

Project helps Beechview students have write stuff

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Beechview Elementary School fourth graders want sidewalks installed in their subdivisions. And they want their voices heard about the subject.

As part of a writing assignment in the classroom of Beechview fourth grade teacher Scott Stautler, students brainstormed topics of interest to them that they could write persuasive business letters about.

Most of the class decided they wanted to write about the lack of sidewalks. Stautler's students composed letters in the media center and mailed them to Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates or to the Farmington Observer for possible publication.

"I think they do have hopes someone will take their concerns seriously," said Stautler, noting that the assignment began in early October and took several weeks to complete.

Stautler said he was "pleased with the results," and that students wrote thoughtful letters chock full of compelling ideas.

Safety was a common thread in the letters. "They're generally concerned," Stautler said, "... that they don't have any place to ride their bikes, ride their Scooters or walk their pets. And especially when it snows like this, there's no place to walk."

Stautler said Bates will be invited to speak to the students about the sidewalk issue.

Students participating in the project were Matthew Aho, Amal Algharably, Jonathan Baldwin, Kristi Brandon, Tabetha Chapman, Steven Dally, Senn Daro, Alexandria Decker, Gina Ellsworth, Samantha Flaherty, Garrett Kidd, Kyle Kottke, Samantha Kusek, Bryan McConnell, Yanna Osipov, Candace Quint, Kallyn Richardson, Jenna Riley, Robert Scriven, James Stallings and Melissa Wasson.

Following are some of the letters:

■ Loves hiking

I am a fourth grader at Beechview Elementary School. I love to ride my bike, but I am concerned about not having a sidewalk. I think we need them to be safer when we go for a

bike ride. It really concerns my family that a car might hit us.

There are many reasons why we need sidewalks. First, if we don't have sidewalks someone can get badly injured by a car. Second, it would look neater and it would be more fun to go

on a walk.

My request is simple. We want sidewalks in the neighborhood so I can ride my bike safely. It will make my street look like a new street. I can then take a long walk. But if the city puts sidewalks in, we will be more than thankful.

Jenna Riley

Beechview Elementary

■ Sidewalk needed

I am a fourth grader at Beechview Elementary School, and I am concerned about not having sidewalks in my subdivision. When a car goes by, I have to stop and wait. If we had a sidewalk in our neighborhood, then we wouldn't have to stop so much.

There are many reasons for a sidewalk. One is I can ride my bike, Rollerblade and ride my scooter all the time. Sidewalks would make it safer for all kids.

My request is simple. I would like sidewalks to be put in my neighborhood. When you go for a walk, you can use the sidewalks.

Bryan McConnell

Beechview Elementary

■ Street unsafe

I am a fourth grader at Beechview Elementary. There is a particular issue I'm concerned about. The issue is there are no sidewalks in my neighborhood. I'm concerned about this issue

because my brother is forced to ride his bike in the street. That is not safe.

There are many reasons why this is an issue. Here is one. There are tons of kids who die from car accidents. Sidewalks are a very safe place for walking, riding bikes and pushing strollers.

My request is simple. I want sidewalks in my neighborhood. It would be a safer place for kids.

Christopher Scriven
Beechview Elementary

■ Road unsafe

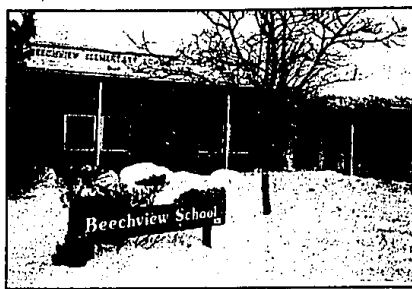
I am a fourth grader at Beechview Elementary, and we need sidewalks in our subdivision.

There are many reasons we need sidewalks. First, we have to walk and play games in the street and it is unsafe for us to walk in the road. Second, I have to ride my bike in the street and my friends like to ride their scooters and we could get hit by a car. Third, when we are at our Aunt Marie's house, we tell our 2-year-old cousin "Don't go past the sidewalk." This keeps her a safe distance away from the road. Fourth, many people like to walk their dogs and they need a place to walk them safely.

My request is simple. I want the city to put sidewalks in my subdivision. If the city does this, it would make our neighborhood safer.

Jonathan Baldwin

Beechview Elementary



STAFF PHOTO BY DALL BRESNAH

Home of writers: Beechview school is in a Farmington Hills subdivision between 11 and 12 Mile roads.

■ Many reasons

I am a fourth grader from Beechview Elementary, and I am concerned about sidewalks. Every time I go for a bike ride, I don't feel comfortable.

