



## \$1.9 Million Budget Proposed For Birmingham

### Ask 17.2 Mills For '64-65 Year

### Marine Band Coming to B'ham

#### Concert Set As Kick-Off Of Centennial

The Marines are coming to Birmingham! No, the city isn't going to be invaded; but 50 of the leathernecks are coming to town to help Birmingham kick off its centennial celebration.

A special concert by the U.S. Marine Corps School Band from Quantico, Va., has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13. The free outdoor program will be held at the Seaholm High School Football Field on Cranbrook Road.

Announcement of the concert was made today by centennial chairman Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., and Roland A. Mewhort, general chairman of the Armed Forces Week Committee.

Mewhort, 1083 Chesterfield, Birmingham, called the band's appearance in Birmingham one of the most important activities of the May 9-17 Armed Forces Week period.



MRS. WILLETT

#### 2 Take Posts As Election Issue Ends

By DAVE PHILPO  
Township Editor

The Bloomfield Hills City Commission regained a semblance of normalcy Tuesday night following a hectic three weeks of post-election controversy.

City Clerk Robert Stadler swore in James A. Berensford and Robert Pyle and the new commission elected Louis J. Colombo, Jr., mayor for the next year and picked David W. Lee as mayor pro tem.

Members of the pre-election commission, Colombo, Lee and Berensford, certified the results of a recount conducted last week by the Oakland County Board of Canvassers.

A particularly disputed item was retaining the band for its program because the U.S. Air Force Academy Band has already scheduled a (See BUDGET, 2-A)

#### Centennial Events Cover 2 1/2 Weeks

Birmingham's centennial program now stretches over a period of two and one-half weeks, general chairman Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., announced today.

It begins with a performance by the U. S. Marine Corps School Band on May 13 and ends with a dedication of the placement of the Soldier's Monument at city hall on May 30.

#### First Grade Teacher Gets School Award

Mrs. Annabelle Sumera, first grade teacher at Beverly Elementary School, has been selected as Teacher of the Semester by the Teacher Education and Professional Standards Committee (TEPS).

The Distinguished Teacher Award is presented to a teacher whom the committee feels has excelled in his or her field. The presentation to Mrs. Sumera was made by Principal Richard Coolman at an all-school assembly yesterday.

Mrs. Sumera was born in San Jacinto, Mich., and attended elementary and high school in Deckerville. She attended Eastern Michigan University where she received her B.S. degree.

way of some 30 concessions operated by men's and women's service clubs and church and youth groups.

NET PROCEEDS will be shared by the participating groups and the centennial fund in the hope that "these funds will be the seed to encourage individuals and other groups to contribute to the Birmingham Events, 8-A)

#### Working Closely With Her Is Robert S. Kenning, Birmingham's Assistant City Manager and the Local Michigan Week Chairman.

Other chief attractions during the two-and-a-half week period include a carnival (the Village Fair), a joint service clubs luncheon, a tour of historic sites and old homes, a parade, an address by Gov. George W. Romney, a fashion show and a day-long symposium on women in politics.

THE CONCERT by the Marine Corps band from Quantico, Va., will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at the Seaholm High School Football Field.

Sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, with Vincent Scosimino as chairman, the Village Fair will be held in Shain Park from Thursday, May 14, through Sunday, May 17.

It will consist of 11 fun rides for "lots, teens and adults" and a mid-



MRS. ANNABELLE SUMERA  
Teacher of the Semester

### 'New Leadership' Stimulates Confidence in B'ham C of C

For a complete text of Cong. Broomfield's speech, see Page 2-C.

BY KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

A new spirit pervades the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce today.

It became evident at the chamber's 16th annual dinner meeting last week.

It probably can be best described as a spirit of confidence, of accomplishment, of promise of better things to come through community endeavor.

More than 300 persons attended the Wednesday night banquet at Devon Gables, the largest crowd ever to attend the chamber's annual affair. And it was an enthusiastic group.

Members saw this as an indication of new energy in the organization.

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us, what we have today and then dedicate ourselves at the end to a better Birmingham of the future."

William E. Roberts, city commissioner and outgoing president of the chamber, told Mrs. Willett: "With your leadership lighting the way, we can't miss."

EMPHASIS WAS placed on "the new leadership" of the chamber.

"Today, your chamber is under a new head of steam with a broader goal of program objectives," said Paul N. Averill, publicist of the Birmingham Eccentric, who served as toastmaster for the banquet.

Averill paid tribute to Roberts' leadership in the past year and to that of Harris Machus of Machus Restaurant & Party Shop who served as chamber president the previous year.

Knowles Smith, new executive director of the chamber, was credited with giving renewed enthusiasm to the chamber in the short time he has been on the job.

