

Moguls and superstars dot subdivisions

Elegant homes come in all sizes, shapes, prices



While many surrounding communities receive the credit for big names in big houses, we've found some beautiful homes with some rather familiar names in the Farmington area. This home, in Farmington Hills, belongs to Max Fisher. Estimated to be worth \$369,000, the home features an indoor-outdoor swimming pool. (Staff photos by Harry Mauthe)

By MARY GNIEWEK

lived in the Farmington area.

She could move in next door to the Farmington Hills family who live in a mushroom shaped house, or perhaps be neighbors with another family who reside in a six-sided dwelling.

Houses come in all shapes, sizes and prices in the Farmington area. Price tags of \$300,000 and up are not unusual in many Hills subdivisions, like Golf Lake Hills and Ramblewood. Max Fisher, oil and real estate giant

who owns the Fisher Building in Detroit, lives in a stately two-story white colonial in Farmington Hills that abuts Franklin Hills golf course.

Fisher, 70, has been second chairman of New Detroit Inc., chairman of Detroit Renaissance, and president of the Jewish Welfare Federation.

In 1969, former President Richard Nixon appointed him to a special committee on urban and consumer affairs. The Detroit News referred to Fisher as "the ultimate philanthropist."

Fisher's home, valued at \$369,000 by 1977 assessment figures, features an indoor-outdoor swimming pool and extended living quarters above the garage.

FARMINGTON HILLS is also the home of Detroit Piston basketball star Bob Lanier. The 6-foot-11-inch center lives in Pebblebrook Estates. Besides stained glass windows, a swimming pool and a sauna, the \$179,000 house is attached to a nine-car garage.

Jean and Marvin Yagoda can only boast of a three-car garage, but their \$233,000 Farmington Hills residence has an exotic game room that gives the house extra flair.

"It's full of African memorabilia, animal heads and artwork," said Mrs. Yagoda. "We hunted game in Africa."

Lion, rhinoceros and Cape Buffalo heads hang on the walls and African statues and other trinkets are displayed. A slot machine and 11 self-playing musical instruments complete the decor.

"It's really my husband's room," said Mrs. Yagoda. "He built it himself."

In another subdivision, there is a hexagon shaped house worth \$83,000 that was designed 12 years ago by Bill Saller.

"We were looking for something different. We lived in a colonial before," said the owner, who asked to remain anonymous.

The house has a library, family room and five bedrooms, all built around a center area that was supposed to be a courtyard. The family opted for a swimming pool instead.

On the same street stands the "round house" of Farmington Hills. It used to attract a lot of attention from curious passersby, so the new owners requested anonymity.

"DON'T PRINT OUR name or address," the owner said. "We have had too many people tracking through our backyard. It's finally died down."

From a backyard view, the \$54,000 house looks like a giant mushroom. It sits on a pedestal and juts out over a ravine. Four bedrooms, a living room

and dining area branch out like wheel spokes from a center studio on the main floor.

Outside there is a circular driveway and a carport. The round look will soon be marred by an addition the family hopes will be completed this spring.

"We're used to a full basement. Here, the basement is very small because of the design of the house. So we are adding rooms to the side."

Farmington Hills is also the site of a private home that has been under construction for 10 years. Owned by Jack MacGriff of Lansing, the East Farm Ct. house is split in two wings. It is not known when the home will be completed. MacGriff was not available for comment.

In Farmington, City Assessor John Sailer says the most exclusive area "is probably the historical district."

Restored old homes in the heart of town sell for more than \$100,000. Sailer said the Warner estate house, a community landmark, could sell for at least \$200,000.

BUILT IN THE 1860's by P.D. Warner, father of Michigan's first three-term governor, Frederick M. Warner, it has been handed down in the family to present day. Residing there longest has been Edessa Slocum, the governor's daughter.



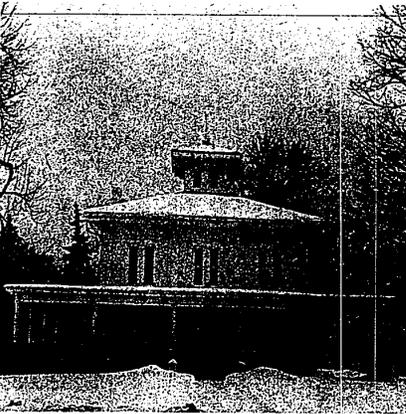
This home has gained notoriety as both the "mushroom" and "round" house. When built, it gained so much attention that area residents were found wand-

ering through the yard. Today's owners seek anonymity. (Staff photo)



Celebrities also have found Farmington Hills a comfortable place to live. This home is owned by Pistons basketball star Bob Lanier.

His home contains a swimming pool, stained glass windows and a sauna. (Staff photo)



The most famous home in the Farmington area is the Warner mansion, located on Grand River and built in the 1860s. It was later to become the home of Fred Warner, who served as Michigan's governor at the beginning of the century. That is an observation tower at top. The Slocum family, descendants of Warner, still own the property. (Staff photo)



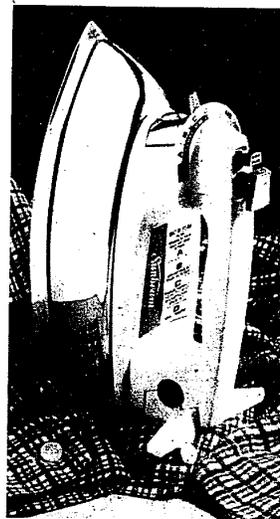
Houses in the Farmington area come in all shapes and sizes. This hexagonal home not only has a library and five bedrooms, but a swimming pool in the center which was to have been a courtyard. (Staff photo)

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sale 21.99

Sunbeam self-cleaning Shot of Steam Iron efficiently cleans itself to steam better, last longer, using tap water. Shot of Steam button delivers instant extra-penetrating steam for stubborn wrinkles and professional-type creases. 36 vents provide all-over steam coverage. Has a permanent press and wash-wear fabric guide. 250 units* in The Marketplace.

*Total units available at Metropolitan Detroit Hudson's stores while quantities last.

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