

Strapped on: At right, Kristen Nicole prepares to ride a tandem bicycle. Below, Jessica Waldecker (left) and Elizabeth Steiber help Monica Mingo to ride a bike.



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Neighborhood chat: Laura and (behind) Ron Braun, Paul, and Margaret Mingo listen to their neighbor Ed Saule, who's been a Kimberley resident since the early 1960s when the subdivision opened.

Kimberley from page 1A



students are being bused to Alameda Early Childhood Center as a temporary solution to the problem.

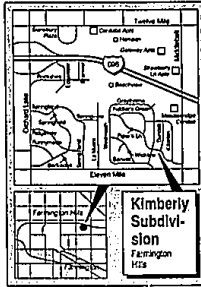
That got a group of Kimberley residents cranked up. They protested to the school board over the move.

Waldecker is spearheading a new initiative, forming the Beechview Community Homeowners Against Overcrowded Schools. The group's mission is to work with the district in order to find a low-cost, permanent solution.

The busing issue hits home for obvious reasons.

Many residents bought into the subdivision with a clear notion of suburban living - safe streets, neighborhood gatherings and, certainly, their children being able to walk to school.

They cherish that vision, and



protect it.
"I think it's brought older people — original homeowners — together. We have a common bond," said Mary Nicole, who is president of the Kimberley Homeowners Association. "They feel strongly about the kindergarten thing."

Original homeowners, those who moved in when the subdivision opened in 1960, share a sense of camaraderie with newcomers.

Dundak resident Ed Saule was there when Thompson-Brown Realtors christened the subdivision. He moved with his family from the east side of Detroit to be closer to work in Southfield.

"You could tell it was a good one," Saule said. "It filled up in two years."

Eleven Mile resident Paul Mingo grew up in Kimberley. His mother still lives on Pipers Lane in the sub.

Said Paul Mingo, "When I moved back to the Detroit area, it was the only reasonable place to live."

Conversely, Laura Braun used to hear other Kimberley residents talk about the sub at Nardin Park Nursery School. She lived in Lincolnshire at the time.

"I thought, 'This is what I want,'" said Braun, who has lived on Greythorne for two years.

The Kimberley Association also has a babysitting co-op. Residents watch their neighbors' children and receive tokens. The tokens can be redeemed at a later date for future babysitting time.

"They're worthless unless you need a babysitter," Steil said, "then they are gold."

Especially in Kimberley.

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