

## DeKalb History Center

### Walter Purcell Collection

**Scope and Content:** Walter L. Purcell (1922-1989) was the Director of Community Services for DeKalb County from 1962-1965. This collection is made up of newspaper articles on the organizations in DeKalb that were under his purview as the Director of Community Services, such as the American Red Cross, YMCA, Kiwanis Club, the DeKalb library, the Chamber of Commerce, parks and recreation. There are clippings on the Kirkwood Methodist Church as well as the Special Olympics. There are articles on his personal achievements dating from the 1950's to 1984. The collection is made up entirely of photocopies.

**Provenance:** Gift of Walter Purcell. Accession # 1986.200

**Access:** Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Walter Purcell Collection, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2010.

**Size:** 1 document box

**Biographical Sketch of Walter L. Purcell:** Walter Purcell was a certified management consultant and President of Purcell Consulting Associates. He was employed by Dun & Bradstreet in various positions from 1947 to 1962. He served as the Director of the Department of Community Services for DeKalb County from 1962 until 1965, prior to opening his consulting business. He served in regional and national leadership positions with the United Methodist Church, YMCA, Indian guides, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society and the Special Olympics. He also served as a Lt. Governor of the Kiwanis Club and was a member of the South DeKalb and Druid Hills organizations for 33 years.

**Description:** The original "Things & Stuff" of Mr. Purcell's was in 12 folders plus one hard cover photo folder, arranged chronologically. The materials copied for DHS Archives are arranged in folders according to subject matter. They are copied from newspaper clippings and some printed programs and bulletins.

Various news clippings make up the collection, which usually have photographs of Purcell, and information on such things as the Ousley and Kirkwood Methodist Churches, the YMCA, the Special Olympics in 1971 and the DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce. The bulk of the materials is from the 1960s.

**Subject Headings:** Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

**Main Entry:** Purcell, Walter (1922-1989)

Subject/Added Entries:      Kiwanis Club of DeKalb  
    YMCA  
    YMCA Adventure Guides (Program)  
    DeKalb County (Ga.)  
    Special Olympics  
    American Red Cross  
    American Cancer Society

**Folder List**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1	1	1971 Special Olympics	1971-1972
	2	Achievements 1 of 2	1956-1969
	3	Achievements 2 of 2	1971-1983
	4	American Cancer Society	1965-1973
	5	American Red Cross	1963-1974
	6	Biography	1959-1989
	7	Chamber of Commerce	1967-1984
	8	DeKalb County	1962-1964
	9	DeKalb County Fair	1963-1964
	10	Health Department of DeKalb county	1963-1968
	11	Heart fund	1965-1978
	12	Kirkwood Methodist	1958-1966
	13	Kiwanis club	1956-1984
	14	Libraries	1962-1964
	15	Organizations	1963-1971
	16	Politics and Schools	1963-1970
	17	YMCA Indian Guides	1957-1965
	18	YMCA	1958-1972