



The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

Who Will Participate In 'Freedom Festival'?

BURGUM: No

PAGE: Undecided

INGRAHAM: No

MAIN: No

BRECK: Yes

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

The mayors and commissioners of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Beverly Hills have all been sent invitations to take part in the Dec. 14 "Freedom Festival" sponsored by the Birmingham Council of Churches.

The festival, which will include a program and procession in behalf of civil rights, will begin at 9 a.m. at the Birmingham Congregational Church.

City officials said Wednesday that a parade permit had been issued to the council of churches for the procession.

In addition to the government officials, the council has also extended invitations to the Jewish Community Council of South Oakland County, the Pontiac chapters

of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League and to area high school bands.

AS OF Wednesday morning Birmingham city commissioners had not received their invitations to take part in the festival but several clearly stated they would not participate in the procession or program.

Mayor William H. Burgum said he felt he "wouldn't be honest in my own convictions" if he took part in the demonstration.

"While I'm sympathetic with the right of minority groups to have equal jobs, education and equal rights to use public facilities, I'm not in sympathy with public demonstrations which do nothing to aid in the actual development of these opportunities," Burgum said.

"Inasmuch as I feel that this march is a public demonstration I wouldn't be honest to my own conviction to take part in it."

As mayor, however, those asking for the march will be given every consideration as would any other group asking for a permit and holding a parade," he said.

MAYOR PRO TEM Robert W. Page said he thought "most thinking people will not disagree with the basic ideas expressed by the freedom festival committee."

"After all, these views are based on religious philosophy and are also supported in the language of the state and national constitutions," Page said.

"Whether the spectacle of a freedom march in our city will add credence and dignity to these beliefs or

would even provide support for the practical application would seem to be open to question.

"I would prefer to see a calm judicious approach to these problems," Page said.

COMMISSIONER Carl F. Ingraham said his present reaction "would be not to take part" in the festival.

Ingraham said he had been out of town for nine days and only knew what he had read about the festival but understood it was a "religious testament" of the feeling of the clergymen and not a political one.

"I'm in complete accord with their goals and am not unsympathetic to them at all.

"I have been working both in city and county government (See FREEDOM FESTIVAL, 4-A)

Owners, Dealers Oppose Lowering Age for Drinking

Last of three articles

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Bar owners and package liquor dealers in the Birmingham area don't want to see Michigan's legal drinking age lowered from 21 to 18 years of age.

Drivers Get Safety Caution From Moxley

For Thanksgiving Day church services, see Page 6-B

In a pre-Thanksgiving Day message to all who will drive to distant or nearby homes of relatives to observe the holiday, Birmingham Chief of Police Ralph Moxley urged that the celebration be seasoned with safety.

"This time-honored tradition is the source of many of our most cherished memories," he said, "but these would be changed to lifelong regret if we, through negligence, should allow future Thanksgiving Days to be marred by memories of the death of a loved one in an auto accident."

The important thing is to be able to close each Thanksgiving with a prayer of thanksgiving for a safe journey, the chief said, and this usually can be assured by a few simple precautions, he pointed out.

"SCHEDULE YOUR trip so that you can take time for safety," he advised. "Remember that over-indulgence—particularly by the one who is responsible for the driving—has no place in a meaningful observance of the occasion.

And a holiday so closely associated with the profane pride in time for unpatriotic disregard of our traffic laws."

If the weather turns vicious, as it can at this time of year, it may even become necessary for the head of the household to decide to cancel the trip—in spite of the groans of disappointed (temporary) he will have to endure, Moxley advised.

One Thanksgiving Day trip might also preserve the joys of many Thanksgiving Days to come, he observed.

While all of those contacted by The Eccentric could see some logic in lowering the drinking age, all agreed a lower drinking age would not be a good idea.

The Birmingham PTA Council has held preliminary discussions on the possibility of reducing the state age requirement in laws covering drinking and smoking.

"It would double my business," said one local bar owner, "but it would more than double my troubles."

"I'M SURE my parking lot would be filled to capacity every night," he said. "I'd also probably have a fight in the lot each night."

