Home Farmington Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Farmington and Farmington Hills for 114 years

Sunday, June 3, 2001

Tell us why your dad is best!

your dad is best! We're eelebrating Dad this year win a speciel contest. tell us win your Dad Is the best Dad around in 75 words or less and The Farmington Observer win choose one winning letter and reward that Dad with two tickets to the Ford Senior Players Championship goif tournament at the Deathorn TPC, July 9-15. The tickets include a free stjuttle bus rids to the front gete of the TPC. To anter, send your assay to Joni Hubred 43.170. All the front gete of the TPC. To anter, send your assay to Joni Hubred 43.170. All the front gete of the TPC. To anter, send your assay to Joni Hubred 43.170. All the front gete of the TPC. The anter, send your assay to Joni Hubred 43.170. All the front gete of the TPC. The state, send your assay is and to be not he the big prize, you'l' still have a chance to show you'r dhare ha special page on Father's Day. Sunday, June 17, where we'll publish the essays we receive. If you have a special plate you'd like to share, send it along. Among the bynelang and Channis are Jock Tom Waison, Tem Kite, Hale Inkol, face, raymond Hoyd (defencing champ) and Gary Player.

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75¢

Farmington / Farmington Hills, Mil **Roundabout solutions proposed**

Last good-bye



BY JONI HUBRED

JAUFRAGES. ADMECTIMENT Barry Crown has been designing traffic solutions for 30 years, and hed never seen anything like the dilemma stato and local officials faced at the intersection of Northwestern Highway, 14 Mile and Orchard Lake Roads. "Boy, did this one give me a headache," he told a crowd of about 50 cilizens who attended Wedneeday night's meeting on traffic roundabouts

esidents affected by congestion in the Residents affected by congestion in the Northwestern Highway area got a close-up look this week at traffic roundabouts, designed to move vebicles through intersec-tions more quickly than signal lights.

cly than signal lights.

a circular intersection design that keeps cars moving rather than stopped for signals.
The informational meeting was held at Farmington Hills City Hall.
Crown, who is considered the world's foremost designer of roundhouts, was forought in by Leif Ourston, the top U.S. designer. Ourston had been hired after state, county and local officials decided to explore roundabouts as an answer to rolleving congestion in an area bounded by 14 Mille at the south, Maple Read north, Haggerty to the

west and Orchard Lake east. The total proposal, created to handle traffic volumes in 2020, includes four traffic signals and 11 roundabouts. In most cases, Crown said the solutions came casily. Roundabouts would alter several "skewed" intersections, whose geometry has been considered a cause of accidents. Then he got to the triangle, a tangled mess state highway officials have been-trying to resolve for two decades. "I agent about 95 percent of my time on this one," ho said. "I didn't get divorced, but my wife got really fed up with it." For months, Crown want through iden after idea, until finally, he just stopped and left the plan alone for a while. Then about a week later, as he

spotted a map on his desk, a small light came on. His ultimate design would bring 14 Mile cast of Northwestern farther south, creating a signal intersection of these two roads. Cars continuing on 14 Mile would travel north on Northwest ern to a second signal, then turn west. A roundabout is planned for the 14 Mile and Orchard Lake intersection. The key to the signals working is the roundabout, 'he said. Those intersections keep vehicles moving in a slow, circular pattern. Cars coming from ramps or side streets wait for gaps in traffic flow, then enter following arrows and directional signs to the correct lane for their destination.

Please see TRAFFIC, A5





Getting to know you: The Farmington Hills / Farm-ington Community Foundation, which provides funding for family and youth-oriented causes, is hosting a "get to know us" reception on Thursday, June 7, 5 p.m.-7 p.m., at Botsford Coach House. For more information, call 248-345-9090.

TUESDAY

School board: The Farmington School Board meets tonight, 7:30 p.m. at the Administrative Center, 32500 Shiwassee.

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To place a classified ad: 734-591-0900

Police think the man also committed a burglary at Covaneys at 32605 12 Mile minutes earlier. At A.C.N., a security guard heard commotion in the human resources area. The guard asw the man walking out of a vacant office, holding a small semi-automatic handgun in his loft hand and sledgehammer in his right hand. The man looked at the guard but didn't asy anything to him, nor did ho point the gun at him, police said. The

man left the building through the east emergency doors, then ran west to his truck which was parked about 25 yards away and drove toward 12 Mile. A later inspection revealed the sus-pect entered the building by smashing a window. He smashed through two office doors and broks several overhead light fixtures using the sledge ham-mer, police said. Nothing was taken when he broke

Please see ROBBER, A7

2.5

No gold-bricking: Farmington High student Stephen Wayne had per-fect attendance through all 12 years of school. He was recently hon-ored at a school awards ceremony.

Absentee ballot

Voters who may be out of town for the Monday, June 11 Farmington Schools Board elec-tion can pick up absentee ballot applications at the District Office, 32500 Shiawassee in Derminate

Farmington. The deadline is Saturday,

applications due June 9

June 9. For more call (248)489-3341.



Newsroom: 248-477-5450

Home Delivery: 734-591-0500

Graduation night: Sister Regina Marie Doelker leads the class of 2001 to graduation ceremonies at Meadowbrook Theater on the campus of Oakland University Thursday evening. This was Sister Regina's last graduation ceremony; upon her retirement, she is being succeeded by Carolyn Witte, who was appointed April 12. More photos and a list of Mercy graduates can be found on A3.

Police seek sledgehammer robber

Farmingto Robarto Artilla police have dubbed a man who broke into and entered two businesses May 26 as "The Siedge-hammer Burgler." The man was armed when he con-fronted ascurity guard at the Ameri-can Communication Network building at 3 a.m. A.C.N. is located at 32991 Hamilton Court, in the 12 Mile and Farmington Roba area.

Perfect record

Since kindergarten, FHS grad Stephen Wayne never missed a day of school

BY SUE BUCK STATY WRITER mm.net

Short Warrai shock the homecomment Some students will think of any occuse not to go to school. Not Stephen Wayne, 18, a gradu-ating senior at Farmington High School Jance kindergartan. He admits he went when he was sick or a little under the weather, but he always managed to make it through the day. Wayne's mother, Mary Sue, a special education sub-stitute teacher in the Farmington Fublic School district, always told him to call her if he didn't feel good. While he may have felt "crummy" when he wake up, he pulled himmalf together during the day. As a five-letter scholar sthiles in soccer, foot-ball, track, tennis and wrestling he





 a day of school
 understood the rules: he couldn't play the game if he missed school that day.
 I didn't want to miss sports or practice, Wayne and.
 Wayne was among the few who were allowed to play football and soccer at the same time, which required special permission from his paronts, tenchers, cachedes, and prin-cipal. The four games and 10 prac-tices each week involved a commi-tices ach week involved a commi-ment to keep up his grades and all parties had to cooperate, Mary Sus said.
 Wayne plans to attend Wayne State University in Detroit and has received scholarabilips which cover beht utilion and room and board. He will study medicine. Please see WAYNE, A2