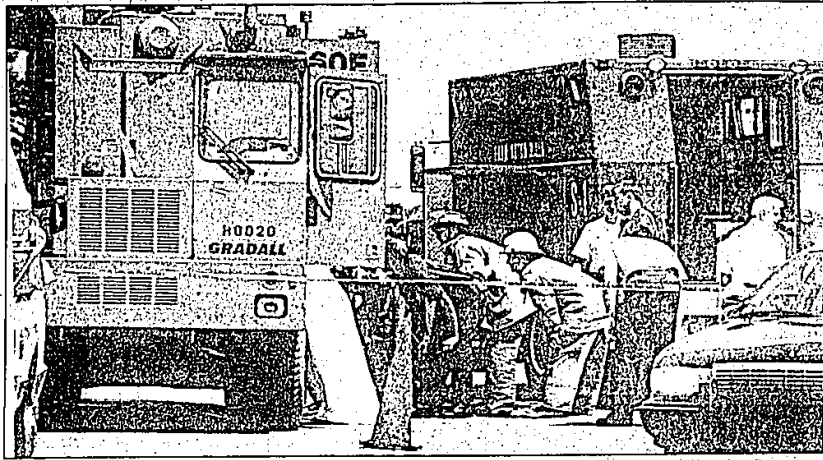


## Road employee killed



SHAWN LA MIER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Deadly accident:** Farmington Hills firefighters assisted the Novi officials Thursday after Dale Shettler, an Oakland County Road Commission employee, was killed working near a piece of road commission equipment at Haggerty and 10 Mile roads. Shettler, 45, of Milford was a grader operator, working in the Milford service district. As of Friday, the exact cause of Shettler's death was unknown, according to John Grubba, road commission managing director.

## Plan from page 1A

"I hope everyone remembers this is a pilot project and it's not going to be perfect," said trustee Susan Renneke, who said she was concerned about the early "zero hour" time. "It's awfully early," she said. "It's going to take a lot of discipline by parents and students."

She suggested the district look at overall districtwide scheduling changes at all the high schools, so

that all students could benefit from an additional school hour. "I have always wanted to see a longer day so kids had the chance to take more options," she added.

Board vice president Jack Ingham asked if parents would be given an opportunity to evaluate or visit during the staff research time, and suggested the staff consider keeping a meeting log or videotaping the

meetings.

A student evaluation of the program at the end of the school year would not be enough, he added. "It should be done within the first month, then on a rotating basis. The end of the year is too late."

Parent Mary Jane Borich called for the board to take a vote of the parents. "I feel the parents should have some input on the decision-

making," she added.

Parent Jerry Ellis said he was, at first, skeptical of the proposal, but said he has been sold on it. "It's not the time in the classroom that's important," he said. "It's the quality of time."

One parent said he was concerned only certain students could attend the early "zero hour" because of transportation problems and that the program could become "elitist." Another said her daughter goes to bed sometimes at midnight. "She would be a fool to take advantage of the 'zero hour,'" she added.

The North Farmington proposal was part of the school's North Central accreditation process, and stemmed from ideas raised during a study of secondary education in the district. These concepts of team teaching and interdisciplinary learning were stressed, where students would perhaps learn about English and social studies or math and physics together.

The district has encouraged staff members to formulate, develop and propose ideas from the study.

Trustee Helen Prutow said she was concerned that special education students be considered in the plan, and that more support be given to students who need motivation "when the teachers are done teaching."

Board President Jack Cotton said he wanted to ensure the students were supportive of the program "since they're the ones going to be involved."

The board is scheduled to vote on the proposal on July 13.

## School board views on restructuring

Other trustee reactions to the North Farmington High School restructuring proposal on June 13 included:

• **Outgoing trustee James Abernethy** said he was pleased the staff took into account the finances of the district, and made their program reliant on the current budget. "I commend you all," he added. Abernethy's term will end before the vote is taken.

• **Board treasurer Helen Ditzha-**

zy, a professor at Eastern Michigan University, said similar concepts are being developed there, and she said she found the teacher time a "tremendous strength in the proposal."

• **Board secretary Cathleen Webb** commended the North Farmington staff "for their guts and courage" and said she understands some of the reluctance to change. "I know, with change, there comes a feeling of uneasiness," she added.

## Panel from page 1A

sewer through their city parks."

