

Operation Teddy Bear helps kids



Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer (left), Telephone Pioneers of America past president James Scott and Farmington Hills public safety director Frank Lauhoff show off the Operation Teddy Bear fare.

The Farmington and Farmington Hills police departments, in cooperation with the "Telephone Pioneers of America," a volunteer Michigan Bell organization, are working together to provide assistance to children who have been involved in traumatic accidents or crime related/child abuse incidents. This assistance will be in the form of a Stuffed Teddy Bear.

Telephone Pioneers of America came to the Farmington Department of Public Safety on Monday to deliver the first shipment of "Teddy Bears" to be used by the police officers of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The Telephone Pioneers are providing the Teddy Bears at no cost to the police department, and will replace them as they are given away.

Other local Oakland County police and fire departments are involved in this program, with still others awaiting their first shipment of "Teddy Bears."

"The simple act of providing a teddy bear to a child in a stressful situation, such as a serious vehicle accident, fire, or crime scene, will assist the officers and the child in providing the necessary lifesaving actions or in getting important and necessary information quickly and in a gentle way," said Frank Lauhoff, Farmington Public Safety director.

Engineering firm wins merit award

Neyer, Tiseo & Hinds & Trow Ltd. of Farmington Hills, has won a merit award from the Consulting Engineering Council of Michigan (CEC/M) in the council's 24th annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition.

Steve Wagner, executive director of CEC/M, said the Development of In-place Testing of Bond in Concrete developed by Neyer, Tiseo & Hinds & Trow Ltd. was chosen from 18 entries received from consulting engineering firms throughout Michigan. Entries were judged on meeting and exceeding the owner's or client's needs; on originality, uniqueness or new application of existing techniques; on social and economic considerations; on technical value to the profession; and on complexity.

Steve Wagner said the consulting engineers received the award for development of a testing procedure which will aid engineers in evaluating workmanship and quality of concrete in rehabilitation projects.

Neyer, Tiseo & Hinds & Trow Ltd.'s winning entry will be part of a traveling exhibit displayed in schools, libraries, and public buildings throughout the state. Wagner said persons wishing to schedule the exhibit should contact him at the council's office in East Lansing, 1-517-332-2066.

New C'ville chief agrees to contract

Kevin Brown staff writer

New Superintendent Jerry Montecillo has agreed to a contract with the Clarencville Board of Education.

The three-year contract, approved by the board June 22, specifies a base salary of \$95,400 in the first year.

Board president Richard Wood said the base salary offered to Montecillo is the same salary paid to outgoing Superintendent Michael Sabler — but raised by 9 percent in following provisions of the recent district settlement with other administrators.

As called for in the contract with administrators, Montecillo will receive pay raises of 9 and 6 percent in the last two years of the contract.

ON BEING chosen Clarencville Superintendent, Montecillo said, "I'm tickled pink. I'm really looking forward to it."

Montecillo is scheduled to be on a job in Clarencville July 17. The district includes parts of Farmington Hills, Livonia and Redford Township.

The board June 22 named Ralph Skovick, assistant superintendent, as acting superintendent.

In his position as Taylor Public Schools superintendent, Montecillo made \$74,000 in the final year of his contract. That means he's taking an \$8,600 pay cut.

Montecillo said the pay cut is no concern. "We've been through some trying times in Taylor... It's been like combat," he said, adding, "It's a great community."

"I'm nearing the end of my career," said Montecillo, 53, "and Clarencville is the kind of place I can go to work every day with a smile."

Observers agree that Montecillo brought peace to the district in his five years as superintendent. After succeeding two superintendents who were fired, he helped make the Taylor schools financially stable and restored pride.

REFFERING TO the pay cut Montecillo is accepting, Wood said:

"We asked him about that. He said he wanted to get back to a district where he could walk the halls, and know the teachers by their first names."

Montecillo said he plans to meet with members of the group Community to Dissolve Clarencville, which seeks to dissolve the district.

"We'll need to deal with it, I'll talk to them," he said, adding he's faced similar situations in the Warren schools.

Montecillo said he also plans to move to the district. "You have to live in the community where you work."

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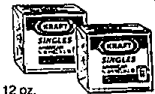
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