



Remember that old saying: "Sometimes one can get so close to the woods that he can't see the trees?" Perhaps the meaning of this may now, and then be applied to some parents, in relation to their youngsters. One of the observations that grandparents can make (only because the grandchildren are not their direct family responsibility) is that often children are assumed to be grownups in behavior . . . woods-trees."

## Evergreen Rate Hike 'Inevitable', Beverly Learns

By KAY SMITH  
Special Writer

BEVERLY HILLS—An 11-cent increase in Evergreen sewer rates appears inevitable for Beverly Hills, according to a report made Monday by councilman Dr. Douglas J. Wood.

Unless a committee headed by Councilman Hugh G. Allerton Jr. can come up with a recommendation at the next council meeting, the new rate will become effective April 1.

SUCH WAS THE outcome of a meeting Saturday with the Oakland County Board of Public Works, attended by Dr. Wood, Village Manager Robert E. Murphy, Village Attorney Thomas J. Dillon Jr. and Don Kelon of Johnson and Anderson, the engineering firm which designed and built the Evergreen interceptor four years ago.

According to the report, while the system was not designed to allow for weeping tile drains, a check made by Hubbell, Roth and Clark, Inc., consulting engineers for the DPW, states that the system is adequate to handle weeping tile connections under certain specified conditions.

"The specified conditions" would include a great deal of policing

Dearborn, general operations manager, on the part of both the DPW and the municipality.

THE RATE INCREASE of 11 cents per 1000 cubic feet would include a six-cent hike to provide a reserve to purchase additional capacity in the Detroit system, and the remaining five cents will go to provide for additional treatment costs, policing and items of a similar nature.

The Evergreen system, which covers approximately a thousand acres, or a large portion of the village, was designed strictly as a sanitary system, and, in the opinion of Johnson and Anderson, if the weeping tile connections are made it will necessitate maintaining strict building controls.

There would have to be proper grading of lots, and the surface water would have to be two feet below the basement. The grading would be checked by actual tests before a permit could be issued.

IN RESPONSE TO the council's representatives' question as to where the DPW has the authority to specify the contract which would be for the Evergreen Interceptor was to be strictly a sanitary sewer, the DPW's answer relates to the definition of terms as to what is sanitary flow and what is storm flow.

Traditionally, water entering the sewer by this route has been considered part of sanitary flow, according to the board.

THE ABOUT-FACE made by the DPW, which did not permit weep tile connections at the time the regulations were drawn up for the three-quarters of a million dollars worth of sewers now being constructed, is due to pressure from both Birmingham City and from the Builders Association, both of whom are pushing for the changes in the county purposes.

The council, once with the municipalities to discuss its plan. This meeting was held Jan. 30 and was preceded by a report sent to the DPW and two meetings with the DPW board.

THE DPW STAND on the matter is that they must allow a certain amount of non-combustible connection inasmuch as they could not sustain their position of prohibiting the connection in court. Council President Marvin B. Cline directed Councilman Allerton and his committee to determine how many pieces of land are involved and to make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Anticipating approximately \$9,511 from state funds, the new budget appropriated \$4,184.49 towards village operation. A road budget will be submitted at the end of the fiscal year.

OUT OF AN approximate general fund expenditure of \$5,670 from the 1962 budget, the village will have spent about \$3,529 for legal fees to defend its totally residential zoning.

Facing additional contests with property owners attempting to convert vacant residential lots into business or professional classifications the village has set aside nearly half its new budget, about \$2,000 for legal fees, to maintain a status quo.

Volunteer Police Capt. Joseph Zafarana was also given a plaque in appreciation of service since Aug. 1955.

## Wood Creek Plans Clean-Up Campaign

WOOD CREEK FARMS—The week of April 29 to May 5 was officially declared for the 1962 Clean-up Spruce-up Campaign by council action Tuesday night.

Wood Creek Farms Civic association will conduct the annual program which generally culminates in a blaze of glory on the village green on Tuesday night.

