



The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

CDC Presents Development Proposals

Offer Concepts To Help Plan B'ham's Future

See editorial, 1-B; full page of pictures, 5-CC

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

A citizens committee has presented Birmingham city and civic leaders with an opportunity to plan for future development.

Following an eight-month study, the Civic Design Committee—a subcommittee of the Citizens Action Committee—outlined general concepts for the Birmingham of tomorrow. Officers of the CAC told a gathering at the Birmingham Country Club last Thursday it hoped the ideas, concepts and recommendations could become a reality soon.

The CDC, a group of local architects, designers, planners, landscape architects and an architectural photographer, called three of its concepts "utmost importance" to the future development of Birmingham. They are defined exterior space, pedestrian scale and increased street activity.

HEADING THE list of four specific proposals was the "immediate establishment of a ring road and development of an inner city traffic system."

Another proposal called for the construction of facilities to "define and revitalize" the Shain Park area.

Included are a parking structure with shops and office space; expansion of The Community House; construction of a building in the Kresge parking lot and construction of a "Village Inn" or similar structure on the Henrietta Street right-of-way between the park and the Municipal Building.

To handle pedestrian traffic, the CDC suggested a small mall area on the Henrietta right-of-way between Maple and Martin and a civic plaza on the Martin Street right-of-way between Pierce and Henrietta streets.

THE FOURTH proposal calls for the establishment of "other spaces designed for the pedestrian and to promote activities of people in the downtown area."

The CDC plan is a successor to a previous one initiated by a merchant group's study of parking problems in the downtown business area. It was headed by Wilbur Mason, general manager of Jacobson's Birmingham store.

Birmingham city commissioners discussed the presentation briefly Monday night but took no action on the proposal.

Commissioner David F. Breck's action to instruct the administration to prepare cost figures and legal implications of each of the CDC proposals failed for lack of support.

BRECK SAID he was bothered by the "lack of details" in the CDC report and was going to write the (See CONCEPTS, 2-A)

Eccentric Sets New Mark in Paid Circulation

The Birmingham Eccentric today claims two new records. It has passed the 37,200 mark in circulation—of a total net increase of 2,010 new subscribers over last year.

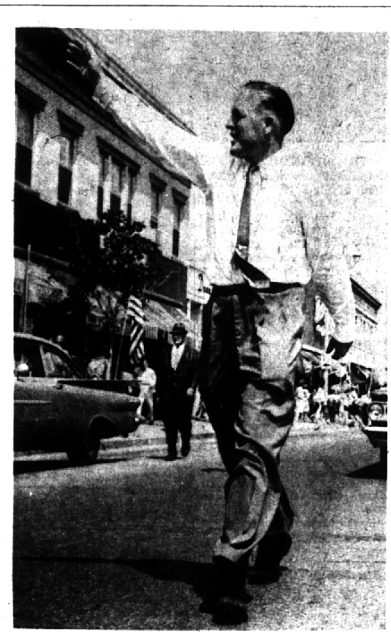
In the May 21 issue, The Eccentric published 799 advertisements in its classified department in Section E. Included were 107 classified ads, 10 "Found" ads and "Upholstering-Refinishing."

"NOW IN ITS 87th year of publication, The Birmingham Eccentric is at an all-time high in circulation," said circulation manager Stanley F. Moyer, Jr.

He pointed out that paid circulation has more than doubled since 1953. Today's figure is 13.2 per cent greater than the average 1963 circulation—a total net increase of 2,010 new subscribers over last year.

The paper's circulation area is comprised of nearly 50 square miles, which is 10 times the size of Birmingham itself. Approximately three out of four families in the circulation area subscribe to The Eccentric.

Classified ad supervisor Peggy Lee said the 799 advertisements in the May 21 edition, spreading over three pages, formed the largest want ad section since the paper was founded in 1878.



STEPPING LIVELY along the parade route, Gov. George Romney extends a hand in greeting to spectators on the sidewalk. The parade was held up several times as youngsters raced into the street to shake his hand.