He said he felt that 18-year-olds were not mature enough to handle alcoholic beverages or their effect on the human body.

Another owner said even if the state law were revised he thought there would still be many parents who wouldn't want their youngsters to drink.

"I'd have every parent in town in here asking why I was letting their Johnny or Mary into my place," he said.

He said he would also be concerned over the fact that many 18-year-old boys don't date girls in their own age bracket and often go out with younger girls.

"If a bunch of 15- and 16-year-old girls started coming in here, I'd really have headaches," he said.

THE OWNER of one of the more expensive establishments in the area of the "shot and a beer" joints, (See DRINKING, 2-A)

Study Committee Reports Monday

The Citizens Elementary Curriculum Study Committee will present its final report to the Birmingham PTA Council at 8 p.m. Monday at Beverly School.

The report, which will probably be forwarded to the board of education the following night, will cover the findings of the group after almost a year of study.

The citizens committee is similar to a group that studied the secondary curriculum in 1958.



OBVIOUSLY PLEASED with the results of Career Day at Groves High School Monday are (from left) Clarence Kraft, Birmingham Rotary Club chairman for the evening; Marilyn Diekmann, consultant in the modeling profession; and Edwin Deer, chairman of the luncheon program that took place at the Community House after the morning career conferences.

CAREER INFORMATION AVAILABLE

High School-Plus Training Needed Today, Smith Says

By KEN WEAVER
Managing Editor

"Everybody doesn't need to go to college, but certainly there is need for some training beyond high school."

Summarizing the Career Day at Groves High School Monday, Birmingham School Supt. John B. Smith said there is a 30 per cent increase in job opportunities for students with diplomas and a 35 per cent decrease for those without diplomas.

Smith spoke at the Birmingham Rotary Club meeting at noon Monday following a morning of discussion sessions between Groves students and consultants from various fields of occupation.

MORE THAN 100 consultants from 61 different fields counseled the 1,400 Groves students on the requirements and rewards for the various careers. Fifty of the consultants were guests of the Rotarians at the luncheon.

Students were given an opportunity to sit in on discussions on three different careers. The project was sponsored by the Rotary Club in cooperation with the school district.

In his summary of the conferences, Dr. Smith listed three purposes of a career day:

"To demonstrate that there is a need to stay in school and to finish school.

"To indicate the opportunities that are available.

"To tell the students where they may continue to get information and seek guidance and advice.

Dr. Smith said the schools need help in getting students to finish school.

"THE DROPOUT problem has greatly improved but we are still concerned that some worthwhile talent will be lost to our country—and we do know that it is lost."

He pointed out that changes do occur in the various fields. "Some jobs are disappearing, but there will be other positions in their place."

A person today must have a minimum of 12 years plus some additional training, he said. Present figures indicate a need for 16 years of training.

"There will always be jobs in spite of automation," the school superintendent declared. "Machines are replacing people, but in turn they are creating other kinds of jobs for which there is a need for training."

DR. SMITH cautioned against pressuring "these youngsters now to make up their minds."

Students should recognize, he said, that there are opportunities and that they can grasp them only if they prepare for them.

Emphasis now should be in getting students to recognize that there is a need for training and that there are sources for information available now, he said.

The Rotarians and consultants accepted a challenge from Smith to continue a program of counseling (See TRAINING, 2-A)

menting profession; and Edwin Deer, chairman of the luncheon program that took place at the Community House after the morning career conferences.

Church Group Starts Study Of Movies

Improved Product Sought by Women

Movies will soon be better than ever if a group of Birmingham area residents have anything to say about it.

The group, under the direction of the Birmingham United Church Women, has begun a preliminary study on how to improve the products turned out by the motion picture industry.

In addition to the U.C.W., representatives of the schools, PTA groups and other civic organizations are expected to take part in the study.

The project was first proposed by the church women last December and since then the women have been gathering support for their drive.

THEODORE Guething, 581 Lake Park, Birmingham, was elected chairman of the study group at an organization meeting last Thursday in The Community House.

Mrs. Harold Gwinn, one of the original backers of the study, summed up the purpose of the project.