However, this year the traditional bonfire of accumulated winter debris will probably be held the following week.

## Planners to Study Nottingham Plot

BEVERLY HILLS—A plot plan for Nottingham Forest Subdivision No. 4 was presented to the village council Monday and referred to the planning board.

The council asked planners to investigate the inclusion of playground space.

## This and That

by George R. Averill

### Wanta Be A "Cowboy Pioneer"?—Then Try "Boots & Saddles" On A Ranch

FLYING E RANCH . . . Wickenburg, Arizona.—With our car registering a total of 2,545 miles since leaving Birmingham, here we (Herb Gardner and Yours Truly) are at this 21,000 acre combination cattle and guest ranch, with the Arizona Bradshaw Mountains as backdrop for this southwest scenery.

In a direction opposite from the Bradshaws, we may view another lower mountain range, dominated by a high jagged peak, known as "Vulture Peak". It was so named when, back in 1863, a prospector, Henry Wickenburg, accidentally discovered gold nearby. . . and his manner of this discovery gave both mine and peak their names.

SO THEY CONFINE their guest list to a maximum of an average of 22 persons, which allows for an atmosphere of friendly informality. We were attracted to this ranch through Mr. and Mrs. John R. Knecht, of 1330 North Lawn, Birmingham, who stayed at their ranch for a month.

THEY HIRE THREE several convenient pieces of rock at the village—when Lo! & Behold!, the rock-throwing not only put the culture out of business, but also abraded the rock ledge, revealing a substance that made Wickenburg's habit accelerate with considerable increased production. Yes Sir! It was GOLD And

## Bloomfield Township—Its Tax Scene

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the first in a series of stories on taxes, form of government and characteristics of Bloomfield Township. It is an attempt to give residents a closer look into their community and the way it works.

By SAVILLA SLOAN  
Special Writer

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—If you own a home and lot worth \$30,400 in Bloomfield

Township and it is located in Bloomfield Hills School District, you are an average township taxpayer.

For the average market valuation of a home in the township is approximately \$30,400 and Bloomfield Hills School District encompasses more township property than the other three school districts which are partially located in the township.

YOUR PROPERTY TAX bill

for last year was approximately \$525.

Do you know just how that figure was arrived at? Do you know how much of your tax bill went to the township government for its operational expenses? Do you know what other revenue the township receives to meet its expenses? Do you know what its expenses are? (If you do, you are more than an average citizen and need read no farther.)

YOUR TAX BILL is based on a 15-mill property tax, which means that for each \$1,000 equalized - valuation of your property (note the word equalized for it needs explanation) you pay \$15 yearly in taxes.

However, the 15-mill property tax is subject to additional millage voted by the taxpayers for specific purposes.

In your location, the Oakland County taxpayers have voted an additional half-mill for special

education. The township taxpayers have voted an additional two mills for police, fire department and roads. And, Bloomfield Hills School District residents have voted approximately 14.12 additional mills to meet increased educational costs.

This adds 16.62 to the original 15-mill tax rate.

So your actual property tax is, therefore, \$31.62 for each \$1000 of equalized - assessed-valuation.

HOW IS YOUR equalized assessed-valuation arrived at? The township assessor evaluates the market value of your home and then assesses it at 28 per cent of its true market value. Therefore the assessed valuation on your \$30,400 home is approximately \$8,500.

Not all townships assess at the same percentage of market value, so in order that the tax base of all townships will be the same (See TAX, 4-A)



## Earn Citations

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—Patrolmen Fred Warner (left) and Lyle Gillespie were given citations March 26 for their efforts to save an 84-year-old man from a burning home. Warner, an auxiliary, and Gillespie, a regular, found David Fitzwater unconscious in the bedroom of his flaming home. Fitzwater died three days later.

## Lathrup to Start Hunting For New Headquarters

LATHRUP—New quarters for city offices that will also accommodate local organizations will be the topic at a community meeting tonight at 8 in the House-in-the-Woods.

