

Pfaff quits over 'ongoing difficulties'



Dorothy Pfaff resigns post

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her could find her at the center until Sept. 15.
"It's my choice not to continue on as manager," Pfaff said. She said that it is difficult to compete with programs that the city subsidizes.
THE CENTER has struggled to offer innovative ideas only to see them offered elsewhere by the city.
"A lot of what we offer is being taken from us," she said. "We're continually at odds."
Pfaff said the center has offered innovative music classes, workshops and creative camps. "A lot of what we have done here as new ideas, one after the other becomes the idea of others," Pfaff said.
She said that she is upset with the competition and will seek "other avenues that are more harmonious."
Pfaff is proud of the center's cul-

tural performing arts, its renovations and the amphitheater. She complimented the work of her staff and the center's 200 volunteers.
The center is bulging with course offerings for every age group, she said. Some 13,000 people enlist in courses annually at the 22-year old center, she said. "This wouldn't count people who do multiple amount of things," she said.
People in the community need to speak up, Pfaff said.
Pfaff said that her part-time staff "sacrifices a great deal."
JOB DESCRIPTION and duties will remain the same, Marks said.
"We're looking for someone who's sensitive to the community, experienced and can run the whole ball game," Marks said.
Pfaff, a Bloomfield Hills resident, left her position as director of volunteer services at the Birmingham Community House to assumed

her position as community center executive director in December 1987.
At that time, Pfaff cited experience in public health, volunteer services and from continuing education courses in the management of non-profit organizations.
"All the efforts in community organizations and community networking and the administration of that is very transferable," Pfaff said in 1987.
Pfaff regards team management as a way to involve employees in decisions.
"She's one of the best bosses anyone can have," said Joanne La Fleur, program coordinator. "She's a fair person. We don't want to lose her."
La Fleur would not disclose Pfaff's plans.
She wanted to maintain the his-

tory of the center—the former Goodenough house.
Neighbors have been complaining about noise since the outdoor theater opened two years ago. On August 7, resident William Shortt complained to police about an outdoor jazz performance.
City employees monitored concerts this summer with a meter under the assumption that a 70-80 decibel maximum reading was the appropriate measure. A police officer and a supervisor responded to the Aug. 7 complaint by Shortt and another neighbor but did not issue a ticket.
The city has no noise ordinance although it is considering one that would include set decibel levels.
A city zoning law currently prohibits noise from being louder than street noise but offers no objective decibel measure.

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Farmington ordinance would control city's cats

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able. You check that an animal is licensed when it creates a problem. Most of the time neighbors know which animal is doing the damage and who that animal belongs to."
Council wants to add the phrase "and cats" whenever the term dog is found in the current dog ordinance, Chapter 5 of the city code, except in those cases where new regulations are proposed that specifically pertain to cats.
Council will consider adopting the ordinance Sept. 16.
THE ORDINANCE would require that:
• Owners be responsible for the control of their animals — including damage they may create.
• Cats be under the supervision of their owners. That means that cats may not be allowed to roam the community creating damage to

property and add to the wildlife that resides in the river valley of the community.
• Cats be immunized against rabies and licensed similar to dogs.
However, the ordinance does not require that a cat wear a collar or harness to display the license tag. The license will be kept in the possession of the owner.
Although this provision will not assist the public safety department to return lost or stray animals to their owners, it is a safety factor for the animal.
It is unclear on the limit of animals that can be housed under the ordinance.
A new sanitation regulation is proposed for both dogs and cats that would make their owners responsible for clean-up in public parks, on sidewalks, and public and private property.
Some residents oppose the pro-

posed controls:
ROBERT SIEGMUND, a Valleyview Circle resident referring to a Farmington Hills resident's comments about cats leaving droppings on his roof, stressed that cats bury their droppings. "The droppings on the roofs are from racoons," he said.
Cats are difficult to control, Siegmund added.
"I've had cats all the time and I didn't know that we had this massive problem," said Jim McGlinchey of Glenview.
Neither did Linda Schwartz of Glenview. "If people have problems they should talk to the owner," Schwartz said. "Why does the city have to be involved in it?"
Responded councilman William Hartsock, "People cannot always get the cooperation of the owner."

clarification

Stories about Ron Oliverio, candidate for a seat on the Farmington Hills City Council, should have said that he is a member of the council's Ethics Committee.

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