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# The Birmingham Centric

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SECTION A



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The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

## Vigilance Tax Committee to Meet in B'ham

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

Birmingham residents will have a chance Saturday to express their opinions on the Vigilance Tax Committee and its fight against Detroit's income tax.

The reason: a meeting of the committee in the Mary Griffith Room on the second floor of the Community House at 37-a, at 10 a.m.

Open to the public, the meeting is another in a series of the committee has been holding the past several Saturdays to acquaint sub-

urban officials, and residents with its fund-raising drive.

Money is sought to support its suit against Detroit's tax on non-Detroit residents.

**MAYOR FLORENCE H. WILLET** was authorized by city commissioners Monday night to confer with Berkeley Mayor George Kubu, chairman of the vigilance group, to set up the local meeting.

Commissioners felt this would be "a good opportunity" for residents to express themselves on the tax and to make known their views on the extent Birmingham should par-

ticipate in the vigilance movement.

Last week, commissioners voted to contribute \$250 toward the cost of conducting the suit in Wayne Circuit Court.

This week, they debated whether to increase that amount but held their decision in abeyance pending the Saturday meeting.

As one commissioner put it later, "We want to learn citizen reaction, interest and concern. We will not increase our donation until we see whether the citizens are concerned."

DEBATE on the subject started

Monday night when a citizen, Richard L. Isbell of 723 Ridgelande, asked "to what extent" the City of Birmingham was participating in the Vigilance Tax Committee.

The committee is a group of suburban officials seeing to utilize the combined efforts and resources of their communities to nullify Detroit's income tax on non-residents, had been asked by Kubu whether Birmingham would sponsor a meeting of the committee at the Community House.

She said the committee plans to start a three-point program on

June 18: 1) solicitation of funds from the public at key intersections, 2) placement of canisters in business establishments and 3) a door-to-door campaign.

**THE PLAN** calls for public officials to solicit funds.

You mean, city officials standing on corners soliciting funds?

Count me out on that!" declared Commissioner William H. Burgum.

Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham said there were "some doubts in my mind" as to whether Birming-

ham should participate in the vigilance group.

He referred to "some of the antics of the vigilance committee" and said he felt "we shouldn't join them."

**INGRAHAM** favored increasing the City's amount of contribution to assist in the legal costs, opposed taking any official part in the committee.

Mayor Willet said that if all of the participating communities increased their donations, "we would not need citizen contribution."

Ingraham said he was "sur-

prised" at the amount contributed by cities more directly affected by the tax — "they stand to be hit harder than our city."

Mayor Willet said several residents had suggested to her that "we take a stronger stand than we have to date."

(The commission has adopted a resolution opposing any kind of income tax on non-residents and made its views known to the state legislature and Detroit.)

"I SHARED the concern of the commission with the antics of the (SEE COMMITTEE, 7-A)

### OK Contributions To Tax Group

Both Bloomfield and West Bloomfield Township boards have voted to contribute to the fund being raised by the Vigilance Tax Committee of Michigan. Bloomfield's board voted a contribution of \$200 at its meeting Monday night. West Bloomfield's board decided on \$50 at its meeting last week.



Among the key people locking up plans for the fifth annual Birmingham Arts Festival are (from left) General Chairman "Colin H. Himehloch" of the Bloomfield Hills, Robert B. Bender, festival art market chairman; and Mrs. Charles Himelhoch, composer of the music for Coffin's "The Bloomingham Newcomers." The four are met for a conference Saturday at the Coffin home.

### LEE WINS IN HILLS

## Barnard, Hollingshead For Election Elected in Birmingham

One incumbent and one newcomer were elected to the Birmingham board of education, and an incumbent in the Bloomfield Hills School District was re-elected Monday.

Incumbent Richard Barnard, 26550 Wellington, Franklin, and re-elected 859 in the Bloomfield Hills. Fell Hollingshead, 189 Argyle, Birmingham, won the race for two places on the Birmingham board.

Present Board President David W. Lee of Pennington Drive was re-elected trustee for the Bloomfield Hills Board.

**VOTING MACHINES** were used for the first time in Birmingham and the results of the election were tabulated in one hour and 15 minutes. Usual time in the past has been three to four hours.

Barnard and Hollingshead will be sworn in July 1.

**IN BIRMINGHAM**, approximately 4,018 votes were cast by 2,390 voters in the night turnout that still surpassed school administration expectations.

Hollingshead received the most votes, 1819, while present board

### Police Advise Bike Riders: 'Safety First'

Bicycle-riding can be fun, says the Birmingham Police Department, if cyclists remember bicycles are subject to vehicle laws.

Parents should remind their children to be careful, courteous and considerate, says Lt. Robert Schaule.

### Crackdown Continues On 'Hunter Racers'; Offenders Face Jail

Continuing his crackdown on traffic violators, Birmingham Municipal Judge John C. Emery Jr. fined Frank C. Hill \$100 and six days in jail.

Hill, 26, of 3984 Bolina, Berkeley, was arrested for racing on Hunter and found guilty Wednesday. It was his second violation and followed a similar violation in March.