"The formation of this study has sprung from the conviction of some that the movie is meant to do more than to take our minds off our troubles."

"Every movie, entertaining or not, has something to say, however obvious or subtle, which contributes to the uplifting of society or its downfall," she said.

"Our objective," she noted, "should be to enlist the film producers," the exhibitors and the viewing public in making the motion picture screen a positive force directed toward creating sound character."

SHE SAID the group realized the motion picture has a strong impact on youth and is concerned whether the impact is of a constructive or destructive nature.

"In the past," she recalled, "many small groups in Birmingham have attempted to approach the problem with the industry people but most have felt frustrated and unable to cope with the situation."

"Realizing so many small groups have been unsuccessful in their attempts, the U.C.W. decided this was a community problem and could only be decided on a community basis," she said.

The group regards the motion picture as a valuable medium which it prefers to see strengthened and (See MOVIES, 2-A)



Engine Trouble

When James R. Delavan of Birmingham Chrysler-Plymouth opened the hood of this auto last Thursday morning he found an abandoned squirrel's nest resting on the engine block. After removing the nest the mechanics got the auto back in good running order.

Education of Students To Aid Smoking Ban

A report by Bloomfield Hills High School Principal Richard Speiss on the effectiveness of the stringent anti-smoking rules at the high school was made to the Hills school board Tuesday night.

Speiss told the board that the rules, adopted by the school board last Spring, have proven effective in improving the condition of school lavatories. However, he said that smoking in the vicinity of the school grounds in the morning before school had noticeably increased.

He made it clear that smoking within the high school had not been eliminated, only alleviated.

"A teacher can find two cigarettes burning in the lavatory, and two students also in the room, but because our rules state that students must be caught in the actual act, we are hampered in our enforcement."

Speiss said any change in this provision might result in an innocent student being wrongfully punished.

Eccentric Names All-Area Team

It was a difficult assignment but Sports Editor Dick Zeminin and his staff have compiled an All-Area grid team for 1963.

For a complete list of the top football players in the area this year plus pictures, turn to Page 1-E. You will also find The Eccentric's choices for Coach of the Year and Players of the Year.

To Close 13 Mile

BEVERLY HILLS — Beginning about Nov. 25, 13 Mile Road will be closed each day from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. for three weeks.

A 24-inch water main will be laid just north of the pavement by the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority.

When Is a Tree House Not One?

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

From time immemorial, children have been nailing boards across the limbs of a friendly tree and enjoying their lofty station in a tree house — and little girls have begged their families for a play house in which to act out, with their dolls, their future roles in society.

Last week the right of children residing in Bloomfield Township to enjoy such privileges in their own yards was seriously challenged before the township board of appeals.

AT ISSUE was an elaborate, carpenter-built tree house at 6705 Indianwood Trail and a partially completed play house on lot 127 of Oakland Hills Country Club Subdivision.

Their existence was being protested by some of the neighbors.

Although the three-man board made no ruling on tree houses and playhouses in general, it did vote to allow the specific tree house. It also gave permission for completion of the playhouse, and its use for a two-year period, provided that a building permit was applied for.

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THE DECISIONS were not simply reached.

Involved was a legal problem as to whether tree houses and play houses come under the

classification of a structure, as defined in the township zoning ordinance.

If, legally, they are not structures, they do not fall under the township zoning code and the township has no jurisdiction over their existence.

This was the position taken by Fred Chapman, who as chairman of the township planning commission, is on the board of appeals.

When accessory buildings are intended for other than private motor vehicles, the accessory use shall be subject to the review and approval of the board of appeals."

CASE AND NEWMAN then (See HOUSE, 6-A)

ship supervisor, said that he had been verbally advised by township attorney Tom Dillon that they met the zoning ordinance's definition of a structure.

Case and appeal board chairman Henry Newman agreed that the board of appeals would have jurisdiction over sanctioning of the structures under a section of the zoning ordinance which reads:

"When accessory buildings are intended for other than private motor vehicles, the accessory use shall be subject to the review and approval of the board of appeals."

CASE AND NEWMAN then (See HOUSE, 6-A)

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