

W. B'field Plans For Residential Community

EDITOR'S NOTE:—The following is the last of two articles written as a result of the West Bloomfield Township League of Women Voters' plan for the township.

BY MARGARET EVANS
West B'field Township League of Women Voters
Master Plan Committee Member

The objective of long-range planning is to provide the guidelines for the orderly growth and development of a community.

West Bloomfield Township, with the greatest period of growth immediately ahead, can benefit to a maximum extent from such comprehensive planning.

We are all acquainted with specific examples of poor and inadequate planning. Each new development of land, as it occurs, shapes the future of a community.

The major uses of land which represent living, shopping, working, leisure and mobility are distinctly different activities, which require

the application of planned analysis for compatible development.

On a legal basis, two of the most important instruments in controlling land use are zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations. Zoning defines the use of land by dividing it into areas within which certain uses are permitted.

It controls and limits size and height and numbers of buildings on any given area of land.

health, safety and general welfare. Subdivision regulations govern the character of new development, in accordance with the comprehensive and use plan, protecting the purchaser, the developer and the local governmental unit.

The most recent legislation (Act 168 of the Michigan Public Act of 1959) brought about the creation of a township planning commission, all of the duties and powers of the former board, and specifically charged with the responsibility of preparing and carrying out a general development plan for the unincorporated portion of the township.

BRIEFLY, ZONING is enacted for the protection of the public

provided as the whole area grows. The township is almost entirely residential in character now; it will undoubtedly develop further in this direction. We are concerned, then, with planning for the needs and desires of a residential community.

WITHIN THE framework of the township as a whole, sound planning principles seek to create social, recreational, educational and economic privileges already provided and will increasingly be

Through traffic would be controlled, along with most nonresidential land uses, thus creating a stability of environment which protects property values and insures the desirability of the area, as a place to live, for many years to come.

Such an area might contain three to five thousand people and encompass from one-half to one square mile. Major traffic arteries, or other physical obstacles such as lakes, logically become the area boundaries. Several neighborhoods collec-

tively form a community which requires a junior and senior high school, larger shopping areas, major thoroughfares and other community facilities.

THE AVERAGE township family is concerned primarily with educational opportunities for their children. Their tax bills tell them that this is where the greatest percentage of their money is going. They want, not just adequate but rather excellent schools.

(See PLANS, 5-A)

This and That

by George R. Averill
We're Condemned For Saving Congo In African Congo

When the United States and Belgium flew planes and soldiers into the Congo to rescue many white people, both Russia and Yugoslavia officially condemned the rescuers as "capitalistic imperialists."

Both these Communist countries have received hundreds of millions of dollars in U.S. aid—Russia right after the last war, and recently by getting much needed wheat; Yugoslavia still receives plenty of U.S. aid, taken from the wages of American citizens.

When—oh, when! will the United States leadership realize that Communist countries are sworn to do everything possible to bankrupt us, then "take over?"

Don't forget that Soviet Russia has killed millions of her own people, plus captured and enslaved millions in other countries. As a matter of historical record, in the cases of tyrannies, they only continue to exist by maintaining themselves (their people) in a "state of emergency" akin to actual war... even a cold war... as now exists.

Any agreement the United States makes to decrease its military strength ought, I firmly agree, to be opposed—opposed with overwhelming public expression. The alternative to military strength is, eventually, loss of freedom!

That Russian Bear always is on the predatory howl! Its claws are out to seize the life of every never falters in the campaign to enslave freedom in the shackles and chains of Communism!

Freedom, when freed from self-discipline, self-denial, from unwillingness to welcome the challenges of struggles so that we may be strong against the laziness, the indolence and the complacency that materialism begets—when Freedom is free from personal responsibility for the creation of our own individual destinies, our own security, well, then pray tell me: WHAT REMAINS OF FREEDOM?

Said one of dark Africa's barbarians to his Uncle Bud: "I see by the papers that students of one of California's universities have gone on a rampage. They want to be able to say anything they want to say right on the campus, without regard for the rules of the university. They not long ago learned about those terrible riots over the race question in the U.S. old south. Gee, Uncle, after centuries of learning and thinking, wouldn't you think people in the United States would be more civilized? Why, here among us primitive people we only act natural when we capture others and put 'em in the big stew pot—but if you

City to Consider Development of Parcel as Park

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night instructed the administration to prepare a report on the possibility of developing a park on a small parcel of City-owned property at the corner of Worth and Webster.

The parcel is dedicated as a park but has never been developed. Several persons have expressed interest in either purchasing or leasing the land as a parking lot.

Because the land is dedicated as a park, Commissioner William H. Burgum said he thought it would be a "breach of faith" to use it in any other way.

"This idea of leasing is just a way of getting around the fact that the parcel is a dedicated park," Burgum said.



'OPERATION KICKOFF'
Mrs. Dorothy K. Roosevelt, Poster Child Mary Lou Graves and Birmingham Mayor Charles Renfrew.

Birth Defects Target Of 1965 Dimes Drive

By MARY BAHN
Staff Writer

Birth defects, not polio, will be the main target of the 1965 March of Dimes campaign according to Milwaukee Judge Christ T. Seraphim, main speaker at Oakland County's "Operation Kickoff."

Seraphim spoke Dec. 9 at Devon Gables to more than 200 residents, including Mrs. Dorothy K. Roosevelt, Al Kaline and mothers who had carried donation canisters door-to-door and the disabled who did what they could from wheelchairs.

