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The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

Propose Hunter-Hazel Traffic Solution

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

PREPARING GIFTS FOR PONTIAC STATE HOSPITAL
Mrs. Thomas Adams makes Christmas last all year.

Woman Plays Santa Claus For Pontiac State Hospital

By MARION CASKEY
Special Writer

For 150 to 200 women in Hall M and N of Pontiac State Hospital, Santa Claus is a cheerful, talkative lady from Franklin named Mrs. Thomas Adams.

Each Wednesday she visits the hospital bringing buttons, yarn, curtains, furniture, records, curlers —whatever the patients seem to need.

For each woman's birthday, Mrs. Adams takes a sparkler-topped cake, card and a present. Each fellow wardmate gets a treat and they all have a party. Mrs. Adams brings them cigarets, instant coffee, candy and potato chips. She keeps a list of all of the birthdates and suggestions from the ward nurses for gifts.

* * *

OVERALL NEEDS for the whole ward are posted on a bulletin board in the community relations office. Right now Mrs. Adams is after 100 bedspreads and a corn popper. The state furnishes only bare necessities and many patients have no money to buy themselves even the simplest pleasures.

A couple of weeks ago, Mrs. Adams noted that Bibles were constantly disappearing from the hospital library. It seems the patients obtained a feeling of security by having one to own.

Mrs. Adams struck up the idea of getting some from the Gideon Society. A series of phone calls and letters, referral to this camp and back to another, finally located some used Bibles in Lansing. They'll be picked up by a hospital truck and the women are due to get their own Bibles this week.

* * *

WHEN MRS. Adams travels, she is ever on the lookout for things for her patients. She brought them shells and cocoanuts from Florida and gave each one an orange "to share the Florida sunshine." They were so delighted they ate peel and all.

"I feel I can do more good for Christianity by helping ladies in a mental hospital than by sitting and drinking coffee and listening to gossip and a book review," comments Mrs. Adams.

She first became interested in this kind of charity when she was a little girl and her mother took her to visit a state poor farm. She remembers its utter drabness and depressing atmosphere.

* * *

ONE OF the inmates snatched her doll away and hugged it to her bosom. Mrs. Adam's mother explained:

"The poor thing probably thinks it's her baby, dear."

For 25 years now, Mrs. Adams

(See SANTA, 2-A)

Annual Song Event Set in Shain Park

Song sheets will be passed out to encourage everyone to join in the caroling, at the candy-striped tent in Shain Park at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24.

The 39th annual Christmas Community Sing is sponsored by the Birmingham Musicale, which will gather with its junior members, to lead the program of Birmingham-area singing.

William Spence will direct the program as he has for nearly 20 years. Mrs. D. L. Tate is chairman of arrangements.

Robert Kutscher, director of instrumental music, will conduct the Seaholm High Brass Sextette, accompanying the carolers.

A new feature at this year's sing will be the piping of the music throughout downtown Birmingham. A public address system in the park, furnished by the Chamber of Commerce retail division, will extend to 14 amplifying speakers.

The PA system also is being used by Birmingham school and church choral groups broadcasting a regular schedule of Christmas music from the park. Arnold Berndt has coordinated the singers this year.

Next holiday season, the 1965 Christmas Community Sing will provide advance background music, for the whole program is being taped.

Twp. Tries New Tack In Telegraph Problem

By DAVE PHILPO
Area News Editor

Give the Bloomfield Township Board an "A" for effort in trying to make Telegraph Road a safer place to travel.

Politely rebuffed during the past year by the state highway department on repeated pleas to improve the five-mile strip in the township, the board Monday night tried yet another tack.

A resolution, drafted by attorney Thomas Dillon, was passed and copies will be mailed to Gov. George Romney and the newly-appointed, four-member state highway commission.

IT READS:

"Whereas the traffic situation at the intersection of Telegraph and Maple roads is and has been for some time adversely affecting the public safety due to the continuous increase in both personal injury and property damage accidents;"

"This board has on numerous occasions requested the present highway commissioner to effect a remedy to alleviate this serious condition.

"This board has not been satisfied with the efforts of the present highway commissioner in this direction.