Mayor Jon Grant told Silver that it is impossible to include all details on the agenda. Both City Manager Bill Costick and Steve Brock, assistant to the city manager, later said that it is not uncommon to cross public property to build utilities.

Wednesday, the oil and gas committee, minus Derek and Lindhardt, voted to support council's action Monday.

Derek complained that the committee has not been able to accomplish what it was designed to do — follow the eight-year parks and recreation master plan to creating a parking and picnic area and nature trails.

Derek also said the city should accept the offer of Jack Smiley, an Audubon Society member, who offered to build and maintain nature trails on the park site.

"All that was supposed to happen on the property hasn't," Derek said. "I'm wasting my time going to a meeting that doesn't accomplish it."

Likewise, Lindhardt was also upset. "I will not continue to play a charade," he said. "Nobody called anybody."

He said he's weary of reacting to actions already decided on by the city administration.

The most recent issue that angered the three was the \$65,000 project involving five vacant lots on Quaker Valley Road, the west portion of Quaker Valley Farms subdivision. Each lot owner will be assessed about \$13,000.

Resident Lawrence Doyle owns two lots — one abutting Woodland Hills Park and the lot directly south on which he resides.

Doyle, a 20-year Hills resident,

**"It's important for the public to be heard because this park is being paid for by my taxes and by my fellow citizens' taxes. I wonder how many cities vote to protect one private person's beautiful property and put a sewer through their city parks."**

Masha Silver  
council watcher

had said previously that he would not grant an easement across his vacant lot because of the mature trees which exist on this property. He also said that he would fight this issue in court.

"We've always considered Lot 17 to be our backyard," Doyle said in an Aug. 11, 1991, letter to James Cubera, senior engineer for the City of Farmington Hills. "Under no circumstances do we want a sewer line splitting our property in half, cutting a swath through trees we value greatly."

Doyle's property has medium-sized ash and elm trees. The park area has small ash and elm trees and many large Sunuc and other shrubs. Doyle suggested that the city move the sewer line over 20 feet to the Peltz-MDOT property that does not have similar trees.

The project's cost would have been about \$10,000 higher if the city constructed the sewer on Doyle's land because it would have required condemnation for a portion of the northern property in order to obtain the easement, according to the city.

## POLICE/FIRE CALLS

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week.

### COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

**STOLEN**  
About \$24,000 worth of computer equipment was stolen Thursday from KIA Engineering, an Interchange. Three computers and a plate glass monitor were stolen. At another Hills location the same day, someone stole a \$550

notebook computer from Computware on Northwestern Highway.

### STOLEN STEREO

Someone stole a Kenwood stereo, valued at \$1,555 Thursday from a 1989 Ford Mustang parked on Inster.

### GOLF CLUBS STOLEN

A \$1,300 set of golf clubs was stolen Thursday from an open garage on Essex.

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**MORE ON STRESS & ARTHRITIS**

Certain patients with incapacitating pain labeled as arthritis go from doctor to doctor.

The person accumulates x-rays, CT scans, repeated blood tests, numerous hospitalizations, months of physical therapy and pain clinic visits, and multiple medications. All to give relief on a diagnosis.

What has occurred is not an obscure aberration of muscle or bone but a problem in the mind. Certain individuals will undergo a profound experience: an unexpected catastrophe that could have killed, maimed or severely injured them. Somehow the person escaped, but not emotionally. The event sets off an internal preoccupation that shows as crippling muscle and joint aches.

Physicians, seeing such patients, either are unsure that no physical ailment explains the problem, make a wrong diagnosis, or tell the patient something just to move the person on.

When a physician explains what has occurred, more problems result. The patient considers a diagnosis of emotional disorder as one more mistake in a chain of errors. Or, the person becomes alarmed at the prospect of reliving with such a conclusion to friends and relatives. In addition, this disorder is not easily treated by present psychological therapy. Thus, the person has the past hope of recovery removed, with no expectation of resolution in place.

**ALI F. MAJEE, M.D. P.C.**

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**Monthly Allergy Tip**

Enjoy the beautiful summer weather, whether you have allergies or not!

Don't allow allergies to keep you from enjoying sports and other outdoor activities. Reduce the symptoms of sneezing, congestion, coughing, wheezing, and red, itchy eyes.

Your allergies can be treated with medications that do not have unpleasant side effects, such as drowsiness. We take the time to listen and explain.

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