

The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

Alley Program Starts With Temporary Cafes

By LARRY EYOE
City Editor

Birmingham's alley beautification program is going to get an early start.

Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., general chairman of the centennial committee, announced today that the program would take a tangible form during the birthday celebration when a temporary part of the project will be unveiled.

City commissioners Monday night approved a request by the chamber of commerce to name three downtown alleys and the setting up of an outdoor cafe behind the Levinson Building.

The three alleys, to be known as Twink's Mews, Robert's Row and May Hupp Court, are expected to be the forerunners of permanent projects which should be completed by late summer.

The long-range, 10-point program to improve the appearance of the business alleys is sponsored by the chamber of commerce under the direction of Jack Kershenbaum.

THE CIVIC Design Committee, a subcommittee of the Citizens Action Committee, outlined the general concept for the program.

Working sketches for the design of the alley were prepared by Thomas F. Angiewicz, a third-year architecture student at the University of Detroit.

Angiewicz, president of the student chapter of the American Institute of Architects, recently received the AIA's school award.

Angiewicz views architecture as creating environments which will shape people's lives.

The alley located between Willis, Maple and Woodward will be named Twink's Mews after Mrs. Willett. It will feature paintings and other temporary art exhibits.

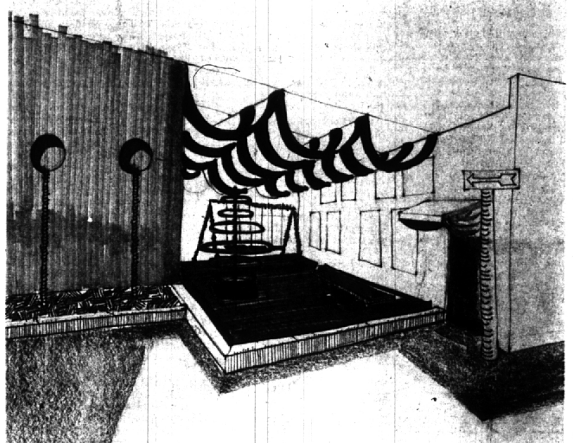
The alley bounded by Merrill, Pierce, Maple and Woodward will be marked Roberts Row in honor of C. M. Roberts, a former property owner in the area.

The outdoor cafe in back of the Levinson Building will be operated by Harris Machus. He had formerly placed the tables in front of his building on W. Maple during the Michigan Week observance.

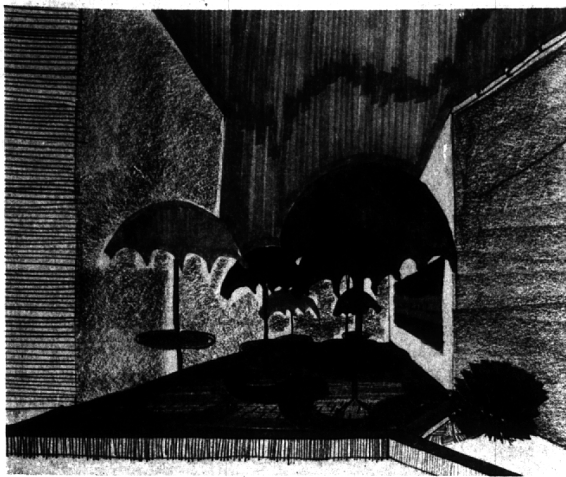
A similar cafe is being planned for the Roberts Row alley.

During Centennial Week the sidewalk cafes with their umbrella-topped tables will serve light lunches from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Mrs. Willett is hoping the alley beautification program will be a project that will give some meaning to carry over into Birmingham of the future.



A CANOPY WILL COVER THE NORTH END OF TWINK'S MEWS
Landscaping and playground equipment will be in place for the celebration.



AN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF AN OUTDOOR ALLEY CAFE.
Harris Machus will serve lunches during Centennial Week.

Renewal, Additional Millage In B'ham School Proposition

Second of four articles by the Citizens Committee for Birmingham Schools.