"There has now been appointed a new state highway commission Therefore, the township board respectfully requests the state highway commission to investigate and effectuate at the earliest possible date a remedying of the traffic situation at the intersection of Telegraph and Maple roads in the interests of safety of the traveling public.

"This board does hereby renew its pledge to cooperate in any reasonable manner with the state highway commission."

* * *

DURING THE summer several deaths were recorded near the intersection, caused by motorists hitting a concrete median strip that divides the four lanes of Telegraph and crossing over into oncoming traffic.

The state installed no-left turn signs and painted yellow lines on each side of the median near the intersection but declined to remove the concrete strip or to erect a steel barrier along the median.

A widening of the Maple-Telegraph intersection, promised by the state highway department, has as yet not been effected.

Supervisor Homer Case Monday night listed Maple-Telegraph, 14 Mile-Telegraph and Quarton-Telegraph as the three most dangerous intersections in the township.

ALBERT DeSALLE

Establish Fund To Honor deSalle

(See related story on 1-D)

The Bloomfield Art Association has established a memorial fund honoring Albert deSalle, owner of the Little Gallery, 915 E. Maple, Birmingham, who died Friday.

At the BAA board of trustee's meeting this week, the fund was created "in recognition of Albert deSalle's contribution to the development and enhancement of the arts in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area and his close association with the BAA," said Eliot Robinson on behalf of the board.

"Memorial fund contributions may be made in his memory and will be used to foster and advance the programs in which he was deeply interested," Robinson said.

Planners Delay Action Pending Survey Results

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

A preliminary plan to ease the traffic problem in the Hunter-Hazel street area was presented to the Birmingham Planning Board for study Tuesday night.

If adopted, two of the streets—Forest and Chestnut—could become one way. Forest would handle westbound traffic and Chestnut eastbound.

The plan board postponed taking any action on the proposal presented by William R. Brownfield, city planner, until after a turning movement survey of the Maple-Adams intersection is completed.

Brownfield said he and other administration members had reached the conclusion that the one-way streets were the best and most economical way to solve the heavy traffic problem in the area.

* * *

THE AREA concerned is bounded by Hunter, Maple, Adams and Hazel streets. It has both residential and commercial developments.

Brownfield said the residential section is generally well maintained and stable.

He added, however, that the streets that serve the residential lots also serve the commercial properties to the west and provide a "convenient access" from Adams to Hunter.

Two other possible solutions for cutting down the traffic flow were rejected by the city administration. They were:

- The looping of Forest, Chestnut and Hazel together, east of Elm.
- Using traffic diverters at the intersections of Forest-Elm, Chestnut-Elm and Hazel-Elm.

The looping suggestion, Brownfield said, was discarded primarily because of the prohibitive cost.

* * *

BROWNFIELD SAID that City Assessor Clark Hagstrom estimated that land acquisition alone for such a project would cost $155,000.

"This figure does not include the removal of buildings or any street improvements," Brownfield said.

"This plan without a doubt is the best but must be ruled out because it's impractical," he said.

The placing of the traffic diverters was dropped because they would "not be a total solution," according to Brownfield.

"It would eliminate the problem but would discourage through traffic from utilizing the residential streets due to the driving time required and the extra turning movements," Brownfield said.

* * *

ANOTHER DRAWBACK, he said, would be the fact Elm Street would no longer be a through north-south street and the business interests on the west side of Elm could suffer.

Both the diverter solution and the one-way proposal call for the vacation of Hazel between Hunter and Elm.

The closing, Brownfield said, would reduce nonresidential traffic on Hazel.

Support Site For Schools' Adm. Building

Both the Birmingham City Commission and the board of education went on record this week as being interested in seeing the new school administration building constructed in the downtown area.

The two groups' action was prompted by a request from the Citizens Action Committee on whether that group should pursue its study of the matter.

The CAC has set up a subcommittee — the Cooperative Study Committee—to look into the comparative costs, financial advantages and community impact of various sites for the location of a school administration building.

Francis Fisher is serving as chairman of the CSC.

* * *

FISHER TOLD the commission Monday night his group believes the best site would be the right-of-way on Merrill Street, between Bates and Henrietta.