Thousands See Parade

Gov. Romney Center of Attraction

By LARRY EVOE
A crowd termed by some the largest ever to gather in Birmingham was on hand Saturday to watch the Centennial Day-Michigan Week parade and fashion show.

Police estimates ranged from 7,500 to 10,000 people. They were lined three and four deep along the parade route and many persons were seen on the rooftops and hanging out of second-floor windows.

Centennial Day chairman Sam Mitchell said he was "very pleased" with the outcome.

The 90-degree weather didn't hamper the spirit of the participants in the day-long series of events.

Activities started in the morning with the annual carp carnival at Quanton Lake. A total of 175 fish were caught with the largest being a three pound 18 inch carp landed by David Mills.

LED BY the American Legion Post No. 14 color guard and locomotive, the parade swung out of Parking Lot No. 5 at 1:30 p.m. and wound through the downtown area.

Music was provided by the Michigan State University Seaaholm and Groves High School bands.

The Seaaholm float, depicting the old grist mill on Maple near Baldwin, was declared the winner of the parade trophy. Honorable mention trophies went to Barnum Junior High School and Groves.

Crisie Thalacker accepted the first prize award from Robert L. Tempkin, senior assistant Oakland County prosecutor.

FRANCES THURBER, who represented Marian and Brother Rice, was named Centennial Queen from a field of four candidates.

Frances, 17, of 1139 Emmans, is a senior at Marian. The brown-haired beauty was dressed for the celebration in a pink dress fashionable at the turn of the century.

She is the daughter of Mrs. John L. Thurber and the late Mr. Thurber. Frances is a former Birmingham Eccentric Teen of the Week.

Ernest Jackson, president of the retail division of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, crowned the queen and presented her with a \$25 gift certificate.

The calendar of events attracted many state, county and local officials.

IN ADDITION to Gov. and Mrs. George Romney, state officials included Dale Sellers, Michigan Week state chairman, and his deputy, Paul Penfield.

The state legislature was represented by Sen. Farrell E. Roberts and Rep. Henry M. Hogan, Jr. On the county level those in attendance included Circuit Judges Phillip A. Pratt and James S. Thorburn.

Mayor Charles W. Renfrew acted as the host for the affair. Also taking part in the parade were Commissioners Charles F. Clippert, David F. Breck, William H. Burgum and Mayor Pro Tem Robert W. Page.

ROMNEY WAS the center of attraction throughout his stay in town.

A crowd of several thousands on hand to see the latest in fashions displayed by the local merchants.

Ignoring the use of a car, the governor shed his coat and walked the length of the parade route. Several times the parade was halted for short periods because of the number of youngsters who ran into the street to meet the governor.

The final event of the day was the annual merchants' outdoor fashion show on the stage in Shain Park.

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ONE OF THE highlights of the 45-minute parade was the appearance of the 125-piece Michigan State University marching band. The green-clad college musicians stretched the width of the street as they marched through the downtown area. They also played a brief concert for the crowd assembled in Shain Park before returning to East Lansing.

Brochure Urges Voters to Pass Bonds in Hills

See editorial on 3-A; candidates' page, 3-A

An attractive, 12-page brochure, entitled "The Next Step in Co-ordinated Planning for Bloomfield Hills School District," will be mailed to residents of the school district today.

The brochure, compiled and being mailed by the Hills' Board of Education, explains in detail why the committee feels two bond issues should be passed by voters on June 8.

Included is a summary of the survey made by a team of Michigan State experts forecasting the future school needs of the Bloomfield Hills District; a break down on new buildings and additions proposed in the \$7,040,000 bond issue; an explanation of the need for a swimming pool and other physical education facilities.

The brochure explains about how much it will cost if the two proposals are approved.

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Residents Voice Objections To Southwest Paving Project

By LARRY EVOE

The residents of the southwest section of Birmingham had their night in court—or rather before the city commission—Monday and came out on top, at least temporarily.

Commissioners adjourned for one week two hearings on the necessity of paving a series of streets in the Lincoln, Pierce, 14 Mile and Woodward area.

The delay was granted at the request of the residents. Many of the property owners are opposed to improvement and wanted more time to gather support against the project.