This is the second in a series of articles related to the bonding and millage proposals to be put before the Birmingham voters on June 8, 1964.

The millage proposal is a request by the board of education to increase the amount of taxes for

operation of the Birmingham School System by an amount of 5.6 mills.

The basis for this request is largely due to the rapid and unexpected enrollment increase in the schools. By next September, the enrollment will be greater than the maximum capacity of the schools, if classroom sizes are held to the present 27.4 pupils per teacher.

Over the next five years, enrollment will increase by 30 per cent.

there is additional income—the system will lose ground rapidly.

Thus, three-quarters of the 5.6 additional millage requested is related to maintaining the present position, the present program and at the same time handle the large number of incoming pupils.

Of the remaining 1.4 mills about 7 mills is needed for salary improvements for teachers. This concern (See MILLAGE, 2-A)

Delay Action On Plat for Subdivision

Caught between the crossfire of a developer and upset residents along Echo Road, the Bloomfield Township Board Monday night rejected a request for preliminary plat approval for the Ravenwick Subdivision.

William Malloy, owner and developer of four lots south of Long Lake, between Telegraph and Franklin, near the Echo Park Day Camp, petitioned for board approval of his plan for bi-level homes in the \$45,000 range several weeks ago.

The petition was tabled at that time.

Nearly property owners contend that the board should withhold preliminary plat approval to Malloy until a suit in Oakland County Circuit Court has been resolved.

THE SUIT charges that Virginia Malloy, mother of the petitioner, violated the Plat Act when she divided a large parcel of land between two sons, with four lots going to each.

Echo Road residents, led by L. C. Burch, Jr., an attorney, also contend that there would be septic tank problems due to the topography of the land if Malloy is allowed to build on his four lots.

They also object to the lots because they would contain only the minimum of 30,000 feet under the township zoning ordinance.

ROBERT VANDERKLOOT, 1200 (See ACTION, 4-A)

4 Seek Posts On June 8 in Hills District

Four candidates, including two incumbents, will seek election to the Bloomfield Hills Board of Education on June 8.

Merrill O. Bates, 1250 W. Long Lake, and W. Earl Givens, 3867 Lakeland Lane, Bloomfield Township, will be trying for four-year terms on the school board, a \$7 million-plus building and site bond issue is expected to spark interest in the election.

"WE ARE anticipating a sizeable turnout," said Supt. of Schools Eugene Johnson. "Anything that affects the pocketbook creates more response."

"However, it won't cost anyone a lot of money since it will be spread over 30 years and new people will help absorb the cost."

At the last regular meeting of the board a post bond issue was

THE PRESENT tax base for operating millage in the Birmingham School System is 21.31 mills. This means that each homeowner is paying \$21.31 per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation.

This figure breaks down as follows, showing where the various parts come from: 8.41 mills are returned to the school system from the County out of the 15-mill County property tax; 1.9 mills were approved by the Birmingham voters in the June, 1960, election; finally, the remaining 1.0 mill was approved by the Birmingham voters in 1961.

As to the 1.9 mills voted in 1960, this will be levied for the last time in December of 1964. This was a five-year authorization, has been collected for the last four years and will be collected this year.

HOWEVER, income from this millage is still necessary to the future operation of the school system; an effective renewal of this amount is in the proposal of the board of education.

In other words, the board is asking for renewal of this millage and for an additional 5.6 mills in the year 1964 and 7.5 mills in the year '65-'68 inclusive. The 7.5 figure is the sum of 1.9 plus 5.6.

Therefore, the increase over the taxes now being paid over the next five years will amount to 5.6 mills.

As to the 11 mills, this portion will expire in 1966-67 and will have to be renewed. At that time, the board of education and the school administration expect to take another look at the financial situation, and it is entirely possible that additional millage will be requested at that time.

THE BASIC concept behind this proposal is the enrollment increase in the school system; renewal of this millage is necessary to take into consideration staffing, equipping and operating the new buildings and new additions.

