

Arts from page A1

artists in the community to study and present their talents," Barber said.

The commission meets the third Thursday of the month at the Farmington Hills City Hall. Members include Barber, Haroune Almeddine, Kay Briggs, Beverly Ellis, Eric Johnston, Nan Reid, Eve Samra and Ellen Wallis. The commission has one seat open.

Farmington Community Band

In its 33rd year, the 60-member band has left its mark with its annual series of concerts through the Farmington community.

"We want to make our performances varied enough to enter-

tain our guests and our band members," said Paul Barber, band music director and conductor.

Guests at the Festival of the Arts today can take in a band performance - "That's Entertainment" - at 3 p.m. at the William Costick Activities Center.

In addition to its traditional schedule of concerts, the band provides outreach concerts at area nursing homes. To give band members and the audience a chance to experience different types of music, the band has offshoots of smaller groups, such as a jazz band, flute ensemble, brass ensemble and pit orchestra.

"We try to offer small group experiences," Barber said.

Members are not just Farmington area residents, with some hailing from Brighton, Plymouth, Livonia and Garden City. "They come from all over and are all ages," Barber said, adding some members are high school students.

"They enjoy playing," Barber said, adding that members don't have to be maestros at their instruments of choice. "Our door is always open. There has to be somewhere for people to play their craft."

The band is operated by a 25-member board of directors that meets four times a year.

Band members meet and practice every Monday night at Harrison High School. The band season runs September to July.

Gateway from page A1

approval in April.

Planning commission chair Mardy Stirling-Hamilton noted that it is important to create "more of a buffer" between the parking lot and Mooney Street.

About Krueger's plan, she said it could have a positive impact on redevelopment in the surrounding area. "It will hopefully

spur some of that." Improving the look of the area could prove valuable, Stirling-Hamilton added, "because that serves as one of the gateways into Farmington."

Meanwhile, Moore said the proposal is the first phase of "what could be" a multiphase project to enhance the Grand

River-Orchard Lake area.

Besides a landscaping buffer, the planning commission requested that Krueger, and PDA Architects, ensure existing buildings are painted to match the color of the addition and that no outdoor storage is included.

City council approval of a lot combination is also required.

Peru from page A1

tein and high fiber. And, it was OK at first. But, I was sure looking forward to McDonald's when I came home."

According to John, son of Paul and Susan Szymusiak of Farmington Hills, the trip entailed a lot of hard work from the JASON-X contingent. But it was rewarding and revealing at the same time.

"I'll never look at anything the same again."

The fate of the Peruvian rain forests had quite an impact on the teenager.

Particularly, in learning that it's difficult to force natives to not cut down trees in order to clear land for life-sustaining farms - even despite knowledge that those trees and plants might eventually unlock the secret to curing serious diseases.

"It's hard for us to tell them no," not to cut down the rain forest.

He did have a chance to get a tattoo - albeit a temporary one; tree sap was painted onto his arm, to form a tattoo of the sun.

And then, there was the soccer.

Describing a slide of a soccer game versus the villagers, which ended in a 3-3 tie, John laughed when he recalled the circumstances of the contest.

"The team was mostly pregnant women. So it was not much of an accomplishment."

The JASON-X project was founded by Dr. Robert Ballard, as a vehicle for sparking student interest in science, John told the school board.

Ballard, who also made the trip to the ACEER with John's group, discovered Titan-10 on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, the teenager noted.

"He's just a great guy, fun to work with," said John, detailing a slide of Ballard taken during the expedition.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Traveler: John Szymusiak recently returned from a trip to Peru.

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CLARIFICATION

A story in the April 29 edition of the Farmington Observer regarding a Farmington Public

Schools planned reunion for recent graduates should have listed the phone number for the

district's Community Relations Office as 489-3349.

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