# When considering new member

# Time for council to open selection process

During the next couple of weeks, the Farmington City Council will be performing one of its most sacred duties — it will act as the electorate's proxy in naming a new city council member.

In past years, this council has gone to great lengths to skirt the spirit of the open meetings law when replacing one of its own. They did it when appointing William Mitchell and could well try it this time around.

For the extraction.

this time around.

For the sake of honoring its contract with the public, the council should change its secret ways when tapping a replacement for Richard Tupper.

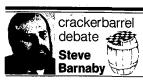
Council members maintain that an open process could embarrass some persons under discussion. Somebody's feelings could be hurt if one of the

councilmen says something negative about a candi-date, according to the logic. But the logic is nonsense.

Every campaign has its rhetoric. Much of it is less than flattering. For more than 200 years, candidates, win or lose, have survived the process. Many come back for another dose.

In practice, the council's way creates more embatrassment and rumors than it stops. The electorate, besides possessing a healthy curiosity, has a right to know who will be representing its public concerns and why.

IT ALSO HAS the right to see how its elected



officials deliberate and judge those same officials on their conduct. Another piece of faulty logic is that the council

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So they may have credibility — among a small circle of city hall insiders. But those same persons never have stood up to public scrutiny that candidates are put under during regular elections. The electorate should have the opportunity to question candidates.

The council should be wise enough to listen to these questions and accompanying answers. After all, the public could very well come up with son valid questions the council members may forget

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# Mercy students win poster contest

Six students from Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills will be honored by the Automobile Club of Michigan Thursday, June 10 as winners in AAA's 38th annual School Traffic Safety Poster Contests.

Michigan Thursday, June 10 as winners in AAA's 38th annual School Traffic Safety Poster Contests.

In the state junior division, Julie Chrzanowski, 14, earned first place and 125 for her poster, "Develop the Safety Belt Habit," and Renee Bibeau, 14, earned first place and \$125 for her poster, "School's Open — Drive Carrelly."

Brita Brooks, 14, earned second place and \$100 for her poster, "Develop the Safety Belt Habit," and Marie Nowak, 14, earned second place and \$100 for her poster, "Develop the Safety Belt Habit," and Marie Nowak, 14, earned second place and \$100 for her poster, "School's Open — Drive Carelly."

Pam Modson, 15, earned second place and 100 in the national juntor division and Kristen Wicke, 14, earned third place and \$50 in the national juntor division for their posters, "Develop the Safety Belt Habit."

They are among the posters, "Develop the Auto Cub along with their parents and art teactions and art teactions at a noon awards luncheon at Dearborn's Fairlane Maner.

Posters were designed around one of

nanor.

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#### Farmington Observer

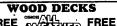
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