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# The Birmingham Eccentric

85th YEAR—NO. 40 56 PAGES AND SUPPLEMENT BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, DECEMBER 6, 1962 SECTION A  
The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly



10 CENTS

## City to Buy Land for Chester Widening

### 4-Lane Pavement Is First Project In CBDD Plan

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

City commissioners took a long step Monday night toward the widening and paving of Chester St. from Martin to Brown in downtown Birmingham.

They authorized the city manager to negotiate for options for necessary right-of-way easements, commensurate with appraisals the City has obtained.

### Seek Action On Business District Plan

When is something going to be done on the Central Business District Development Plan? Birmingham city commissioners were, in effect, asked this question Monday night.

Walter R. Denison, chairman of the Birmingham Planning Board, said the planners "have become concerned over the seeming lack of progress on the first stage" of that plan.

"The extension of the Jacobson's main store and the projected plans of Peabody's Store," said Denison in his letter to the commission this week, "indicate that some of the merchants assume that the peripheral route stage of the plan will not be completed, or at least that they are not waiting for it."

"Our members considered at length the plans which we recommended to you and hope that they will be implemented. We would further appreciate an official expression on this matter."

COMMISSIONERS accepted Mayor Florence H. Willett's suggestion to set up a "brainstorming" session with several groups in the city.

These groups, she said, all "are concerned about the same as the plan board." All have about the same goals.

She suggested that a joint session be held between the commission (See ACTION, 8-A)

"PLANS CALL for removal of the existing sidewalks along Chester and for construction of new five-foot walks on each side of the street.

Killen said the project will necessitate removal of about 23 trees, but the cost estimate includes planting of 21 four-inch-diameter trees.

He said further that although no necessity was found earlier this year for the proposed Chester-Wallace relief sewer, he still believes a branch of it is needed in Chester St.

This should be constructed before the street is paved, Killen noted. It would mean an additional cost of \$10,000.

PART OF Killen's plan includes the Birmingham Board of Education marking lot in the block between Martin and Merrill.

It is parallel to and just west of the west right-of-way line of Chester. Killen pointed out; and the lot has a grade that is higher than the proposed Chester pavement.

Thus, the lot should be replaced at lower elevation, Killen said. The estimated \$6,000 cost of the change, necessitated by the Chester project, might properly be included in the cost of the entire project, he felt.

MAILED IN PLACE  
Santa's special North Pole mailbox is in its usual place in front of Kresge's according to Charles Mortenson of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. The box is located at the corner of W. Maple and Henrietta.

ALL makes of linear spring mattresses are made in Birmingham, Ala. by the Mattress Company, 11 S. 4000.

Get Extra Christmas Cash!  
Use the Gift Suggestion Column To Sell Those Unused Trains, toys, cameras, etc.  
CALL MIDWEST 4-1100  
(A friendly advisor of The Eccentric will help you word your classified ad.)

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### Community Feels Grief As Boys Die in Crash

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

Tragedy struck the Birmingham area at 8:30 p.m. Saturday.

Two Barnum teen-agers were killed and another youth was critically injured when their speeding convertible crashed into a tree in Bloomfield Township.

Dead on arrival at William Beaumont Hospital were John C. Krauss, 15, of 1800 W. Lincoln, and Paul H. Droege, 14, of 1590 Fairfax, both of Birmingham.

Still in critical condition at Beaumont but "improving" is Dean Gebro, 14, of 1474 Pierce, Birmingham.

meeting he said, "it is not very often that a community like ours is hit with a tragedy such as this."

The commission authorized the mayor to write a letter of sympathy to the families.

At Barnum, where the boys were all ninth-graders, the flag was lowered to half-mast. The student council collected money to send flowers to the boys' families.

EXACT DETAILS of the accident may never be known. Police, however, released these details:

The car, which belonged to John's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Krauss, was taken without permission. None of the boys were old enough to have a driver's license.

Police said the 1962 model car must have been traveling at least 60 miles an hour when the boys approached the dead-end of E. Lincoln at E. Bradford.

The speeding auto jumped a curb, plowed through a field for 90 feet and crashed into a tree. Tire marks indicated that the driver hit the brakes about 70 feet from the end of the road.

### Assn. Wants Lincoln Road Section Closed

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ALTHOUGH THEY are not sure, police believe that the Krauss boy was driving. Motorists who think they saw the speeding auto on W. Maple about 15 minutes before the accident said they thought the driver was wearing glasses.

Observers at the scene described the accident as a mass of twisted metal.

The Gebro boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Gebro, suffered fractures of the neck, skull, jaw, arm and leg. Police think that Dean was in the back seat. A safety belt he apparently was wearing was torn loose from its mountings.

### City Building, Library OK'd For Shelters

The Birmingham Municipal Building and Baldwin Library have been declared acceptable for public fallout shelters.

City commissioners Monday night authorized the mayor to sign standard license forms required by the Federal Government.

After the signed licenses are received by the Army Corps of Engineers, the City will be furnished with standard signs to identify buildings and specific shelter areas. Also, emergency supplies for stocking shelter areas will be furnished.

Meeting Monday night, the nine-man board of the subdivision association passed two resolutions. One urged the Oakland County Road Commission to "act favorably upon the petition now pending to close part of Lincoln Road."

The second resolution condemned the township board for its "arbitrary and unilateral action in opposition to the petition for closing Lincoln Road."

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SERVICES FOR Paul were held Monday in the Bell Chapel of the William R. Hamilton Co. Cremation followed at White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery.