"If the school board were to move out of the central business district, this might also influence other groups to splinter away," Fisher said.

"A healthy business area is good for all of Birmingham," he said.

He said the CSC was seeking an expression from the commission indicating it would "favorably consider" the concept that envisions the Merrill vacation.

He added that the building may or may not be designed to fit in with a parking structure planned for the park.

* * *

THE CSC also asked the commission to take a stand on the possible exchange of property between the City and the schools.

Mayor Charles W. Renfrew said the City could not take a firm stand on the vacation of Merrill until a traffic study now under way was completed.

"We expect this survey will show if the street can be vacated," Renfrew said.

The mayor also indicated the City would be interested in discussing an exchange of property with school officials.

The board of education Tuesday night instructed Supt. Dr. John Blackhall Smith to write a letter stating it is interested in the

(See SITE, 4-A)

Hills Saves $300,000 In School Bond Sale

A savings of $300,000 in the sale of school bonds will be passed on to the patrons of the Bloomfield Hills School District, according to Richard H. McGraw, president of the board of education.

The board last week received a lower interest rate than anticipated on the sale of $5,220,000 of school construction bonds which will mean that the tax levy for repayment of the bonds will be ½-mill less than was forecast.

The bid of the syndicate represented by Harris Trust Co. of Chicago, with an average interest rate of 3.4994% was low among the five national syndicates bidding.

The bonds will be paid in about 25 years.

* * *

SAVINGS DURING the first year of the four-year building program are expected to be $26,000, according to McGraw. This should bring a ½-mill reduction in next December's tax levy.

Debt retirement now accounts for 5.68 mills of the 24.51 current levy.

The bonds sold represent the major portion of a $7 million issue approved by voters in the district on June 8.

In the first phase of the building program are 13 projects which are all to be ready for occupancy by September, 1966. The district's third junior high school and a new elementary school will be constructed during the second phase at a cost of $2.5 million. Both should be completed by the fall of 1968.

* * *

CONTRACTS HAVE been awarded for six of the projects in the first phase and include additions to Bloomfield Hills and East Hills junior high schools and Booth, Hickory Grove, Conant and Pine Lake elementary schools.

Bids on a new elementary school and an administration building are expected within the next 30 days, according to Supt. of Schools Eugene Johnson.

Included in the total building program is a second high school which will cost about $2.3 million. A new bus garage, a new elementary site and renovations at Vaughan and Wing Lake schools are also planned.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

AN 'EDUCATIONAL' CONFERENCE
Robert Hall (left), Southfield High School Principal; MSU President John D. Hannah; Birmingham School Supt. John Blackhall Smith.

Asks Meeting On Southwest Area of City

A suggestion by Birmingham City Commissioner Charles F. Clippert that a meeting be held between the "interested parties" on the future of the southwest portion of the city was tabled without date Monday night.

Clippert had called for a discussion of the area involving residents, bankers, real estate men, developers and the commission.

"I think we should determine whether the City can cope with the apparent deterioration in that area or not," Clippert said.

Several weeks ago, the commission authorized the administration to contract federal authorities in Chicago requesting a field representative to study the area.

The government agent would determine whether the city could qualify for federal funds under the Urban Renewal Act.

* * *

VILICAN-LEMAN, Birmingham's planning consultants, have advised the City they believe the area bounded by Woodward, Lincoln, Grant and 14 Mile could be called a "major conservation area" and be eligible for federal assistance.

City Planner William R. Brownfield told the commission Monday that he had not as yet contacted Chicago about sending a representative to Birmingham.

Clippert had suggested the meeting be held during the last week in February.

* * *

COMMISSIONER William E. Roberts said he was not "unsympathetic" about the problem but felt the commission had other matters that were more pressing.

"Both the commission and the administration will be busy the next six months devoting time to other things that must be done," Roberts said. He did not elaborate.

Commissioner David F. Breck supported Clippert's proposal.

"I think the problem is important enough to look into now," Breck said.

CLIPPERT SAID the reason he had proposed the meeting was to find out the scope of the problem and whether Birmingham could handle it without federal aid.

Commissioner William H. Burgum said his opposition to the meeting did not mean he wasn't interested in the area, either.

