

IN THE PAPER TODAY



STAFF PHOTO BY HEATHER ROONEY

Historic gem: The John Dallas Harger house on 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Quite a sight: The Harger house, an imposing stone home of Greek Revival styling, is still an impressive sight along 12 Mile Road. See *HomeTown Life* / C5

Road construction: The Farmington Road expansion and reconstruction project was slated to begin Wednesday...we think. / A12

Parade highlights: Back-door Friends will promote their purebred rescue program in Saturday's Founders Festival parade, with a van decorated to look like a cat. / A6

ARTS & LEISURE

Birthday celebration: Tour the tall ships, and enjoy a variety of music this weekend during Detroit's 300th birthday celebration. / B1

Theater: *Tinderbox Productions* brings history to life in "Joey's Field Trip to Detroit." / B1

INDEX

- Apartment/G4
- At Home/C1
- Automotive/G11
- Classified/E,F,G,H
- Crossword/G2
- Entertainment/B1
- HomeTown Life/C5
- Jobs/G6
- Obituaries/A5
- Opinions/A10-11
- Real Estate/E1
- Service Guide/G10
- Sports/D1

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Hills approves Holocaust Center

BY KEVIN BROWN
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A court settlement to make way for a new Holocaust Memorial Center on the site of the old Orchard Theater won enthusiastic approval Monday from the Farmington Hills City Council.

"I was totally amazed we could get this," said councilman Barry Brickner. After a presentation from project architect Ken Neumann, councilman Jon Grant praised him for "a wonderful job. We're all going to be very proud of it."

Councilwoman Cheryl Oliverio said the center will present an impressive welcome to visitors to the city. "I think

it's going to be great," she said.

Noting that just a handful of communities in the United States have such centers, Brickner said metro Detroit was the first. "It's good to see we're going to be the best again," he said.

Work is to begin this fall on the center, on Orchard Lake Road north of 12 Mile Road. Rabbi Charles Rosenzweig, director of the Holocaust Memorial Center originally established in West Bloomfield, said work should be completed within a year.

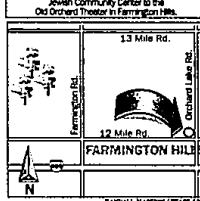
He said the center is projected to cost \$15 million, to be raised through a fundraising effort. "We hope the community will respond," Rosenzweig said.

Even neighbors praised plans for the center, while posing questions at the Monday council meeting about allotted parking and future expansion or other changes at the Holocaust Memorial Center site.

George Butler of Park Hill told the council the project plans are impressive, and added, "I lived through World War II and I know what it was like."

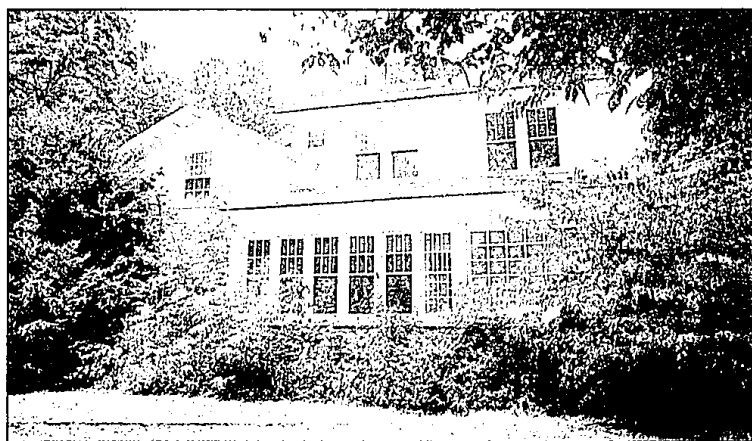
But Butler said he was concerned that language in the consent judgment, which settled an on-going zoning dispute between the property owner and the city, was not strong enough to head

HOLocaust MEMORIAL CENTER



Please see CENTER, A2

New again



On Shlawassee: The historic home bought by Farmington councilwoman JoAnne McShane and her husband William Nutting, pictured left, will get new landscaping in addition to interior renovations. Some windows (inset photo below) have old hand-made panes of glass that distort what is seen through them. Below left, McShane opens the cellar door to a rather spooky basement. The couple doesn't plan to restore the home to its early 19th century look. They've hired an architect to develop reconstruction plans. Anyone interested in seeing the house before it's remodelled may stop by Thursday, July 26, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRENNER



Dream house

Couple renovates historic home

BY CARA PLOWMAN
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Farmington city councilwoman JoAnne McShane and her husband, Dr. William Nutting, set out to find a big house in downtown Farmington and struck gold with a historic landmark on Shlawassee.

The couple recently bought the house in the historic district and plan to extensively remodel it, while trying to maintain some of its originality.

They acquired their dream home at 33608 Shlawassee Street three weeks ago. The house, which was recorded to have been built in 1901, will undergo a transformation in the upcoming months.

McShane has been told that some parts of the house may have been built as early as 1860. Others have told her that it was actually two separate structures that were joined.

The house has five bedrooms, a parlor, a library, two



Please see HOUSE, A4

Hills police nab suspect in laptop burglary case

BY KEVIN BROWN
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Just hours after a \$2,000 reward was offered by Farmington Hills Police in hopes of capturing a suspect wanted in connection with 26 commercial break-ins, officers finally caught up with the 41-year-old Detroit resident.

The break-ins happened on 12 nights since May 31. Police identified the suspect - captured on film - as Joseph Sexton, 41, of Detroit.



Joseph Sexton

Please see CAPTURED, A5



Finlayson crowned Miss Farmington

Crowning glory: Tracey Finlayson, 22, of Farmington Hills was crowned Miss Farmington/Oakland County on Wednesday evening at the Civic Theatre before a sell-out crowd. The University of Michigan business school graduate also tied with first runner-up Brooke Brennan for the talent scholarship. Both played piano. Contestant Heather Barnes was the second runner-up. Eight women vied for the title in the 28th annual pageant. Finlayson is pictured being crowned by Miss Farmington 2000, Angela Corsi.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRENNER