

FOUNDERS FESTIVAL SAVINGS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PREVIEW - JULY 17th
5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

WOODEN HEART
10-50% SAVINGS

LAMPS - SHADES - CANDLES - DOILIES
WOOD ACCESSORIES - CROCKS - FIGURINES
DUCK PUPPETS - WOODEN APPLES - BASKETS
FOLLOWED BY 3 MORE DAYS OF SPECIAL SALES

33335 Grand River, Farmington, MI
471-3520

211-acre Hills' park will be historical gem

When the city of Farmington Hills prepares to take over control of the Spicer property and to transform it into a city recreational area, residents and visitors will have open to them one of the historical gems of the area.

The 211 acres is the last open stand of land in Farmington Hills. And a look back at the property will show that it has a long and colorful history.

In 1869, Palmer Sherman built a beautiful home on his farm, located at the top of a small hill along Farmington Road.

Sherman sold seed to the Ferry Seed Co. Decades later, in 1915, Detroit attorney Luman Goodenough was so taken with the beautiful view that he bought the family home.

Although Eleanor Spicer was a quiet, reserved person, she did talk about the heritage of the property a few times before her death.

"He called it Long Acres," recalled Spicer. "He added a lot of things to the house and built barns. He loved the garden and worked in it himself all the time."

The Goodenough home was donated to the Farmington community in 1968, with a requirement that it be maintained as it is without drastic changes. Spicer's mother died the year before, in 1967, at the age of 97.

The Community Center property covers about five acres and includes the large house. The balance of the farm her father loved so much belonged to Mrs. Spicer until her death in 1982.

"MARCUS BARROWES, an architect and a contemporary of my father's built the house I live in as well as the French farm house at the back of the property," she said.

"We came out here in the summers until Mr. Burrowes finished adding on to the house. We moved in in 1918. By then the Edison poles had been established and we had to pay for them.

"Before, during the summer, I can remember the lights would flicker because the current was generated by a gas motor.

"Farmington Road was narrow and unpaved. Father put up a white picket fence where the stone wall around the Community Center now is. As we progressed he added the stone wall and the stately entrance.

"A farmer, Perry Wixom, and Mrs. McHaney built the wall. Several other people from Detroit bought farms out here. I bought the farm north of here and it belonged to Richard Weber," she recalled.

The addition of the 120-acre Weber farm made her farm about 210 acres. While she was alive, she kept animals, including dogs, sheep and horses.

"I attended Farmington High School and then went into Detroit (after the eighth grade) to a private school. Grand River was a gravel road and I can remember the sidewalks were raised up high and there were hitching posts and steps up to the sidewalks. And the hill on Farmington Road was called McGee's Hill and we

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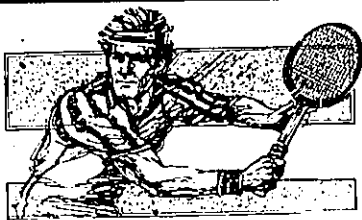
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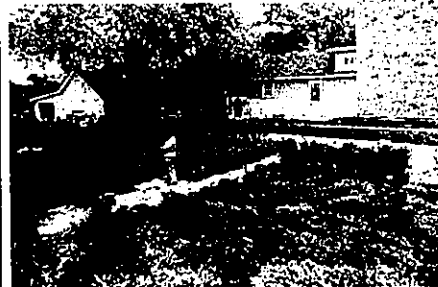
*DURING SUMMER HOURS FROM 7-15-85 - 9-31-85

The Steinkopf's had a dream...

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Steinkopf Sr. had a vision and a dream. They started Steinkopf Nursery in 1931 with the idea of offering quality nursery products and landscape services. Our family's promise is to continue this tradition and fulfill the dream that started in 1931. Fifty-four years of continuous landscaping service in this area.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Steinkopf



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