

B'ham Police Save Life

By MARILYN DUPREE
Staff Writer

Two Birmingham policemen, checking out a routine call, happened to be at the right place at the right time last Friday at 2 a. m. It was so right that they saved 63-year-old Marion Ojala from her burning house at 927 Ann, Birmingham.

Patrolmen Harold Christy and Jerry Roddewig received a call at 1:55. The night manager at the A&P store near Groves and Adams reported something "suspicious looking"; the policemen looked into the matter and found nothing.

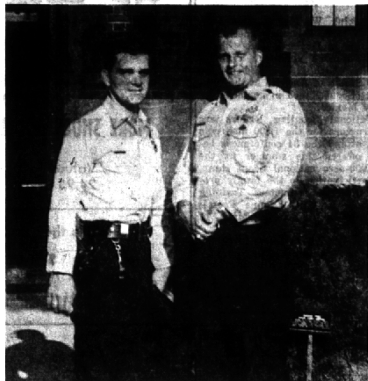
Driving back through town—along Hunter Blvd.—they noticed a "hazy looking" fog to the south about a block north of Lincoln. Roddewig said, "It smelled like garbage." It looked like smoke was coming from the Chrysler Plymouth showroom, they said.

THEY DROVE through the alley in back of the building but could see no flames; nearby was a fenced-in lot filled with smoke, but only smoke. Christy said the smoke was coming from over the alley and settling down in it. So the two officers followed the smoke—which led them to the house on Ann Street.

Smoke was billowing from the house. Roddewig jumped the fence to get the address while Christy waited in the car to phone the location to the fire department.

Then the noise began. Each man took a door and began his search. A woman's voice called, "Who's beating on my door?" Roddewig said he "felt like a fool telling her the woman her house was on fire, for it was pretty obvious that her house was burning."

Neighbors complained about all the racket. Beating down both doors, the patrolmen entered the house to rescue the woman. She descended to the



POLICE—MAKESHIFT FIREFIGHTERS

Patrolmen Harold Christy and Jerry Roddewig.

base of the stairs and reached the front door where Roddewig was stationed. She then decided she had to have her housecoat. She couldn't leave the house in her nightgown. Perhaps "just like a woman."

RODDEWIG IGNORED the woman's request and pulled her out of the house to the porch, but she still wanted her housecoat. She did not get it. Instead she was taken to her neighbors, the H. D. Elwood at 927 Ann.

The makeshift firemen then set upon the fire. Using a garden hose, they watered down the scorched livingroom and the big overstuffed chair still smoldering—the apparent source of the fire. Roddewig dragged the chair out on the lawn to extinguish the flames.

Christy said, "Everything

happened so fast." So fast that when the fire department arrived shortly after the summer, the two patrolmen had things under control.

Fire officials said that in another 10 or 15 minutes the woman would have been suffocated. The smoke was so thick, said Christy that "we couldn't see our hand in front of us."

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said the names of the patrolmen have been submitted by their commanding officer to board of review for consideration for special recognition. Moxley said of the men, "Their fine performance showed the alertness so necessary for the efficient police protection we strive for." The outstanding work of the two patrolmen is considered "all in the line of duty."

The Birmingham Eccentric

JULY 23, 1964

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

3-A

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Summer School Record Set

Elementary summer school in Birmingham has reached a record enrollment of 925 students, as compared with 670 students in 1963.

Secondary summer enrollment has decreased slightly—1,023 students, as compared with 1,073 in 1963.

In addition, 800 students are enrolled in driver training at Groves and Seaholm High Schools. At the secondary level, about 80 per cent of the students attend Birmingham Public Schools, about 8 per cent non-public schools in Birmingham and 12 per cent attend schools outside the district.

At the junior high and high school levels, about 62 per cent of students are taking advanced credit courses or enrichment courses.

ENROLLMENTS ARE up in composition, civics and in the reading improvement-study skills courses. Other subjects offered include mathematics, science, English, conversational French, Spanish, remedial reading, speech, history, printing and typing.

About 19 per cent of the students are taking repeat work because of failing and 18 per cent repeat work to improve grades. On the elementary level, about 45 per cent of the children are taking advanced work and 55 per cent are in the remedial program.

About 89 per cent of the children attend Birmingham Public Schools, 9 per cent non-public schools in Birmingham.

NEARLY 2 PER CENT of the

and are primarily enrolled in physical fitness.

