholm, Derby, Harlan, Barnum and Berkshire schools today and tonight.

Commission Continues Study Of Bloomfield Hills Zoning

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

Unswayed by the threat of new litigation stemming from the city's zoning policies, the Bloomfield Hills City Commission Monday night continued its unhurried search for a new and better zoning ordinance.

The commissioners asked for, and will receive, copies of the proposed law with minor changes before the Dec. 10 meeting. Action could be taken at that time.

A charge that the present zoning law had "deprived" her and her husband of the use "of two-thirds of our property" was leveled at the commission by Mrs. Florence F. Boening of Bloomfield Village.

is long enough to wait," she added.

Councilman David Lee took exception to that statement.

"The zoning law has been quite clear here," he said. "You have been at liberty to build on your land—five units per acre before 1954—and three after that. I can't see how you've been waiting for 12 years."

J. ROBERT F. Swanson, Bloomfield Hills architect, smiled and nodded to Mrs. Boening as she left the commission room.

Swanson has filed suit against the city on grounds of unconstitutional zoning regulations in an area where he, too, wants to build apartments.

He insists that three units per acre is too low an allotment for multiple dwellings.

More Tickets Mean Fewer Accidents?

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

Bloomfield Hills officials are wondering if there is a relationship between the dramatic drop in the number of property damage accidents in the township during the month of October and the fact that police issued triple the number of traffic tickets during the same period.

Compared to October a year ago, property damage accidents dropped from 68 to 26. Personal injury accidents were reduced from 30 to 23. At the same time, ordinance violation tickets increased from 106 to 329.

Bloomfield Hills, through City Attorney William Hartman, filed an answer to Swanson's suit Monday, denying that the zoning is unreasonable. Both parties are awaiting a trial date.

IN ANOTHER zoning development, Lee informed three property owners that the commission had decided against changing a parcel of land, south of The Kingsley Inn, from institutional to office classification.

The three—T. C. Gleason, Dr. Roy Hawkins and John Dinan—all whose property abuts on the parcel.

(See ZONING, 2-A)

Paper to Publish On Nov. 29

Because of the Thanksgiving Day holiday, The Birmingham Eccentric will be published on Friday, Nov. 29, instead of Thursday, Nov. 28.

All copy pertaining to Thanksgiving programs should be submitted to our editorial offices by noon tomorrow for publication in our issue of Nov. 21.

Rotary Brings Consultants For Career Day at Groves

What's in a career? What does a career in medicine offer? Or engineering? Or teaching? Or law? Or architecture? The 1,400 students at Groves High School will get answers to some of their questions on careers Monday morning.

At that time, the Birmingham Rotary Club will present its first biennial Career Day at Groves, through cooperation with the Birmingham Public School System.

Clarence Kraft, committee chairman, announced today that 100

Creed Opposes Discrimination 'In All Forms'

The Birmingham Council of Churches has announced that it will support a "Freedom Festival" in the city on Dec. 14.

The festival will include a program and procession in behalf of civil rights.

A creed was adopted by the council protesting "all forms of discrimination based on race, color or creed."

It was signed by 19 Birmingham area ministers and priests.

Area Exceeds Torch Drive Goal by 5%

The Birmingham-Bloomfield area topped its Torch Drive goal "unanimously" as final figures were announced last week. Pledges and donations amounted to \$186,079, overshooting the \$173,076 goal by five per cent.

A breakdown of these figures shows Birmingham achieving \$54,683 for 107 per cent of its \$51,234 goal; Bloomfield Village achieving \$18,478 for 105 per cent of its \$15,645 goal; and Bloomfield Township achieving \$4,410 for 105 per cent of its \$4,180 goal.

REV. ARTHUR Lowry, assistant pastor of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, and Rev. Carl Sayers, rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, are handling the details of the festival. Fr. Lowry is chairman and Rev. Sayers is arrangements director.

The council issued a statement in support of the festival "after deliberate and thorough discussion."

In addition, the council supported further plans "for a program of civil rights witness to the twin themes of penitence and patriotism" on Lincoln's birthday, Ash Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1964.

