



The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

# B'ham Schools To Seek More Millage

## LWV To Explain Home Rule Concepts

### Seek to Tell Voters; Affect On Oakland

First in a series; see editorial, 1-B

BY SHELLEY SPANN  
Public Relations Chairman  
LWV League of Women Voters

On Jan. 1 the new constitution, adopted by referendum in April, 1963, became the basic law of the state of Michigan. Contained in the constitution's article on local government is a provision for non-self-executing home rule for counties.

This requires passage of enabling legislation in Lansing to become effective.

Home rule became an issue in Oakland County last month when the legislative committee of the board of supervisors presented a suggested draft of enabling legislation to the board. The draft was returned to the committee for further study by a vote of 72 to 6 and that is where it remains as of this time.

MUCH HAS been said about home rule in the past few months, but very little definitive information has been made available. The Eccentric and the League of Women Voters are concerned that the voters of the Birmingham-Bloomfield area know and understand the basic concepts of home rule and how they might affect Oakland County.

That is the purpose of this series. We will attempt to define the structure and nature of Oakland County and the principles of home rule in terms which will enable the voters to determine for themselves whether they want home rule and, if so, what kind.

INITIALLY, our information will be drawn from the League of Women Voters of Michigan's five year study on Metropolitan Problems, where county home rule was considered as one possible solution to the difficulties encountered by urban counties, and from the Birmingham League's two-year study on assessment and taxation in Oakland County.

The governor has appointed the Committee on Implementing Legislation for County Home Rule to study the various aspects and report to him. The committee is conducting hearings in various areas of the state and will report to the governor this month.

HORACE HODGE, president of the Michigan State Association of Supervisors, is the committee chairman. Members from this area include Delos Hamlin of Farmington, chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors; John E. Matus of Wyandotte, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. (See LWV, 5-A)

## IN WAR ON DELINQUENCY

### Youth Program Seeks Coordination

Last in a series  
By DAVE PHILPO  
Township Editor

A coordinated effort. The success or failure in reaching and solving the problems of teens in trouble and preventing others from joining that unselective group is summed up by these three words.

The Birmingham Youth Assistance Program, and others like it throughout Oakland County, are using the coordination principle to make significant inroads on juvenile delinquency.

THE PROGRAM utilizes the best minds from each and every segment of the community and prevents the overlapping that might be inherent in many uncoordinated agencies.

A 12-member citizens committee is concerned with overall problems of the city's youth. It meets once a month in an effort to marshal all the existing forces in the community.



### Quarton Lake Guard

This 12-foot high snowman has been standing guard over Quarton Lake for more than a week. Located near Lakeside and Oak the giant hasn't fared too well during these warm days. Putting on the finishing touches are (from top left) Fred Pierce, Mary Murphy, Ginny Doyle, Margaret Walter, Mary Coombs and Pat Callaghan.

## County to Give Lathrup Gift, Like It or Not

By DAVE PHILPO  
Township Editor

LATHRUP—The city is receiving a gift from the county in January—whether it wants it or not. The present is a 14-mile stretch of 11 Mile Road within Lathrup's city limits—a subject of mild controversy between the two governmental units for the past year.

A series of negotiations failed to produce an agreement on just what is meant by one little phrase, "the road over to Lathrup, the county claims that 11 Mile Road is "in good repair."

WITH THE possible exception of Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth

### Set Christmas Tree Pickup in Beverly

Saturday is the day for Christmas tree pickup in Beverly Hills. Residents are urged to have their trees in front of their homes before 7 a. m.

The job of collecting the trees is expected to take about two days. After being picked up, the trees are burned.

Mitchell, the council doesn't believe a word of it. "I don't see anything wrong with it," said Mrs. Mitchell.

(Laughter). "You will in the spring," replied Mayor Richard N. Cogger. "When the spring break-up comes, the city won't have the funds to repair 11 Mile," added Attorney Everett F. Hayes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Jerald D. Stone told the council he had talked to Highway Engineer Paul VanRoekel and that the county is determined to turn over the road. Stone said that Lathrup's responsibility for maintenance would start immediately, but funds from the state will not be available for several months.

The city will have to remove ice and snow from the road during the winter and make necessary repairs during the remainder of the year, Stone said.