About 400 elementary students are enrolled in the reading program. Nearly 304 are taking remedial reading (students who are reading two years or more below their expected reading level). Nineteen children who will be entering children are from other districts first grade in the fall are taking reading readiness.

The balance of the 400 children are enrolled in reading improvement, an enrichment course for children who are reading at their own level or above.

A number of elementary children are taking junior humanities, a composite course of art, literature and music. Their activities include preparing a full length play, participating in debates, and attending a symphony orchestra concert.

Fifty-eight teachers are instructing in the summer program.

THE PURPOSE of the course is to choose delegates and alternates for the state session at Detroit's Cobo Hall Sept. 19.

Charles Buell is principal of the secondary program and Richard Heiser, the elementary program.

First Lady To Keynote GOP Meet

Mrs. George Romney, Michigan's First Lady, will keynote the Oakland County Republican convention opening Sept. 12 at Southfield High School.

The purpose of the meeting is to choose delegates and alternates for the state session at Detroit's Cobo Hall Sept. 19. A new feature of the county convention will be the pre-convention caucuses at which lists of representatives will be prepared for approval of the convention at large. Richard D. Ernst, 4368 Orchard Hill Dr., is arrangements chairman.

Primary Off, No Contest

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP — The primary election called for Sept. 1 has been cancelled since no opposition appears on any part of the ballot.

The incumbents, all Republicans, all of whom have filed for re-election, are uncontested. No one filed at all for the office of constable. Hugh G. Allerton, Jr., has filed for re-election as supervisor. Mrs. Fannie Adams, clerk, Mrs. Audrey Leach, treasurer, Neil Warren and Harn J. Burnett, trustees and Orland Ellis, justice of the peace. The election will take place Nov. 3.



ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Delay Contract For Razing of Three Old Homes

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night postponed for one week the awarding of a contract to demolish three homes in the block south of Shain Park.

The delay was granted at the request of Commissioner David F. Breck who said several private groups had expressed an interest in the homes. The property will be used to complete the new municipal parking lot No. 7.

J. P. Morgan, who was appointed to the newly formed Birmingham Historical Board, told the commission that the city should know by next week if the homes would be removed.

"THE BIGGEST problem seems to be getting a site to move the buildings to," Morgan said.

Charles Whitfield, who is also interested in the homes, said he "would do everything possible" in the next week to move the house he was considering buying.

Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham voted against the delay because he felt the city had waited long enough to move on the project.

The low bid for the removal of the homes plus the demolition of the gas station at the corner of Woodward and Forest was submitted by the South Kent Wrecking Co. of Bryon Center, Mich. The price was set at \$2,555.

Comments From... Classified



Lumley went to Europe because he "let out all those unnecessary luxuries in quick order. The Eccentric's Classified ads, the most widely read pages in town! P.S. Have you tried The Eccentric's new successful family wand ad plan—8 consecutive weeks only \$2.90 (cash rate)?"

REVERE 888 SLIDE PROJECTOR. The new, cost \$150, will sell for \$80. Lessing camera. Also Kodak stereo camera and leather gadget bag like new \$15. 900-0000 115-117

Someone, somewhere, sometime, would love to buy those personal possessions that are no longer being used in your own home... and that someone will browse in The Eccentric's Classified ads, the most widely read pages in town! P.S. Have you tried The Eccentric's new successful family wand ad plan—8 consecutive weeks only \$2.90 (cash rate)?"

REHARD noted that during June more than two inspectors were made per day by the building department.

WALTER WHITMER reported progress made by the fire study committee. Material concerning station communication systems was discussed complete when Chairman Will said bids submitted to the committee for radio equipment were not accurate.

The committee called another meeting to straighten out the mix-up before the executive session of the board finalizes the budget.

This and That

by George R. Averill

Bobby Baker Case "Whitewashed by 'Scared Senators?'"

You have read and heard much about the activities of one Bobby Baker—who, as secretary of the Democratic Senate majority when Lyndon Baines Johnson was a U.S. Senator, made for himself many hundreds of thousands of dollars on a less-than-twenty thousand per year regular salary.

Well, this same U.S. Senate has just concluded an "investigation" of Bobby's affairs and, finally, though admitting that Bobby did use his influence for business purposes, adds that Bobby did nothing actually illegal.

Now the case appears closed—except for the fact that millions of U.S. citizens still would like to know why the Senators "whitewashed" this case. So, when you next meet a U.S. Senator, just ask him what he did to solve the case from being properly investigated; he may be one of the very few who did want this case handled more thoroughly and, if so, perhaps you should praise him.

