



### Whose Who

Registering her sculptured garden owls for the festival art market is Mrs. J. K. Esler (right) of 708 Larchlea, Birmingham, who is signed in at the Birmingham Art Center by Mrs. Hazel Nauman of Milford. Waiting his turn is Bruce Vreeland, 1239 Holland, Birmingham.

# Everyone Working On Arts Festival

by JULIE CANDLER  
Special Writer

Downtown Birmingham store windows are flying a big crew of volunteer workers stands ready to greet visitors to the art exhibition and market at the Birmingham Art Center, and the Fifth Annual Birmingham Arts Festival is underway.

At 8:30 p.m., "The Bloomingham Newcomers" opens in the geodesic dome set up outside the Birmingham Art Center at 1516 S. Cranbrook, near Seabold High School.

The community-wide production will be repeated each night of the four-day arts festival. Curtain time Sunday is 7:30 p.m.

THE FESTIVAL art market and other activities at the Birmingham Art Center, to which admission is free, begin at noon daily. Hot dogs, sandwiches, soft drinks and coffee will be available in the Center until 10 p.m. each day.

The art market and exhibition will remain open so that "Newcomers" showgoers can browse during intermission.

Children from the Young People's Art Center at Cranbrook and the Saturday Young People's Workshop of the Bloomfield Art Association will demonstrate techniques with painting, pottery, sculpture, weaving and other art forms from 2 to 5 p.m. YPAC Director Glen Michaels and Workshop Director Betty Conn will be on hand to supervise demonstrations.

A TOUR of artists' studios is on the festival agenda for Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m. Special activities are planned for "Children's Day at the Festival" on Saturday.

Inside this special Arts Festival section of The Birmingham Eccentric are articles and photographs describing this year's festival in detail.

The Bloomfield Art Association sponsors the annual community-wide celebration of the arts. Hundreds of residents

lend a hand at staging the big project, and community music, drama and other groups lend their support.

THE VILLAGE Players of Birmingham and St. Dunstan's Guild, both Birmingham-Bloomfield community little theatre groups, are cooperating on the production of "The Bloomingham Newcomers."

The parody on suburbia has a cast of more than 50, and a crew of more than 200 scene painters, stagehands and ticket salesmen working behind the scenes.

## Arthur Hill Clan Makes Dramatics A 'Family Affair'

"The Bloomingham Newcomers" is a family affair with the Arthur N. Hills, of 1141 E. Buckingham, Birmingham.

Mrs. Hill plays the leading role of Wanda Weatherly, the Welcome Wagon lady. Her husband and 17-year-old son, Terry, also have roles in the musical comedy.

Mary Ellen Hill is director of speech and dramatics at Kingswood School, Cranbrook. She is active in The Village Players of Birmingham, and acted across the border in the Mexico City Players when the family spent several years in Mexico.

At the University of Michigan, she was on the Play Production roster and concentrated her studies on speech and dramatics. Besides Terry, the Hills have two other sons.

Four of the five Dean Coffin children live in Birmingham when they are not away at college. There are two pairs of twin boys, all four of whom have burgeoning interest in theatrical matters.

Fran Harris interviewed Dean Coffin June 20th on her WWJ-TV show.

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