



Ginopolis Restaurant, on the northwest corner of Middlebelt and 12 Mile, won the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce



Finsilver Development Corp. won three Farmington Hills beautification awards Thursday, including one in the small office category for the J.W. Korth & Co. building on Middlebelt, south of Northwestern Highway.

Beautification brings community accolades

By Susan Duck
staff writer

Honorees include businesses, churches, schools

Businesses who craft Mother Nature's aesthetics were honored Thursday morning at the fourth annual Farmington Hills Beautification Commission awards ceremony.

The 20-member commission awarded plaques and certificates to 150 businesses, churches, schools, subdivision entrances, a shopping center and individuals for improving

the appearance of their facilities or areas.

Others received letters of commendation recognizing attractive landscaping and plantings.

Lincoln Avery, commission chairman, gave the welcome speech to award recipients, who filled the council chambers in the city hall. "Our goal is to recognize all

areas," said Avery, who is Southfield Public Schools adult education superintendent. "We need your help. If you see some place that should be recognized, please let us know."

FOR THE SECOND time since 1986, the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce presented its own beautification award,

this year to Ginopolis Restaurant, 27815 Middlebelt.

Also on hand were council members Jody Soronen, Ben Marks, Aldo Vagozzi and Paul Sowerby, state Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, and Farmington councilwoman Shirley Richardson, Keep Michigan Beautiful Committee president. "The volunteers who come togeth-

er and spend the time and take this program a little bit further every year is gratifying," Mayor Terry Sever said. "The planning commission has seen how important it is to have trees planted, to improve landscaping to make this truly a fine aesthetic community. My hat's off to the commissioners who are so deeply involved in this community."

Avery said there's a domino effect among businesses who take beautification efforts seriously.



Lincoln Avery
commission chairman

Hills Beautification Awards given in 13 categories

Farmington Hills Beautification Award winners are chosen from a list compiled by beautification commissions.

Each of the 13 categories has a captain responsible for keeping track of who's doing what to beautify their property.

The annual awards ceremony is designed to "commend groups and individuals for accomplishments resulting in improving, enhancing and beautifying the city of Farmington Hills," according to the event program.

Winners, categories and type of award follow:

- **APARTMENTS**
 - Plaques — Covington Club Apartments, Fairmont Park, Fox-pointe Townhouses, Indian Creek, Summit Apartments.
 - Certificates — Drakeshire Apartments, Gateways, Green Hill, Independence, Green, Mulwood, Strawberry Lane.
- **CONDOMINIUMS**
 - Plaques — Crosswinds, Hunters Grove, Roger Kramer & Associates for Ramblewood, Pine Knolls,

Ramblewood Club, Ramblewood Manor, River Pine.

- Certificates — Chestnut Ridge, Sierra Pointe, The Meadows.
- **BUSINESSES**
 - Plaques — Dotsford Hospital, Finsilver Development Corp for 30018 and 30038 Orchard Lake Road, Ginopolis Restaurant, McCabe Funeral Home, Mid-Twelve Shell for 29370 12 Mile, Red Roof Inn, Frank Rosenbaum CPA, Stewart Travel.
 - Certificates — American House, Bahama Motel, Bill Cook Dealership, Botsford Inn, Cafe Corti-

na, Ferndt Builder's Supply, First Federal of Michigan, Manufacturers National Bank at 29305 Orchard Lake Road, Manufacturers National Bank at 33452 Farmington Road, Marathon Service Station at 29450 Nine Mile, McDonald's Restaurant at 38425 10 Mile, Mobil Oil Corp. at 37819 Grand River, Mountain Jack's, Pizza Hut at 31209 10 Mile, Price Union 76, Radisson Suite Hotel, Sunoco Car Wash at 30775 12 Mile, Vladimir's, Walton's Ten & Orchard Shell at 31324 10 Mile, Wendy's at 30725 T10 Mile and Wilkie Turf &

- Irrigation.
- **INDUSTRIAL COMPLEXES**
 - Plaques — G.S.E. Inc., Willowgreen Bldg. Group for Hills Tech Center.
 - Certificates — Diamond Automation, DynaPower Corp., Mold-Ex Rubber Company, Rex Publishing Co., Richard Tool & Die Corp., Stanley-Carter Co.
- **OFFICE COMPLEXES**
 - Plaques — Arboretum, Newbury Properties for 23093 Commerce Drive, Technology Park, The Gateway, Studio Center.

