He's hooked on downtown Farmington

Continued from Page 1
their 40 wedded years.
Owners of the Bon Ton Shoppe in
downtown Farmington, the couple
has built three of their houses with
their own hands, doing "everything
but the beating system and wet plaster," he said.
The Milford-area residents both
enjoy deer bunting each fall near
their Oxcoda cottage and have found
a spiritual happiness that surrounds
their lives.

They also keep busy running their Farmington store and similar retail businesses in Brighton and Livonia. Retailing recently led Harry Wingerter into the presidency of Farmington's Downtown Development Authority, where he has continued as champion for the city's central business district. ued as champion for tral business district.

"THERE'S BEEN no thought of stopping," he said about his lifestyle. "We'll probably slow down, . . . but

we stay very active. I guess that's why we've never thought of retir-

why we've never thought of reur-ing. The control of the control o

It was the tiresome night and weekend work that helped him make his second career step, when he accepted a position as product engineer for Chrysler Corp. He worked in that position for another 10 years.

Stella Wingerter had opened a retail gift shop and Harry "had to make a decision." After trying a real site career part time, the many hours worked by an entrepreneur won out over the stability of an engineering fob.

Today, his son, Jerry, is operations manager for his stores. The Wingerter was private with daughters — one who lives in Florida and the other who stayed in the area.

"It's been a very interesting life," he added.

Between family activities, the family business, church activities and enjoying life at his home on Lake Sherwood, Wingerter keeps an eye on the happenings in downtown Farmington.

AS ONE of the first merchants in

AS ONE of the first merchants in the Downtown Farmington Center, he has watched the city change. The current rejuvenation effort is posi-tive, but really icing on the cake.

The building of the shopping cen-ter more than 25 years ago was the catalyst that kept downtown moving, according to Wingerter.

"Putting the shopping center in was the biggest move," he said. "The downtown would have gone nowhere" without it.

"Things are really beginning to happen now," he added, calling the current downtown project the big-

Parents back program

Teacher Association

"His shoulders are back - his

the Kenbrook Elementary Parent/
Teacher Association.

Another area resident, Linda Ciko, cailed Farmington's developmental Early Fives program "a bridge" from nursery school to traditional kindergarten.

"The developmental program does not copy the kindergarten brogram — it leads them into it," she said.

Celko's son is attending regular kindergarten this year after a year of developmental at Fairlyew Early Childbood Center. His nursery began to realize children were having a state of the control of the day to the control of the day to the control of the day to the control of the cont

and educators believe that is changing — and should never have been a problem.

"I hear less and less of a concern," Fuller sald. "Fewer people are anguished about it. People have seen there's a really bright kid here, and the parents held them back. There's not as big a stigma."

The stigma developed, Celko believes, because of recent development of the "super child" — the bigh expectations parents place on their children. "I call it the Vupple syndrome." she added. "It's adult peer pressure. Some parents take it personally, it's not personal.

Causing additional stress to the situation are parents who cannot agree on where to place the child in school, parents sald.

Next: Observations from education experts.

An additional employee for Farmington's Water and Sewer Department was autorited Jan. 5 to help with a backlog of work — specifical work of the work o

id.

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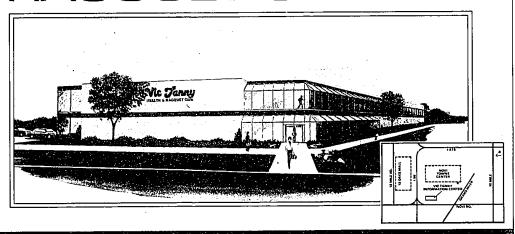
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