

Bus Line Calls It Quits

Northville Coach Lines ceased operation with the close of the schedule Friday, bringing to an end the only bus service based in northwest Wayne County.

The company's single commuter run, along Seven Mile from Northville to Grand River in northwest Detroit, will be hardest felt.

The remainder of the company service, with its 18-bus fleet, was in charter business. A 38-year-old business begun in 1932 will thus fade from the scene.

AUGUST SCHILLER, general manager and one of three company stockholders, told Observer Newspapers Thursday: "We've been losing money for the last five years. We just can't continue."

The decision to fold was made Tuesday by Schiller and fellow stockholders Max Wolf and attorney Samuel Leib.

Schiller said negotiations are underway with another company to sell the company assets. He declined to reveal which company.

Seven full-time employees and several part-time workers will be affected. Schiller said he, too, is going to "look for a job."

A note of disappointment sounded as he explained: "Nobody wants us. If they would have subsidized us, we could have continued. We've tried for years to interest the state Public Service Commission to help. They've said there's no need."

William King, head of the Public Service Commission Transportation division, through whom notice of the cessation has to be processed, was not available for comment Thursday.

James E. Glynn, public relations director for National Bank of Detroit, has been named Wayne County chairman for Michigan Week, May 16-23. He is a former radio newsmen and director of United Funds in two Ohio cities. Last year he was Detroit chairman for Michigan Week.

ANOTHER SOURCE of subsidy Schiller has been looking to for several months has been the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA). In turn, SEMTA has been studying possible acquisition of Schiller's company and

seven others to operate as a regional bus system.

SEMTA studies have shown that fare returns alone would not support such a system and that government subsidy would be necessary.

William C. Ostenson, SEMTA executive secretary, said SEMTA would be unable to either subsidize them or buy them out in anything less than six months or a year.

He said there are three possibilities to meet the emer-

gency of Northville Coach Lines closing:

(1) Seek a state or local subsidy; (2) try to get Detroit's DSR to extend its service westward along Seven Mile; or (3) do nothing and let the service drop.



FORD MOTOR'S NORTHVILLE Valve Plant, which celebrated its 50th anniversary, was founded by the late Henry Ford as one of his "village industries".

A Village Plant Turns 50

A colorful historical milestone was reached last week when Ford Motor Co.'s Northville Valve Plant celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The plant has produced more than a billion valves for Ford engines since it began operating March 20, 1920.

It also has the distinction of being the last of the renowned "village industries"—established by the late Henry Ford which is still in operation.

THE PLANT supplies about 75% of Ford's requirements for intake and exhaust valves for engines. It currently employs 233 persons and had a payroll exceeding \$3,600,000 in 1969.

The plant's history dates from 1919 when the late Henry Ford purchased a three-story brick plant on the site at 233 E. Main Street. The structure was soon converted to a valve plant as one of Ford's "village industries."

Dotted throughout southeastern Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s, these plants were to be noted for high standards of craftsmanship and for friendly, hometown atmosphere. One of Ford's aims was to provide jobs for persons in rural areas

and improve the economy of small towns.

During the plant's first 16 years, 181 million valves were produced in the original building. In 1936 the present plant building was completed, along the banks of a branch of the Rouge River. It stands on the exact site of Northville's first structure—a sawmill established in 1825.

IN THE EARLY days of the new plant, a Fitz overshoot water wheel powered by water from a dam in the river was

used to drive a 30-horsepower electric generator.

In later years, the generator's use was discontinued, but the water wheel still is kept in operating condition to preserve the plant's picturesque setting. Many ducks are permanent residents of a pond below the water wheel.

Originally the plant produced only exhaust valves. Intake valve manufacturing began during the early 1950s and the plant expanded in 1956 to handle this activity.

Kenneth R. Shelly, manager

of Ford's Dearborn Engine Plant, has responsibility for the Northville operations. He lives in Northville. Earl Weigt is the plant superintendent.



WILLIAM E. WOODS, 47, now of Livonia, will move to the Flint area this summer to become superintendent of J.L. Hudson's Genesee Valley Mall store. A native of Cheesing, Woods joined Hudson's 24 years ago as a parcel driver and rose through the ranks to become superintendent of the Westland Center store. A graduate of Holy Redeemer High School, he studied business administration at Wayne State University.

Leisure Life Buys Trailer Maker

Leisure Life, Inc. of Farmington has acquired the Robin Hood Travel Trailers Co.

Business offices of Robin Hood will remain at 3309 W. Eight Mile, Farmington. Production facilities are at 11815 E. Grand River, Brighton.

