# **Fini in Farmington**

# Women's boutique expects to fit in downtown

Fini of Farmington is just getting started as a women's boutique, but manager Nadia Hosking sees the store as a beginning of something on a grander scale.

"It (downtown Farmington) is just a nice area. Why not be another Royal Oak?," said Hosking, who lives in Farmington Hills and shops downtown. "It's a charming little town, and I think it should be made use of."

be made use of."
Fini of Farmington opened for business in the Cook Building, 33318 Grand River. The specialty

storo sells women's clothing along with hard-to-find home accessories such as antiques, lamps, pleture frames, pillows, clocks and even hat boxes.

Hosking, who was involved with the recently-closed Fini store in Twelvo Oaks Mail, sees the boutique as fitting in with a downtown that is just realizing its quaint strength. She cites the coffeehouse, tea room and other specialty stores that have emerged in the past year.

the past year.

The exterior of the Cook Building reminds her of something one sees in Soho or Paris, Inside, ceiling fans and a sofa accentuate the

boutique atmosphere, she said, providing a place where a hus-band can sit and drink coffee while his wife shops.

The building where Fred Cook and P.D. Warner once operated a store, gave Hosking the idea to start a boutique. She read there was space available and contacted the Sakutas, who own the building.

"It was one of those crazy things," said Hosking, who has previously worked in retail sales. "I saw there was space available. All the bells started ringing."

Hosking, with a group of

friends, followed through. She won't reveal who or how many people are in her corporation.
"It's not like we're going to make a fortune," Hosking said.
"It's something fun to do."
Dennis Sakuta said Fini will be a welcome addition to the Cook Building. The building already bouses Gold Spot, Kitchen Master and the Grand Cafe.
Fini of Farmington rents 1,500-square feet of space formerly occupied by Michele Marc's Flowers and Co.
"We've been holding out for an uplifting tenant to add something to the city," Sakuta said.

Downtown Development Authority director Judy Downey thinks the boutique will add something.

"It's going to improve the quality of choices downtown because this is an upscale ladies apparel outlet," Downey said. "This is the kind of shop that would increase our selection of choices of where to shop."

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In Smith, a buyer for Fini, aid women's clothing is only one aspect of the boutique. She goes to New York, Paris and Ania looking for items people would have a hard time finding elsewher.

"It's like going to New York but

staying at home," Smith said. "I do all the legwork." Smith's also a buyer for the Fini store that operates in Grand-Blanc. Another Fini outlet in Twelve Oaks in Novi closed recently.

Fini stores are individually owned but have the same designer. Hosking said there are advantages to opening a shop in a downtown.

"I think probably you have a' more personable relationship with the customers," she said, "and it's a more positive shopping."



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## Calls from page 8A

An attempted break-in of the Salvation Army food pantry on Shiawassee in Farmington Hills Jan. 25-31 caused \$200 in damage to the rear door and gates.

### M EMBEZZLEMENT

MEMBEZZLEMENT
A cashier didn't ring up video and
computer equipment worth
\$574.96 for a customer at the Target atore on Grand River in Farmington Hills Jan. 30. The merchandise was recovered.

### **THEFT**

A woman's diamond engagement ring worth \$1,500 was stolen from an office building on 12 Mile in

Farmington Hills Jan. 24.
A \$370 Sony Watchman TV
was stolen from a residence on
Lancaster in Farmington Hills
Dec. 17-31.
A \$1,500 black mink jacket was
stolen from the Clarion Inn on 12
Mile in Farmington Hills Jan. 25-

28.
Hubcaps (\$400) from a blue
1992 Chevy Lumina at the Green
Hill Apartments on Green Hill in
Farmington Hills were stolen Jan.

25-27.
An NEC portable phone
(\$1,800) was stolen from Harrison
High on 12 Mile in Farmington
Hills Jan. 16.

A \$300 AM/FM car stereo was stolen from a green 1993 Chrysler Concord parked on Echo Valley in Farmington Hills Jan. 29.
Farmington Hills Jan. 29.
Farmington Hills undercover officers followed a yellow 1979 Mercury to the YMCA on Farmington in Farmington Hills and then arrested a 35-year-old Detroit man after he came out of the Y with \$400 worth of items including calculators, a radio, a telephone and cleaning supplies in a black plastic garbage bag Feb. 1.
A purse containing \$15 in cash

Feb. 1.
A purse containing \$15 in cash and various credit cards was stolen from a bench in the Village

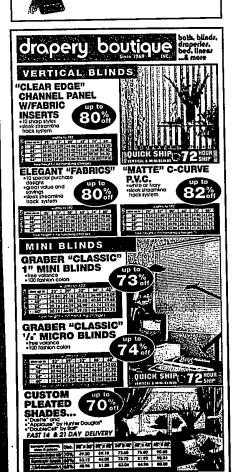
Shoe Inn in Farmington Jan. 29.

### E INDECENT EXPOSURE

m INDECENT EXPOSURE

A maintenance worker told police
that a male tenant, 48, at the Independance Green Apartments on
Madison Court in Farmington
Hills, opened his apartment door
and stood in front of her while naked Jan. 29.

AUTO THEFT
A white 1990 Geo Tracker worth
\$12,000 was stolen from the rear
lot of the Paine Webber office
building on Northwestern Highway in Farmington Hills Jan. 28.



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