



The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

Plan Industrial Subdivision at Airport

Record Number File for Commission Seats

2 Women, 9 Men Vie for 3 Posts

Area election/stories, 3-A
Birmingham's city election on April 1 shapes up as one of the most interesting in several years with a record number of candidates for city commission seats.
Eleven persons, including two women, have filed nominating petitions for the three, three-year terms. City Clerk Irene Hanley said this is the highest number of nominees to file for a three-year term since Birmingham became a city.

In 1951, eight candidates vied for a two-year vacancy on the commission. A total of 15 persons filed in 1955, but six of them were running for a two-year term.
Mayor Florence H. Willett's announcement that she will not be a candidate for reelection as a commissioner is said to have prompted the interest in this year's race.

Firm Retracts Charges by Representative

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

WEST BLOOMFIELD — The township planning commission has ended its investigation of "influence peddling" in a township rezoning case.

At its meeting Tuesday night, the commission accepted a written statement from Ripley Industries, Inc., that no such offer was made to its company representatives.

At the same time, the commission reached a decision to deny rezoning of the Orchard Lake property involved in the influence peddling charges.

The rezoning request was for additional commercial depth to the property to allow the Ripley enterprises enough commercial land to develop a proposed 24-lane bowling establishment.

The commission's decision was based on inadequacy of parking area remaining after buffer zone requirements between adjoining residential areas were met.

THE STATEMENT provided by Ripley Industries was an explanation of charges made before the township board by its sales representative, Jack Lawrence, who told the board that "an unnamed person" had offered to get township cooperation in the rezoning of the property for a fee of from \$600 to \$1,000 dollars.

It revealed the unnamed party as Howland-Adler Realty Co.

It explained that a dispute existed between Howland-Adler and Ripley Industries as to whether the realty company was owed a fee for finding the property as a site for the proposed bowling establishment.

CALLS WERE MADE by Howland-Adler to establish its claim for a commission if purchase of the property was consummated.

It explained that the state ment reads, "if recognition were given to the so-called listing agreement so as to entitle Howland and Adler to some consideration on this commission matter, they would probably be obligated to see the rezoning matter through the proper board and agencies."

"At no time did Mr. Howland Jr. make any influence peddling proposition. We all regret any inference made in this respect."

LAWRENCE'S statements to the commission were retracted.

(See CHARGES, 1-A)



Ducks Tee Off

A small pond near the Wallace Read home bordering the Birmingham Country Club was turned into a hunter's paradise Saturday morning as it was filled with wild ducks. The ducks were resting on a patch of un-

frozen water until Eccentric photographer Bill Thom approached with his "loaded" camera. The ducks took off for parts un-

THOM NEW PRESIDENT Com. House Campaign Chairmen Appointed

Appointment of fund drive chairmen and election of a new president were announced today by The Community House Board of Directors.

William B. Bachman, Jr., 715 Oakleigh, Bloomfield Hills, was named general chairman of the 1963 Community House Fund Drive.

That campaign, with a goal of \$55,000, will be held throughout the month of March.

Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., was appointed drive co-chairman.

Directors also announced that Robert A. Thom, 6160 W. Surrey, Bloomfield Township, had been elected president of The Community House.

He succeeds Thornburn H. Wiant, advertising executive who was serving his second term at the time of his death Feb. 6.

School Issue Decision Held Off Till March

Harlan area residents answer Eccentric's editorial, see letters to editor, 6-A.

No action was taken on the controversial secondary school board changes at Tuesday night's Birmingham Board of Education meeting.

Board President Mrs. Peter Loomis announced at the outset of the meeting that the board had not reached a decision on the matter and it would not be decided until the March meeting.

School officials and residents of the Harlan School area have clashed repeatedly over a proposal to send Harlan youngsters to the new junior high and Groves Regional with the fall semester.

The board officially named the new junior high of the Valley Woods site Tuesday night.

The school will be known as the Berkshire Junior High School of the Birmingham Public School System.

IN OTHER action the board approved the courses to be offered at the junior and senior high school levels during the 1963-64 school year.

Among the new courses to be offered are a beginning class in the humanities on the high school level and a high school class on modern European history.

The board also heard a presentation by the Citizens' Council on Youth Physical Fitness for improvements in the school district's physical education program. It was taken under advisement by the board.

Hills Zoning Law To Public Hearing

A public hearing on the proposed new zoning ordinance for Bloomfield Hills has been set for 8 p.m. Thursday, March 4, in the Cranbrook gymnasium, Lone Pine and Orchard Ridge roads.

Copies of the ordinance and map are available to readers in the office of Robert J. Stadler, city clerk.

Registration Time
Voters living in the city of Lathrup and the township of Southfield must register on or before Monday in order to vote in the April 1 elections.

Girl's Death Ist in Traffic In Two Years

A 17-year-old Seaholm student became Birmingham's first fatal traffic accident victim in 792 days early Saturday morning.

Ruth E. Redfield, 1028 S. Elm, died at 2:15 a.m. in William Beaumont Hospital, three hours after she was struck by two autos as crossed Woodward at Lincoln.

Witnesses told police they believed Miss Redfield was crossing the street against the red light. She was returning home from spending the evening with a friend.

The driver of the first car, James L. Dries, 17, of 217 Hillboro, told police the girl stepped in front of his car as he was in the second northbound lane of traffic.

David Thornbury, 16, of 392 Lakeside, struck her as he came from the first car threw Miss Redfield into the third lane.

Both drivers were released by police after making statements.

