



The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

B'ham School Officials Elated

By LARRY EVOE

Voters in the Birmingham School District turned out in near record numbers Monday to approve two local propositions and elect three to the board of education.

A total of 8,792 ballots were cast. This is the largest count since June, 1960, when 10,087 voted in a millage election. The last millage issue drew 8,768 voters in November, 1961.

Approval was granted, \$504 to 2,638, for the school district to borrow \$5,300,000 and issue bonds for the construction of new buildings and to make improvements on existing facilities.

The money will be used for the construction and equipping of a new junior high school, an elementary school, an addition for a science wing at Seaholm High

School, a new administration building and additions to five other buildings.

VOTERS ALSO approved, 5,099 to 2,240, a millage increase of 5.6 mills for 1964 and 7.5 mills for 1965 to 1968.

The added tax revenue will be used for increased operational expenses and salary adjustments for the professional staff.

In the race for the school board, newcomer Richard L. Halsted led the field of six candidates with 5,371 votes. Halsted, 4063 Spur Hill, was elected to a four-year term.

Incumbent board president E. Ross Hanson was re-elected to a four-year term. Hanson, 966 N. Glenhurst, received a total of 4,519 votes.

George W. Whitehead with 2,696

votes and Joseph E. Anderson with 1,543 failed in their bids for a four-year term.

IN THE contest for the two year term, Mrs. Louise Adams, 325 Overhill, outpolling Edward J. Randle, 901 Abbey, 4,832 to 1,567. Mrs. Adams had been appointed last October to fill out the unexpired term of Richard Barnard.

School officials and the head of the Citizens Committee for Birmingham Schools were elated with the results of Monday's election.

Dr. John B. Smith, superintendent of schools, said he was "very pleased," with the outcome.

"The vote was significant enough, that it showed strong community support for the program the board offered," Smith said.

"Now the board and administration have the responsibility to

show we will make good use of this financial and spiritual support," he said.

"THIS IS the kind of vote that says 'now go ahead and show us,'" Smith declared.

He indicated that the board would probably appoint architects for the new buildings within a short period of time.

Tentative plans have been made for the hiring of around 85 new teachers because of the enrollment growth, Smith said.

"The large number of voters showed the community was interested," Smith said.

Horace Sheldon, chairman of the citizens group, said he felt "real good" about the election.

"The board and administration can now move ahead to equip the

Hills OK's Bond Issues

By DAVE PHILPO

Indicating that a progressive school system means more than a slight rise in taxes, voters in the Bloomfield Hills School District Monday approved two bonding proposals totaling almost \$8 million.

Voters also unseated two incumbents on the school board, replacing them with two candidates new to the political scene.

Donald C. Hyde, 47, of 953 S. Reading Road, Bloomfield Township, and Mrs. Carter A. Chamberlain, 38, of 4451 Chamberlain Drive, Bloomfield Township, were elected to four-year terms on the board of education.

Hyde, regional manager of Steel Magazine, led all contenders with 1,758 votes. Mrs. Chamberlain, active in the PTO and League of

Women Voters, was elected with 1,482 votes.

Trailing were Merrill O. Bates, who has served on the board for 11 years, with 1,298 and W. Earl Givens, Jr., who is completing his first four-year term. Givens received 1,047 votes.

The first proposition, a request for permission to borrow \$7,045,000 with which to build additional classrooms and facilities, was passed, 2,014 to 1,028.

The second, asking approval of \$225,000 for expansion of physical education facilities, including a swimming pool, tennis courts and track facilities, was endorsed, 1,579 to 1,432.

Supt. of Schools Eugene Johnson was elated over passage of the two bonding proposals.

"The results of the election were very gratifying," he said. "It is

an endorsement of what we are doing and what we plan to do.

"We feel that we are over the hump in the building program—one that will enable us to maintain a sound program of education."

Johnson said this would probably be the last big bond issue voters would be asked to approve since future expansion could be accomplished by additions.

Dr. Charles L. Bowers, president of the school board:

"I am naturally very pleased. The facilities are needed and the election results affirm our belief that patrons in the district want good educations for their children.

"It also makes us happy because we feel we presented them with an excellent program for the construction of new schools and they approved it."

Both Johnson and Bowers lauded the local citizens committee, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Smith, 4165 Valley Forge, Bloomfield Township, for its efforts in educating voters concerning the bond issues.

Mrs. Smith told The Eccentric that she and her husband were "just thrilled and excited" with the results, "particularly with the swimming pool and recreational proposal."

She expressed her thanks to the almost 200 persons who worked with the committee to achieve passage of the propositions.

