

# The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM

MICHIGAN

BEVERLY HILLS • BINGHAM FARMS • FRANKLIN • WOOD CREEK • LATHRUP • BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • NORTH ADAMS • SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD CITY

## B'field Planners Express Need For Civic Center

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — Development of a civic and cultural center for Bloomfield Township should be a long range major community goal, the Township Planning Commission reported this week.

WITH THE approval by the Township to acquire 19 acres, total area of 49.8 acres will be owned by the Township and Bloomfield Hills School District. The school district has a 35.4-acre site occupied by its high school and administration offices.

EXISTING FACILITIES in the community service complex now include the Bloomfield Township administrative offices, fire and police station, a new maintenance building now under construction, and the Bloomfield Hills High School and Board of Education administrative offices.

BLOOMFIELD Township's present population of more than 28,000 is expected to triple in 10 years ahead. According to the Planning Commission report, the increased population level would require expanded community facilities.

A PLANNING Commission master plan study has recommended that the land be acquired in advance of development and set aside for proper planning. A step in this direction was taken by the Township Board and voters in a referendum within the last few years.

## W. B'field Man Hurt in Accident As 4 Cars Crash

WEST BLOOMFIELD—A town-ship resident was injured last Thursday afternoon in a four-car accident on Orchard Lake Road at W. Maple.

JAMES TENNISON, 41, of Detroit, told police he was driving south on Orchard Lake when he saw Westcott's car come at him across the center line.

WESTCOTT'S car then hit another vehicle, driven by Mrs. Leona Fecca, 50, of Nankin Township, Mrs. Fecca said she slowed when she saw Westcott's car hit Tennison and approach her vehicle on the wrong side of the road.

ELLIOTT, chairman of the Local Government Committee at the Constitutional Convention in Lansing, invites any resident of the fifth district to attend the breakfast conference. Time will be reserved for audience participation in a question and answer session.

## Elliott to Discuss Con-Con on Saturday

Con-Con delegate from the fifth district Arthur G. Elliott Jr., will hold another "date with friends" breakfast at a Saturday at Howard Johnsons Restaurant, 13 Mile and Woodward.



"Mess time," says chimpanzee and television star Bongo Bailey as he samples chow with his owner, B'wana Don (Don Hunt) at the latter's home of Pleasant Trail, Bongo, who consented to an exclusive interview with Birmingham Eccentric staffer Irma Davis—provided she would break bananas with him at the dinner table—is shown here getting a very important point across. He's explaining to her why another chimp was the first African to go into orbit.

## Chimp No Chump, Writer Says After Dinner Date With Bongo

By IRMA N. DAVIS Staff Writer

CRANBROOK VILLAGE—Man, if you want to try something new, try dining with a chimpanzee.

I did, one evening last week, and I must say I learned some new refinements as far as table manners are concerned—this chimp was the politer.

His name is Bongo Bailey and what he doesn't know about humans, you could wrap in an empty banana peel.

THE CHIMP and his human pal co-star in a daily television show on WJBK. As part of that contract, Bongo spends two weekends a month at the Hunt family's Cranbrook Village home on Pleasant Trail. In return, he plays Bongo Drum—hence, his name—and performs assorted stunts.

"HE SAYS HE began his association with me in 1959—when I needed a stooge for a show I was doing for the Ferndale Kiwanis. We visit hospitals and orphanages as part of the club's

## S'field Vets Groups' Program to Observe Brotherhood Week

SOUTHFIELD — The veterans organizations of Southfield will host Thursday in observance of Brotherhood Week.

Representatives of Southfield's American Legion, Jewish War Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars will meet at 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Michigan Bell Telephone Building, 23000 Northwestern.



## To Start Building Medical Village in Beverly

BEVERLY HILLS—Ground breaking is slated this week for the \$650,000 Medical Village Inc. on Southfield Road just south of Beverly Road. Plans call for office space for 25 doctors in six individual buildings and a central structure to house a prescription pharmacy, x-ray and laboratory facilities and a hearing aid service.

## Franklin Post Office A Stamping Ground For Handy Service

FRANKLIN — The village post office has unofficially added another new—and rather unorthodox—service to its roster.

THE SERVICE is dispensed from behind the counter by young Fred Davis who assists the post office staff. He has a flair for picking just the right rubber stamp to adorn youngsters who give him the backs of their hands—literally, but figuratively.

ALL VERY FINE, say the mothers—BUT how do you get the kids to wash their paws afterward. Seems they consider something to "handle with Care."

## Motorist Discovers House Fire; Set Damage at \$16,800

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — A passing motorist reported a fire at Sunday afternoon in Bloomfield Township's four-level home at 4700 W. Maple.