THE COUNCIL Monday night also

Appointed Mrs. Mitchell as legislative contact for the city on (See GIFT, 7-A)

## DOCUMENTS OFFERED

### Ex-Mayor to Head Centennial Group

See full-page advertisement, 8-A; editorial, 1-B.

Mayor William H. Burgum today announced the appointment of Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., as chairman of the Birmingham Centennial Committee.

### Home Owner Council Eyed For B'ham

A preliminary meeting has been held by a group of Birmingham property owners associations for the purpose of forming a council of such associations in the city.

John McGill, president of the Sheffield Estates Association, told city commissioners Monday night the council was to be started "merely to exchange ideas."

"There are no politics involved," McGill said. "We will be meeting to exchange information and to get some of the neighborhood associations that are not very active involved in civic affairs."

THE FIRST meeting of the group was held Jan. 2 at The Community House and was attended by representatives of six neighborhood associations.

The group has adopted the name Birmingham Residential Association Council. Robert Meier, Birmingham Crestview Association, was appointed acting chairman and Robert Verzyer, Central Birmingham Residents Association, was named secretary-treasurer.

Other groups attending the first meeting included Pembroke Manor Association, Birmingham Park Improvement Association and South Poppleton Subdivisions Association.

John Gannon, president of Pembroke Manor, said he hoped the council would be able to meet regularly "to study matters of community interest relating to residents."

"I hope we can meet to assist in the communication of information, to aid in the creation of a body of informed opinion and to assist neighborhood associations in organizational and communication problems," Gannon said.

ANOTHER 90-minute meeting has been scheduled for The Community House at 8 p. m. Feb. 6, Gannon said.

His next meeting was being called for the purpose of inviting (See COUNCIL, 7-A)

anniversary of Birmingham's incorporation as a village. The group is expected to plan a celebration to take place during Michigan Week in May.

Burgum also appointed Carl O. Barton as chairman of the finance section of the centennial celebration.

MRS. WILLETT will announce other members of the committee at a later date.

Mrs. Willett is a former mayor and city commissioner. She served eight years on the commission and three as mayor (1960, '61, '62) as the first woman to hold that office. Burgum said he selected Mrs. Willett "because of her background in the operation of city government and for her knowledge and study of the previous devotion to Birmingham history and the future of Birmingham."

THE FORMER mayor said she was "happy to accept the privilege to serve in this new capacity."

She also said she is "looking forward to the assistance and cooperation from others to make the centennial a truly successful community venture."

"We will need all of the help we can get."

Barton is a local commercial developer. He is head of East Estate Renting, 199 Pierce, and also has a history of community service and interest.

"Of his appointment, he said he is "happy to do what I can."

TO HELP THE centennial committee raise the money for the Birmingham Eccentric is offering the group an opportunity to sell through our pages a series of historical documents.

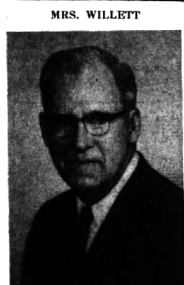
The newspaper will bear the cost of this program, with all profits going to the centennial committee. The documents, available for framing, are produced on fine, heavy antique parchment. They are being offered in sets of 12, which include:

The Declaration of Independence, The Bill of Rights, The Star Spangled Banner, The Prayers of the Pilgrims, available at The History of the U. S. Flag, Battlefields of the Revolution.

The Map of the World the Pilgrims Saw (See GROUP, 7-A)



MRS. WILLETT



CARL O. BARTON

## Hills Zoning Law Ready For Hearing

Copies of Bloomfield Hills' proposed new zoning ordinance and supplementary maps are still available to residents, according to City Clerk Robert Stadler.

The documents were printed to prepare residents for a public hearing at 8 p. m., Wednesday in the Cranbrook gymnasium, located on Lane Pine Road.

At that time, city commissioners will present the proposed ordinance and answer questions from residents.

SINCE THE FIRST public hearing in March, the city commission has made several revisions.

Major changes include allowing more families per acre (4.5 as compared to 3), more multiple dwellings, and an increase in size of duplexes from two to three stories.

Lot sizes have been reduced in some areas and the commercial area remains about the same.