"I just feel we have other more pressing matters at hand and the meeting would be ill-advised at this time," Burgum said.

275 Acres Rezoned By Township Board

About 275 acres of property between Long Lake and Lone Pine roads, west of Telegraph, have been rezoned from R-2 to R-3 by the Bloomfield Township Board.

The upgrading of the residential property involves about 150 acres owned by Robert VanderKloot, 1200 Lone Pine, and approximately 112 acres of the Newcomb property, which includes Echo Park Day Camp.

The change in zoning will necessitate a lot containing 30,000 square feet, instead of 22,000, and will require the residence to cover 1,850 square feet, instead of 1,650 under the R-2 classification.

POPULATION EXPLOSION

MSU's Hannah Cites Rising College Costs

By MARY BAHN
Staff Writer

Problems that Michigan universities and colleges face within the next five years were brought into focus by Michigan State University President Dr. John D. Hannah to area business leaders and legislators Monday night.

His talk, sponsored by the MSU Alumni Club of Oakland County and given at Bedell's Restaurant, came on the same day that top college executives asked the 1965 state legislature to authorize a $346,200,000 seven-year bond issue to pay for a five-year program of classroom and office building construction.

Using slide graphs to illustrate his points, Dr. Hannah showed that the population explosion after the war years is the big factor in skyrocketing college enrollments.

More students are also being encouraged to seek a college education because of personal fulfillment, improved earning capacity, economic benefits for the state and more effective citizenry.

* * *

"IN 1950, 90,000 young people were in college or 25 per cent of the 19-22 age group; in 1960, 160,000 or 37.7 per cent sought higher education; while in 1963 more than 190,000 or 40 per cent were attending a college."

Using these figures, Dr. Hannah projected that by 1970 more than 667,000 young people will seek to enter the nation's colleges. In Michigan alone, by 1965, Dr. Hannah said enrollment will top 226,000.

Using Michigan State University as another example, Dr. Hannah showed enrollment in 1940 was 6,776; 1949, 16,285; 1965, a projected 37,232; (including Oakland U); and by 1970, 48,000.

"Last June was our first big crop of kids that we warned you about. But we can expect 21 per cent more graduates this June than last. Somehow we must provide them with higher education," said Hannah.

* * *

ANOTHER FACTOR to be considered, said Hannah, was that in Michigan only 36,500 of the 183,000 students attend private colleges which are not tax supported. This gives the state an 84:16 ratio, whereas in other states the public-private college ratio is 50:50.

"But it doesn't make much difference how big the college gets. Regardless of size, we must tailor a

(See COSTS, 8-A)

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R-7 Change Goes Back to Plan Board

A hearing on the revision of Birmingham's R-7 (multiple family) zoning classification was referred back to the plan board for further study by city commissioners Monday night.

Commissioners expressed concern over the fact that the proposed revisions did not include minimum requirements for side yard set backs.

Under the requirements proposed by the plan board, a developer could have conceivably constructed a building bordering on a property line.

Merritt W. Olson, 560 Townsend, said he opposed the lack of side yard setbacks.

He said he could visualize looking out his side windows and seeing nothing but a four-story apartment building.

* * *

CITY PLANNER William R. Brownfield said the plan board would probably establish minimum set backs and return the proposal to the commission next week.

Any variance of the requirements could be granted by the plan board after a public hearing between the developer and the surrounding property owners.

Brownfield said the proposed changes in the R-7 do not affect the basic use of the land to be developed but do allow more open space in the parcel involved.

"The plan board and planning department attempted to set up requirements that would encourage the development of luxury apartments," Brownfield said.

He added that the requirements also encouraged the development of three- and four-story buildings by increasing the number of units that may be placed on a lot.

* * *

MOST OF the lots to be affected by the proposed changes are in the

(See BOARD, 4-A)

Announce Schedule For Rubbish Pickup

The holiday schedule for rubbish pickup was announced today by Birmingham DPW Supt. T. C. Brien.

There will be no pickups on Friday, Dec. 25, or Friday, Jan. 1, Brien said. Collections normally made on those days will be made the following Monday.

No pickups will be made on the Saturday after Christmas or New Year's, he added.