Oxford residents complain about traffic

O&E THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1991

Ask Oxford Street residents and they'll tell you a driveway from Boisford General Hospital to their quiet residential street has rever existed. There was never a driveway there," said Oxford resident Massie Kurzela. "This is something that has never existed. There was never a driveway there," said Oxford resident Massie Kurzela. "This is something that has never existed. We were promised by the Farming ton) township board there would be no traffic coming out on our street." But traffic — trucks and employeess, according to residents— has been coming out from the west side of Bostord to Oxford, especially with the start of a \$30 million construction project at the facility.

Oxford residents drew attention their concerns with the Oxford gate or driveway Monday when they saw a request on the city

council agenda to approve a prohibition on right lurns northbound onto Oxford from the Botsford emergency area. The city council did not act on the request Monday and postponed it until the next meeting Monday, July 15. Council members asked for records' and a site plan from township days in the 1960s to show whether the Oxford gate is really a hospital driveway or not.

UNDER A TEMPORARY traffic order issued in May, right turns are now prohibited onto Oxford — at least through most of July. The request is to extend that prohibi-

July. The request is to extend that promise them. Botsford administrator Gerson Cooper disagrees with Oxford residents. The Oxford gate, he said, is a city-approved entrance/exit for the hospital. There is nothing in writing that prohibits us from using that exit," Cooper said.

The gate is open to allow both ambu-lances and private vehicles carrying emer-gency patients to use Oxford to avoid con-struction around the hospital campus, Coo-

City Manager William Costick said he gave the hospital permission to open the gate because of the expressed concern about emergency vehicles.

about emergency vehicles.

But residents said they don't understand how the city can approve a probibition on right turns from the gate when the gate cannot be opened for traffic. Robert Boyd told the council the gate is to be used specifically for fire trucks to use the bydrant on Oxford.

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RESIDENTS complained that employees and trucks servicing the hospital use the Oxford gate. That is, unless there is a guard on duty who prevents it.

"They have the expertise to develop routes for traffic on their own property," Oxford resident Carol Boyd said. "Why should residents have to put up with it?"

Oxford resident Betty Cook described an oxygen truck — "as big as any gasoline truck" coming out of the gate and turning onto Oxford. She spoke of the signs posted at the gate allowing only emergency vehicles.

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"That meant nothing to employees, staff and truck drivers," Cook said.
"It's terrible to live there and have this going on 24 hours a day."
But Cooper said the hospital is doing what

have emergency vehicles or people access-ing the emergency room to use that gate," he said, adding he has asked police to ticket

ne said, adding he has asked police to licker violators.
"It is very difficult to control . . especially visitors and patients who have used the emergency. We are doing what we can to keep the nuisance value to a minimum."
The administrator said he could not "in

The administrator said he could not "in good conscience" ask emergency traffic to travel through a maze of construction around the hospital.

Councilman Larry Lichtman told Cooper "I haven't heard a compelling reason" why the hospital cannot make arrangements for traffic on campus. He also asked what the worse case scenario would be. "Sir, you are putting me in an uncomfortable postition," Cooper responded. "If the council says, Lock it tomorrow," I think we would have to go to court."

Worker shocked by live wire

A 26-year-old electrical worker was hospitalized in stable condition Tuesday after being shocked by a like Detroit Edison wire while working on the job.

ing on the job.

Gerald Kowalski, an employee of Harlan Electric Co., was working on the ground near some support cables at Drake Road north of 12 Mile when the cables apparently came in contact with a live Detroit Edison wire.

The incident occurred at about 10:25 a.m.

"Our hope is that he recovers from this," sald Farmington Hills Deputy Fire Chief Peter Baldwin, "He took

quite a jolt."
Kowalski was given cardio-pulmonary resuscitation at the scene immediately, and Community Emergency Medical Services medical technicians and Farmington Hills firefighters were on the scene within three minutes using the department's automate delibrillator unit on the man before transporting him to Botsford General Hospital. Firefighters found Kowalski on tenground, absent of all vital signs, according to fire department reports.

The automatic defibrillator sends electric energy to the body tissue at-

fecting the heart directly, returning the heart to a normal rhythm. Although stable, Kowalski re-mained in the hospital's critical care unit a spikeswoman said

mained in the hospital's critical care unit, a spokeswoman said.
Farmington Hills fireflighters used the automatic delibrillator unit in August 1899 to save the life of a 20-demere Apartments on Independence Drive. Tara Heichel was discovered on top of a metal ladoct with a Detroit Evillation and the wide with the day apparently made contact with a Detroit Evillation.

Playing her part

Eleven-year-old Andria Vitlar shows plenty of emotion as she acts out her part as a king in a play sponsored by the Creative Kids Summer Theater held at the Farmington Community center. The play, "Earthlings," was Community center. The play, "Earthlings," was written by instructor Wendy Clinard and some college friends. Clinard, a 20-year-old Farmington resident, attends the University of attends the University of Chicago. The play will be staged at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 18, at the Community Center's amphitheater. A \$1 admission will be charged.

Puppet troupe performs 'Rumpelstiltskin'

Rumpelstiltskin, the children's classic, will come to life in downtown Farmington Wednesday, July 3.

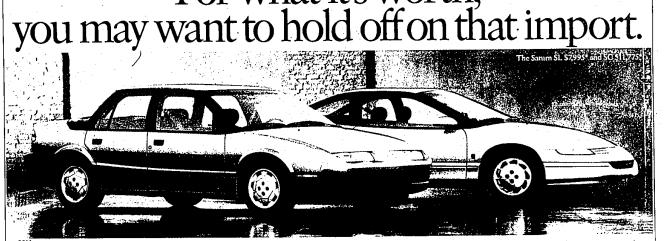
Presented by the String Puppet Theatre and puppeteer Bill Siemers, the production is the fourth in a 10-week Summer Fun Series sponsored by the Downtown Development Au-thority.

Show times for the half-hour production are 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. under the green-and-white-striped tent in the Downtown Farmington Center parking lot.
The String Puppet Theatre has been touring coast-to-coast for more than five years.
As added entertainment Wednesday, Sally the Dog will drive throughout downtown Farmington

between performances in his 1930 wood panel truck.

The DDA program is designed to tie into the agency's goal of main-taining a vigorous downtown district while retaining a small community atmosphere.

For more information on this program, or others in the series, call the DDA office at 473-7276.



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