

IN THE PAPER TODAY



Dance, dance, dance: Lisa Weaver is kicking up her heels at the helm of the dance program at Longacre House. Above, Melissa Levan follows teacher Lisa Weaver. There's still time to register. See HomeTown Life, page C-7.

PARIS & LESURE

Dance: Activist choreographer Liz Lerman talks about her newest project "Hallelujah!" / B1

Theater: For 80 minutes in the Century Theatre's play "Fully Committed" actor Matt Callahan breathlessly plays 39 characters. / B1

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Oakland millages pass



Farmington Public Schools voters approved both the special education and vocational education millages, which will add to their taxes but provide more than \$3 million in funding to the local district.

By Sue Buck
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Voters in the Farmington Public School District and in Oakland County Tuesday approved both special education and vocational education enhancement millages requested by the Oakland Schools Intermediate District. Of the local district's 60,374 total reg-

istered voters, 3,382 or 5.60 percent, cast ballots. This compares to 4,219 or 6.99 percent votes cast in June to elect school board candidates and approve a Farmington school district millage renewal.

In the special education millage, the vote broke down to 1,990 (59.87 percent) yes votes and 1,390 (41.12 percent) no votes. In the vocational education millage, 2,011 (59.62 percent) voted yes

and 1,362 (40.37 percent) voted no. Absentee voters nixed the proposals. For special education, there were 217 no votes compared to 149 yes votes; in vocational education 215 voters said no and 162 voters who said yes.

Voters in 28 Oakland County School districts served by Oakland Schools went to the polls. Countywide, the special education vote was approved by a margin of 29,116 to 28,063; the vocational vote passed, 29,167 to 27,898.

Oakland Schools has four Oakland Technical Centers located in Clarkston,

Please see MILLAGES, A1

Oakland Millage

Farmington Results

Special Education

Yes - 1,990
No - 1,390

Vocational

Yes - 2,011
No - 1,362

Family fun



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRISLER



All-American fun: At Sunday's All-American Family Day, held at Computware, activities helped raise funds to aid disaster relief efforts. Above, six month old Andrew, held by dad Michael Schultz has a big grin for Dad's fellow firefighter Jason Jennings. Below right, mother and daughter Lea and Atara Lakritz had their faces painted, and left, 10-year-old Jay Zachos races firefighter Jarvis Davis in a hose-rolling contest.



Hills FD drives raise \$45K

BY KEVIN BROWN
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New York disaster relief efforts in recent days around Farmington Hills drew praise Monday from Mayor Nancy Bates and Fire Chief Rick Marinucci.

"We had a senior citizen who came in and turned over their \$300 government check toward relief efforts," Bates told the council and citizens.

Her remarks opened the regular city council meeting, and Marinucci reported to council that his department has received donations totaling more than \$46,000, to aid the families of fallen New York City firefighters.

"How the citizens of this community are coming together to offer their support is beyond words," Marinucci said. "We still have people coming in on a daily basis."

To seek more donations, the fire

Please see FUNDRAISERS, A2

Raczkowski announces U.S. Senate bid

BY MIKE MALOTT
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Some Republicans believe U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, a Democrat, to be unbeatable. Not Andrew Raczkowski. "Levin is beatable. Everyone is beatable," he said.

Missing out on a chance to run for a Congressional seat when boundary lines were redrawn, leaving his Farmington Hills home "just 8,000 feet" outside a new vacant district, the Republican state representative now has his eye on the U.S. Senate seat for the November 2002 election.

"With my military training and with my political training here in the state of Michigan, I have always felt that I have a federal mission," Raczkowski said. "My generation needs to take up the baton of leadership. If we do not, we fail ourselves and the older generations who made it possible for us to be here."

He began exploring the idea of running by hosting a reception on Mackinac Island during the Republican Leadership Conference this past weekend, Sept. 21-23.

Raczkowski said he will decide whether to form an exploratory com-

Please see SENATE, A2

Local economy down, not out

BY KEVIN BROWN
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The local economy has slowed following the events of Sept. 11, and while some are optimistic it will recover, others take a wait-and-see approach. "I think it's a delay of purchase, I don't think it's gone," said Sam Slaughter, vice president with Bob Sellers Pontiac GMC on Grand River.

On Monday, sales staff at their desks cradled phones to their ears, and customers could be spotted checking out showroom Grand Arma. "We're starting to feel like normal again," Slaughter said, adding business fell off sharply right after Sept. 11 as customers and dealer staff mourned the national tragedy. Customers weren't in a mood to buy, and "No one wanted to sell," he said.

By Monday, at an office just off the showroom floor, Doug Parker of Farmington Hills and friend Jim Giles of Belleville were waiting for the keys to take a GMC Yukon for a test drive, and Parker said he was thinking of buying the sport utility vehicle.

The self-employed construction contractor suggested he wasn't worried about the economy: "There's a lot of work out there."

Slaughter said employees were bullish about their prospective sales as September opened, saying they have much to offer car buyers. To help get sales moving, GM has implemented a zero financing program for new cars. No layoffs are planned at the dealership, which employs 105.

Sandy Bean, Harmony House vice president of advertising, said business there has

Please see ECONOMY, A2



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

For a spln: Farmington Hills resident Doug Parker climbs into a GMC Yukon for a test drive at Bob Sellers Pontiac GMC.