

ACE Hardware warehouse to be built here

Ground was broken Tuesday in Farmington Hills Industrial Park for a 146,000 square foot corporate headquarters and distribution center for A.C.E. Hardware.

The new building will be the largest in the park with 21,000 square feet of office space combined with a 125,000 square foot distribution center. Another three acres of the site will be paved with asphalt to accommodate employees and visitor parking.

With R.E. Dailey & Co. as construction managers, the new building will go up on a 24-acre site. A one-story structure covering 3.4 acres, it will feature steel framework with insulated metal curtain walls.

Designed by the architectural firm of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls Associates, the building will have long curved skylights between office and warehouse areas and over the loading docks. Landscaping will include an earth berm extending to window level and provide added insulation for the long side of the office area.

Taking part in the groundbreaking ceremonies were A.C.E. Chairman Theodore Traskos, Farmington Hills Mayor Earl Oppenheimer, representatives

of R.E. Dailey and Smith Hinchman, A.C.E. directors and local and state officials.

Scheduled for completion by mid-1980, the center will serve the 33 company-owned A.C.E. stores scattered throughout the suburban Detroit area with 12,000 different items according to seasonal demand.

WITH FULLY COMPUTERIZED inventory control, the center will utilize 11,000 double pallet-sized bins in addition to specialized racks and electronic carousel storage bins for small order items.

Speeding storage and retrieval will be electronically guided, narrow aisle, swing-reach warehouse vehicles and order selectors. A full sprinkler system will be built into the racks.

The new center, which marks the first part of a three-phase expansion program, will replace a 60,000 square foot office and warehouse complex in Redford which will be offered for sale following the move.

The new site in the 10-year class A industrial park was selected from among 40 studied.

While several in other areas offered tax incentives, we felt the immediate

access for our vehicles to the I-275, 696 and 96 freeways at this location would provide the most cost effective location for our stores and customers," ACE chairman Traskos said.

The privately held Michigan chain is the largest of the nearly 4,000 outlets affiliated with Ace Hardware Co. of Oakbrook, Ill.

The Michigan chain, which reports doubled volume every five years for the past 25, expects to open three to

five stores annually. The newest store will open in Saline in early October.

With some \$200 million in current projects, R.E. Dailey & Co. is capturing an increased share of the retail-distribution center market. In addition to A.C.E., the company currently is working near Saginaw on its third project for Meijer's Thirty Acres and is building or has completed distribution centers for Kmart in Illinois, Georgia, California and Texas.

OCC announces free Monday lecture series

Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills will present a series of free public lectures on alternate Mondays from Oct. 1 to Nov. 26.

In a cooperative effort with the Automobile Club of Michigan (AAA), the campus office of student activities has arranged the following:

• Oct. 1 "No Fault Insurance — How We Got Here From There" A look at

the no-fault concept and its place in our present day socio-economic environment. Howard Baizaire, administrative assistant of AAA insurance operations will speak.

• "Maintain Michigan's Mobility" What the average motorist can do to cut fuel consumption and save gas for vacations and recreation. Bill Banks, AAA speakers bureau coordinator and contributing editor of Michigan Living

Motor News will speak.

• Oct. 29 "Planning a Trip Abroad" What to do and what to expect about air fares, European travel regulations, passport requirements. Barbara Kowdyn, world travel counselor, lectures.

• Nov. 12 "Understanding and Being Understood" Overcoming barriers to effective communication. Robert Loesch, Ph.D. coordinator of AAA su-

pervisory management programs speaks.

NOV. 26 "TELL It Like It Is" The AAA radio-TV services for highway safety and public information. Bill Banks.

All lectures will be held in room H-108 (gymnasium). Lectures will begin at 7:30 p.m. and are free. The campus is located at 27055 Orchard Lake road. For more information call 476-9400, ext. 500.

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