

Beverly Lions prepare for week

By ALICE COLLINS

BEVERLY HILLS—The Lions Club's Dennis R. Carlson spends most of his time involved with sight conservation—either running pancake suppers and candy sales to raise money

for club projects, or on the job at Carlson Manufacturing Co., which produces ophthalmological equipment. President and charter member of the relatively young, 22-member club, Carlson is busy gearing things up for White Cane Week, April 28 to May 3.

an international fundraising time for Lions Clubs throughout the world. Sight conservation is a worldwide Lions project and the Beverly Hills unit participates by offering two glaucoma tests to village residents once a year, and donating to various sight projects, including the Leader Dog School for the Blind in Rochester. "This year we've given about \$2,500, and \$1,000 has gone to the Rochester school. This isn't bad for a small club!"

CARLSON SAID he hopes White Cane Week donations will bring in another \$1,000, which will go to the school.

Not having a business district makes soliciting for funds a little difficult in the primarily residential Beverly Hills, according to Carlson. "We do have Wrigley and Farmer Jack supermarkets, and the Southfield Lions let us borrow a little of their territory in front of Sears in the Southfield Plaza."

"They don't come up that far and we do very well there."

Beverly Lions will be on duty at the shopping areas throughout White Cane Week, carrying four-foot tall canes designed by Carlson. "We think maybe this will attract more attention," he said.

Carlson calls his work with the Lions "natural... it's so perfect." He loans a company eye-mobile clinic to the club for the glaucoma testing.



DENNIS CARLSON

Another club member, Dr. James Watson, combines his professional talents and Lions Club activities. An ophthalmologist at the Mt. Carmel Medical Center, Dr. Watson and one of his nurses donate their time to do the glaucoma screening. Glaucoma is an eye disease normally found in about two per cent of the population over 35 years old. "We've found from one and one half to three per cent among those tested in Beverly Hills," Carlson said. About 225 were tested during the last screening.

THE BEVERLY HILLS Lions Club was chartered in 1973 with 22 members. There are 22 members today, according to Carlson.

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Beverly denies multiple zoning

By ALICE COLLINS

BEVERLY HILLS—Birmingham builder-developer Paul H. Johnson lost his campaign Monday night to build a 30-unit "middle-to-high-rise" apartment complex at Pierce and Birchwood on the two and one half acres commonly known as the Gravin property.

The village council voted unanimously to deny Johnson's request to have the property rezoned from single-family to multiple-family residential.

The vote came at the conclusion of a public hearing attended by approximately 100 residents, overflowing the council chambers. Most of those who spoke opposed the zoning change.

"We think it's too many units for average traffic and everything," said Mark W. Miller of 17989 Birchwood.

Wayne Cameron of 16270 Buckingham said he bought his house there six months ago and "I don't like the thought of going out in my back yard and seeing a two-story building."

Ruth Shoemate, a resident of Royal Oak and daughter of the owner of the property, told the public gathering it was going to be sold and something done on it within a year. "We're in a bind, we have to sell."

"We have several builders who want to put up low income housing, and we don't need a zoning change or anything for that," she declared.

JOHNSON described the location as a transitional area, and said he believed low income housing was the alternative to his "no children and no pet" complex that would be professionally maintained.

Johnson said his company owns and operates 1,000 units in the area, including the Merrifield Building in Birmingham, and would have no desire to develop the Gravin property in any other way.

Council president pro tem Allan Hoover said he was voting against the rezoning because the residents of the area were opposed to it. "But I think we may be making a mistake."

Only incumbents run for board

By BARBARA UNDERWOOD

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—In contrast to the Birmingham School District where several citizens are considering running for the board of education in the June 9 election, only the two incumbents in Bloomfield Hills are circulating petitions.

Terms of Dr. Charles Bowers and Ruth Bentley are expiring in June and both are circulating nominating petitions. Petitions are sent to incumbent board members "as a matter of course," according to Robert Hubley, business manager for the district.

No other petitions had been taken out by Tuesday, Hubley reported. Two four-year terms are expiring.

Dr. Bowers, a 14-year member of the board, is seeking his fifth term.

Mrs. Bentley, appointed to the board in February after Laurence Howard resigned, is running for a full four-year term.

The deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions is 4 p.m. Monday, May 12. Bloomfield Hills School District residents must obtain no fewer than 30 and no more than 35 signatures of qualified registered voters of the school district on their petitions.

NOMINATING PETITIONS are required to contain signatures representing no less than one per cent and no more than four per cent of the votes received by the candidate who received the greatest number of votes in the last school election.

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