

Food lovers fest benefits community



Jill Benedict, manager of Haagen Daz Ice Cream Shoppe at Telly Hall at Hunters Square, serves ice cream cake to Farmington Hills residents (from left) Karen Daniels, Marilyn Clayton and Clara Hansen.

It was a taste lover's delight. Called "A Taste of Farmington," it's designed to showcase the Farmington Community Center, give a boost to the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce and turn the spotlight on participating dining spots.

But the lunchtime feast is also an excellent way to bring business, civic and government leaders together with other citizens in a relaxed, informal setting. The community center was spilt up for the occasion. "I couldn't be more pleased. The response has been just terrific," said

Jodi Soronen, the chamber's executive director, near the conclusion of Wednesday's "Taste."

She added: "I don't know where we would have put anybody else."

Soronen co-chaired this second "Taste" with Betty Paine, Farmington Community Center's executive director.

This year, about 300 people paid \$8 each to enjoy the house specialties of 10 Farmington-area dining spots as well as complimentary wine. The turnout nearly doubled last year's.

PROCEEDS GO to both the community center and the chamber of commerce.

Participating dining spots were Anita's Kitchen, Blakeney's Ranch House, The Botsford Inn, Dan's Submarines, D. Dennison's Seafood Tavern, Jan Drake's Garden Cafe, Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream Shoppe, Maxwell's, Monahan's Seafood Market and Mountain Jack's. Each donated food and services.

Some also took part in the inaugural "Taste" last year.

The Flower Barn donated flowers. Barry's Let's Root It donated the tablecloths. Local pianists also donated their services.



Enjoying a peaceful afternoon on the porch of the Farmington Community Center while sampling the house specialties of 10 local restaurants is (clockwise) Sylvia Wisniewski and Helen Marczewski of Dearborn Heights, Anne Gleba of Redford Township and Anne Drew of Dearborn Heights.

Harger House's fate is still undetermined

By Lisa Simon
staff writer

The fate of the 148-year-old Harger House was left undetermined Thursday night after discussion of Standard Federal Savings of Troy's revised open-space plan for the area where the house stands in the Farmington Hills Hunt Club subdivision.

Standard Federal inherited the subdivision, by default, several years ago and is majority landowner. Durwood Allen, bank senior vice president, went before the planning commission with the revised open-space plan.

Planning commissioners tentatively approved the revised plan. Moving trees, patching up open-space pot holes and creating asphalt walkways must be added to the plan by Sept. 30. A clause outlining a proposal for the Harger House was also part of the commission's motion.

The original plan, which had depicted an equestrian theme with barns and a fenced riding area, was revised for

undeveloped, natural-looking open space.

OUTBUILDING BARN, which once housed the Harger family's dairy operation and later some 15 privately owned horses, do not appear on the revised open-space plan.

The state has condemned the barn's contaminated silos, and the rotted barn floors were deemed unsafe, according to Allen.

State demolition crews planned to take down the buildings over the summer but were delayed. Standard Federal contracted a demolition crew but was unaware the barns could be torn down before the revised open-space plan was approved by the city, Allen said.

The bank has been waiting for the fate of Harger House to be determined so that an open-space plan would depict all or none of the buildings, he said.

The planning commission informed Allen the bank should acquire a permit for the demolition immediately. A deci-

sion for the future use or demolition of the Harger House is scheduled for Oct. 1.

A **RECOMMENDATION** to allow the bank to demolish the buildings was made after Planning Commissioner Thomas Duke asked City Attorney Paul Bibeau whether, if the buildings are deemed unsafe, they should be demolished immediately in order to protect the city from any damages incurred by injuries caused in an unsafe building.

Richard Lampi, Farmington Hills community development coordinator, said the bank would not have any trouble obtaining a demolition permit, even though the revised open-space plan had not yet been approved.

The Farmington Hills Hunt Club's disrepair extends beyond the outbuildings, according to at least two subdivision residents. Horses and lack of maintenance over the last five years caused extensive damage throughout the open-space area, they said.

"The residents don't know what to expect out of a new subdivision open

space plan," said Ray Boujoulain, spokesman for the Hunt Club residents said. "What is proposed is better than what we have."

"Chuckholes and rocks are fine for horses with four legs, but someone with two legs doesn't stand a chance," Boujoulain said. "Will we be able to walk across the whole area without breaking a leg?"

AS PART of the revised open-space plan, residents want the subdivision's four swampy areas to be dredged, hilly areas to be graded and overgrown brush and grass to be groomed, according to Boujoulain.

The extra acre created by halving one of the 194 subdivision lots has caused further concern. This extra space, where the Harger House stands, was excluded from the revised open-space plan.

The Harger House site is the prime spot for a future swim club, Boujoulain said. Although plans to build any such recreational center remain unformed, residents want to protect their options for the future, he stressed.

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TENDONITIS: CAUSE AND TREATMENT

You may have experienced pain in a shoulder, hip or knee that you thought was arthritis, but which your doctor called tendonitis. The distinction is important as, in general, tendonitis is likely to be easier to treat, and not as long lasting as arthritis.

In most cases, the cause of tendonitis is injury, though the original tendon strain may have occurred so long ago that you forgot the incident. The usual site of strain is where the tendon anchors into bone. As this insertion takes place near the joint, particularly in the shoulder and hip, it is common to believe that the problem is coming from the joint itself.

Treatment may consist of injection or use of medication; the choice depends on the severity of the tendonitis, the preference of the patient, or other medical conditions present. One drug often used is butazolidine, known to race horse fans as "but." Veterinarians, seeing how useful the drug is in people, prescribe it for thoroughbreds with achilles tendonitis!

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