ongacre.

from page 14A

als, art shows and tutorial camps.

Marks also hopes to encourage businesses to use the Longacre House. "It's a natural setting for business meetings," he said.

"We are poing to fill a niche in the community that needs to be filled," he said.

About 25 years ago, the Longacre House was the only place in credit of the community that needs to be filled, "he said.

cre House was the only place in town, Marks said. But now, the city, the library, schools and the Y are competing with the house.

The house has to find its own arena, he said, and he's only just started. He came on board in March 1994 and has started by changing the duties for some of the people who work there. Laura the people who work there. Laura Collins, marketing director, is in charge of volunteers. But when

Marks came, "Leura was doing 17 million things other than what she was hired for," he said.
Collins sees the Longacre House's niche as a more cultural noe. But the house also sponsors an annual rummage sale, a fashion show, and is open to many weddings, anniversary parties, and Christmas parties.
Collins, who has a background in marketing and advertising, came to the Longacre House two years ago.

came to the Longacre House two years ago.
Susan Haight came on board as program director in January. She has plans for many programs be-ginning in the fall, including chi-dren's and adult dance, painting classes, seminars on business eti-quette and proper business attire and a wellness series.

Along with the name change, the house is playing on its historic past. Built in 1889 by Palmer Sherman, a farmer, it was originally a small six-room Victorian house, according to a history of the house written by Phyllis Welch. Sherman moved to Farmington from Southfield Township, the bought 101 acres of land from his father-in-law, Isaiah Ward, an original settler in the area. In 1869, Sherman built the square, two-story Victorian house which included the present dising room office and pantry portion of the Longacre House. The house consisted of a parlor, dining room and kitchen on the first floor and three hedrooms on the second floor. The front entrance faced Farmington Road.

When Goodenough bought it, he used it as a summer home for his wife and three small children. He and his family moved in permanently in 1918. Marcus Burrowes, an architect, was retained to redesign and expand the home into a 20-room, Georgian style manor house. The house included three porches, a greenhouse and a library. Because of the shape of the property, the home was named Longacres. Final remodeling was completed in 1930 when the library was added to replace a patio.

After the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Goodenough, their surviving children, Eleanor Spicer, Daniel Goodenough and Elizabeth Schemm, donated the home and

five acres of land to the residents of the area in 1968.

The property was to be used as a community center provided that area residents were able to raise money for operating expenses. By 1969, the community center opened its door to the public. In 1979, the Michigan Historical Commission designated the center as a state historical site. A marker is located along Farmington Road near the gate in the stone well.

The house operates as a non-profit organization and is supported by an annual fund drive, classes, space rental and special events.

Marks says he feels very close to the Longacre House. He raised money several years ago for re-

modeling at the house. Now he's in the process of raising money to make the says turning the house around is like turning a bost around. "He just starting to turn around." But there's a long way to go, he said. But he sees the excitoment of people working toward a goal as attractive to others.

"People, if they see folks working toward a goal, not only appreciate it, they want to be part of it," he said.

He expects to be "halfway."

it," he said.

He expects to be "halfway home" by the end of this year, "But we're cracking cement hardened for 25 years."

Lions honor Farmington Hills woman for commitment

Marion Prover of Farmington Hills has been named a Melvin Jones Fellow by Lions Clubs In-ternational Foundation, in recog-nition of her commitment to serving the world community.

Named for the founder of Lions

Clubs International, Melvin Jones, the fellowship is the foundation's highest honor. It is a recognition of a commitment to humanitarian service.

Prover is a member of the

Farmington Area Lions Club. She recently received a finely crafted plaque and lapel pin acknowledg-ing her dedication to the founda-tion's humanitarian goals. As a

Melvin Jones Fellow, Prover be-comes part of a growing network of individuals who are cumitted to improving the quality of life for people locally and in communi-

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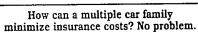
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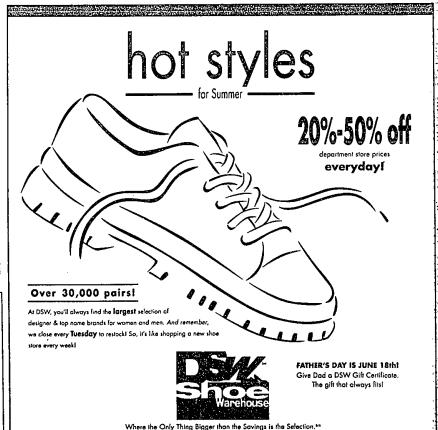
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