A longtime National Foundation volunteer, Seraphim had just arrived with the help of a county police escort from the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego, Calif., supported by March of Dimes contributions. Attending the conference were Birmingham Hills were Mr. and Mrs. W. Earl Givens, Jr.

"FIVE YEARS ago children born with birth defects could not live beyond 10 years of age. Since then, with the monies donated, we can guarantee a future for that child and know that many are educable," said Seraphim.

The judge told of the exciting work and developments made in California in the study of the cell. "These scientists are studying the secrets of life. They are determining the effect to the unborn child when a foreign substance, as small as a hair, disturbs the embryo."

"The judge also told how they saw children born without arms, the victims of thalidomide, learning to live with artificial arms.

"THEY ARE ALSO studying the psychological aspects, not only the biological, of being born with a handicap, one ear, or no mouth."

"They have discovered now over 1,000 birth defects, when once only 400 were known. This is because polio cases were reported to the Leach, Mother's March chairman, and parents would put these children in a spare room because they were ashamed. It's important for us to know that they are not at fault, because it was an accident of nature."

Seraphim urged the workers to prepare in same sympathy and understanding as you gave with polio now with birth defects."

MORE THAN 200 community campaign leaders, from many walks of life, attended the dinner meeting so that they would be prepared in spearheading the drive and leading the 20,000 volunteer workers next month.

Volunteers from the Birmingham area included Mrs. Dorothy K. Roosevelt, honorary chairman of the Mother's March; Al Kaline, campaign director; Mrs. Charles Leach, Mother's March chairman of Birmingham east; Mrs. Paul Barth, chairman of Birmingham west; Mrs. W. Earl Givens, Jr., chairman of Women's Activities, and Allan L. McFarlane, community chairman.

The Birmingham Eccentric

December 17, 1964 BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

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Piel's Job: Get the Facts On Schools to the Public

Fifth in a Series
By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Walter Piel is often caught in the position of being the "man in the middle," but he enjoys it.

Piel is the administrative assistant of the Birmingham Public Schools and in this capacity many times finds himself acting as the go-between for the superintendents' office or board of education and the public.

"My main job is to organize and coordinate a comprehensive communication program in the community," Piel said.

Formerly principal at Pierre Elementary School, Piel is the first person to hold the job of administrative assistant. It was created in 1960.

"I don't consider myself a PR (public relations) man but rather a communicator having the job of getting information about the public schools to the community," he said.

PIEL CURRENTLY has almost daily contact with seven newspapers in the metropolitan area, plus dealings with radio and TV.

Although the job is fairly new, Piel said it is no different in a school district the size of Birmingham's.

Decision Near On Hills Rec. Millage Question

A request that a 1/2 mill proposition for recreation be placed on the ballot of a Feb. 8 special election will be considered Tuesday by the Bloomfield Hills Board of Education.

However, it is unlikely that the proposal will be placed before voters along with a 3/8 mill proposition for improving teachers' salaries.

The school board favors, instead, increasing a present allocation to the recreation commission of \$15,100 to \$30,000 for the next fiscal year.

THE ONLY objection raised at a special meeting two weeks ago came from Trustee David W. Lee. "I think this type of program should be self-sustaining," he said.

"I can't support an increase without further study."

"We still will have control over expenditures," countered Max Miller. "If we have kept them (the recreation commission) waiting long enough."

Lee said he wanted to see a breakdown of fees charged for the recreation activities. It will be submitted to the board for study before the Tuesday meeting.

MERRILL O. Bates, chairman of the recreation commission, spoke to the board.

"We feel, as the board has planned for the future, so must the recreation commission."

"We don't want things postponed if our hands are going to be tied as far as getting the proposition on the ballot."

Bates said the recreation commission should have the opportunity to put the millage request on the ballot by petition, if the board should decide not to appropriate more money.

Super of Schools Eugene Johnson said there would still be time for such action after the next meeting of the board of education.

A proposed budget of \$72,569.75 for 1965-66 was submitted to the board. This compares with \$50,484.52 for the 1964-65 fiscal year.

Gravlin's Trial Set for Jan. 19

The trial of William G. Gravlin, accused in the ax and shotgun slayings of his family of seven, has been scheduled for Jan. 19 in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Originally set for Dec. 12, the trial was rescheduled to allow both prosecution and defense attorneys to finish gathering psychiatric evidence.

Gravlin, 30, charged specifically in the death of his 16-year-old stepdaughter, Judith Ann Bentley, was ruled sane and able to assist in the counsel about six weeks ago following a sanity hearing before Circuit Judge James S. Thorburn.

The accused is presently being held without bond at the Oakland County jail.

A VETERAN of both World War II and the Korean conflict, Piel is still active in the Naval Reserve. He presently holds the rank of commander.

During WW II Piel commanded a landing craft and took part in the invasion of Iwo Jima.

School mailing services, printing jobs and telephone service also fall under Piel's jurisdiction.

"Our office serves as sort of an information center and repository for the whole school system," he said.

Questions about the schools from both within the system and the public are normally routed through Piel's office.

A graduate of both the University of Toledo (B.A.) and the University of Michigan (M.A.), he began his education career in Iida as a physics, chemistry and math teacher. He has been in the Birmingham system since 1965.

Married and the father of three children, he lives at 2259 W. Lincoln, Birmingham.



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