Prior to the meeting, city officials will meet at 7:30 to hear a report from City Administrator Gerald Stone on possible temporary quarters.

## J. F. Pival to Get Man, Boy Award

John F. Pival, 6227 E. Thorncrest, Birmingham, will be presented the annual "Man and Boy Award" Wednesday at a Boys Clubs of Detroit luncheon.

Pival, president of WXYZ, Inc., was selected for his "outstanding efforts in behalf of boys."

## Hearing May 1 On Budget In Wood Creek

WOOD CREEK FARMS—The council Monday adopted a proposed general budget for 1962-63 and set a public hearing for May 1, the same night the council will hold its monthly meeting.

## Resolution Calls for Airport Cost

A resolution requesting cost estimates for the proposed Oakland County jet airport will be presented at the April 10 meeting of the county board of supervisors by Supervisor John Lesstner of Orton Township.

The resolution would bind the supervisors to reviewing estimated costs for planning and engineering the airport as well as to coming up with plans for financing the project before taking further action.

The estimator, said Lesstner, as a necessary prelude to any request for state or federal aid. And the resolution he said, merely commits the supervisors to an orderly business-like procedure.

"I DON'T SEE how the supervisors can fail to for this resolution," said Lesstner. "It merely commits them to look before they leap into one of the biggest expenditures of money their county has ever considered. However, an expression from the public can help considerably in determining their vote."

## Lathrup Presents Plaque to Widow Of Police Officer

LATHRUP—A memorial plaque was presented to Mrs. Edna Murphy Monday night, honoring her late husband, Police Lt. Francis Murphy, for "his work in Lathrup."

The presentation was made by Mayor Richard N. Cogger in behalf of the citizens of Lathrup. Murphy died Feb. 26.

## Buy New Auto

LATHRUP—Council approved purchase of a new city office car Monday evening. Low bidder out of seven was Birmingham Chrysler-Plymouth, Inc. Cost to the city will be \$799 plus trade in of a two-year-old Dodge in present use.

## 54 New Members Of B'ham C of C; Campaign Still On

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce's current membership campaign is gaining momentum as 128 present members have increased their subscriptions and 54 new members have been added.

Together they represent an addition of \$6,900 to the Chamber's budget.

Thus far, signs indicate that the campaign will reach its goals of a \$22,500 budget and 100 additional members.

THE CHANGE IN annual dues to a minimum of \$45, which was passed at a general membership meeting, represents the first change in dues in the last seven years.

Even with the increase, dues are still below the minimums of most other chambers and slightly under the national average.

A MORE ADEQUATE budget and more members, according to Charles Mortenson, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce manager, will enable the Chamber to broaden its activities in the Birmingham area.

Birmingham as a center for shopping and professional services, he said, must keep ahead of competition if it is to continue to attract new residents to replace those who have to move away—and to maintain the present size and volume of its trade and service areas.



## Jurist Speaks

FRANKLIN—Franklin Village Players will have their day in court April 12, 13 and 14 at the Farmington Players' Barn with their production "Ladies of the Jury." Paul Settle, one of the jurors, argues a point during a rehearsal of the three-act comedy.

## Royal Oak Man Named Beverly Office Manager

BEVERLY HILLS—Over an objection from the audience, the village council has named Charles Edward Ferguson, 1602 Hamilton, Royal Oak, as office manager for the village on a 90-day trial basis.

The "interested citizen" objected to Ferguson's appointment because he is not a resident of Beverly Hills.

Council President Marvin B. Cline answered that qualified resident had applied for the job. He explained that the council preferred a village resident and that any interested resident could apply.

"A PROPERTY OWNER for instance" who was spending his own tax money would be ideal for the work," Cline stated. Other non-residents have been hired for Village positions because no qualified Beverly Hills people have applied.

Ferguson, 44, an accountant, is married and the father of two children. The position of village office manager carries a salary of \$550 a month.

CLINE STRESSED that any resident who applies for a village position will be considered and applications will be kept on file for future jobs.

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