Jerry R. Poillon, 19, of 10119 W. 11 Mile Road, Huntington Woods, was arrested for racing on Hunter. He was fined \$75.

Judge Emery said he intends to both fine and sentence second offense violators. Depending on the circumstances, first offenders also may face jail and fines, he said.

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## All Systems 'Go For Arts Festival

**Festive air for downtown B'ham, 1-D**

The Arts Festival which Birmingham tossed into Michigan cultural pools is rounding out a bigger circle each year.

In 1962 the 10th annual Birmingham Arts Festival has attracted the largest number of art entries in the history of the event.

## Reach Accord On B'field Hills Zoning

**By WALLY FROMHART Staff Writer**

**BLOOMFIELD**—City Commissioners reached a unanimous Tuesday night on the proposed new zoning ordinance.

The ordinance, presented to the commission May 8, was tabled for future study at that time. Differences among commissioners about increases in height and density of multiple structures was given as the reason for postponing the decision.

Vilcan-Leman & Associates, planning consultants, drew up the ordinance to amend the village charter and open the way for sewers in Franklin—has been changed from Aug. 7 to Sept. 10.

The action was taken because the council cannot legally approve resolution to put the matter to the ballot until July 16. Other mechanical steps involved in preparing the proposal for the voters' special election.

The resolution will permit Chapter 14 of the charter to be amended, with a provision for acquisition, permitting the council to enter into contract with the Evergreen Interceptor authority.

An 8-MILL road construction contract for \$3,897 was awarded to Stolaruk Asphalt Paving, Inc., Oak Park, lowest of eight bidders. Other bids on the 1962-63 contract ranged up to \$53,716. The work is to be done within 90 days, on roads between Franklin and Inkster and from Seemie to 12 1/2 Mile and Rosemond.

A petition to have Evelyn and Franklin courts, from Franklin to 14 Mile roads, black-topped was filed with the council.

(SEE ELECTION, 2-A)

## Date Changed

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## County Gets Petition To Save Giant Tree

**By MIKE SKINNER Staff Writer**

A 30-foot oak tree at the Pon Valley Road and Lone Pine St. intersection in Bloomfield Township is the subject of controversy these days.

The Oakland County Road Commission says it plans on expanding Lone Pine St. another 22-24 feet, starting today. The tree is 11 feet from the street, and the road commission says it must go.

However, Mrs. Bessie Griswold, 5015 Pon Valley, has a signed petition that opposes the removal of the tree. There are 18 signatories on the petition, including those of members of nine families.

**THE TREE** IS 250-300 years old and therefore should be saved, according to Mrs. Griswold. She says Lone Pine St. should be diverted around the tree.

The Oakland County Road Commission says the street expansion is needed to help take care of underground utilities, such as telephone lines, sewers and water lines.

Mrs. Griswold has questioned the

## County Gets Petition To Save Giant Tree

validity of this claim. She has hired an attorney, Ernest C. Huthwaite, Pontiac, for counsel.

"Whatever action is taken here depends on Mrs. Griswold," Huthwaite said Tuesday.

**MRS. GRISWOLD** met with road commission officials Monday night to discuss the matter.

"Mrs. Griswold's attorney suggested she hire an engineer to survey the area and report to the road commission," Huthwaite said.

Hilled M. Thatcher, chairman of the Oakland department of public works, said, "If she does hire an engineer, he is supposed to report to the road commission this morning," Thatcher said.

**THE CONTROVERSY** started at the Bloomfield Township meeting on May 28 when Mrs. Griswold offered to buy the land where the tree is standing.

However, she was told by Arno Hulet, Bloomfield Township treasurer, that the land could not be sold by the township because it is owned by Oakland County.

## Voters Nix Pool; Approve Millage

**By SAVILLA SLOAN Staff Writer**

A continuance of taxes already voted for the operation of schools for another 15 years? YES. Extra millage for a raise in teacher pay? YES. A bond issue to build a swimming pool at the high school? NO.

This was the verdict of Bloomfield Hills School District voters at Monday's school election.

Some 2,600 voters, a third of the district's registration, went to the polls to vote on the three proposals on the ballot.

**PROPOSITION ONE**, renewal of seven mills of additionally-voted taxes already in existence, for another 15 years, passed by a total vote of 1,524 to 979.

It received a majority vote in six of the seven school precincts. It was opposed in Hickory Grove precinct by a 189 to 157 vote, and narrowly squeaked by in Vaughn precinct by a four-vote margin.

**PROPOSITION TWO**, a \$500,000 bond issue, spread over a 28-year repayment period, was defeated by 1,423 to 1,122 votes. It was a second refusal by voters to provide a swimming pool in the school district, having been defeated two years ago by a seven-to-one vote.

It received a majority vote in only two of the precincts—Eastover and Pine Lake.

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## Community House Board Elects Wiant

**Thoburn H. Wiant, 4331 Karen Lane, Bloomfield Hills, has been re-elected president of the Community House Board for 1962-63.**

Wiant, vice president, account supervisor and administrative manager of the Detroit office of Young & Rubicam, Inc., was unanimously re-elected by the Community House Board of Directors.