There are a lot of reasons to put sidewalks in. First, someone could get hit. Next, someone's dog could get hit. Finally, a little kid could get hit. Once I was going for a bike ride and a car almost hit me!

My request is simple: Please put sidewalks in my neighborhood.

Gina Ellsworth

Beechview Elementary

■ Concerned

I am a fourth grader at

Beechview Elementary School. I want to tell you a concern I have. I would like sidewalks in my neighborhood. I live on Springland Street.

There are many reasons. First, I don't want to get hit by a car. Second, people can walk, Rollerblade, bike and other things too. Third, parents now have to watch their kids every second, with sidewalks they won't have to as much. Finally, people don't have to be worried about getting hit by a car if sidewalks were there.

Please consider having sidewalks put in. I don't want people to get in accidents, with cars hitting pedestrians.

Samantha Kusek

Beechview Elementary

YEAR END SALE
Begins MONDAY, January 8th
up to **75% OFF** in ALL Departments
1/2 OFF ALL WINTER OUTERWEAR
(EXCLUDES COATS & SKI/CLIMBER)
baby and me
6718-C ORCHARD LAKE ROAD
(248) 855-3214

LOOKING AHEAD
Coming this Sunday is a Year in Review story on the Farmington schools. Also, the community calendar, which has run on Thursdays, will appear on Sundays.

STORAGE USA
Notice is hereby given that on 1-16-01, LeRoy Elfrank Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units:
UNITS: NAME: ITEMS FOR SALE:
B50: Anne Church Appliances
The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be held at the following location, 38876 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 and will begin at 1:00 PM and continue until all units are sold.
Publish: January 4, 2001

CASH
Waiting For You At
Jules Jewelry
Bring In All Of Your Old Diamonds & Gold Rolex Watches Wanted
\$1.99 Batteries for Most Watches
* Excluding Lithium, 1/2000, 1/2000, 1/2000, 1/2000
33463 W. 7 Mile Rd. Livonia • (248) 442-7878

EXTREME SAVINGS!
"Not Just Used Anymore"

| | |
|--|---|
| NEW HOCKEY HELMETS ASSORTED COLORS \$29.99 Reg. \$70 | MISSION NEW AMP 4 HOCKEY SKATES \$99.95 Reg. \$300 |
| NEW PINKSPIN XEL UNIVERSE AND FAIRWAY WOODS \$99.95 Reg. \$299.95 | BAUER NEW IMPACT 300 HOCKEY GLOVES Jr. \$49.95 Senior \$59.95 Reg. \$110 |
| WIDE ASSORTMENT OF NEW SLEDS \$29.95 to \$39.95 | NEW HOCKEY STICKS \$4.99 AND UP |
| NEW GIRL'S FIGURE SKATES \$29.95 AND UP | BAUER NEW ICE SKATES \$19.99 Reg. \$70 |

GET YOUR SPORTS GEAR HERE!!
PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS
ANN ARBOR
2461 W. Stadium Blvd. • 734-747-6277
BRIGHTON
620 W. Grand River Ave. • 810-227-6877
FARMINGTON HILLS
28946 Orchard Ln. Rd. • 248-737-0970
LIVONIA
11500 Middlebelt Rd. • 734-266-1999
ROCHESTER HILLS
1390 Walton Blvd. • 248-650-5300
WATERFORD
4268 Dixie Highway • 248-674-8220
TROY
2865 Carpenter Road • 734-973-1636

You belong here at the Jewish Community Center

Get fit, meet new people and **SAVE UP TO 45%*** when you join now during our Winter Membership Special!

Your Health Club membership includes:

- Aerobics
- Swimming
- Trotter's tennis
- Stationary bikes
- State-of-the-art cross-training equipment
- Flex and free-weight training
- Pool
- Shower, sauna, whirlpool
- Personal locker & towel service
- Members' refreshment lounge
- Use of the Tailine Hockey Center
- Recreational

11:00pm-12:00am hours to fit your work schedule!

Sale prices effective January and February 2001

Watch for our new updated fitness center in Oak Park

Bring in this ad for a free, five-consecutive-day guest pass.

JCC Jimmy Prezis Morris Building
A. Alfred Taubman Jewish Community Campus
15110 W. 10 Mile, Oak Park, Michigan 48237

D. Dan and Betty Kahn Building
Eugene and Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus
6600 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48312

*Health Club membership, age 18-34. Application fee waived. Some restrictions apply. Must not have been a member in the last 12 months. For more information or additional membership options, call (248) 967-4070 in Oak Park or (248) 661-7621 in West Bloomfield.