The commission at one time during the two-hour hearing had declared a necessity for the paving on a 4-1 vote.

Mayor Charles W. Renfrew, who had cast the "no" ballot, prevailed upon his colleagues to reconsider their vote immediately.

COMMISSIONER William E. Roberts criticized the mayor for his request. "This is the first time we ever have been asked to reconsider a vote immediately," Roberts snapped.

Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham said he could see nothing gained by delaying the vote. "What's to be gained unless someone changes his mind?" Ingraham said.

Commissioners Charles F. Clippert and Robert W. Page were not at the meeting but even if they had sided with Renfrew the vote Monday would still have carried by a simple, 4-3, margin.

The meeting was interrupted several times by shouts and applause from members of the audience. The 100 seats in the commission room were filled and several dozen people were standing in the aisles halfway.

MOST OF the dissenters said the program would cause a financial hardship on them. Others said they preferred the "rural atmosphere" of the unpaved roadways.

Still other questioned why that section of the city was selected to be paved when there were many streets throughout the town that were not improved.

Ingraham explained that eventually every street in the city will be paved but this section was being considered because a request had been made by a group of property owners.

The administration's proposal would have called for the paving of Bird, Smith, Davis, Emmans, Cummings, Humphrey, Cedar, Catalpa, Edgewood, Southlawn and Floyd streets.

Romney Comes Home For Centennial Speech

One of Birmingham's best known "neighbors" came to town Saturday for the Centennial Day-Michigan Week celebration.

Gov. George W. Romney, a Bloomfield Hills resident, was the featured speaker after the parade. He was accompanied by Mrs. Romney.

Romney said he was "thrilled" that Michigan Week could end here in Birmingham. "This is my home," Romney said. "I have always enjoyed this community."

The tall, gray-haired chief executive explained to the crowd why he had walked along the parade route instead of riding with his wife in an open convertible.

"TWO YEARS ago, I was taking part in a July 4 parade in Wyandotte and they told me I couldn't ride because I wasn't a 'living citizen,'" Romney said. "So I walked and met more people than I've ever seen."

The governor was held up several times along the parade route when he was mobbed by groups of youngsters.

Obviously pleased with his reception, the governor quipped, "I've never seen so many children. 'If this keeps up you'll have to annex more land, just to take care of the children.'"

IN A MORE serious mood, Romney paid special tribute to State Sen. Farrell E. Roberts and State Rep. Henry M. Hogan, Jr.

"Because of the efforts of these two men, the legislature took big steps in the last few days toward straightening out the problems of the fall election," he said.

Romney said the last week had been one of the busiest he had every spent in the state. He said he had dedicated more new businesses than ever before.

"The new constitution is the greatest piece of legislation to be acted upon in recent years," he said.

He urged the gathering to strengthen their family ties. "It's time we serve the nation rather than to have the nation serve us," he said.

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City's Eldest Citizen Dies

Dr. David W. Thornberry, 96, named early in Birmingham's Centennial Celebration as the town's oldest living citizen, died Friday after a brief illness.

An early rector of St. James Episcopal Church, Dr. Thornberry returned to Birmingham 20 years ago after retiring. He had also served in a number of Minnesota and Wyoming parishes.

Born in Ulster, Ireland, Dr. Thornberry was a graduate of Kenyon College and Buxley Hall Theological School. He was a 32nd degree Mason and was active in (See CITIZEN, 2-A)



DR. THORNBERRY

School Proposals Topic at Meetings

Three meetings to discuss the two proposals on the Birmingham School District ballot have been scheduled for next week.

On Monday, Lloyd Van Buskirk, Jr., director of finance for the schools, will speak at Franklin School at 2 p.m.

Dr. John B. Smith, superintendent, will appear Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Derby Junior High, and on Wednesday he will be at Groves High School, also at 8 p.m.

E. Ross Hanson, school board president, and Horace Sheldon, chairman of the Citizens Committee for Birmingham Schools, will appear at all of the meetings.

Closed This Friday

Birmingham's city offices will be closed all day Friday because of the Memorial Day holiday. The offices will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday. Stores will be closed Saturday.