Miss Redfield was the first person to die on Birmingham streets since Dec. 22, 1960, when a pedestrian was killed as he crossed Woodward between Oak and Vine-

A senior at Seaholm, Miss Redfield had worked in the school's guidance office.

Surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe A. Redfield; a sister, Barbara, 12; and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Towner of Redford Township.

Born in Detroit on April 14, 1945, Miss Redfield had lived in Birmingham for 12 years.

Services were held Tuesday at the William Yast Funeral Home, 4375 N. Woodward. Burial was in White Chapel Cemetery.

NO DISCUSSION of salary took place Monday night, but Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Mitchell hinted that "personalities" might be involved in the resignation.

Mrs. Mitchell proposed that the "next time this sort of thing happens, I think the administrative staff should meet with the council. I'm getting complaints about the treatment people receive from the city officials. The entire situation should be cleared up."

She added that people "always speak well of Mr. Derby" and that Stone's comment in his letter that the resignation was "totally unexpected was a surprise" to her.

"All of Lathrup knows of the situation," she said.

BECAUSE THE legal signature of a city clerk is necessary for all election notices and certain other city business that must be executed, Stone was asked by the council to be prepared to appoint someone on either of the two subjects.

Merchants Offer Special Values in BBD Sale

Attention all shoppers, Birmingham Bonus Days are here again!

Yes, it's bargain time once more in Birmingham. Today, Friday and Saturday, the Retail Merchants Division of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and The Eccentric are sponsoring their annual three-day BBD special sale.

During Birmingham Bonus Days, merchants select one special item to offer at an exceptionally low price. They choose quality merchandise to offer to YOU at this special rate.

HERE are some examples: Shirts, regularly selling

Troy Approves 38-Acre Project

Plans for a 38-acre, multimillion-dollar industrial development adjacent to Berz Airport, east of Birmingham, were revealed this week.

The project is being planned by the Birmingham Industrial Corp., headed by George R. Squibb and Samuel A. Walker, Jr. Both are long-time Birmingham area residents and long have been active in local business affairs.

It's a Matter Of Money as Clerk Resigns

By IRMA N. DAVIS
Township Editor

LATHRUP — Acceptance of the city clerk's resignation, asked at least temporary bypassing of a request for a salary increase by another city official highlighted Monday night's meeting.

Salary was the reason given by City Clerk Frank Derby for tendering his resignation, effective March 1, according to a letter to the council from City Administrator Gerald Stone.

Stone said he had asked Derby to consider extending the resignation date beyond the "two important assessor and clerk duty periods" but that Derby "remains flexible in his decision."

DERBY WILL consider staying for the board of review and election days on a per-diem basis, Stone said in his letter. The clerk's duties also include that of city assessor.

The administrator noted that Derby's earlier resignation, occurring last September, involved two other problem areas which had been meanwhile settled to the clerk's satisfaction.

These were problems over use of his private car without suitable financial allowance and the financing of his membership in, effective at the time, at professional meetings and conferences related to his job.

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THESE AND other special values are available now for YOU. Look for them in four pages of BBD advertisements on Pages 3, 4 and 5 in Section C of this week's Birmingham Eccentric.

Wherever you see the BBD sign, you will know there's a merchant participating in Birmingham Bonus Days—and this means outstanding values at bargain prices for YOU.

Turn now to Section CC

Preliminary plans were approved by the Troy City Commission Monday night. The development has been named the Birmingham Airport Subdivision.

THE PLAT is broken down into 33 sites of one acre each that will be developed for industrial use. The other five acres will be devoted to roads and parkways.

Total value of the land is estimated at \$45,000. If all 33 sites are developed, the total value of the subdivision could reach more than \$2 1/2 million.

Other sites are suitable for small industries, according to Squibb and Walker. The Birmingham Industrial Corp. will build to suit the needs of prospective buyers.

Squibb is president of Birmingham Industrial Corp.; Walker, vice president; and John A. Gilray, Jr., is secretary and legal counsel.

ACCOUNTING will be done by Arthur Young & Co., banking by the Community National Bank of Pontiac, Bloomfield Hills Branch; and Max Brock, Inc. will be the sales agent.

A featured attraction of the area, according to Squibb, is the nearest to the Berz Airport. Some of the sites will border the airport itself.

The corporation has worked out an arrangement whereby industries may hang their planes in their own heated shop and avail themselves of all the services of a mechanic maintenance, FAA certification, refueling and weather reports.

OF PRIMARY importance, Squibb noted, is the surrounding (See PROJECT, 4-A)

Multiple Family Zoning Subject of March 6 Meeting

The Birmingham City Commission and the plan board will hold a joint meeting on Wednesday, March 6, to discuss the problem of multiple-family-zoned areas in the southwest part of the downtown area.

The plan board has been reviewing possible changes in the requirements and uses in the R-7 area of the central business district and have reached a decision.

THE TWO groups will probably also discuss the related problem of additional nonretail business (B-1) zoned property.

The consulting firm of Villan and Leman will be represented at the 8 p.m. meeting to answer questions on either of the two subjects.

IN THIS ISSUE

Kids! A chance for a free, classified ad is coming up so if you want to swap a doll, sell a bike, get a job baby sitting or buy a pet, just read the rules. See full-page advertisement, 8-C.

The Proscenium Club at Seaholm High School puts on a "dreamy" performance of a Shakespearean play and bewitches the audience. For pictures, story by Eccentric photographer Bill Thom, see 1-D.

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MRS. G. HOWARD WILLETT, JR., WILLIAM B. BACHMAN