

Community center capital drive slated

A major capital fund-raising drive will be launched to provide much-needed renovation of the mansion housing the Farmington Community Center.

"We must bring our electrical, plumbing and heating systems up to code and modernize our kitchen facilities if the center is to continue to be an integral part of community activities," said James Blazek, senior vice president of industry relations at Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America.

He is a center board member and is chairman of the center's financial development committee.

Architect Walter Reddig is working with the committee and Bill Stella, vice president of F.D. Stella Products, a supplier of food service equipment, to survey kitchen renovation and modernization needs and develop cost estimates, Blazek said.

Donald Greenbury and Richard Headlee have been named general chairmen of the capital drive, expected to begin in early 1987.

Greenbury is president and chief executive officer of Arrowsmith Tool & Die and Headlee is president and chief executive officer of Alexander Hamilton.

Organizational directors are Robert McConnell, chairman of the Farmington Hills Economic Development Corporation, and Robert

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— Robert McConnell
organizational director

Heinrich, president of Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington.

"WE WILL be contacting area businesses once the campaign gets started," McConnell said, "but we are announcing the drive now because of the new tax laws that will take effect in 1987. Some businesses and individuals may want to look carefully at their budgets to determine whether they might want to make their contribution during 1986."

Heinrich said the current tax law scheduled to expire on Dec. 31 provides a better opportunity for 1986 solicitation, and the committee will be contacting businesses and individuals this year.

"We have set up an account at Metrobank to receive these advance contributions," he added. "In fact, we already have more than \$30,000

contributed or pledged to be received during 1986."

McConnell and Heinrich said pledges may be paid over a three-year period.

The Georgian mansion, which has been designated a Michigan historic site, has undergone numerous renovations.

When Lumen Goodenough purchased the home in 1915, it was a simple square building that faced Farmington Road. Major renovation was completed in 1918 under direction of architect Marcus Burroughs, converting the home into a manor house.

The late Eleanor Spicer, last surviving child of Lumen Goodenough, recalled during a 1980 interview, "My father continued adding or changing something every year or two."



Shown from left are capital fund drive organizational directors Robert McConnell and Robert Heinrich and drive general chairmen Donald Greenbury and Richard Headlee.

THE MOST-recent renovation took place in 1988 after the Goodenough family donated the house and five acres of property for use as a community center, provided the people of Farmington raised the money necessary to convert it to public use. This will be the first capital fund drive since that time.

The Farmington Community Center has never received city, state, or federal tax money, nor United Fund

support. There are no membership dues. Operating revenue is provided by classes, events, rentals, a resale clothing shop and an annual fund drive, Blazek said.

"The fees collected barely cover these operating costs," he added. "Now that we need major renovation, we must go to the whole community, businesses and families, for support."

"The center was used 145 times

last year for private parties. It would have been used more if the kitchen facilities were adequate. Now with the development of Heritage Park, the uses of the center building will be changing and increasing. The need for renovation and remodeling is vital."

Area businesses and individuals will soon be contacted by fund-raisers.

Art exhibit marks office park opening

Etkins Equities Inc. marks the completion of its first building in Brookfield Office Park by hosting "Other Spaces," an exhibition of the work of 110 southeast Michigan artists.

The exhibition, symbolizing the co-operation of business and the arts, is part of a long-term commitment Etkins Equities made to introduce painting, sculpture and other works

of art into its business environments.

Currently, the firm manages and maintains an ownership interest in a number of major office properties within Southfield, Troy, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington Hills and Dearborn.

Etkins Equities' latest achievement, the 400,000-square-foot Brookfield Office Park, was designed by the Troy architectural firm, Minoru Yamasaki and Associates.

THE PUBLIC can view "Other Spaces" from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday at Brookfield Office Park, 31500 Northwestern Highway, just east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills, through Nov. 21.

Brookfield's flagship building of 97,000 square feet will begin moving in tenants this month. The building's classic form is constructed of reflect-

ive glass and limestone. Marble, granite, oak and bronze are used in concert within its interior spaces to provide the backdrop for the works of art that will be purchased for permanent installation from the "Other Spaces" exhibition.

The exhibition occupies 20,000 square feet specifically planned for the event by the interior design firm, Ford and Earl Associates. This is the

largest space ever made available to the Detroit Artists Market to display and sell artwork.

Etkins Equities hopes the event serves to publicize year-round activities at the Detroit Artists Market, stimulate membership to support these activities and, through the sale of art work at the exhibition, provide the artists with financial support.

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