Paul is survived by his parents; a sister, Susan; and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell D. Hedges, of Vero Beach, Fla. John is survived by his parents, a brother, Airman 2/C Thomas E. Krauss; and grandparents, Mrs. Marion Wilde of Yucla, Calif., and Hansen S. Purdy of Dade City, Fla. Services were held Tuesday at Christ Church Cranbrook. Arrangements were handled by the Hamilton Co. Cremation at White Chapel followed the church service.

### Motel Zoning Views Mixed

By SAVILLA SLOAN  
Special Writer

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — The Bloomfield Township Planning Commission took up and advised two controversial zoning requests after holding public hearings on proposed rezoning Monday night.

Decisions on its recommendations will be forthcoming at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting, Jan. 7, chairman Chad Richie informed the more than 150 residents who attended the three-hour session.

Involved are the Danto property on Woodward south of Big Beaver and the Thompson property on Maple east of Telegraph. Both zoning requests ask for a change from O-1 (office building) to B-3 (general business).

THE REZONING of the Woodward property was debated at the hearing by John Gilray, representing the property owners, and Harold Stier, 2685 Lamplighter Lane, speaking for residents opposed to the rezoning.

Before 1960, juvenile offenders were placed on probation to the motel.

HE SAID that statistics compiled by the 15 communities in the county that now have such a program "indicate a decrease in the number of court cases since inception of the program."

He added, "A study of our own statistics tends to support this reaction."

Before 1960, juvenile offenders were placed on probation to the motel.

NO COMMENT on the second resolution was forthcoming from Township Supervisor Arno Hulet who said he would have to make a copy of it for presentation to the township board before having a statement.

Sol. D. Lomerson of the road commission said, "Of course, a lot of that is a matter of opinion. We like to do what we can to help and it may be necessary to put speed control signs in there but that would take study. A 25 miles per hour speed limit under state law is automatically in effect there."

A PETITION for vacating Lincoln between Windham Lane and E. Breckenridge was filed by Westchester residents before the Oakland County Road Commission in November.

It has been the subject of controversy between residents of the subdivision and the township board. At its meeting Nov. 15, the township board (See LINCOLN, 2-A)

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### 'For Men Only'

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

The men took over Birmingham Monday night.

Several thousand male residents of the area filled the downtown streets as the Birmingham merchants staged their 11th annual Men's Night.

Christmas music filled the air as small groups of men, taking advantage of the spring-like weather, went from store to store seeking gifts for their favorite ladies.

First reports from merchants indicate that the night was a huge success. Jacobson's Woman's Apparel Shop on W. Maple had 2,320 members of the male gender pass through the doors.

A FEW of the ladies were seen in the downtown area but after disappearing glances from the men they slipped quietly away.

A women's fine fashion store featured an organist who played almost anything from Christmas carols to Broadway melodies. At the B. Siegel-Kay Cooley store the 80-voice, all-girl Mercy College Choir entertained the customers.

SEVERAL MEN who were obviously having trouble determining their wife's sizes, were seen frantically hunting a model who would fill the bill.

At several stores on Pierce St.

teen-ager musicians provided popular music to shop by. One store, The Prep Shop, put the talented teens in the window.

Men's stores on the whole were nearly empty. One establishment, however, on Woodward was jammed about 9:30 p.m.

"I guess they just came in here to take a breather," quipped the owner.

TOY STORES also got a big workout.

On N. Woodward, Birmingham Fire Department Capt. Dick Nunally set up the city's civil defense truck and staged rescue demonstrations.

Men's Night, which has become a Birmingham tradition, besides being a sort of open house, kicked off the holiday season for local businessmen. Many of the stores will continue their evening shopping hours until after Christmas.

Sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and conducted through the chamber's Retail Merchants Division, the event found 108 stores participating.

Larry Healy of B. Siegel-Kay Cooley headed the Men's Night committee. Others on the committee were Wilbur Mason, Jacobson's; Ethel Wisely, EB Shops; Frank Mulholland, F. J. Mulholland Co.; Violet Joseph, Himehock's; Aaron Kereschenbaum, Kay Baum's.

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SEVERAL THOUSAND Birmingham-Bloomfield area male residents filled the downtown area Monday night as the merchants staged their annual "Men's Night" sale. A few females were seen in the stores but usually disappeared quickly after disappearing glances from the men. Refreshments, good music and pretty models helped to make the evening a pleasant one for the area's men.



THERE WAS a lot of hard work involved in the staging of "Men's Night." The Junior Chamber of Commerce, under the direction of Robert Thom (above) decorated most of the store fronts in the downtown area. A new feature this Christmas season were the tiny windmills displayed on the Little Leaf Lindens that line the downtown streets.



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PAUL H. DROEGE



JOHN KRAUSS



DEAN GEBRO



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP Police Chief Norman Dehne stands before the smashed convertible that took the lives of two Birmingham teen-agers and critically injured another Saturday night. Dehne said that the accident was the worst he has ever seen in 17 years as a police officer.



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### Suggest Youth Assistance Program Here

A Youth Assistance Program is being recommended for Birmingham, it was revealed this week.

St. Robert Schulte of the Juvenile Division of the Birmingham Police Dept. recommended this action in a written report submitted to the city administration.

He outlined a possible program that could be set up here. It would be similar to the one advocated by the Oakland County Probate Court.

As City Manager L. R. Gare pointed out Monday night, Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore had proposed two years ago that Birmingham establish a youth protective service under guidance of his court. This proposal was supported by the North Oakland Planning Division of the United Community Services.

PURPOSE OF the service is to reduce juvenile appearances in court.

Under the county program, two local committees are appointed. One, a General Citizens' Committee, performs general administrative and management functions.

The other, composed of professional people, handles accounting, screening, diagnostic and referral functions.

According to Gare, "The judiciary, UCS and Birmingham Police Dept. are in agreement that such a service is needed and would be of immeasurable value."

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