## Township Youths Stand Mute on Break-In Charge

Three former Bloomfield Township youths stood mute on charges of breaking and entering early this week in arrangements before Circuit Judge Edward S. Pratt.

Plea of not guilty were entered by Sheriff Don Grein, Squires and William Ploch, both 20, and Robert Squires, 23. No date was set for trial.

The trio is accused of stealing \$8,800 in silverware from Moncrieff's parents' home at 3275 W. Wabash on Sept. 13. The silver was traced to Cleveland, O., by township police.

SQUIRES was returned to Reed City, Mich., on Tuesday where he must face charges of breaking and entering and felonious assault, along with Charles Pool, 25, of Union Lake.

According to Osceola County Sheriff Don Grein, Squires and Pool were apprehended after they allegedly attacked a Reed City policeman who caught them attempting to open a supermarket safe.

## Need \$500,000 For Increase In Enrollment

BY LARRY EVOR  
City Editor

Because of an unexpected increase in enrollment, the Birmingham Board of Education is considering a millage election for 1964.

Dr. John B. Smith, superintendent of schools, said it had not yet been determined how much of an increase would be needed but an additional two operating mills would be required annually to maintain the present standards in the school system.

The present 1.9 mills of operating funds will be levied for the last time in December, 1964.

Smith said he did not know if the board would ask for an extension of the 1.9 mills or not.

"THE ENROLLMENT of more than 870 additional students this year—250 more than has been expected—and an estimated gain of an additional 1,000 by September, 1964, clearly indicates that our current funds and facilities will fall short of the needs of the system," Smith said.

He said the Birmingham schools' rate of enrollment is growing faster than was anticipated.

"In studying our existing elementary school facilities, it is evident that more buildings will be needed by September, 1965," Smith said.

As an example he cited the "extremely critical" situation existing in the Valley Woods and Beverly school areas.

"INDICATIONS are that a new building will be necessary to relieve both schools," Smith said. The board of education presently owns property along 15 Mile Road across the street from Groves High School that could be used for an elementary school site.

Smith also believed there will be a need for a new junior high school in the near future. The new Berkshire Junior High could be completed by September, 1965," Smith said.

As an example he cited the "extremely critical" situation existing in the Valley Woods and Beverly school areas.

The amount of millage needed to maintain the system would depend somewhat on Gov. Romney's state tax program, Smith said.

"The amount of money we get from the state would determine how much we would have to ask the community for," Smith said.

(See MILLAGE, 2-A)

## Commission Rezones Area For Parking

All of the land in the block south of Shain Park is now zoned for parking.

Commissioner David F. Breck cast the only negative vote on the proposal, continuing his policy of opposition to parking in that specific location.

A public hearing had been required to rezone the three lots. Breck's negative vote was because when the commission rezoned the other eight parcels the City had not acquired the property rights to the three lots.

The City was awarded the land through condemnation proceedings in Oakland County Circuit Court.

BROOMFIELD, contacted in his Washington office, said that Washington gave a highly complimentary nod of approval to Romney's announcement.

"It was one of the most outstanding speeches made by a potential candidate according to the opinions that I heard—and I was at the Press Club luncheon," said Broomfield.

"The speech itself, his delivery and sincerity was commented upon highly. He was laying down a program that was really constructive," said Broomfield.

ROMNEY'S announcement came as a complete surprise to him, said Broomfield, but "Romney is one of the most outstanding persons in the country and I hope that he is given every consideration."

"He definitely has to face an uphill fight, but I think that his speech yesterday (Tuesday) really brought him back into the political picture," Broomfield said.

(See ROMNEY, 2-A)



GOV. ROMNEY

## Leaders React Strongly to Romney Action

By MARY BAIN  
Staff Writer

Oakland County political leaders reacted with mixed emotions to the announcement made Tuesday by Gov. George Romney that he would accept the Republican presidential nomination if drafted.

In a quick run-down, Oakland County's GOP Representative William S. Broomfield was "pleased," Henry M. Hogan, Jr., GOP representative from the third district, was "shocked," George Fulkerson, Democrat who ran for the 18th congressional seat, "had been expecting it," and Farrell Roberts, Oakland's state senator, experienced "mixed emotions."

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(See ROMNEY, 2-A)

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