**OTHER OFFICERS** elected are Robert A. Thom, 6160 West Surrey, 18875 Bedford, secretary, and Francis M. Fisher, 2122 Derby, treasurer.

**THE EXHIBITION** and the festival art market will be open from 10 p.m. and during intermission during the festival.

Mrs. Robert B. Bender, art market chairman, said about 1,400 items have been submitted for the art market. The total was higher than last year's 1,000 entries.

**THE ART MARKET** will be set up on the lower level at the Art Center. Most of the items to be offered for sale are priced at under \$20.

Mrs. Bender said a small percentage of items submitted have been rejected, but that "the overall quality of the paintings, sculpture, rings and jewelry, ceramics, enameled copper and other items is excellent."

**AS THE 60-member cast** of "The Bloomingham Newcomers" moved into its last week of intensive rehearsal, the Detroit director of a Freedom Festival presentation made plans to feature one of the musical comedy's original songs.

Producer Roland Sharette, producer of "Freedom Songs" to be presented at 8:30 p.m. July 2 and 3 at the Civic Center Amphitheater, Detroit, said his cast was rehearsing "The Newcomers" number, "Song of Detroit."

The song will be sung by baritone Tom Brown, accompanied by the 60-voice Civic Center chorus and the 20-piece orchestra of Paul LaPointe.

"The Bloomingham Newcomers" will be presented at 8:30 nightly during the Arts Festival, in the big green dome to be presented in the Art Center. Show time Sunday will be 7:30 p.m.

**OTHER FEATURES** of the fifth annual Arts Festival will be Children's Day on Saturday, June 23. Special activities for the day include playlets to be presented in the dome at 2 p.m. by Cranbrook Summer Theatre School performers.

A tour of artists' studios features the workshops of seven Birmingham area artists who will open their doors to visitors Friday, June 22, from 1 to 5 p.m.

Tickets for "The Bloomingham Newcomers" and the studio tour are now on sale at Grinnell's in Birmingham. Studio tour tickets are also available now at Green's, Smiley Brothers Music Stores, Wilson Drug, Little Gallery, the Village Bookshelf and The Birmingham Art Center.

## Study Plan To Intervene In Lawsuit

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night referred to the plan board a request to intervene in a zoning suit involving Bloomfield Township.

The suit, Cranbrook Realty vs. the township, seeks to force the rezoning of property at Adams and Big Beaver roads from single residential family to commercial, to permit construction of a shopping center.

City Attorney Dean Beier said that his firm—Howlett, Hartman & Beier of Pontiac—has been retained by property owners of the vicinity and that they have been allowed to intervene in the suit.

**BEIER SAID** that if Birmingham intervenes, the City would not be expected to share in the firm's fees. But there would be costs incurred that could run as high as \$3,000.

"What is our interest?" asked Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham. "Birmingham directly abuts this property," replied Beier.

He also said that there would be a problem of traffic and that the Birmingham school area would be involved.

"When would we intervene?" asked Commissioner Charles Renfrew.

"Immediately would not be too soon," Beier declared.

**COMMISSIONER** Ralph A. Main moved to authorize the attorney to intervene with 25 per cent participation in cost. He was supported by Commissioner Robert Page.

But Renfrew was concerned about intervening when no previous official position or action had been taken by the commission or plan board on the rezoning request.

Ingraham's motion to refer the matter to the plan board carried unanimously.

The North Adams Association has called a meeting for 8 p.m. Tuesday at Northminster Presbyterian Church on Big Beaver to hear a report from the legal firm on the progress of the intervenors' suit.

## E. Maple Widening: 'Curbing' Problem

Keep in mind the problem of the curbs, said Commissioner William H. Burgum in reference to the proposed widening of E. Maple in Birmingham.

The curbs are in poor condition and must be replaced, he emphasized at the outset of discussion Monday night on a report on a plan to widen E. Maple from Adams to Coolidge.

Widening of the road is part of the Oakland County Road Commission's \$7 million, three-year road improvement program to coincide with the completion of freeway construction in the county.

**COMMISSIONERS** authorized City Manager L. R. Gare to negotiate with the road commission on Burgum's suggestion to widen the street to these widths:

- Adams to Columbia (now 34 feet) to 40 feet.
- Columbia to the railroad viaduct (now 40) to 42 feet.
- Viaduct to Edensorburg (now 40) to 44 feet.
- Edensorburg to Coolidge (now 20) to 41 feet.

Also included is the recommendation to replace any trees that have to be removed with trees of five- or six-inch diameter, as suggested by the forestry department.

## Mrs. Duck Finds Home for Family

A wild duck has set up house keeping in the middle of Balwyn Park and is currently busily engaged in raising seven young ducklings.

Mrs. Duck chose a choice lot in the center of the park to build her home. City authorities, led by Chuck Gale, superintendent of parks and forestry, have thus far cooperated with Mrs. Duck in changing the zoning ordinances to fit her needs.

Monday, the city constructed a fence around the Duck home to keep out the curious and keep in the ducks.

All makes of inner spring mattresses required One-way service ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for Enterprise 610.

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