

Library visits nursing homes

By DIANE SANDS
SOUTHFIELD — The city's traveling library service will expand by December to serve all seven nursing homes in Southfield. A pilot program begun in May at Mt. Vernon Nursing Home, 26715 Greenfield, brought regular and large-print books to persons unable to get to the main library. Susan Koslosky, coordinator of library programs, and volunteers Adele Fergal and Elsie Kutinsky, assist patients at the home in selection of reading materials. Books are checked out for two weeks, but may be kept longer, if necessary. No overdue fines are levied in the program. The program also includes talking books and books in braille. "Some of the patients had been active patrons of the library all of their lives and read an average of four books during the two-week period between visits," said Miss Koslosky. "Most of our patrons are women, and we find that they prefer romance to mystery and also like humor, inspirational selections and some biography," she said. "Some have requested books with a bit of spice, while others prefer more genteel reading material," she said. Volunteers are needed to go into the other nursing homes and must be available on the same two days each month. The only qualifications needed are a good knowledge of books and a desire to work with the patients in the homes. "It is important to wear bright colors and a big smile when visiting the homes," Miss Koslosky said. "Fresh personalities and the special warmth of human contact is important to these people. "A SMILE, a touch, a few moments of conversation bring satis-

faction to the older patients. They are very appreciative and grateful of the volunteer's efforts," she said. The volunteers, working in teams of two, will be assisted by Miss Koslosky during initial visits to the homes. She will also be available for continued advice and encouragement. The program will be a shared effort between the library and volunteers, but we need the services and suggestions of volunteers to make it a success," Miss Koslosky said. For additional information, contact the Southfield Public Library at 854-9610.

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Birmingham opens schools Sept. 4

BIRMINGHAM—Students in the Birmingham School District will return to classes on Wednesday, Sept. 4. The first day of classes will be a morning half-day only. All elementary schools will start at 8:45 a.m. and be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. Barum, Groves and Seaholm students will attend from 8 a.m. to noon.

Hours at Berkshire, Covington, Derby and West Maple will be 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The regular daily schedule, beginning Thursday, Sept. 5, will be as follows: • Adams, Beverly, Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Village, Evergreen, Franklin, Greenfield, Harlan, Meadow Lake, Valley Woods and Walnut Lake schools, 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. • Pembroke, Piercy, Quanton, Torry and Westchester schools, 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. • Midvale School, 8:45 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. • Barum, Groves and Seaholm, 8 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. • Berkshire, Covington, Derby and West Maple, 8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.

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Young TV performers look to bright future

Two of TV's busy young personalities paused recently during a promotional tour to comment on the realities of the day. Ron Howard and Anson Williams, stars of "Happy Days," reflected on the resignation of former President Richard M. Nixon. "We really witnessed history today," said Ron. "But it had to happen and we're better off." "Something like this makes you stop and think about the President being a real human being," Anson said. Both agreed they don't want to see Nixon in prison or further prosecuted. "He's gone through a lot already. I think he's had it," said Ron. ANSON THINKS young people have gone through really frantic times. "For people my age, there have been unjust wars, assassinations and now impeachment. "It's a time to go back to basics, to nature, and harmony with living things." Anson said he recently met Vice-President Gerald R. Ford while on tour. "He comes across as a strong man. Television doesn't do him justice. He's honest and strong but yet sensitive and not a weak man," he said. The youths watched Nixon's resignation in a Chicago hotel and then journeyed into Detroit for an early interview the next morning. THEY SPOKE of the instant success of their show, "Happy Days." "The time is right for it," Anson said. "It's been in the works for three years and we hope it will be acceptable for three or four years to come." He called it the kind of show that "brings the family together around the TV." "People say thanks for bringing my family together," he said. Anson has been a professional for nearly four years. He has made many TV appearances and recently signed a lucrative recording contract. HE WAS A drama student for three years at California State University in Los Angeles and began to audition for spots. His success came relatively quickly. Ron Howard at age 20 is a 15-year veteran of show business. For eight years, he co-starred on the Andy Griffith Show as Andy's son, Opie. He also co-starred in "The Smith Family" with Henry Fonda and has done many feature movies.

"THE ANDY GRIFFITH Show, being an eight-year stint, really left a mark on me," he said. Besides being a performer, Ron also attends college when he can. He was a cinema major but has switched to English. He said he would continue to "grab onto any Saturday classes" he can fit in. "I may not ever get a degree," he said, "but I'm determined to plug away. School is a place to develop habits, discipline and feed a need to keep growing." Anson plans to concentrate on business courses. "HAPPY DAYS" segments take about three and one-half days each to film and the young men work a 12-hour-a-day schedule for five days each week. For Anson, the week-ends are often spent doing concert dates. "I'd like to develop into a really good singer," he said. His ambition is to continue growing in the profession. Both agree the current show has improved since last year and is sure to be well received by TV audiences.

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