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# It was a laboring holiday for police

By JACKIE KLEIN

Labor Day weekend in Southfield was relatively quiet except for high-spirited youths indulging in last-minute high jinks before heading back to school and hitting the books.

These "one last flingers," however, created headaches for police who responded to complaints ranging from firecrackers splitting the late summer air to kids driving over well-manicured lawns.

Saturday, Sept. 3, was the beginning of the long Labor Day weekend, but some Southfield youngsters celebrated Halloween Devils' Night by tossing eggs at cars and houses.

Residents were concerned about kids gathering in various locations throughout the city and police were called to break up groups. Other homeowners complained about loud parties and stereos blasting their ear drums. They also heard sounds of revving motors.

"Lawn jobbers" were charged with malicious destruction of property for riding over seed and sod. A family dog was injured in the process.

BUT YOUTHS weren't the only ones whooping it up and showing symptoms of end-of-summer fever. A man backed out of his drive and knocked over his neighbor's fence. Neither was feeling very neighborly when police arrived to take the complaint.

Another resident screamed when she saw a Peeping Tom on her roof. By the time police arrived on the scene, the window-peeper had split.

On Sunday, someone reported young drivers racing cars near Schoenhals Elementary School. They were gone when police came, but it was established the culprits weren't students in the school.

Other than racing motorcycles, the usual holiday family fights, a dog bite and loud parties, Sunday was uneventful for police officers, who guessed a lot of residents were out of town. Police reported less than a dozen "fender benders" and no major accidents in the city over Labor Day.

Monday started off with a bang as a group of youngsters got their holidays mixed up and shot off firecrackers. Three juveniles were detained for looting around near Southfield Civic Center's construction site.

Two other minors were caught shoplifting at Northland shopping center. A group of juveniles were nabbed for malicious destruction of property at Lederle Middle School.

DESPITE ALL the activity around Southfield's hallowed halls of learning, schools were still standing Tuesday although striking teachers were absent from classrooms.

Two attempted suicides in the city Monday may attest to the fact that persons often get depressed on holidays. Families often fight when there's too much togetherness for too long, according to police who were called in several such disputes.

Police also responded to complaints about suspected prowlers, who were gone or had never been there, barking dogs, biting cats, a window punctured with a BB gun, and a horse who had strayed into someone's backyard and was returned to his or her owner.

A woman called to say her purse was stolen from her home although there was no sign of forcible entry. The culprit obligingly took \$50 from her purse and threw the bills on her front lawn.

Another burglar climbed over the stone wall of a building to rip off merchandise, and another woman had her purse and television set stolen from her house while she was barbecuing hamburgers in her backyard.

An inept intruder mistook speed away from Harold's Riverbank Lounge without using the driveway. And so it went on a routine Labor Day weekend in Southfield.

## Southfield sewer rates are going up

Southfield residents will pay more for sewage disposal starting this month.

Effective Sept. 1, persons in the Evergreen-Farmington district will be billed \$2.73 per 1,000 cubic feet for sewer service, an 88 cent increase.

In the Twelve-Town district, effective Dec. 1, rates for users will be raised \$1.65 to \$3.95 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Northland Triangle residents will absorb an 88 cent increase to \$2.86 per 1,000 cubic feet for service.

"The Oakland County Department of Public Works has notified Southfield and other communities that the sewage disposal rates for the Evergreen Sewage Disposal System will be increased effective on all billings issued after Sept. 1," said city administrator Peter Cristiano.

"We have also been advised by the department of public works of an increase in sewer rates for the Northland Triangle, called the Northland Triangle, which becomes effective Feb. 1, 1978."

OAKLAND COUNTY Drain Commission has also notified the city of an increase in sewage disposal and pollution control rates for the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal System (Twelve-Town district) on all billings issued after Dec. 1, Cristiano said.

The Detroit Metro Water Department has passed on an increase of 83 cents per 1,000 cubic feet for the Evergreen-Farmington sewage disposal system, Cristiano said. Oakland County Department of Public Works has added a 5 cent per 1,000 cubic feet increase which passes on the 88 cent hike to the city.

A formula established by contract with the county department, necessitated the 88 cent raise in rates for the Northland Triangle, Cristiano explained.

"The Oakland County Drain Commission, our agent for the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal System, has passed on the Detroit Metro Water Department increase of 83 cents per 1,000 cubic feet for sewer service and another 83 cents for pollution control," Cristiano said. These rates will become effective Dec. 1.

Within the county sewage disposal system is a surplus to Southfield of \$64,241, Cristiano said. This surplus will be used to pay each invoice dated on or after Sept. 1 until the total amount of credit due the community is exhausted, he said.

BASED ON past consumption, Southfield Dept. of Public Services estimates the surplus will be used within the Twelve-Town district by December.

Within the Northland Triangle, the drain commission has credited the

Oakland County Department of Public Works with an accumulated surplus of \$3,844, expected to be used by February.

"We have reviewed our own city sewage disposal rates to citizens and there's no reason to increase our own charges," Cristiano said. "We are maintaining the system within our allocated budget."

"There will be increases in sewage disposal rates from the City of Detroit and two county agencies in 1978 and 1979. When these increases are passed on to us, we will continue to review our rates."

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