

Students to retain busing

FARMINGTON—Nine Power Junior High School students will continue to have bus service until April 1, although they live closer than the 1.5 mile requirement stipulated by the state and city governments.

However, Business Manager William Prisk said at the Tuesday night Board of Education meeting, the arrangement is only temporary.

"By providing temporary service, we'll avoid a penalty," he said. Parents in the area have requested the dispensation because of the hazardous conditions of the roads in that area.

"This request is not based on convenience, but for the safety of the children," said a spokesman for the Farmington Village subdivision.

"THERE IS no room for a sidewalk or a walkway in this area, and isn't

enough room for cars to avoid students who are walking in the road," he said.

Concrete-haulers and school buses posed dangers for the children by not only having trouble avoiding them, but by contributing to the deterioration of the road surface.

To correct the situation and protect their children, parents proposed sidewalk construction to Farmington and Farmington Hills.

"We've had very little encouragement in that area," Elliot said. "We tried to have Gill Road paved. It was paved from Eight Mile Road to Gill Elementary."

Paving has not reduced the traffic from the Nine Mile Road entrance to Gill, which keeps the roads in bad condition, he said.

The roads in that area, under the upkeep of Farmington Hills, "are prob-

ably slightly better now, since the incorporation of the city, than they were when Oakland County took care of it," the spokesman said.

"WHAT WE really fear is the spring thaw," he said.

Prisk said that extensive usage of the Eight Mile entrance would add one to two miles to pre-existing bus routes. For that reason, and because the Nine Mile entrance is still passable, the buses will continue to use that entrance.

Each ineligible rider means a loss of revenue from the state, a cost, Prisk said, which was impossible to calculate.

"At this point, there's no financial loss," he said.

Buses would pick up ineligible riders only under the following conditions:

- that there are no adequate sidewalks or walkways in the area,
- no bus may deviate from its regular route or its scheduled time,
- there can be no overloading, and
- that the buses load to capacity with those students furthest from the building first.

Board vice-president William Corliss recommended that the board, "by its inaction, should support in this matter."

"Any action we take, might take away from this program," he said. Gary Lichtman, president of the board of education, agreed.

"It isn't the first time that sidewalks and roads have become the concern of the board. What is needed is a long-range plan for sidewalks or some kind of walkway," he said.

Lichtman was designated delegate to the Farmington Hills City Council, charged with explaining the board's views.

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Suggestion boxes popular

FARMINGTON—Suggestion boxes are often nothing more than receptacles for little better than the trash can.

For two years, the Farmington Beautification Committee's suggestion boxes all but gathered dust awaiting fresh ideas.

The 16-member city-appointed group had placed the boxes in the National Bank of Detroit, city hall and the library.

But the boxes were used as hat racks and trash receptacles.

RECENTLY, HOWEVER, business has picked up, and Betty Holm, who is in charge of the suggestions, reported sudden interest.

A child suggested that the group embark on an anti-litter campaign. Another urged the group to plant more flowers throughout the city. A third asked

that the committee place flowers in the library.

While the suggestions were not exactly earth shaking, Mrs. Holm said that she is optimistic about a renewed interest in the city.

"This month is the first time that we got constructive suggestions," she said.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS asked for a community pool and urged the group to keep horses off the sidewalks.

The group is funded by the city. Members serve for two years. An auxiliary group, Friends of the Beautification Committee, offer support.

Efforts are concentrated in the downtown area. Flowers are planted in the summer and the trees along Grand River are decorated at Christmas.

The group is also responsible for the fire hydrant painting program.

Annual awards are presented to area merchants and businesses for Beautification efforts.

ONCE, A YEAR the group does hip books, gathers volunteers and cleans up the Rouge River.

Mrs. Holm said that the committee is seeking suggestions for the sidewalk area along Grand River in downtown.



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CD track coach honored

George W. Browne, history teacher and varsity track coach at Detroit Country Day School, was honored with the Class C "Coach of the Year" award on January 10 by the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association.

Besides coaching varsity track, Browne also coaches middle school wrestling and football and is the advisor to the "D" Club which is the school's pep club.

He originated the Country Day In-

ternational Track Meet held every spring since 1963. He is also alumni director and middle school athletic director.

His track team won the 1971 Class C championship and he was nominated as Class C coach for that year.

Browne was born in Ithaca, New York and graduated from Ithaca School in Ithaca, New York. He earned his B.S. in Physical Education from Ursinus College in Pennsylvania and his M.A. from the University of Rhode Island.

Browne resides in West Bloomfield with his wife, Jan and three daughters, Susanne, age 15, Terri-Lee, age 12 and Lisa, age eight.

Wayne grants degrees to residents

FARMINGTON—Twenty-two Farmington area residents received degrees at Wayne State University's commencement on Dec. 10 at Cobo Hall in Detroit.

Norman Morris, Janet Jacoboni, Stuart Goldbaum, Allen Schlossberg, Glenn Siegel, Steven Duda, Phillip Fleming received a Bachelor of Arts. Howard Soules, Daniel Reiter, Mohammad Odoh, Stanton Barr, Verneta Plinick, and Joyce Janssen received a Bachelor of Science.

C.L. McCracken received a Master of Urban Planning.

Daniel Clifford and Dennis Jacobs were awarded master's degrees.

Robert Keysmith and James Kremidas received a Master in Business Administration.

The following people were awarded a Master of Education: Helena Baginski, Marian McCracken, Ruth Beresh, and Mary Schwabe.

Police study plane wreck

Investigation is expected to continue for at least a month into the cause of a plane crash in Virginia which claimed the lives of a Farmington Hills family of seven.

A Virginia State Police spokesman said that all seven in the Paul Jatko family were killed instantly when their small, twin-engine plane crashed about 8 p.m. Jan. 12 in a heavily wooded area near Tacoma in southeast Virginia.

The wreckage was not reached by rescuers until 8 a.m. Jan. 17.

Investigators are studying the wreckage to determine the cause of the crash which occurred during a freezing rain storm.

Killed were Jatko, a dentist with a practice in Westland; his wife, Marie, and their children Susan, Karen, Elizabeth, Paul Michael.

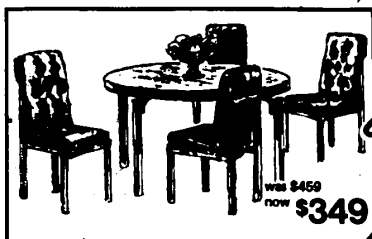
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