

# Birds from page 1A

Potter says vandalism is a problem in any park, particularly one like Heritage that people can walk into even after hours.

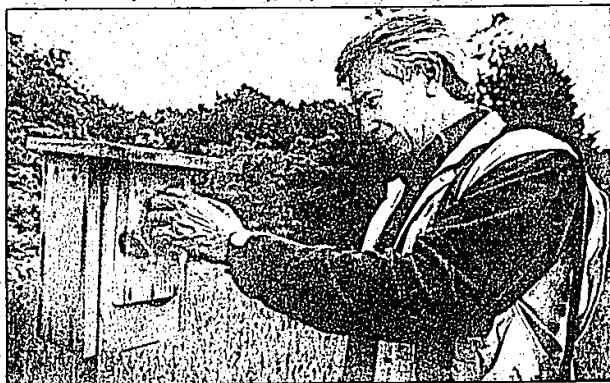
"With 211 acres, it would be very difficult to patrol and secure every feature in the park," he said.

The Detroit Audubon Society is offering a \$100 reward for information leading to the apprehension of those involved with the vandalism. Executive director Jack Smiley said people can call the police with information or call his office at 545-2929.

The Farmington Naturalists Club put up 16 boxes March 1 to attract the insect-eating birds, which declined in population rapidly as development overtook the area. The club used some boxes erected previously by boy scouts and got some money from the city to buy others. Backyard Birds also bought some of the boxes. Park visitors were urged not to disturb the bluebirds and to view them from afar with binoculars.

"We have destroyed all their natural areas. We were trying to help them out. I don't want to point fingers in any direction. I'm concerned it's getting out of hand. We need more security," Teets said.

Though some wonder whether the birds are in fact dead — there's no trace of them — Teets is pretty cer-



SHARON LAMBERT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Endangered project: Local naturalists like Don Teets were upset last week when a three-and-a-half-month-old plan to bring bluebirds back to Farmington Hills was interrupted by vandals at Heritage Park.**

tain. "The nest would be laying on the ground. Predators would find them," he said.

Club members have monitored the boxes since they were erected to see how things are developing with

the bluebird families. Members knew the dates eggs were hatched and consequently have a good idea of the number of birds that are missing.

Because of the vandalism, club

members do not want to say how many, if any, of the protected birds remain. "There were a lot of people trying to do something positive for the birds. For someone now to destroy them..." Teets said.

## Hills boy recovering after bike-van mishap

By Sue Buck  
Staff Writer

A 13-year-old Farmington Hills boy is in fair condition Friday in University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor after being critically injured June 17 when the bicycle he was riding was struck by a van on Haggerty Road in Novi.

Anastasios George Liangis, who will be a ninth grader at Farmington High school in September, was reportedly struck by a van which was northbound on Haggerty.

The teen apparently dashed in front of the van after leaving Taco

Bell, police said.

No charges are planned against

the 67-year-old driver who had no time to stop, police said.

Liangis was attempting to cross Haggerty from the east side of road just north of Eight Mile, police said.

Suffering from head injuries, he was originally taken to St. Mary's Hospital and then transported to

University of Michigan.

"We called him 'Taco,'" said Norm Luebke, assistant principal at Power Middle School, on Friday.

Luebke recalls seeing Liangis in school lunch lines. "He's friendly and outgoing," Luebke said.

The Novi News contributed to this report.

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