



STAFF PHOTOS BY ANN HEALEY

Barber *from page 1A*

"You feel a customer out," said Bob Marshick, a barber for 32 years. "If you disagree with it, you keep your mouth shut."

"If you agree with it, you have a great conversation."

In a community that clings to its heritage, it should come as no surprise there is a Korner Barbers shop in Farmington.

The business has been in its present spot for 25 years. It's weathered a couple of recessions, and perhaps worse, the Beatles and the subsequent launch of long hair fashion.

Many shops were replaced by tony hair styling places in the permissive '70s. But The Korner didn't fall like Saigon.

■ 'The idea was to get rid of all your customers and start a new thing. We didn't want to get rid of our customers. I think it was the right decision for this town, this business. I think it was right.'

Bob Marshick

"The idea was to get rid of all your customers and start a new thing," said Marsbick, who is a partner in the business with Dan Klawender. "We didn't want to get rid of our customers."

"I think it was the right decision for this town, this business. I think it was right."

That's confirmed by the high-volume of pedestrian traffic. The

Korner Barbers bustles on
Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Customers span three generations. Most are regulars such as John Angle of Farmington Hills, who enjoys the barbers' attitudes and the atmosphere.

"This is the only barber shop I come to," Angle said. "I wouldn't think of going anywhere else."

Customers and barbers alike

Customers and barbers alike

cultivate a sense of community
and history.

Some regulars have brought in railroad lanterns and a cowbell, which adorn the shelves. The shop's storefront window is often a showcase for upcoming events and organizations such as Team Farmington Special Olympics.

As much as the Korner Barbers stays the same, though, things do change.

The place gets a few women customers now and has a female barber, Noeleen Lamb, among its seven-member crew. Something else is different, Marahick said.

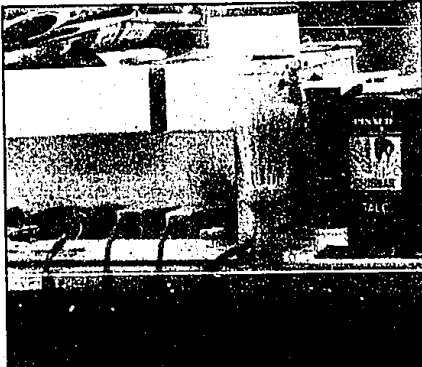
People used to come in, read magazine and relax. "Today they're too busy," he said.



Trimming a regular: Noeleen Lamb, the shop's only woman barber, trims the hair of Cora Swenor, a regular customer.



He's next: Richard Marsh, visiting from California, stops in for a quick trim at the Korner Barbers.



Tools of the trade: Talc, tonic, brushes and electric razors fill the counter of the Korner Barbers.

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