THE AREA included in the water extension plans includes the area south of 18 Mile Road from Evergreen to the village limits, including laterals throughout the township from Beverly to 14 Mile Road.

BEVERLY HILLS — Plans for the extension of water mains into the western part of the village continued Monday when council members asked for bids on the work by 4 p.m. March 9.

THE BIDS will be opened prior to the hearing on assessments. With the exact contract price, residents can be accurately told what they will owe, rather than an estimated figure.

THE COUNCIL members and civic leaders are making a concerted effort to schedule "cottage conferences" in neighborhoods.

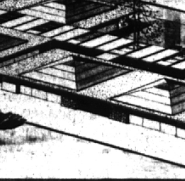
## W. B'field Man Hurt in Accident As 4 Cars Crash

WEST BLOOMFIELD—A town-ship resident was injured last Thursday afternoon in a four-car accident on Orchard Lake Road at W. Maple.

JAMES TENNISON, 41, of Detroit, told police he was driving south on Orchard Lake when he saw Westcott's car come at him across the center line.

WESTCOTT'S car then hit another vehicle, driven by Mrs. Leona Fecca, 50, of Nankin Township, Mrs. Fecca said she slowed when she saw Westcott's car hit Tennison and approach her vehicle on the wrong side of the road.

ELLIOTT, chairman of the Local Government Committee at the Constitutional Convention in Lansing, invites any resident of the fifth district to attend the breakfast conference. Time will be reserved for audience participation in a question and answer session.



## To Start Building Medical Village in Beverly

BEVERLY HILLS—Ground breaking is slated this week for the \$650,000 Medical Village Inc. on Southfield Road just south of Beverly Road. Plans call for office space for 25 doctors in six individual buildings and a central structure to house a prescription pharmacy, x-ray and laboratory facilities and a hearing aid service.

## Meet to Discuss Sewer Program For Franklin

FRANKLIN — Ten men met Thursday night at an exploratory discussion aimed at proposing a sewer program in Franklin some time in May at a special election.

Called by Village President Calvert Thomas, the group included Councilmembers Robert I. Roberts, Mitchell, Richard Oberhelmer, Sanitation and drainage Committee Chairman Robert Wood Engineer Frank Webster. Also present were J. J. Alexander and Don Ringler of Oakland county's DPW; bonding attorney Claude Stevens and Louis Schimmel, financing expert.

THE COUNCIL was advised to propose an amendment to the charter which would remove sewer from present limitations.

ONE PROVIDES for a "hunting license" the right to ultimately use the system with mains connected to the Rouge Valley run. The other concept: a total package including laterals throughout the village with revenue districts determined by ordinance.

## To Ask for Bids On Water Work In Beverly Hills

BEVERLY HILLS — Plans for the extension of water mains into the western part of the village continued Monday when council members asked for bids on the work by 4 p.m. March 9.

THE BIDS will be opened prior to the hearing on assessments. With the exact contract price, residents can be accurately told what they will owe, rather than an estimated figure.

THE COUNCIL members and civic leaders are making a concerted effort to schedule "cottage conferences" in neighborhoods.

## W. B'field Friends Back Library-Wayne Plans

WEST BLOOMFIELD—A resolution approving affiliation of West Bloomfield Township Library with Wayne County Library system was unanimously passed by the board of directors of Friends of the Library at the February meeting.

SERVICES OFFERED by Wayne County Library in the contract are: a complete study of the library materials, provision of a full-time trained librarian, books on loan from the main library, clerical and bookkeeping assistance.

THE LOCAL library would pay a fee of \$5,000. The fee would be paid in full from savings made through use of the services.

BEFORE PASSING the resolution approving the proposed contract, Friends of the Library board members made a study of the Wayne County library facilities and the services offered to the township library.

THEIR letter to township board members states, "It is our unanimous conclusion that this proposed contractual arrangement would provide the patrons of the West Bloomfield Library with greatly increased book resources, trained li-

## S'field Road Widening Discussion Continues

LATHRUP—A preliminary construction agreement and letter from the county road commission on proposed widening of Southfield Road were discussed by Council Monday night.

ROAD design and storm water drainage conditions were included in the discussion. The construction agreement submitted by the road commission would need further defining, council decided.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Jerald Stone was directed to arrange a meeting of council with road commission representatives to discuss road design and the contract agreements.

THE COUNCIL was advised to propose an amendment to the charter which would remove sewer from present limitations.

