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## Highlights of 1959

(Continued from Preceding Page)

mothers to complete their rounds.

Hugh G. Allerton, Jr., said he did not plan to draw the full salary for his duties as Southfield township supervisor and took a pay cut from \$9,500 to \$7,000 per year.

**Issue of February 12**  
 A poor voter turnout was predicted for the February judicial primary election Feb. 16.

Schools in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Southfield and Lathrup were closed Monday because of severe winter storms.

Bloomfield township voters prepared to go to the polls to elect a supervisor, treasurer, clerk and three township board members.

A "YES" group (Your Educational Security committee) was formed to support Bloomfield Hills schools in their bid for additional tax millage for operating revenue.

West Bloomfield voters prepared to decide a "hot" zoning issue—rezoning from residential to commercial property on Commerce road at Green lake road, incorporating a new zoning ordinance on which the township was to vote.

**Issue of February 19**  
 A 17-point program for improving Birmingham's central business district was submitted to the city plan board by City Planner Herbert Herzberg. The points, involving "very little capital outlay," included creation of a distinctive name for the central business district and sidewalk improvement.

One out of 10 voters went to the polls in Birmingham to vote in the Oakland county judicial primary election. Birmingham resident James C. Allen placed sixth in the county race, in which five candidates were nominated.

Birmingham town hall announced that it had sold season tickets for 1959-60, only ten days after their sale began.

Bloomfield township's incumbent officials were returned to office by a huge majority. They are Supervisor Arno F. Hiet, Treasurer Homer Case and Clerk Robert H. Dudley. Incumbent trustee Robert A. Reid was re-elected, and two new trustees are Henry M. Hogan, Jr., and Samuel Reeve.

West Bloomfield voters turned down the controversial zoning ordinance which incorporated rezoning to commercial property at Commerce and Green lake roads. At the same time incumbent Hiland M. Thatcher defeated his opponent, Chester A. Okopki, for supervisor.

**Issue of February 26**  
 Birmingham public library board announced its recommendations for a \$75,000 addition to the library building at Bates and Martin streets.

Disc jockey Bob Maxwell disclosed his intention to be a candidate for a three-year term on the Birmingham city commission in the city's April 6 election.

First Baptist church announced the calling of the Rev. Dr. Homer J. Armstrong, formerly pastor at the Jefferson avenue Baptist Church, Detroit, as their pastor.

More than 400 "YES" committee workers campaigned to get out the vote for the March 5 Bloomfield Hills school election.

Westwood village officials appealed to village voters to approve the proposal before them March 9 to take over the water system within its borders, now operated by Southfield township.

**Issue of March 5**  
 Radio and TV personality Bob Maxwell withdrew from the race for city commissioner because of a "technicality," leaving Mayor Carl F. Ingram and Commissioner Charles W. Renfrew unopposed for re-election to their second and third terms respectively. William H. Burzum is opposed by Claude L. Kidd, Jr. for an unexpired term.

Birmingham city commissioners were advised that a library addition would cost \$152,000 instead of the \$75,000 budgeted for it.

Bloomfield township's United Home Owners association elected Dorman B. Dickerson Jr. as its president.

Over 2,000 property owners were notified of raises in the assessed valuation of their land. Southfield Township Supervisor Hugh G. Allerton, Jr. revealed.

Paving of West Maple road in the summer was assured when the City of Birmingham and Oakland county road commission signed an agreement and a special assessment district was approved. A 2,000-foot stretch from Cranbrook east will be paved.

**Issue of March 12**  
 Speaking at Birmingham Town Hall, Stewart Alsop likened the East-West impasse over Berlin to an international game of "chicken."

Residents of Westwood voted to change the name of their newly incorporated village to Beverly Hills.

The first village tax in the history of Franklin was approved up to eight mills for



### First Woman Presides at City Meeting

For the first time in Birmingham's history, a "lady in lavender" conducted city commission proceedings in May. Dressed in a smart but simply tailored pale orchid springtime sheath, Mayor Pro Tem Florence Willett (left) turns to discuss a point with City Clerk Irene Hanley. It was a 28-minute meeting Mrs. Willett presided over.

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