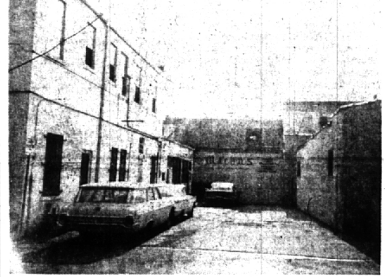
Thus, the greater part of this 5.6 mill increase is directed to these purposes. It can be said that about 75 per cent of the additional millage requested is directly related to the increased enrollment in the school system.

WE HAVE a good school system in Birmingham. The fact that we have a good system is one basic reason why many people move to the Birmingham community.

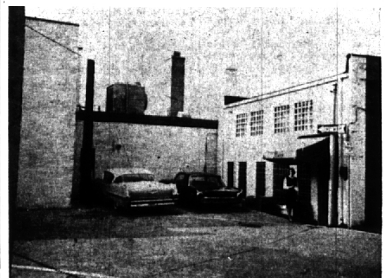
Birmingham must maintain the school system that it has considered program, teachers and buildings. Birmingham is in a competitive position on a regional basis for quality teachers.

One of those who will provide an exciting chapter is William H. Spinning, 43, of 357 Waddington, Bloomfield Township.

On Feb. 11, 1944, Spinning, then a 23-year-old second lieutenant acting as lead bombardier on a B-17, was shot down near Abbeville and Amble by a German FW 190 fighter plane.



DOWNTOWN ALLEY LOOKING WEST
Umbrella trees will replace autos.



NORTH END OF TWINK'S MEWS
A place for children to play.

Local Man One of Fliers Rescued by Underground

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

The full, dramatic story of how the French Underground saved the lives of 94 American fliers during World War II will unfold Friday and Saturday in Buffalo, N.Y., as 50 of the rescued airmen gather to pay tribute to those who helped them escape.

One of those who will provide an exciting chapter is William H. Spinning, 43, of 357 Waddington, Bloomfield Township.

On Feb. 11, 1944, Spinning, then a 23-year-old second lieutenant acting as lead bombardier on a B-17, was shot down near Abbeville and Amble by a German FW 190 fighter plane.

HE PARACHUTED to the ground and hid in the undergrowth while scores of German soldiers swarmed through the area searching for the 11 crewmen. Spinning learned later that one was shot by

the Germans, four were taken prisoner and five escaped through the Pyrenees.

Spinning made his way, farmhouse by farmhouse, and finally linked up with French Underground fliers who spirited him away to Paris.

There, under the cover of darkness, he was disguised in native clothing and walked undetected among the German soldiers who occupied the city.

FIVE WEEKS after he was shot down, Spinning and other Allied fliers were smuggled through the heavily fortified Nazi invasion wall to the rugged coast of Brittany.

There, under the cover of darkness, he boarded a small British naval vessel called Gunboat 503. Within a few hours he was back in England.

B'ham School Election Has 6 Candidates

Six persons have announced their candidacy for the Birmingham Board of Education.

School district voters will be asked to elect three persons to the seven-member board at the June 8 election.

Also on the ballot will be two local propositions. One calls for the approval of \$5,300,000 bonding issue and the other asks for approval of a 5.6 mill tax increase for school operational expenses.

THE SIX Birmingham district candidates will vote for two four-year posts and one two-year seat on the school board.

Running for the two four-year terms are current board members E. Ross Hanson, 966 N. Glenhurst; George W. Whitehead, former PTA Council president, 858 Norwich; Richard L. Halstead, 4052 Spur Hill; and Joseph E. Anderson, 5912 Putnam.

Vying for the two-year term will be incumbent Mrs. Louis C. Adams, 825 Overhill; and Edward J. Ramirez, 901 Abbey.

The vacation request was made by Richard A. and Carl F. Fisher. The two automobile dealers have purchased the building now occupied by Morris Stores and are planning to remodel it.