- **LARGE OFFICES**
 - Plaques — Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co., Bestac Companies for 31731 Northwestern Highway, Bestac Companies for Triata, Bond Street Office Park, Edkin Equities Inc. for Brookfield Office Park, Farmington Office Development Co., Hitachi Technical Center, Jervis B. Webb, Jona Construction/North Valley Building, Medallion Investment Co. for 30777 Northwestern Highway, Orchard Plaza Associates

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Hillside principal announced

Elementary education veteran Richard Rutter will serve as principal of Hillside Elementary School on the district's west side.

The 600-student new school, under construction since June, is scheduled to open next fall. It will include both elementary and early childhood education, encompassing grades kindergarten through five.

Rutter is currently principal at the Fairview Early Childhood Center, a position he has held since 1984.

In announcing the change, acting superintendent Michael Flanagan said he had offered all principals a chance to transfer to the Hillside position. Rutter was the sole applicant.

"The irony is that this building is going to end up being an elementary and early childhood center, combined," Flanagan said.

The eastern portion of the school is expected to house any kindergarten and other early childhood programs. The center of the school will

Schools posts to open

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OTHER DISTRICTS offer lump-sum retirement payments, said acting superintendent Michael Flanagan. "The program was brought to us by the administrators' association," he said. "We were one of the few districts which didn't have one."

The two slots at Power and O.E. Duncel were filled last summer. Rutter's replacement is expected to be considered at this week's

school board meeting. Still open are principalships at Eagle and Cloverdale and a number of assistant principal posts at middle and high schools.

Also open is the principalship at Fairview Early Childhood Center, which may be filled by the transfer of another principal in the district, Flanagan said. Current principal Richard Rutter will become principal at the new Hillside Elementary school, slated to open next fall.

house elementary academic rooms and the school's media center. The west side of the school will include cafeteria and gymnasium areas.

Rutter came to the Farmington district in 1963 and became principal at Beechview Elementary in 1967. He served as principal of then Middlebelt Elementary from 1970-74. He worked in several special programs until accepting the Fairview principalship in 1984.

Soronen to leave Hills council

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In addition, she will automatically resign her role as appointed Farmington Hills delegate to the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments and will no longer have a seat on the executive committee, an elected position.

She served on the board of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority, now SMART (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation), from 1982-88.

SORONEN, AN only child, was born during the Depression and raised in Detroit's Woodward-Six Mile area.

She recalls riding on the Detroit Streets and Railways bus her father drove while she was on her way to Pershing High in Detroit.

She attended Centre College for one year in Kentucky where her father's relatives lived. She earned a degree in business administration from Wayne State University, where she also did postgraduate work. "When I went to Wayne, they still

had streetcars."

At 25, she married Ken, nicknamed Rusty, so named for his bright red hair. She did commercial time sales for CBS owned and operated radio stations from a Fisher Building office in Detroit.

The Soronens bought their home on Springvale (near 14 Mile and Drake), the sixth house in the subdivision at the time, almost 26 years ago.

The couple has three children — Bill, 25, a business student at Western Michigan University; Peter, 22, lives at home, is a hairdresser for Heidi's Salons and recently helped produce a fashion show at Taboo Nightclub in Detroit; and David, 21, a criminal justice student at Ferris State University.

"We were on the two-year plan," she said in describing the way they spaced their children. "I had three children in four years. I was home for 18 years. When I became mayor (1980), Bill, who was 12, said he wished I wasn't, because all the kids said 'Nya, Nya the mayor's son.'"

When you're 12, everything your parents do is embarrassing."

SORONEN RETURNED to the workplace because "you can go nuts staying at home."

She began her political career by being active in the Woodbrook Subdivision Association.

"I can do that," Soronen told herself after watching the Farmington Hills City Council in action and deciding to run in 1977. "I wasn't angry about anything. The faces change, but the issues don't."

Soronen was the top vote-getter in the 1977 council election. She was Farmington Hills mayor in 1980 and 1988.

Soronen hopes the council keeps its commitment to solving the flooding problem and continues its commitment to improve landscaping within the community.

"Time manages to disappear," she said. "I thoroughly enjoyed serving on council. I hope they remember me with kindness. Hey, I hope they remember me."

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Forum for Farmington candidates set

The Farmington Old Village Association will host a Meet the Candidates night Thursday for the seven contenders for three Farmington

City Council seats opening this fall. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Temple Auditorium. Incumbents Richard Tupper, Shir-

ley Richardson and Arnold Campbell are squaring off against challengers JoAnne McShane, John Kenney, Robert Walker and Joanne Fellenberg.