Suits settled, zone encroachment fears remain

ly litigation tonight.
But it's the Providence Hospital

But it's the Providence Hospital consent agreement that bothers the three Woodcreek residents the most. In the Northirly suit — over land on 13 Mile, west of Northwestern Highway — developers wanted office. The city council offered cluster bousing. The land remains residentially xoned, said Mayor Aido Vagnozzi.

Farmington **Observer**

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TOASTING

O&E Monday, December 9, 1991

LIRE THE Northirly suit, a facilitator helped reach agreement between the city and Southfield-based Providence Hospital.

That agreement calls for an office development on previously residentially zoned land at the southwest corner of Northwestern Highway and Inster Road.

The agreement also calls for maintaining three acres of woodlands as a residential buffer and saves the city of Farmington Hills from exposure to nearly \$2 \text{ million in damages.}

The approved settlement will allow Providence to develop an office building of up to 170,000 aque feet on the \$1. acres each of the existing between the tree line and Pebble Creek must not be disturbed without the city council's approval. Remaining acreage can be developed only a single family homes, with no provi-

Derek joins Audobon board

Farmington Hills naturalist Joe Derek has been elected to the a three-year term on the Detroit Audo-boa Society board of directors. Derek, also a board member of the Friends of the Rouge River, will be-gin his term in January, 1992. He will serve as one of 37 board mem-

will serve as one on ...
Derek is also a member of the
Farmington Hills Beautification
Commission, as well as the ad hoc
Peliz-MDOT committee.

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CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE 1992

Oversight accommodations for two in our newly-remixed about more.

sion for cluster housing.

"We see the possibility of a pre-cedent here for developers," Mu-rawski said.

While he is pleased with no office on the Northirly property, Hutchis-son told the city council he's not as happy about the Providence agree-ment. "It's a dark, large cloud threatening Woodcreek."

Hutchinson polled the seven coun-cil members about their vote on the Providence agreement. The city council met early Nov. 8 and voted 5-0 against settlement. But Oakland County Circuit Judge Steven An-drews pushed for the agreement and told the council to appear in court that afternoon.

Imagine the disappointment, Holmes sald, when residents realized that a "total 180 (degrees since the morning meeting) had been achieved that afternoon. Why?"

NEXUS

INFLUENTIAL IN the decision to settle was an attorney for the city stak management group who told the council if the settlement was not accepted he would recommend insurance coverage to be stopped. "I'd like you to pit yourself in our shoes," Vagnozzi said. Other council members said they had to decide what was best for the whole community. And it boiled down to almost \$2 million in damages.

down to almost \$2 million in damages.

"I really resented the process very much," and Councilman Terry Sever, who opposed the agreement, "I wann't there (at the afternoon assion). I don't know if I would have changed my mind under the pressures. It's unfair we came to a decision based on money. Holmes probably wouldn't have disagreed. "I suggest a fight could have been made and a stand could have been made and a stand could have been made and a stand could have been taken." He said the issue

wan't the some 300 bomes in Woodcreek versus the rest of the city. Holmes told the council that he believes most taxpayers in the city would pay a small increase to pay off damages — If the suit were taken to court — rather than continually be encreached upon by increased traffic and "sec-through building."

In 1989, the Southfield-based Providence proposed a women's

rezoned for office use to allow a building of up to 235,000 square feet.

At the time, the city council de-nied rezoning because members wanted the property to remain resi-dential. The hospital then sued, claiming the city had deprived it of its property rights.



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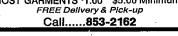
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*MY GIRL (PG) CAPE FEAR (R) LITTLE MAN TATE (PG)

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normalizes.

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