

# 'Hall: 'Soul Searching' Due In Zoning Fight

Supervisor Curtis H. Hall promised protesting neighbors that township trustees will take a close look at a proposed apartment development at Middle Belt and Northwestern before making a decision.

"There will be a lot of soul-searching," Hall promised.

The Township Planning Commission has unanimously approved a zoning change from residential to multiple-dwelling, but its decision must have approval by the trustees.

In an orderly but emotion-packed hearing before both the trustees and planners Tuesday night, more than 125 homeowners opposed the zoning change.

ject, not the single-family homes.

ATTORNEY J. WARD Smith, representing the Franklin Forest Association, declared Tuesday:

"The people object to the apartment buildings and claim that the area can be used entirely for single-family construction. The planning commission's original zoning was for single-family homes.

"Mr. Frankel bought the acreage under that classification, and we wonder what circumstances have caused a change of interpretation that would justify a change in zoning now."

Most of the Olde Franklin Towne residents to the north of the proposed subdivision based their objections on claims

that the traffic pattern through their subdivision will be aggravated by the apartment plan.

It was emphasized that the only access to the area would be from Northwestern, no outlet being provided on Middle Belt.

The fear was expressed that this would lead to the road connecting Franklin Gateways with Olde Franklin Towne being used as a by-pass route from Northwestern to 14 Mile Rd. and beyond.

IT WAS POINTED out that the PTA of Fairview School, located in Olde Franklin Towne, already has protested to the Board of Education about the lack of traffic safety on Olde Franklin Dr.

"This will only make it worse," was the protest of subdivision homeowners.

Supervisor Hall told the gathering that "facts brought out tonight will be weighed, and the trustees will meet for further consultation with our planning consultant and the planning commissioners."

"We will want to hear the commission's arguments as to why it recommends the rezoning," said Hall.



**UNITED IN THEIR STAND** — These residents, more than 125 strong and all living near the proposed project, filled the Duncker Junior High School cafeteria Tuesday night to protest a zoning change which would permit apartment construction at Middle Belt Rd. and Northwestern Highway. In the foreground are members of the combined township planning commission and board of trustees before whom the hearing was held.

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THE TOWNSHIP BOARD does not expect to vote on the rezoning until Monday, April 8. Trustees expect the fight to go to court whichever way the board votes.

The developer, the Ivan Frankel Co., proposes construction of 24 single-family homes in the \$50,000 and up category on his 40-acre site, plus 110 apartment units with an average monthly rental of \$250. The combined development would be known as Franklin Gateways.

Residents of Stonewood Court, Franklin Fairways and Olde Franklin Towne subdivisions, which fill out the rest of the sector east of Middle Belt and north of Northwestern, have fought the matter through three planning commission hearings and the session this week.

Their battle is against the apartment phase of the pro-

## De Courcy To Serve 2nd Term

George R. DeCourcy of 32770 Briarcrest Knoll, Farmington, has been re-elected president of the Clinton Valley Council of the Boy Scouts for a second one year term.

## Attains Honor

Jeanne Augey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Augey, 25653 Nine Mile Rd., Farmington, a sophomore student at Stephens College, has been named to the school's dean's list with high honors for maintaining a grade average in the upper three per cent of the student body.

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**TUESDAY, March 26**  
COOK'S CHOICE

**WEDNESDAY, March 27**  
Meat Ball Stew, Celery Stick, Cornbread and Butter, Frieded Jello, Milk.

**THURSDAY, March 28**  
Pizza with Meat and Cheese, Buttered Spinach, Pear Hart, Milk.

**FRIDAY, March 29**  
Vegetable Soup and Crackers, Hot Dog in Bun, Relishes, Applesauce, Milk.

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