When the work is completed, the building will be utilized by both Fischer Buick, Inc., and Suburban Motors Co., Inc.

In a letter to the commission, the Fischer brothers explained that their business has outgrown the present facilities of both firms and the acquisition of the new building would help to relieve the problem.

In order to further relieve the traffic congestion in the south Woodward area, the Fischers asked the Board of Commissioners to schedule for the second session.

Leaders who will be honored are two Canadians, Lucian A. Dumas and Ray La Brosse, who slipped into France to organize the rescue operation; and underground leaders D. Lecren, Rene Lecren and M. Branchard.

Spinning, married and the father of four children, has lived in the Birmingham area since 1921.

Add to Police Force For Centennial Duty

Birmingham's police Department is going to be busy during the centennial celebration.

Beginning with the opening of the Village Fair today and continuing through the parade on May 23, Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley will have extra men on duty to handle the large crowds that will fill the city.

During the four-day run of the fair, Moxley said, he will have four auxiliary police on duty from 6 to 10:30 p.m.

At night a private policeman will patrol the fair area.

On Monday, the police department will provide an escort for

visiting Mayor Olen Fry of Coldwater.

Mayor Fry and his party will be met at 10 a.m. at Maple and Cranbrook roads by Lt. Delye Service and escorted to the Municipal Building.

ON FRIDAY the department will close one lane of traffic on west-bound Maple at 2:30 p.m. for the dedication ceremony at the site of the Old Mill at Maple near Baldwin.

The Centennial Day program will provide the biggest job for his men, Moxley said.

He expects to assign 20 to 25 men to the parade and traffic control.

He said police would close off downtown streets as the parade passed through the area.

First units, Moxley said, will leave the assembly area in parking lot No. 5 at 1:30 p.m.

They will march south on Woodward to Merrill, west on Merrill to Pierce, north on Pierce to Maple, west on Maple to Bates and south on Bates to Shain Park.

Parking would be permitted, he said, on all downtown streets except for the parade to park in the municipal lot behind the Reid Building on N. Woodward and in the Holy Name Catholic Church lot on Harmon and Woodland.

MOXLEY SAID traffic will be permitted to move through the downtown area as long as it is possible.

When the work is completed, the building will be utilized by both Fischer Buick, Inc., and Suburban Motors Co., Inc.

They plan to use Bowers for off-street parking by both auto companies.

'Family' Awaiting Newest Additions
Workers at the Gleaner Life Insurance Building are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the newest members of the company's family.

Hills Budget Shows Drop In Tax Rate

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

Despite a drop in the tax rate of 18 per cent, Bloomfield Hills residents will pay slightly more taxes in 1964-65 than they did this year.

The decline in the tax rate from \$26.80 to \$22.44 per \$1,000 is offset by a 20 per cent general adjustment upward in assessed valuations.

The increase will mean about \$1 more per \$1,000 assessed valuation as proposed in the tentative 1964-65 budget approved by the city commission Tuesday night.

The budget, which will go to a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 28, calls for income and spending in the amount of \$470,000—an increase of about \$31,000 as compared to this year.

OF THE \$22.44 total, \$16.28 will go for operations and \$5.16 will be used for debt retirement.

City Manager Elmer Kephart forecasts that the city will have \$50,000 "cash on hand" at the end of the 1964-65 fiscal year.

The \$1 tax increase will amount to about \$15,000 and will boost the contingency fund to \$40,000.

The budget gives city employees a four per cent, across-the-board pay raise.

Since the police department will receive \$18,600 for salaries and other expenses and the highway department is allocated \$91,000 for general maintenance and street lighting.

OTHER ALLOCATIONS include \$53,000 for administration; \$40,700 (See BUDGET, 4-A)

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Terra Cotta Sculptors present exhibit at the Bloomfield Art Association. See story, picture, page 1-D.

Seaholm track squad wins fourth relay trophy at Monroe. See story, page 1-E.

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