Marianne Barnett of Bloomfield Fashion Shop chairman of the banquet, drew praise for her handling of the dinner arrangements and program.

AND, TO TOP the evening off, the chamber members were urged by Cong. William S. Broomfield (R-Ohio) to get the ideas for "Down to Earth" column on today's Homemaking Page.

Reservations are still available for the May 26-28 tour, at a cost of \$114.25 per person.

For Mrs. Burlingame's column, see Page 8-D of today's Eccentric and for reservation coupon, see Page 4-CC.

(See BUDGET, 2-A)

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

Birmingham's city taxes will probably remain the same for the 1964-65 fiscal year.

City Manager L. R. Gare will present his annual budget to commissioners Monday night.

The proposed budget totals \$1,839,711. This is an increase of \$70,348 over the present budget and would require a tax rate of 17.2 mills or \$17.20 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Because all taxing districts within the state have been directed to adjust assessed values to the state equalized level within the next three years, the assessed value of Birmingham's land values in the city by about 20 per cent.

The recommended tax rate of 17.2 mills provides the same total tax income as the present 18-mill rate, Gare said.

GARE SAID he hoped the commission could complete its review of the budget by May 16 in order to allow time for any revisions to be made before the public hearing scheduled for May 25.

Of the total budget, about \$1,245,938 is expected to be raised through taxes. This is based on Birmingham's assessed valuation of \$78,251,920.

Non-tax revenue, such as Municipal Court funds, rubbish collections and cemetery fees, are expected to raise another \$593,788.

Included in the budget is \$34,740 for adjustment in wages and fringe benefits for city employees. This, Gare said, would provide for a general wage increase of 2 per cent and allow for a minor revision of the insurance program.

LARGEST OF the departmental budgets is the police department. Gare has recommended that a total of \$308,730 be earmarked for the operation of the police force.

One of Gare's recommendations regarding the police department is the hiring of an additional detective.

"Our reports indicate crime in Birmingham has increased 30 per cent in 1963 over the previous three-year average," Gare said.

"Many reported crimes are receiving only limited follow-up. The additional detective would provide a greater follow-up than is possible with the present limited staff," he said.

He has also recommended the hiring of an assistant, on a full-time basis by May 16 in order to allow time for any revisions to be made before the public hearing scheduled for May 25.

The total cost of the additional jobs has been estimated at about \$8,000.

PROVISIONS FOR the addition to the capital improvement reserve and for special projects were held at approximately the same level as in previous years, Gare said.

Under capital improvements, Gare has recommended \$200,641 be set aside for 1964-65. This would be added to the \$112,900 left over from last year.

In his proposed capital improvement program, Gare has listed several major projects.

Many of these deal with the construction of the peripheral road, including the Chester Street widening, the Woodward intersection improvement and the Oakland Avenue widening.

The cost of the Chester widening in 1963 was about \$90,000, Gare said. This would cover the \$80,000 construction program and \$10,000 for sewer improvements.

ANOTHER \$200,000 has been estimated for the cost of straightening the Forest-Woodward intersection. During 1963 the city acquired a triangular piece of property at the southeast corner of the intersection to eliminate the jog.

Gare said the building on the property would be wrecked and the City would pave the area from Woodward to Brentwood.

The largest of the probable capital improvement programs would be the widening of Oakland from Hunter to Woodward. Gare has (See BUDGET, 2-A)



ECCENTRIC PHOTO

#### Aftermath of a Crime

Birmingham Police Sgt. Jack Kalbfleisch narrowly escaped injury Tuesday as he chased a car carrying suspects involved in a larceny. Kalbfleisch was heading north on U.S. 10 near Wilson Pontiac-Cadillac when his auto went out of control and smashed into three parked cars and ripped up three light poles. Three suspects were later arrested at Big Beaver and Woodward. The trio stood mute at their arraignment Tuesday on charges of taking several cartons of cigarettes from a Birmingham supermarket. Examination was set for May 8.

#### PTA Council Gives Support to Millage

The Birmingham PTA Council has announced it will support the proposed millage increase requested by the voters of education.

School district voters will be asked to approve a \$5,300,000 bonding issue and a 5.8-mill tax increase at the June 8 election.

The PTA Council and individual PTA units at each of the schools are assisting the Citizens for Birmingham Schools Committee in distributing information concerning the bonding and millage proposals.

#### Shain's Drug Store Ending Business

One of Birmingham's oldest retail outlets, Shain's Drug Store, is going out of business.

Established in 1906, the store at Pierce and Maple is now conducting a liquidation sale. The firm has lost its building lease and must vacate the store.

ment immediately much of what we have suggested can be accomplished by the time first visitors arrive for our centennial celebration," the report presented at Friday's meeting stated.