BEVERLY HILLS made \$9,002 or 103 per cent of a goal of \$7,720; while Franklin made \$6,726 or 108 per cent of its \$6,234 goal.

Bloomfield Hills followed suit, also making 108 per cent of its goal of \$73,329, amounting to \$79,386.

Wing Lake made 110 per cent of its goal of \$4,805 or \$5,307, to be topped only by Oakland Hills Country Club, which achieved 113 per cent of its goal of \$9,854, making \$11,090.

THE COUNCIL believes the Dec. 14 "religious procession will be an opportunity for positive affirmation by concerned individuals for the passage of responsible Federal civil rights legislation."

Although the festival committee is still working on details of the program, three persons have announced they would participate in the procession and speak on the program.

IN THE neighboring areas of Southfield and Troy, Southfield made 121 per cent of its goal of \$21,945, donating \$26,475 to the fund, while Troy came in under the wire with \$2,016—79 per cent of its goal of \$2,518.

All donations and pledges for Oakland County amounted to \$347,680 or 108 per cent of the desired estimate of \$325,675.

Former Gov. John B. Swanson, Lutheran layman, and John Feinberg, a Christian Reformed layman and chairman of Gov. Romney's newly-appointed Civil Rights Commission, and the Very Rev. Msgr. Clement J. Kern, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Detroit, have indicated they would take part in the festival.

Holdup Nets \$150 At B'ham Market

One hundred and 50 dollars in cash was taken in a holdup at Davidson's Market, 1844 S. Woodward, Birmingham, late Wednesday afternoon last week.

Thelma Groves, 53, of 997 Benaville, told police she was alone in the store when the lone bandit came into the building and demanded she open the cash register.

She said the bandit took \$150 in his pocket during the robbery as if he had a gun.

THE PROCESSION is scheduled to leave Birmingham Congregational Church, 388 N. Woodward, at 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 14 and proceed to The Community House at Townsend and Bates.

THE COUNCIL said it regretted the premature and incomplete reporting of the committee's plans before final approval by the whole council.

Editor's Note: The Eccentric reported accurately last week the details of the march and program as related to its news staff by reporting of the students at Groves.

In adopting the creed on being (See MARCH, 7-A)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Outlook appears dismal for Romney tax reform program. See CAPITOL REPORT on 3-A.
- Birmingham's Suburban Homemaker of the Year prepares for national competition in Chicago. See story, pictures on 1-C.
- Town Hall speaker Max Lerner declares he is neither a pessimist nor an optimist but a "possibilist." See story, picture on 1-D.
- Seaholm, Groves win their final football games of the season. See stories, pictures on 1-E.
- Amusements
Art for Art's Sake
Classified Ads
Calendar of Cultural Events
Church
City News
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College Beats
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- 6-A Movie Guide
6-D Nature Now
6-D Obituaries
5-D Potpourri
6-B Real Estate
6-B Society
1-B Suburban Scene
6-E Spawning of Sports
8-C Sports
7-D Theaters
1-B This & That
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1-B

CONSULTANTS were selected on the basis of a questionnaire filled out by the students, learn their possible career preferences.

The greatest number of students, 374, indicated an interest in teaching. Kraft said 228 were interested in airline careers; 151, interior decorating; 160, secretarial; 153, medicine; 137, engineering; 133, law; 123, architecture; 110, veterinary medicine.

The consultants will take the

form primarily of panel discussions, with the students encouraged to ask whatever questions they may have on their particular job interests.

Authorities from the area as well as on the state level were asked to take part as consultants.

AMONG THEM will be Birmingham Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley, discussing police work; Dr. John B. Smith, Birmingham's school superintendent, teaching; Leon Hart, sports-professional; Carl J. Griffiths & Bossett, civil engineering; George Hough, Michigan State University, journalism.

All of the armed services will be represented.

The consultants will be guests of the Rotarians for lunch at The Community House after the discussion sessions.

CAREER DAY was initiated last year and was presented at Seaholm High School. It will relate between the two schools from year to year.

Serving as chairman at Groves for this year's event is Mrs. Kraft, school counselor.