ONE PROVIDES for a "hunting license" the right to ultimately use the system with mains connected to the Rouge Valley run. The other concept: a total package including laterals throughout the village with revenue districts determined by ordinance.

## Highway Dept. to Modernize 15 Miles of M-218 in County

LANSING—The Michigan State Highway Department last week announced a \$500,000 project of modernization of nearly 15 miles of M-218 between Pontiac and Wixom, Oakland County.

Under the Highway Department proposal, the present pavement would be widened to 44 feet to provide four 11-foot wide lanes.

At the same time they are aware that complete control of our library would remain with the West Bloomfield Township Library Board.

PLANS FOR a concerted drive for new members were also made by the Friends held at the February meeting. Mrs. Robert Myers, 5001 Middlefield Road, is chairman of members, which is open to all citizens of this area.

THE TWO COUNCIL candidates getting the highest number of votes in the April election will hold the position during the remainder of the year.

LATHRUP — Three incumbent council members will run uncontested in the April 2 election.

Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Mitchell and Councilman John Kohl and Vincent Zetell filed for office. Nominating petitions were received by the petition drive ending Monday afternoon from Arley Van Meer, 1990 Sun Joop, Mrs. Martin Humphrey, 17500 Coral Gables.

FRANKLIN—Partial relocation of Franklin Road at Northwestern and 12 Mile Road is being planned by the State Highway Department when construction of the Northwestern extension, including the north section, begins this summer.

LATHRUP-proposed curbed divider strips in the center of Southfield Road a serious hazard. Also unfavorable, from the county view, is the Lathrup-favored suggestion of left turns at every other cross street if the center raised curb is left. In this case, the county wants left turns allowed only through intermediate streets and at 11 and 12 Mile Roads.

THE COMMISSION also proposed putting a limit on Lathrup's share of the total cost at \$90,000.

On storm sewer drainage construction, Stone said there are 33 crossings of sewer lines on Southfield Road, under the city's storm sewer plan. Stone said he and Ray Smit of Ayras, Lewis, Norris and



THE EXISTING roadway has two nine-foot wide lanes. The \$500,000 project would also include construction of curb and gutter and the installation of storm sewer.

Mackie said a sharp curve in front of the old Keego Harbor High School would also be straightened out during reconstruction.

THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT said the widening of M-218 between Pontiac and Commerce Road would help relieve congestion on the narrow highway.

Mackie said an average of 9,000 to 12,000 vehicles a day use this stretch of highway and that sharp increases in traffic are expected during the next 10 years.

The Highway Department said only small amounts of right-of-way would be required for the project.

Anyone desiring a public hearing on the proposed project bearing on the proposed project is requested to contact Frank P. Simmons, (See HIGHWAY, 2-E)

PLANS FOR a concerted drive for new members were also made by the Friends held at the February meeting. Mrs. Robert Myers, 5001 Middlefield Road, is chairman of members, which is open to all citizens of this area.

THE TWO COUNCIL candidates getting the highest number of votes in the April election will hold the position during the remainder of the year.

LATHRUP — Three incumbent council members will run uncontested in the April 2 election.

Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Mitchell and Councilman John Kohl and Vincent Zetell filed for office. Nominating petitions were received by the petition drive ending Monday afternoon from Arley Van Meer, 1990 Sun Joop, Mrs. Martin Humphrey, 17500 Coral Gables.

FRANKLIN—Partial relocation of Franklin Road at Northwestern and 12 Mile Road is being planned by the State Highway Department when construction of the Northwestern extension, including the north section, begins this summer.

A state highway department representative, Frank P. Simmons, said the plans are subject to change.

AS PRESENTLY planned, the relocation will be at the point where Franklin crosses Northwestern, south of 12 Mile Road. It will take a southeast bend to the north of 12 Mile, cross the latter road, a few blocks east of Northwestern and then cross Northwestern on an overpass, just southeast of 12 Mile.

FRANKLIN NOW runs south to Northwestern on 12 Mile, then proceeds down onto Angling Road, jogging at 11 Mile, west of Telegraph. At this point Franklin turns east after crossing Telegraph and continues 10 1/2 Mile Road. A block of Franklin road ends at Evergreen Road.

May, city engineers, had worked out alternate coordination plans with the commission.

THE PLANS would solve possible delay of road widening by better sewer construction, pending settlement of a suit against Lathrup by Louise Lathrup Kelley.

Stone said the plan provides that Lathrup construct the Southfield Road sewer line crossings before road widening begins, if possible.

Barring this, the county will construct the sewer lines as a separate project, using the Lathrup plan, and be reimbursed later out of the Lathrup storm sewer bond issue.

(See WIDENING, 5-E)