

Parents, juvenile systems desert homeless teen

By MIKE SCANLON

A homeless, 16-year-old Walled Lake boy was found sleeping in a Garden City backyard Wednesday morning. His only possessions were the clothes he wore and two blankets. At least six weeks ago, his parents moved to Arizona without him.

He was penniless. And he was turned back out onto the street within hours. Juvenile systems in both Oakland and Wayne counties refused to take the boy after a jurisdictional dispute, and Garden City police were forced to reluctantly release him.

"I don't think I can think of anything nastier enough to say," said Detective Lt. Bill Duncan.

"It's a sad state of affairs when our society turns a 16-year-old kid out, and the two largest counties in the state don't want anything to do with it. It's sad. Wayne County doesn't want him."

and Oakland County closed the books on a 16-year-old. We couldn't hold him."

At 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, police received a complaint from a John Hawk street resident that the youth was sleeping in her backyard.

THE BOY had no identification and no money. At the police station, he gave police the name of a Troy youth. Later, he identified himself as Charles Edward Heber, his father's name.

But the boy provided his correct birthdate. A computer check showed that a youth with that same birthdate and a similar name had walked away from an Oakland County youth home called Children's Village last January.

Once he was identified, police began a series of fruitless attempts to house the boy somewhere. Anywhere.

A Garden City police officer contacted the Oakland County social worker

'I don't think I can think of anything nastier enough to say. It's a sad state of affairs when our society turns a 16-year-old kid out, and the two largest counties in the state don't want anything to do with it. It's sad. Wayne County doesn't want him and Oakland County closed the books on a 16-year-old. We couldn't hold him.'

— Detective Lt. Bill Duncan

assigned to the youth's case.

She refused to accept him.

"She said if we'd caught him a month or two earlier, she'd take him. But now his parents moved to Arizona, he's not an Oakland County resident anymore, and they don't want him," said the Garden City officer.

The officer said the social worker informed him the parents had specifically requested that the boy not be informed of where they now live in Yuma, Ariz. An Oakland County juvenile court officer refused to confirm or deny the request. Repeated attempts to reach the Hebers in Yuma were unsuccessful.

DIRECTED BY Oakland County juvenile workers to deliver the boy to juvenile authorities in Wayne County, police dispatched another officer and a car to take the boy to the youth home after David Fargo, a probation officer, agreed in a telephone conversation to accept him.

Fargo was overruled by others at the home.

"Vagrancy wasn't an offense for a child, just for an adult," said Fargo. "Because he belonged to Oakland County and there was no real charge, we couldn't accept him at the youth home."

"According to the juvenile code, jurisdiction is mandated by residency. The question, it seemed to me, is if the parents moved, is he still a resident of

Oakland County, or is he a resident of Arizona?"

"He was obviously a resident of Oakland County and had a relationship with the court there," Fargo concluded.

"AS FAR as residency is concerned, jurisdiction would fall in the city where the youngster was found," said James McFarland, assistant director of court services for the Oakland County Juvenile Court.

However, McFarland added later, "If, in fact, the placement of the parents prior to their departing was in the state of Michigan and our county was where they were living, I suppose ultimately we would be the ones to take the case. That's my opinion, I'm not an attorney."

The dispute about where the boy should live is unclear. Nobody knows where he is now, but he only had one place left to go. The street.

Judge delays ex-counselor's sentencing

A former counselor in the Troy School District pleaded guilty to a narcotics charge in Oakland County Circuit Court. Sentencing was delayed for up to one year.

Juan Morales, 26, of Royal Oak, recently pleaded guilty to conspiring to deliver and accepting delivery of narcotics in Troy High School. Morales was employed as a counselor in the Vocational Instruction and Placement (VIP) center in Troy High School. He was suspended and then resigned from

his post immediately after his arrest in March.

The VIP office serves adults seeking vocational training and job placement.

Judge William Beer delayed sentencing on Morales for one year. Prosecuting attorney Rick Gratten said the judge may call Morales back to court at any time within the year to sentence him or the judge can wait until the year is up then sentence him.

"He may decide to put him in jail or he may decide to put him on probation," Gratten said.

Gratten added that Judge Beer frequently delays sentencing.

Morales was arrested by undercover police detectives, one of whom posed as a drug purchaser. The marked bills which the undercover officer had used to purchase the suspected narcotics were found in Morales' pocket, police said. The substance was tested and found to be methadone.

Milliken rallies Lansing leaders on public transit

Gov. William Milliken has asked legislative leaders to appoint a committee to work with his office on major transportation issues to be addressed this fall, including the Detroit area mass transportation plan.

The Michigan Legislature will consider preliminary engineering funds for the proposed Woodward corridor underground-aerial light rail line in

Detroit and merger of the Detroit Department of Transportation bus system with the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA).

SEMTA will conduct 11 public hearings on the preferred regional transportation plan as soon as it receives a federal environmental impact report on the plan. The hearings, which may

be held this fall, will take place at various locations in SEMTA's district, which includes Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Merger of the two bus systems must be addressed this fall because the law providing mass transit financing for SEMTA will expire April 15 if the two systems haven't merged.

