

West Coast concepts accent homes



The almost finished Brentwood in the Farmington Square puts together a California look with geometric lines and natural wood.

Jay Kaufman Builders offer a variety of homes with conveniences for both families with and without children.

In the Farmington Square Subdivision, Nine Mile and Halsted, Farmington Hills, the commons area offers a safe place for children to "travel" on their own.

The developer believes the 21 acres of open space are suited to all sorts of outdoor activities, from ball games to family picnics conveniently close to home.

One style, the Brentwood, a California-style home, the master suite is situated on the first floor. Upstairs a 30-

feet-long balcony overlooks another West Coast concept, the "Great Room."

A New England touch is added to the subdivision with the "Huntington," modeled in the design of an 18th century home, including a sitting room and outside balcony off the master suite.

Farmington Square models are scheduled for the end of the month but prospective home buyers can get an early look.

With construction bogged down in the spring mud, Kaufman offers homebuyers a chance to beat the early summer rush by opening the

Huntington before it's actually completed.

The juxtaposition of finish work with stacks of insulating material may seem a bit strange at first glance but it allows buyers to get an accurate picture of what the Huntington will look like in a month or so.

To emphasize the concept, Kaufman has tacked up signs explaining "what goes where." Of course, the usual floor plans and architect's renderings also are available to help out.

Sales in Farmington Square will be handled by Impact Marketing Services. For more information, call 478-2340 or 354-4114.

Healthy building industry vital to economy

Maintaining a stable, healthy home building industry is vital to the nation, says James Raisin, president of the Builders' Association of Southeastern Michigan.

Using as an example the costs of building 2,000 residential units, Raisin explained how these costs are pumped back into the economy as construction workers' consumer dollars, federal and social security taxes,

new homeowners purchases and the creation of new jobs in the construction materials industry.

From an initial cost on the 2,000 units of \$40 million, economists estimate a total "ripple" effect throughout the economy of more than \$120 million.

Raisin added that those 2,000 units are only about one-tenth of the total housing starts in the greater Detroit area last year alone.

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