Included in the \$7 million bond issue are plans for a new central administration office building, new bus garage, a new, second high school, a new junior high, two new elementary schools, an

B'ham Fire Chief Killed In Plane Crash

College Board Set to Organize

By MARY BAHN
Staff Writer

The first board of trustees for the newly-approved community college will be meeting "within a week or 10 days," according to George R. Mosher of Birmingham.

Print Expert Testifies at Thorson Trial

The prosecution was expected to call a fingerprint expert Wednesday morning in the second first-degree murder trial of Robert M. Thorson.

Thorson, 32, of 2352 Buckingham, is charged with the Dec. 4, 1962, slaying of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Dorothy M. Thomas, in her Detroit home.

The first trial ended with a hung jury in June of last year.

Recorder's Court Judge Elvin L. Davenport had ordered the prosecution to call the fingerprint man—a new witness—because he had been in the home the morning after the crime.

Konrad D. Kohl, one of the defense attorneys, had introduced the articles in the home fingerprinted had ever been introduced as testimony.

DURING the first two days of the trial Kohl and Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Max M. Silverman clashed over the same points they did in the first trial—the articles. (See EXPERT, 2-A)

Lerchen Is President Of Community House

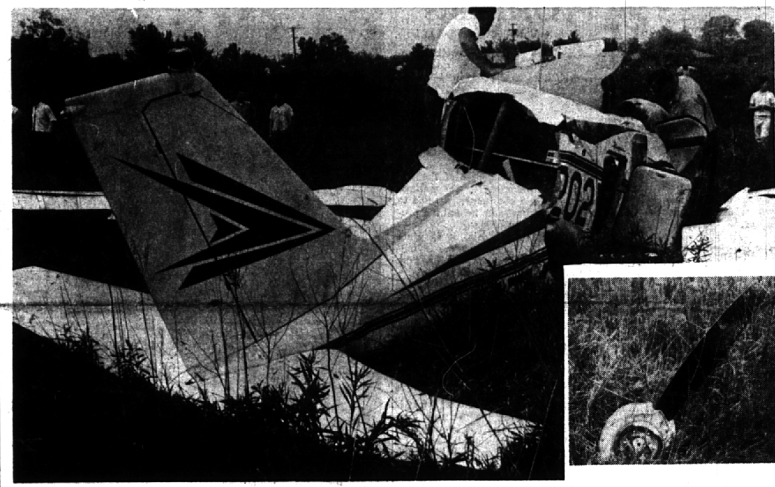
Presiding over his first board of director's meeting on June 10 will be Edward H. Lerchen, newly-elected president of the Community House. He was elected last week. He is a vice president of the Detroit Bank & Trust Co.

Son of the late William G. Lerchen, chairman of the investment firm of Watling-Lerchen & Co., Ed Lerchen was president, director and treasurer of a manufacturing and leasing firm prior to his association with the bank.

An active member of Christ Church Cranbrook, he presently serves as senior warden and is a trustee of the historic old Mariners' Church. He is a trustee of the Cranbrook Foundation, director of the House Fund Drive and also acted as vice chairman of sustaining membership of the Boy Scouts of America (Detroit Area Council), chairman of the Board of Cranbrook School and president of the Amherst Alumni Association of Michigan.

HE WAS a member of the board of trustees of Beaumont Hospital, chairman of the 1962-63 Community House Fund Drive and board member of the Bloomfield Arts Association. He has just completed a term as vice president of the Community House.

He succeeds Robert A. Thom as president.



Rescue workers look into the cockpit of the twin-engine plane that crashed Sunday morning in a field in Troy, taking the life of three men, including Birmingham Fire Chief George S. Scott. One of the craft's propellers (lower right) apparently dropped off before the plane went down and was found about 165 feet from the main wreckage. (More photos on 2-A)

2 Others Also Die; Cause Still Unknown

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

The exact cause of a plane crash that took the lives of three men, including Birmingham Fire Chief George S. Scott, Sunday morning has still not been determined.

The other victims of the mishap were George Berz, son of Troy airport owner Milton Berz, and Charles S. Farnum of Ferndale.

The elder Berz said the reason for the crash was "quite a mystery," but airport officials and a representative of the Civil Aeronautics Board were trying to piece together details of the mishap.

Berz said parts of the plane and engine were being examined in a hangar at the airport.

FARNUM, a senior instructor at the field, was apparently checking Scott out on the operation of the twin-engine plane when it plummeted into the ground in a field near Wattles and Beech roads in Troy.

Berz, 23, was a passenger in the back seat.