Hotline

Here's an insurance bonus

Detroit area residents can now call an "Insurance Information Hotline" when they need help in solving insurance problems.

The toll-free telephone number is 1-800-292-0712. It has been listed in the yellow pages of the Downtown Detroit telephone directories, scheduled for distribution during September.

The service is designed to give consumers quick access to information on automobile and homeowners insurance, plus other property-casualty coverages. Residents can also get assistance when they have problems with their own insurance company.

The Hotline is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. five days a week.

It is sponsored by Michigan Association of Insurance Companies (MAIC), a non-profit public affairs organization representing Michigan property-casualty insurers. The association is headquartered in Lansing.

According to MAIC president Terry Buckles, consumers most often call the hotline about no-fault coverage," he said. Inquiries about homeowners

insurance, claim settlements and premium costs also rank high on the list.

If hotline personnel can't provide information or solve a problem on the spot, they get in touch with the consumer's insurance company.

"We have contacts with key people in the main or regional office of all property-casualty insurance companies," Buckles explained, "and can expedite handling of consumer inquiries." If there is a disagreement, the hotline will ask the company to review and reconsider the matter.

The Hotline doesn't sell insurance. "We don't even recommend which company someone should buy from, nor will we tell them what type of coverage to buy," Buckles added. "Insurance is a very complex service. We simply try to make the whole process more understandable and convenient for Michigan policyholders."

Buckles said consumers should first contact their own insurance agent or company representative in attempting to solve problems. "If that's not possible or if the person is not satisfied, we would like the chance to help."

GARAGE DOOR OPENERS
BY ALLIANCE
Genie
NEW! IMPROVED!
MODEL GS 459
\$180.00
INSTALLED
SOLID STATE
CONTROLS
\$188.00
DIGITAL
CONTROLS
ALADDIN "GENIE" Sales & Service
1 YEAR WARRANTY
WESTLAND 722-0610 PARTS & SERVICE
PONTIAC 335-9079

STUDY french
WITH THE ALLIANCE
FRANCAISE OF DETROIT
Conversation classes in metropolitan locations.
Native French teachers.
REGISTER NOW
FOR FALL TERM
Alliance Francaise of Detroit
Institute of French
PHONE 292-2750

THIS INSURANCE FOR YOUR HOME
of a fraction of the cost
of Home Insurance.
A CleanFireplace Means:
-softer burning season
-protection for your family,
home and possessions
-energy efficient, lower
heating costs
-Professional Chimney
Cleaning with the
latest equipment
911 Sweeps
Expert Fireplace and Chimney Cleaning
No Mess! All Work Insured!
885-6191

BE THE BEST PARENT YOU CAN BE
Register Now for Fall Classes
in Parenting
Prenatal • Pre-school
Elementary • Adolescence
"This class includes both parent seminars and parent-child activities. Child care provided during seminars."
THE parent TRAINING SCHOOL
Dr. Nancy Anstendig
36751 Franklin Rd.
Franklin Village
626-4140

SUBSTITUTION
\$9.99
\$4.99



Bavarian Village SKI SHOPS
Gigantic September
Skiwear Sale
ALL NEW SKIWEAR
JUST RECEIVED • YOU'LL LOVE IT!
SAVE up to 30% and more

FROM MICHIGAN'S LARGEST TREND-SETTING SKI WEAR SELECTION for MEN • WOMEN • KIDS
REMEMBER THIS IS ALL FRESH NEW SKIWEAR-IT HAS JUST ARRIVED TAKE FIRST PICK ON SALE.
THERE'S PLENTY TO CHOOSE FROM 3400 JACKETS 2710 SWEATERS 1854 SUITS. TOTAL OF OVER 10,000 UNITS ON SALE. SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION. SALE ENDS SEPT. 29TH.

- BLOOMFIELD HILLS: 2540 WOODWARD at Square Lake Rd. 338-0883
 - BIRMINGHAM: 101 TOWNSEND corner of Pierce 844-5950
 - MT. CLEMENS: 1216 S. GRATIOT 1/2 mile north of 16 Mile 463-3620
 - LATHRUP VILLAGE: 28845 SOUTHFIELD south of 12 Mile 559-2360
 - LIVONIA/REDFORD: 14211 TELEGRAPH at Jeffries Fwy. 534-8200
 - EAST DETROIT: 22301 KELLY RD. between 8 & 9 Mile 778-7020
 - ANN ARBOR: 3336 WASHTENAW West of U.S. 23 973-9340
- Open Evenings 'til 9. Saturday 10-5:30. Closed Sunday.
VISA • MASTERCARD • DINERS • AMERICAN EXPRESS

**JACKETS • SUITS • BIBS
SWEATERS • MITTS • GLOVES
UNDERWEAR • HATS
DOWN JACKETS • VESTS
MENS • WOMENS • KIDS**

Bavarian Village
SKI SPECIALISTS

**The recipes are coming!
The recipes are coming!**

Watch for them Monday, October 1,
right here in your hometown
newspaper