

Blooming beauty

Funeral home's perennial favorite

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

If beauty is in the eye of the beholder, then Walter Sundquist has orbited the size of dinner platters.

The president of Heenev-Sundquist Inc. — recipient of the inaugural Farmington Beautification Commission's Mayor's Trophy — is obsessed with the topic.

The funeral home is a perennial winner of the beautification awards. He served on the Keep Michigan Beautiful Committee and was a member of its Hall of Fame for three years.

Sundquist and new partner and successor Mark Ziegler feel a special responsibility situated in the city's most visible area on Farm-

ington near Grand River.

"I'm elated with the fact we're number one. I have put such an effort into it," said Sundquist, whose funeral home is the oldest in the state dating back to 1850.

"I drive through downtown. I don't say anything but I think, 'If you took only 10 or 15 minutes to clean up that mess it would look so much better.'"

Sundquist supervises the maintenance crew of Ralph Schade and Dan Stockel. Annals and pennants adorn the outside of the home.

The funeral home works closely with McFarland Florists and Steinkopf Nursery, Ziegler said.

"By maintaining the ground... they can escape the sadness

and grief in the interior," Ziegler said. "They can go outside and feel comfortable walking around the grounds."

The funeral home has been winning Beautification Commission awards for 30 years.

Its fountain, stone benches and ornate glass and metal door set Heenev-Sundquist apart, Beautification Commission member Rosemary Fitzpatrick said. The traveling trophy goes to those who go the extra step.

"We wanted to do something special," Fitzpatrick said. "We contacted the businesses to let them know... The businesses are responding beautifully."

"They're getting very competi-



Trophy winner: Walter Sundquist (left) and Mark Ziegler, co-owners of the Heenev Sundquist Funeral Home in downtown Farmington, savor winning the Mayor's Trophy.

Panel: These businesses looking good

The Farmington Beautification Commission honored several businesses for their efforts this year at its awards luncheon at the Botsford Inn Oct. 27.

The Farmington Historical Museum and 4th District Court both received special plaques from the commission. Mrs. Doris Lovvill's Tea Cozy received special recognition by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce for visual appearance.

The following businesses also received plaques for visual appearance: Burger King, Chuckster's Clark Oil, Colonial Car Wash, Farmington Tennis Club, First of America, Fresh Approach, Carl Geiser Architects, Johnson Real Estate, Metropolitan National Bank, National Bank of Detroit, Peters & Wimmering, Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Valvoline Instant Oil Change, Roman Shlafer DDS, and Why USA. All American Properties, Carl Geiser Architect received an honorable mention.

Those honored for window displays include: Baker Street Draperies, Bon Ton Shoppes, Clothes Encounters, Duquet Jewelers, Fint of Farmington, Kitchen Master, Korne Barber Shop, and Village Shoe Inn. Receiving honorable mentions were: High Tech Floral Interiors, The Rocking Horse, Throe Oaks Furniture, Tropic Affair, Warren's Country Corner and Winkelman's.

Plaques were given for plantings to Dimitri's of Farmington, Garden City Upholstery, Grand River & Power Shell, Masco Auto Painting & Body Work, Midas Muffler & Brake Shop, Plaza Veterinary Hospital, Ram's Horn of Farmington, and Raymond Schroeder, D.O. Those receiving honorable mentions were: Amoco ACA station (Nine Mile Road), Benner's Farmington Amoco Station (Power Road), First Federal of Michigan, Grand River Halsted Shell, Joe Car Wash, Lakris Webber Co., Mobil Station Eight Mile and Farmington Road, and

Suburban Catholic Credit Union.

Honorable mentions were given for landscape maintenance. Those include: Comerica Bank, First Federal of Michigan, First Nationwide Bank, Huron River Hunting & Fishing Club, H.J. Krueger Marketing, LOC Federal Credit Union, Lowen Chiropractic Clinic, Professional Pavilion, and Samra Insurance Agency.

In the Apartment and Condominium category, Jamestown Apartments received a plaque. Chatham Hills Apartments, Farmington Oaks Condominiums, Farmington Place, Kensington Manor Apartments and Pinewood Condominiums earned honorable mentions.

Churches were also recognized. Winners included First Baptist Church of Farmington, Our Lady of Sorrows, and Salem United Church of Christ.

Silverwood Appraisal & Investments were given a special honorable mention.

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