"These are our recommendations. We strongly urge that you act on them immediately."

The nine block captains assigned to consult business establishments are:

Paul Kurth of Huston Hardware Co.; Robert Gwynn, Gwynn Men's Wear; Jack Ball, McClellan-Ball; Paul Harpelsheimer, Birmingham Chrysler-Plymouth, Inc.; James S. Schmitt, Hawthorne Electric.

John Moss, district; Ernest W. Jackson, Labelle's Book Store; Burton A. Van Noren, real estate; Maxwell Stewart, Stewart's Fabrics.

trating how some cities have provided for beauty in alleys, between buildings and on many streets. Much has been done by means of town squares.

One of the problems in Birmingham, he explained, is that most of the streets "go on and on and on." An attractive setting, such as a building or a well-landscaped park, at the end of a street would enhance its appearance.

#### A Fair Idea

Alice Wassells Burlingame, tour coordinator for the Birmingham Eccentric's "Family Tour of the World's Fair," describes how she got the idea for it in her "Down to Earth" column on today's Homemaking Page.

Reservations are still available for the May 26-28 tour, at a cost of \$114.25 per person.

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## La Venelle? Il Vicolo? Alley Improvement Under Way

1964—Turning point in Birmingham's history? See editorial on 1-B.

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

From the moment she agreed to be its chairman, Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., has sought to give Birmingham's centennial celebration some meaning that would carry over into the city's future.

Today, she has reason to hope for tangible results to that end. For her wish to beautify the city's alleys may well be coming true.

A 10-point program to improve the appearance of the alleys is under way, sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Civic Design Committee (CDC).

The latter, actually a subcommit-

tee of the Citizens Action Committee (CAC), is a group of architects, artists and planners trying to develop concepts for the future development of Birmingham.

AT A LUNCHEON meeting Friday at the Community House, the chamber and the CDC members presented their plan to business and civic leaders.

It was developed by Jack Kerenshbaum, vice president of Kay Baum, Inc., and his ally beautification committee, appointed by Mrs. Willett.

Implementation started Monday with nine block captains calling on business establishments to explain the 10 points and to encourage owners to participate in as many of the steps as possible.

The recommendations are:

1. Name the alleys after promi-

ent citizens or events, as has been done in San Francisco, New Orleans and in Europe. Spanish, Italian and French names—such as El Callejon, Il Vicolo, La Venelle—might be used in lieu of the word alley.

2. Paint rear exterior facades in coordinated colors; paint and repair brickwork; install new hardware on rear doors and install new identification signs.
3. Place inexpensive planters containing geraniums and geraniums at rear entrances.
4. Beautify and illuminate the darker corners of alleys with suitable fixtures and gas lights, to encourage pedestrian traffic to use these by-ways at night as well as in daylight.
5. Remove unsightly utility poles and boxes, power lines and other equipment to less obvious locations.

6. Prohibit parking in the alleys, with strict enforcement and with self-policing by landlords and tenants.
7. Hoose down rear entrances and barrels; paint trash receptacles to blend in with surroundings; enclose trash containers.
8. Clean up rear passage ways leading to the front part of stores to encourage pedestrian traffic.

"IT IS BELIEVED by the chamber of commerce Civic Design Committee that if the above-recommended program is imple-

mented immediately much of what we have suggested can be accomplished by the time first visitors arrive for our centennial celebration," the report presented at Friday's meeting stated.

"These are our recommendations. We strongly urge that you act on them immediately."

The nine block captains assigned to consult business establishments are:

Paul Kurth of Huston Hardware Co.; Robert Gwynn, Gwynn Men's Wear; Jack Ball, McClellan-Ball; Paul Harpelsheimer, Birmingham Chrysler-Plymouth, Inc.; James S. Schmitt, Hawthorne Electric.

John Moss, district; Ernest W. Jackson, Labelle's Book Store; Burton A. Van Noren, real estate; Maxwell Stewart, Stewart's Fabrics.

POINTING OUT how other parks have utilized "defined, confined spaces," Luckenbach said Birmingham's Shain Park has nothing. It is but an open field.

He said there should be places downtown where people can sit and relax, visit with friends, engage in such activities as public speaking and painting and have a parade.

"It takes a planned event now to get the park filled up."

The architect depicted a colonial-style park from Maple to Martin as representing "to most people the quality of downtown Birmingham."

OURADNIK REPORTED today that the Citizens Action Committee Board of Directors will meet with the Birmingham City Commission at the Community House at 6 p.m. May 11 to present the design committee's ideas and concepts.

The CAC is expected to submit to the commission a list of recommendations at that meeting.

Then, at a meeting on May 21 the CAC will reveal its plans officially to the commission and to the 16 organizations represented on the CAC board and to other groups and individuals.