

The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly



Fore!

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Birmingham's Mayor William H. Burgum (in cch) and Commissioner William E. Roberts were on hand Monday as construction crews began clearing the land for the new municipal golf course at Lincoln and Cran-

brook roads. The nine-hole course is being constructed on the old sewage disposal plant property. The \$150,000 project is scheduled for completion in time for the 1964 golf season.

Old-Fashioned Report Cards To Stay in B'ham Schools

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Report cards are still an important part of a youngster's school life.

With all of the modern educational methods employed in the Birmingham school system the old-fashioned report card is still considered the best method of measuring the child's ability.

A recent survey conducted at the Westchester Elementary School showed that both parents and students want the present form of report cards with the letter grades continued.

He added that the parent-teacher conferences could be supportive of the general reporting procedure.

Council's Defense Goes To the Dogs

BEVERLY HILLS—Dog bite boy—the traditional unwelcome story—underwent a slight change at Monday's council meeting, when the bitten boy's father addressed a letter to the council with some teeth in it with regard to unlicensed dogs in the village.

Robert W. Guy, whose son was bitten by an unlicensed dog June 28, wrote the council about it. But the council quickly countered with a letter from Dr. Frank J. Dondon, deputy director of the Oakland County Medical Association, written Jan. 18, congratulating Village Manager Robert E. Murphy on the fact that the village has one of the highest percentages of licensed dogs in the county and asking him to share his secret with the rest of the county.

SOME 90 per cent of the village's canine population sport their tags, which means also that they've been inoculated against rabies. The council directed Village Manager Robert E. Murphy to write Guy sending along Dondon's letter and congratulating Guy on the "mature dignity" of his letter.

Roberts Tells Funds Given In 'Y' Drive

Total donations received thus far in the Birmingham YMCA Capital Funds Drive have been reported by William E. Roberts, general chairman.

Receipts include advance gifts division, \$177,749; YMCA members division, \$33,756.50; boards and staff, \$14,183; and clubs and organizations, \$475.

The grand total is \$226,163.50, 26 per cent of the present YMCA need for \$869,133.

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Hills Schools Cut Bus Service

Restaurant Owner Faces Pander Charge

By DAVE PHILPO
Staff Writer

A 40-year-old Birmingham restaurant owner was released on \$500 bond at Municipal Court Monday, pending an examination July 26 on charges of pandering.

Peter Nick of Berkeley, who owns the Marx drive-in restaurant at 1393 S. Woodward, Birmingham, stood mute before Judge Charles Loney of Troy, who was acting for Municipal Judge John C. Emery.

Nick was arrested at his home Monday night by a team of detectives from Birmingham, Berkeley and the Pontiac State Police post on the complaint of an 18-year-old Pontiac girl who alleges that Nick encouraged her to become a prostitute.

"The girl told police that on July 10 she applied for a job as waitress at the Birmingham restaurant. According to the girl, Nick drove her to his home at 1044 W. 11 Mile Road, Berkeley, where he attempted to persuade her to become a prostitute.

When she refused, Nick drove her back to Birmingham, the girl said. She reported the incident to Birmingham police and an intensive five-day investigation followed.

Richard Chambers, Birmingham detective, commented on the case: "In order to cover ourselves anywhere in the State of Michigan, we called in the State Police and contacted the Berkeley department."

OTHERS INVOLVED in the investigation were Sgt. James Cole of Berkeley, Robert Neigebauer of the Pontiac post, State Police, and Officer Harold Christy of Birmingham.

Nick, who also owns the Bel Air Restaurant in Royal Oak, was charged on a statutory rape charge in 1959. At that time, he received a \$500 fine and was placed on two years' probation.

His examination before Judge Emery is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. July 26.

Maximum sentence for pandering is 20 years in prison.

Renshaw Named Fire Marshall

Birmingham has a new fire marshal. He is Harvey Renshaw, 43, of 1782 Holland.

He replaced George Scott, who has been acting chief. Scott has been acting chief (as well as fire marshal) since Feb. 11 when former chief Park Smith retired.

Renshaw for the past eight years has been fire inspector in Troy, where he was acting as fire inspector lieutenant, handling the job of fire marshal on duty until a new fire inspector lieutenant is chosen.

RENSHAW JOINED the department in 1957 and was made a fire inspector July 1, 1958. Prior to becoming a fireman, he was with the Birmingham forestry department, and before that served in the Army.

Renshaw, who was born in Troy, has always been a Birmingham area resident. He is married and the father of three children, two of them married: Mrs. Walter C. Engle, Page, 1544 Webster, Birmingham; Harvey, Jr., of Los Angeles, Calif.; and Tommy L., 15-month-old.

Bids for Paving E. Maple Rejected

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night recommended that the Oakland County Road Commission reject the bids for the paving and under the road group to advertise the project.

The road commission is in charge of the project that will widen E. Maple from Adams to Coolidge.

City Manager L. R. Gare said the road commission received only one bid on the project at an estimated cost of \$127,748 for construction only. The Birmingham Engineering Dept. had estimated 2-D the cost at \$106,298.

Give No Relief On Assessments

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

City commissioners took no action Monday night giving special tax consideration to business property owners with private parking lots for their property.

The East Maple Avenue Parking Owners Association had asked the commission for relief for members' assessment on property used for parking last March 11.

