

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Get the lead out: A former target range in Farmington Hills is due for a cleanup to remove the lead from the bullets. /2A

Many voices: Community leaders and area residents speak out on what they perceive to be a clash of agendas among the country's interest groups, and the role of government in light of the President's economic address is examined. /3A

COUNTY NEWS

Historic scandal: County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said he was convinced the deputies who chauffeured him during the campaign were strictly volunteers. /5A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Look up! Ever wonder who's got offices above the shops on Main Street? Four downtowns report on their tenants. /7A

TASTE



Chef's Secrets: Richard Teeple of Plymouth practices what he preaches as an executive chef instructor in the hospitality program at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. /1B

Cooking seminars First-class chefs share their expertise at Kitchen Glamor in West Bloomfield and Schoolcraft College in Livonia. /1B

STREET SCENE

Touring: Don't tell Bon Jovi it's on the comeback trail, even though the group waited four years to release an album. The group prefers its hiatus from recording to be looked on as a maturing process. /4B

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Way paved for school driveway



A new driveway and parking lot are in the works for Wooddale Elementary School in Farmington Hills. But not everyone in the area is happy with the plan. Oak Forest residents are upset because traffic would be rerouted onto their street.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

After months of debate and angry words, the Farmington School Board will solicit bids for a controversial plan for a new parking lot and driveway at Wooddale Elementary School. A new driveway and parking lot are the board's solution to an ongoing

traffic-flow problem at the school. The project will cost \$151,000.

The school's steep driveway, which has an 8 percent grade, is said to be unsafe. Also, officials say the parking lot is too small, causing a backup of vehicles dropping off and picking up kids from school.

The new two-lane driveway would

run west onto Oak Forest Drive, which is now a dead-end street. Officials expect the project to be completed by fall.

Residents on Oak Forest are upset, partly because traffic would be rerouted onto their street.

"I think we are creating a less safe condition for the children," said Mary Jo Lorr, who lives on Oak Forest.

... if you're really concerned about the safety of the children, please look into a traffic study of the area and examine that Oak Forest area before you let the kids, the buses and the cars go plunging into the

street at the same time."

School officials stick by the plan. They said traffic studies have been done and several options have been considered.

"If we were to go and build Wooddale today, we would route the traffic onto Oak Forest," said Trustee Cathleen Webb. "It makes sense, and it's the safest solution for the children."

That doesn't appease some residents. Jack Milhalco said the proper study has not been done. "I think we're putting the cart before the

See DRIVEWAY, 2A



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Court arraignment: Gloria Ann Hanna (right) sits in the 47th District Court with her attorney, Debra Koczynski, on Thursday.

Mom gets kids back, but is charged

BY SUZ BUCK
STAFF WRITER

It was quite a week for Gloria Ann Hanna, the central figure in the much-publicized "Home Alone" case in Farmington Hills.

On Wednesday, she regained custody of her 5-year-old twins — who had been taken from her after they had been found alone in their Oak

Forest home Feb. 5 — and a day later she was charged with contributing to their delinquency.

Hanna, 38, was arraigned on misdemeanor criminal charges Thursday in 47th District Court in Farmington on four counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Conviction carries a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail. No date

has been set for her preliminary exam.

She stands mute

Hanna stood mute, and a plea of not guilty was entered for her by Judge Fred Harris. She was released on \$1,000 personal bond.

Her twins, Najib and Najiba, a boy and a girl, were locked in sepa-

rate upstairs bedrooms behind chained doors almost a month ago, according to police, with a bowl of cereal and a children's potty chair in each room.

Hanna, a beautician, left the children for 90 minutes in the morning and again for a couple of hours in

See MOM, 8A

Gymnastics center builds self-esteem

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Aspiring Mary Lou Retton's are told to just follow the signs at the Farmington Gymnastics Center.

On the wall, one inspirational message reads: "Practice doesn't make perfect; practice makes permanent; Perfect practice makes perfect."

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Many who walk through the doors at the center will spend an entire childhood trying to live up to those exacting standards. Their toll is measured in sweat, frustration and achievement.

"Our biggest goal is to build a

child's self-esteem," said Dave Mahoney, who is the team director.

Gymnasts ranging in age from 2 to 18 practice and compete at the center, which is on Freeway Park Drive in Farmington Hills. The center will move up the street March 6 to 23966 Freeway Park.

Some participate in the preschool class for children 2 to 6 years. Others are in the United States Gymnastics Federation Junior Olympic program, which groups gymnasts according to ability.

The Team program is the elite

See CENTER, 4A



Busy body: Rachel Richardson, a young gymnast from Farmington Hills, does a pike that turns into a hand stand.

Drivers needed

The Farmington Hills Senior Center desperately needs substitute drivers for meal deliveries to homebound senior citizens. If interested, call Mary at 473-1825.

Cooking with herbs

The Farmington Garden Club will present a program on cooking with herbs at noon today, at the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The public is invited to attend.

Cindy Bruntigan, owner of Brookville Gardens in Plymouth, will talk about herbs and their uses in recipes and other applications.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

For more information about the club and its activities, call Betty Pool at 442-2742.

Highmeadow lottery

A lottery to select students in grades 1-5 for Highmeadow Common Campus for the 1993-94 school year will be held Monday, March 15.

A parent or guardian must register a prospective child at Highmeadow during the week of March 8, Highmeadow — an elementary "school of choice" in the Farmington District — is north of 12 Mile

between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt roads.

Application hours are 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday-Friday, March 8-12. On Monday, March 8, hours will be extended to 7 p.m. followed by an overview of the school's program presented by the Highmeadow staff. People interested in the Highmeadow program are asked to attend.

Enrollment at Highmeadow is by lottery only. The only applications that will be in the 1993-94 lottery are the applications received during registration hours, March 8-12.

For more information, call Highmeadow at 489-3699.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21899 Farmington Road, dropped off at the newspaper office or faxed to 477-9722.