



IN THE PAPER TODAY

Rouge on rise: Residents of a Farmington condominium have asked for help with an encroaching, smelly river./3A

Curtain-raiser: Oakland University opens a new performing arts major this fall, combining music, theater and dance./4A

OPINION

Discontent: Ross Perot may have been the darling of voters due to their discontent with the establishment, at least that's the view of John Telford on today's Points of View page./8A

TASTE



Reach for apples: Fight snack attacks with apples. They're good for you, and now in season. September is also National Cholesterol Awareness Month.

Winner Dinner: Artist Karen Van Gampfer of Troy shares recipes for one of her family's favorite meals — barbecued ribs and potato pancakes topped with curried fruit./1B

STREET SCENE

Best effort: She's been described as a not-so-typical deejay because she's "very approachable," and rightly so. But Kelly Brown of CIMX-FM's morning show puts in as much as 70 hours a week for the "cutting edge" radio station./9A

SPORTS

Hoop tourney: The Mercy High basketball team tried to win its seventh championship in the 12th Annual Mercy Hoops Classic./1C

Grid action: Harrison played Plymouth Salem in a rematch of last year's hard-fought Western Lakes football game./1C

CABLE TV WEEKLY

Local access: "Sharon Stein Show" will be presented on Channel 12. Check your cable guide for time and date.

INDEX

- Classifieds B-D
- Entertainment 11-12A
- Auto C,D
- Index 4B
- Real estate B
- Employment C,D
- Crossword puzzle . . . 4B
- Obituaries 6C
- On the agenda 7A
- Opinion 10A
- Personal Scene 11A
- Police, fire calls . . . 3A

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DDA director candidate picked



By CASEY HANS
STAFF WRITER

A Lapeer native with a business recruitment and banking background was the finalist selected Friday by the Farmington Downtown Development Authority board for the DDA executive director's post.

A few details have to be worked out, but it looks like Judy Downey Lapeer will become the next director of Farmington's Downtown Development Authority.

Pending a reference check, Judy Downey, 55, owner of a Lapeer health club and currently the business recruitment coordinator for that city's downtown development authority, will be offered the position as Farmington's DDA director.

The board is expected to bring the

new director on board by Oct. 1. She replaces Farmington Hills resident Wendy Strip-Sittamer who resigned this summer to move to a similar post with the city of Southfield.

"I enjoy this type of work very much," Downey told the board Friday. "I really feel strongly downtowns have the same problems everywhere."

She sees the role of a DDA director as a liaison with the community and business leaders. Downey said she believes in an "aggressive" approach to marketing the downtown to both business and customers.

Her visits to downtown Farmington have shown her a "charm and warmth" in the city, she said. But, she believes that Farmington needs to attract more true retail businesses instead of so many service-oriented businesses.

Downey was one of three finalists interviewed by the full DDA board Friday for the position. A total of 140 people applied for the job.

Other finalists included Birmingham resident Kathleen Brian, who has a communications and marketing background.

See DIRECTOR, 2A



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fixing up: John and Nancy Willyard take a break from fix-up chores at their historic home on 13 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Couple restores historic house

By JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Besides all the usual questions asked in a marriage proposal, John Willyard needed to know one other piece of information from his bride-to-be, Nancy.

"Do you think you can live in a house like this?" John asked Nancy about the more than 150-year-old

then-unrestored historic house on 13 Mile Road that he bought in 1980.

The answer was apparently yes. "It's kind of a love-hate relationship," Nancy said about the house. "I have always loved historic houses. But trying to restore this house and raise three children . . ."

The Willyards live in what is called the John Garfield house, which sits

on its original site on the north side of 13 Mile between Drake and Halsted.

It is one of 13 historic houses on the annual Heritage Home Tour, which this year also celebrates the 125th anniversary of the founding of Farmington as a village.

See COUPLE, 6A

Kids help animals left homeless by hurricane

By CASEY HANS
STAFF WRITER

Stephanie LaBomascus was barking up the right tree when she asked her classmates for help.

Worried about all the animals left homeless from Hurricane Andrew, the 8-year-old Hillside Elementary School student suggested her class and school take donations of pet food to send to the storm-damaged area.

They've responded with dozens of cans and many bags of dry pet food for all the Fidos and felines in trouble in the Southern part of the country. Some even brought in bird seed.

"I like animals a lot, and I like helping them," she said, explaining her mission. "I just thought if they were my an-

imals, I would feel bad about it." Would she ever. The eight-year-old has several pets of her own, including a 15-year-old stray dog which the family found abandoned as a small puppy. There's Bucky the dog, Tabby the cat, a dog named Spinx (similar to a chinchilla), a Dove named Peace, a dwarf bunny named Sniffles, and don't forget the chameleon, the newt and an aquarium of fish.

Teacher Dodie Harris said she had explained to her students that they would be learning about current events in October, but Stephanie brought in some newspaper clippings the next day and talked about the hurricane and the

See ANIMALS, 2A



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Help for the pets: Stephanie LaBomascus (front, center) and her third-grade classmates at Hillside Elementary.

It's in fashion

If this is September, then it must be time for the annual fashion show and luncheon to benefit the Farmington/Farmington Hills Community Center.

The show is set for Thursday, Sept. 17, in the Grand Ballroom of the Novi Hilton, Eight Mile Road and I-275. Doors will open at 10 a.m. for browsing and cocktails. Lunch will be served at noon and the fashion show will follow.

Fall and holiday fashions will come from the stores of the Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

Models will be volunteers from the center and professionals from the community. Door and raffle prizes, donated by friends and local businesses, will be given away.

Tickets at \$25 each are available at the Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road. Call 477-8404 for more information.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

A strong crusade

Forest Park Baptist Church in Farmington Hills will host an evangelistic crusade Sunday-Friday, Sept. 20-25, at 7 p.m. each night.

Guest speaker will be the Rev. Paul Wrenn, heavy-weight powerlifting champion who has appeared on ABC's "Wide World of Sports" and other sports TV shows. He has spoken at crusades and prison ministries all over the world.

Music will be presented by the Rev. Claude Orr of Forest Park Baptist Church. A nursery will be provided. The church is located at 26805 Farmington Road. For more information, call 470-0080.

Business life and growth

A lunch program — "Life and Growth of Your Business" — will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, in Room J-303 of Tirrell Hall at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus, Farmington Hills.

The event, the first of a series of seminars to be held at college, is co-sponsored by DCC, the Farmington Hills Economic Development Authority and the local Chamber of Commerce.

The facilitator for the Sept. 24 program, Frank Kadlec, a Detroit-area businessman who helps American companies get established in Europe, will discuss ideas to increase sales.

Cost is \$15 per person and reservations must be made by Friday, Sept. 18. Call the chamber office at 474-3440 for more information.