Otherwise, when you hear some Senator dish out a lotta platitudes about honesty, integrity, etc., etc., will you let his words impress you as much as though he were (See THIS & THAT, 7-A)

Ritchie Makes Bid For Township Post

Chad M. Ritchie today formally announced his candidacy for the office of Bloomfield Township treasurer in the Sept. 1 primary. Ritchie, 61, of 1234 Covington Road, cited his business, civic and political experience as the determining factors in his decision to seek a seat on the township board.

"Within the next few years Bloomfield Township is scheduled to increase in population from 29,000 to 70,000," said Ritchie. "I think my past background qualifies me to play a part in that growth."

RITCHIE, an account executive for Michigan Bell National Yellow Pages since 1959, has served on the township planning commission for the last two years and was chairman for one year. He was also chairman of the township zoning board of appeals from 1952 to 1962.

Prior to moving to Bloomfield Township, Ritchie was a Birmingham city commissioner and served as treasurer in 1959-61.

He also was chairman of the Birmingham Board of Tax Appeal during 1947-48.

On the political side of the ledger, Ritchie holds these positions with the Republican party: treasurer of the Oakland County GOP; precinct captain, Bloomfield Township; and a member of the Republican State Finance Committee.

HE ALSO SERVED as treasurer

Board Fails To Act on Zone Change

By BETH SHOTKA
Special Writer

The West Bloomfield Township board failed again to act on a proposed amendment to its zoning ordinance regulating lake privileges at its meeting Wednesday night.

A letter from a township resident was read to the board. It requested a public hearing and notification by the board of all property owners affected by the amendment.

Supervisor John Rehard pointed out that there are 24 lakes in the township with vacant property on each. Correspondence by first class mail would not be feasible. He said this method of communication would set a precedent for board action and the expensive procedures would have to be followed in the future.

CHARLES TRESSLER, township building inspector, reported to the board the need of an inter-office communication system in the township building. Arrangements were made to have a consultant survey the communication needs and report how efficiency could be improved.

Tressler also said if an electrical inspector is not hired for the building department within a few weeks, it would be better to discontinue electrical inspection service. He suggested hiring a second assistant building inspector if an electrical inspector cannot be found.

Rehard noted that during June more than two inspectors were made per day by the building department.

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B'field Hills Selects Site for High School

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

Despite the threat of a court suit, the Bloomfield Hills School Board has decided on a site near the southwest corner of Lahser and Hickory Grove for the district's second high school.

The board settled on the 40-acre site Monday night after several alternatives had been discarded and authorized a letter affirming its position be sent to Louis J. Colombo, Jr., leader of a group of dissident property owners in the area.

Colombo, 3635 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, objects to the high school being built because of the additional traffic it will generate and because he feels the cost will be prohibitive because of right-of-way acquisition and road improvements.

THE SCHOOL BOARD had considered an alternate site on the southwest corner of Lahser and Hickory Grove but rejected it due to the \$5,500-an-acre price tag and poor soil conditions.

The primary site was purchased about five years ago at a price of \$3,000 per acre or a total price of \$120,000 in 1959-61.

Charles McMahon, of Tarapata-McMahon, consulting engineers, helped board members reach a decision when he told them to look elsewhere if they desired an alternate site.

Several other locations have been considered but were rejected because the price ran as high as \$14,000 per acre.

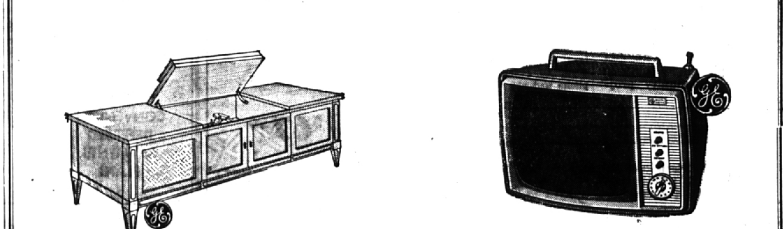
TRUSTEE DAVID LEE said he had informed Colombo repeatedly of the board's efforts to find a suitable alternate site.

LEE asked him for suggestions and he answers with the threat of a law suit," Lee said.

Both Lee and Colombo are members of the Bloomfield Hills City Commission, where Colombo is mayor and Lee is mayor pro tem. Mrs. Jean Martz asked that a letter be written, asking for final approval from the objecting board and explaining that "the board must take action." (See SITE, 5-A)

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