

September means a new beginning at Farmington library

West Bloomfield's Brooks and Layne Development Co. is saying yes to Farmington Hills.

The company's principal owners, Marvin Brooks and Sandy Layne, recently celebrated the grand opening of Orchard Place, a \$7.5-million shopping center neighboring Tally Hall on Orchard Lake Road south of 14 Mile Road.

Although only B. Dalton, T.J. Maxx and Dimensions are open so far in the 100,000-square-foot development, sales are breaking national records, according to Layne.

Layne attributes the center's boom-

goods at discount prices. About 10,000 square feet of space still is available for lease.

AT A TIME when housing construction in the Farmington Hills area is almost stagnant, Orchard Place progressed from the blueprint stage to near completion in nine months.

"That's because these are all national credit tenants—national discounters that are offering tremendous savings on designer brand clothes, shoes and accessories," Layne said.

"There's a good tenant mix now, and room for six more. Also, there's a large amount of parking (600 spaces). It's quite a project," said Harold Wolkind, an attorney who organized the principals' partnership agreement and negotiated most of the leases.

"The development is EDC/Economic Development Corporation—approved, and there may be EDC bonds out," he added.

Southfield architectural firm Rogovay Associates designed the U-shaped center, while American Realty Co. of Southfield is leasing tenant space.

Chemical Bank of New York sold the

10-acre parcel in December 1980 when Brooks and Layne were attracted by its "high density traffic count and the large median income," said Layne.

Among the Brooks and Layne Development Co.'s other ventures are Kroger and Chatham food stores in Monroe, St. Clair Shores and Westland, and industrial and apartment developments, in-

cluding Bloomfield West Apartments in West Bloomfield.

More local developments may appear on the firm's drawing board in the near future.

"We're always looking around," Layne said.

Anyone interested in leasing information may call 334-6200 or 333-3494.

library line

ing business to "the strong desire in the area for discount designer goods."

Scheduled to open by October in Orchard Place are The Gap, Tally Hall Town Shop, Farmington Hills Records, Inc., Limited, Southfield Coney Island and the Miami Bake Shop. Several of those stores will feature designer

was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi.

DONALD R. PARKS

Donald Parks, 92, of Farmington, died Aug. 26 in Botsford Hospital.

Mr. Parks was a carpenter before retiring. He was a retired member of the UAW.

Survivors include his daughters, Barbara Godin, Diane DiGiorgio; and June Ungar; son, Thomas; sister, June Scarles; brothers, Russ and Fred; 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were Aug. 28 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home and at the graveside with the Rev. Lee Tyler of Salem United Church of Christ officiating. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

Services were Aug. 30 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with Glenn Connolly officiating. Cremation.

obituaries

THOMAS J.C.AITKEN Sr.

Thomas Aitken, 74, of Farmington Hills, died Aug. 26 in University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Mr. Aitken was a machinist before retiring. He was a retired member of the UAW.

Survivors include his daughters, Barbara Godin, Diane DiGiorgio; and June Ungar; son, Thomas; sister, June Scarles; brothers, Russ and Fred; 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were Aug. 30 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with Glenn Connolly officiating. Cremation.

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