At that time they pointed out that city-owned lots are not on the tax rolls but that their privately-owned lots were taxed. Last year, the association said, assessed valuation on lots in the area were doubled, but that the board of review later granted some relief.

CITY ASSESSOR Clark Hagstrom was asked by the commission to investigate through the Michigan Municipal League to obtain information on other cities in the state with a similar problem and how they handle such assessments.

Hagstrom said his investigation showed only two methods of assessment that could be used and still meet the requirements of the state statutes.

The first, he said, was a restrictive covenant in the deed (this generally means the land could not be used for anything but parking); and the second is to change the zoning ordinance to allow for parking. He said the latter method was used by the City of Detroit.

"Each method poses problems to the future planning and development of a community due to the fact you have a number of split zoning throughout, he said. Commercially-zoned districts," he said.

THIS, HAGSTROM noted, brings about permanent devaluing of the land area. He said this raises the question of property owners' acceptance of this type of zoning or covenant.

"In my opinion, from a practical standpoint very little is gained by employment of these methods because the shift in higher values to the developed portion over the parking area would result in the same high value of the whole," he said.

"In other words, the sum of the parts must equal the whole. Parking land may be reduced but developed areas (land and buildings) would increase to make up the difference," Hagstrom said.

He said one of the communities contacted by him "strongly support" the policy presently used in Birmingham.

"IN MY opinion, it is the only sound approach which produces equity of land assessments within Birmingham and also meets the general intent and conditions of the state statutes under which we are required to operate," Hagstrom said.

No representatives of the East Maple Property Owners Association appeared at Monday's meeting.

Local Man Receives School Bell Award

Robert Lee Swats Jr., 231 Concord Road, Bloomfield Hills, manager of the Detroit office of the Columbia Broadcasting System, received a School Bell Award during the recent annual convention of the National Education Association at Cobo Hall.

The awards are presented annually by six national organizations for distinguished interpretive service in education. The CBS Award was for the two-part series, "Storm Over the Supreme Court."

Swats is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Harter, 1900 Puritan, Birmingham. They said it was Malcolm's own idea and he saved his weekly allowance for 10 weeks to make the \$2.50 gift.

"We say hata to this young man for sharing his money for the benefit of the YMCA swimming pool," Beck said.

Home-Wreckers

Three Birmingham landmarks are being torn down to make way for a proposed office development. John W. Livermore bought the houses on S. Adams near Bowers and will construct office buildings on the site. The houses are over 40 years old. The raising should be completed within a few weeks.

400 Students Affected by Board Ruling

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

More Bloomfield Hills School District children are going to be walking to school this September than in previous years.

How to transport increased pupil enrollment without buying additional school buses has been solved by enlarging the "walk-to-school" areas around each of the district schools. About 400 elementary and secondary students will be affected.

The transportation problem was tackled at a Bloomfield Hills School Board meeting Tuesday night.

League Elects Van Wagoner As Director

Former Gov. Murray D. Van Wagoner, 65, this week was elected to the board of directors of the Oakland Citizens League, the 25-year-old Oakland County good government group.

William H. McCaughey, president of the nonpartisan organization, also announced the following appointments:

• Mayor Robert J. Huber of Troy to head the issues committee. He succeeds former Birmingham Mayor Mrs. G. Howard Willet, Jr., who remains a board member. The issues committee currently is studying metropolitan area problems and goals.

• Henry L. Wolfenden, a city commissioner of Bloomfield Hills, was named chairman of the liaison committee. He will be assisted by Mrs. Ellen Benzchamps of 418 Bloomfield Hills Board of Education. The liaison committee maintains communications with local, county and state public officials with Oakland County school boards, and with PTO, PTA and other citizens groups.

• Mrs. Philip E. Cartwright, (See DIRECTOR, 4-A)

Local Boy Saves Allowance for YMCA Pool

Malcolm Harter, 9, has done his part in the YMCA Capital Funds Campaign.

"I would like to give some money for the swimming pool," he told Bill Beck, executive secretary of Birmingham YMCA Tuesday.

MALCOLM is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Harter, 1900 Puritan, Birmingham. They said it was Malcolm's own idea and he saved his weekly allowance for 10 weeks to make the \$2.50 gift.

"We say hata to this young man for sharing his money for the benefit of the YMCA swimming pool," Beck said.

Lathrup Pool Ordinance in Court Test

LATHRUP—The city has been ordered into Oakland County Circuit Court Monday to show cause why a Lathrup couple should not be allowed to build a swimming pool on their premises.

The writ of mandamus was signed by Judge William J. Beer in response to a suit filed in Circuit Court by Elouis and Elizabeth Harp, 18730 Saratogs, against the city and Jerald D. Stone, in his capacity as building commissioner.

The suit charged that the plaintiffs were denied a permit to construct a swimming pool on their property because the city in the suit, said this was a cross-motivated concern of 70 per cent of property owners within 200 feet of their premises—as required by a city ordinance.

THE LATHRUP Zoning Board of Appeals also turned down the Harpe petition on April 26.

The suit further charges that unless the plaintiffs are issued a swimming pool construction permit they would be "denied the full use and enjoyment of their premises."

City Attorney Everett Hayes, authorized by the council Monday night to defend the city in the suit, said this was the first litigation concerning the swimming pool ordinance.

"The abutting property owners, in this case, were worried about the noise a swimming pool would generate and refused their consent on that basis," Hayes said.