



My Dad's the best because....

Here's our winning entry...

He is good at helping me. Also he teaches me how to play golf and baseball. He is also the best because he is funny. Also he is the best because he is my dad. And he plays catch with me to teach me. And we went on the best vacation in my whole life! Only me and my dad went on it. I love my dad very much.

Max Saranen
Farmington Hills

Away we go: Max Saranen and his dad, Richard, took a vacation together, which is only one of the reasons Max thinks his dad is the best.



The Farmington Observer asked readers to tell us in 75 words or less why their Dads were the best. The winner will receive two tickets to the Ford Senior Players Championship golf tournament at the Dearborn TPC, July 9-15. But as you'll clearly see, all of the dads named here are winners in the eyes of the people who matter most - their children.

A real winner

My dad, Charles Leyman, dedicated the past 16 years of his life to making me a champion. He sacrificed thousands of hours to help me with softball, golf, tennis, lacrosse and track. I didn't always score, win, or even place. But however I played, when I walked off the field and saw my dad smiling proudly, I knew I would always be a champion in my father's eyes, because his love had made me one.

Maggie Leyman
Farmington Hills

Family first

My dad, John "Ian" McFetters, truly deserves recognition as "the best dad around."

He has always put his family of five first. He loved and cared for our mother, Lila Jane, throughout her breast and colon cancers, and when she ultimately died of emphysema.

My dad has survived such heartache throughout his life and still continues to show only his love, support, patience and guidance.

The world needs more fathers like my dad, my mentor.

Laurie Prentiss
(McFetters)
Farmington Hills

Great example

Seventy-five words are not even close to the amount needed to describe how great our dad is. He provides for our family by playing with us and working hard hours. However, these things describe him as a great dad, not the tremendous dad he really is. What makes him special is his great character. He has great morals and a fair, open mind. Our dad sets a great example through thoughtful actions and wise words.

Christopher, Michael and Michelle Marinos

Good words

My name is Amanda Knox, and I think that my dad is the best dad ever. Here are words to describe why. My dad is loving, caring, helping, nice, concerned, helpful, thoughtful, smart, cautious, lovable, sweet, athletic, humorous, (sometimes he can

be) unpredictable, friendly, handsome, intelligent, truthful, trustworthy, kind, sincere, interesting, joyful, giving, working, descriptive, happy, daring, teaching, moderate, obedient, mature, limitless, proper, responsible, warm, courageous, independent, original, cherishing, sometimes silly, rewarding, fun, listening, volunteering, blessed, honoring, healthy, amazing, wonderful, supportive, organized, compatible, tense (when he's really mad), creative, romantic, sporty, generous, and a pretty much, all around, family man.

Amanda Knox
Farmington Hills

Takes time

■ He will always take time for me and my sister.

■ When I'm sad he always makes me laugh, because he's a really funny guy.

■ He's the best daddy in the world and I couldn't ask for a better one.

■ He loves golf - watching it or playing it.

Janine Semperger
Farmington Hills

Simply fun

My dad is the best dad around because he's just like me! One of the most important reasons why I like my dad is because he has two sides. He has a serious side when he is concentrating on something and a funny side when he and I are just being ourselves. I can't really put into words why my dad is the best. He is simply fun to be around.

Mark Burns
Farmington Hills

Always there

My dad is the best dad because he spends so much time with me,

and we have fun together. When I was little, I hated going to daycare so my dad immediately changed his work schedule so that he could stay home with me. Over the years my dad has coached my soccer, basketball, and baseball teams. He comes to my school activities whenever it is possible. My dad is definitely the best dad.

Steven Pelletier
Farmington Hills

Dad cares

My dad is nice and I love him. He plays Puzzle Fighter and Megaman. Sometimes we play Frogger. We flew my kite together.

Thanks to all the kids who entered and their dads!

Jennifer Jacob
Farmington Hills



Family man: Laurie Prentiss nominated her father, John "Ian" McFetters, for his selfless devotion to his family and late wife, Lila Jane.



Just like me: Mark Burns loves his dad because they are so much alike and because his dad is just fun to be around.



Heritage award winner named

Award winner: Brian Golden receives the Heritage Award from the Farmington Historical Society, presented by Tracy Freeman, president. Also pictured is former recipient Dick Carvel. The award is in recognition of Golden's many contributions to preserving the history of the Farmington area. His name has been added to the plaque, which hangs in the Warner Mansion.

Recreation office moves, new phone numbers announced

The Farmington Hills Recreation offices, where, since 1990, city residents have registered for recreation programs, made park reservations and purchased amusement park tickets - has moved to the Costick Activities Center as of June 4. The Costick Center is located at 28600 11 Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster Roads.

New phone numbers will also be in effect

■ (248) 473-1800 for registration information

■ (248) 473-1840 for faxing registration forms

Residents who call old numbers (473-9570) will hear a recording referring them to the new number. The old fax number (473-9677) will remain in effect for one month.

The new numbers will be published in the next recreation brochure, which will be mailed to residents in August.

To accommodate the move, the Costick Activities Center recently underwent a renovation which included new administrative offices and an expanded registration area in the front lobby.