Leisure Life President Claude Hessey will have Aron Redditt as Robin Hood vice president and general manager.

Other Robin Hood officers are Bud Salasky, vice president for marketing; Jim McNeelce, controller and treasurer; and Bob Emerson, sales manager.

Leisure Life is a two-month-old division of Smith Fireproofing Co., a conglomerate. Leisure Life products include Streamliner Travel Trailers of Indiana and Aquanier, a sports vehicle.



BOB HOLDEN of 9184 Hallline, Redford Township, has been appointed sales manager of the Midland branch office of Real Estate One. A graduate of Cooley High in Detroit and a World War II Air Force pilot, Holden has 17 years of real estate experience, most recently with Derrero & Son, which was part of the Real Estate One merger.

Niehaus Gets Committee Post

Donald J. Niehaus, of Farmington, manager of nuclear hardening programs at the Bendix Corp.'s Research Laboratories, in Southfield, has been appointed chairman of a new subcommittee formed by the Society of Automotive Engineers on nuclear hardening-nuclear survivability.

The subcommittee will be concerned with military weapon systems, nuclear propelled vehicles, nuclear space power systems and equipment associated with them. Members of the subcommittee include representatives of industry and government.

Kuhn Seeks Bomb Probe

State Senator George W. Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield) yesterday introduced a resolution, co-sponsored by 18 senators, calling for a full scale Senate investigation of the recently attempted dynamite bombings of a Detroit police station and the headquarters of the Detroit Police Officers Association.

Sen. Kuhn said, "It is time we look into these incidents that could effectively destroy the entire police department of Detroit."

The resolution also indicates several incidents of sniping at police officers and firemen while in the performance of their duties.

If approved by the Senate, the resolution would authorize a five member special committee to investigate the shootings and bombings of police officers, and report its findings and recommendations to the 1971 Legislature.

"This situation is so serious that it clearly jeopardizes not only the safety and welfare of our police officers but all of society as well," concluded Kuhn, who represents the 14th District including Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, and southern and western tiers of Oakland county.



By W.W. EDGAR

The doors to the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame were opened Saturday afternoon to admit four new members.

In fitting ceremonies at the Detroit Historical Museum Tony Lindemann, former captain of the Stroh team, Maxine Cruchon, veteran all-star and organizer of the Bowlerettes League, Bill Williams, former president of the city, state and national bowling proprietors associations were admitted and a posthumous award was made for the late Therman Gibson.

The addition of these four brought to 38 the number of persons in the Hall of Fame that was inaugurated in 1957.

TED BAKATSELOS, the strong man from Westland, finished second to Dick Preston in the monthly tournament of the Michigan Major Bowling Association last weekend in Grand Rapids.

To take first place Preston averaged 221 for the final 12 games for a 3161 count. Bakatselos posted 2970.

PAUL MOORE, of Warren, who does quite a bit of bowling in Observeland, tied for the regular all-events lead in the ABC tournament last weekend at Knoxville when he put together a nine-game series of 1947. Each of his nine games was well above double century figures.

HOWIE MARSH and Solly Abel shared honors in the Senior House League at Oak Park Lanes. Howie posted a 254 single and Solly had high series with 638.

A 17-YEAR-OLD lad took the honors this week at Merri-Bowl Lanes.

Bowling in the Father & Son League Phil Kupras had a 277 game with 10 solid pocket hits in 12 attempts. The 277 count was high for the season.

Vern Blanchard set a high single for the Fathers with a 268 game and Bill Duguid posted a new high series with 696.

SCORING TOOK a dip in the Wonderland Classic where 700 series had become the order of the day.

This week Billy Walker needed only a 673 to take top honors. Close behind him came Buzz Hansen with 670.

Debbie Beattie, average leader with a 217, dropped to a 598 series.

JIM MACCONBER paced another high scoring session in the Westland Classic when he laced games of 247, 268 and 234 for 749.

Three others — Chuck Ahonen, Roger Helle and Harry Hill — were tied for runner-up honors with 701.

Joe Kilyanek couldn't stand prosperity in the Hydrant League. He opened with a 245, followed with 221 and then slumped to 177 for 643. At that, it's a good showing for a fellow with a 167 average.

REANIE NASSER, bowling in the Way-Out League at Plymouth Bowl, went way out to take the spotlight.

Left with a "double pinocchio," she calmly aimed, fired and knocked it over.

In the men's classic Carl Postain was high man with a 695.

AT FARMINGTON LANES Linda Hansen and Tom McKendry shared honors in the Teen-Age Classic. Linda had a 246 in 580 and Tom a 224 in 589.

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