All three men were pronounced dead at the scene.

The wreckage of the plane was only a few hundred feet from the new St. Thomas More Catholic Church on Adams Road. Many parishioners were leaving the church after attending an 8 p.m. mass.

Several witnesses told Troy police that the Piper Comanche was flying at about 3,000 feet when it

apparently developed some type of engine trouble.

AS THE plane fell toward the ground, police said a propeller dropped off. It was found lying about 165 feet from the main wreckage.

Scott, who was also an instructor at Berz, was piloting the craft. Both Scott and Farnum had been scheduled to give flight instructions Sunday morning, but the overcast weather had forced their cancellation.

Police said that on a good day Berz might not have been in the plane.



GEORGE S. SCOTT

Reject Zoning Amendment Barring Walnut Lake Use

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

An amendment to the West Bloomfield zoning ordinance designed to bar the Bloomfield Hills School District from using Walnut Lake as a summer swimming site was rejected by the township board Tuesday night.

By a vote of 4-2 in an executive session, the board turned down the amendment, drafted by the planning commission, with the belief that it might be judged "unconstitutional" or "discriminatory."

Only trustees Walter Whitmer and John Warren expressed approval of the amendment which would have provided that "no churches, public schools, public libraries, museums, private schools or other educational institutions shall use any inland waters or riparian land for a recreational or instructional program in aquatic activities nor for a summer or day camp."

THE CHANGE was specifically aimed at the Hills school district which plans a summer aquatic program on school-owned property on Walnut Lake, scheduled to begin within the next two weeks.

Township Supervisor John Reardon indicated that a few residents might be unhappy with the board's decision.

"Some people are taking the attitude that we don't want to assist them," he said. "We can't always be on the same side of the fence if those persons aren't right."

"If we pass an amendment with a discriminatory provision, it would be worse than what we have now."

THE BOARD passed a resolution sending the amendment back to the

CAC Elects Kilpatrick as New Chairman

Birmingham's Citizens Action Committee has a new chairman.

He is Robert L. Kilpatrick, 183 Hupp Cross, Bloomfield Village, manager of Michigan Bell Telephone Co.'s South Oakland area.

Kilpatrick, 43, replaces F. Ward Ouradnik, who had been serving as interim chairman following the resignation of Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., who remains on the group's executive board.

Kilpatrick will take over the reins of the CAC on July 1.

A GRADUATE of Albion College, Kilpatrick has served as Bell area manager since 1962. He is responsible for the commercial operations and public relations activities in most of southern Oakland County.

Active in community affairs, he is presently serving as chairman of the Community Relations Committee—a subcommittee of the CAC set up to interpret the CAC programs and projects to the community.

He is vice president of the Community House, a member of the board of the chamber of commerce, the board of management of the YMCA and is vice president-elect of the Rotary Club.

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IN A PUBLIC hearing before the executive session Tuesday night, Johnson and school board attorney Lawrence King re-expressed opposition to the proposed zoning amendment.

"We would like to work something out in an amicable way," Johnson told the township board. "I feel that we can reach some kind of compromise on this matter."

Joseph Radom, an attorney for the upset property owners on Walnut Lake, said the controversy "requires a determination of the courts."

"It does not seem fair to have our property rights and privacy invaded," he said.

Radom contended that, if unchecked, ultimately "10,000 students and their families" could use the school-owned beach.

HENRY MOSES, chairman of the township planning commission, showed the board a map of undeveloped land with lake frontage which conceivably could be purchased for other schools.

The present problem could be compounded in the future if it is allowed to exist, he said.

The next regular meeting of the township board is scheduled for Monday night.

A Gallant Chief

On Sunday morning June 7, 1964, George S. Scott, chief of fire, Birmingham Fire Department, was killed in an airplane crash in the city of Troy.

On June 10, 1964, he was buried in Greenwood Cemetery. What are the thoughts and feelings of the department at this time.

"Certain one is that all our sympathy goes with his wife and children. It is our wish that they will continue with the high ideals that he desired for them.

Today, as yesterday, we are carrying on with the fire tradition. Men have responded to calls for fires and first aid to the public. But in each case they have known that their leader had fallen and in each case they have tried a little harder for him.

WHAT KIND of a man was Chief Scott? He was born near Birmingham on Aug. 21, 1917. He had lived in the area ever since, except for the two tours of duty he had as a Navy pilot. The friends that he acquired over these 47 years were many. Everyone that knew him had nothing but good words for him.

MEN OF BIRMINGHAM FIRE DEPT.



ROBERT L. KILPATRICK