

Socks with pockets
and fancy shoes 6D



It's moves 2 precincts
to revamp school 6A



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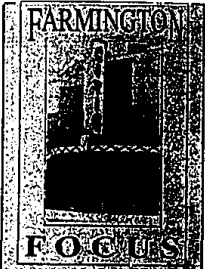
Monday, April 28, 1991

Farmington, Michigan

48 Pages

Fifty Cents

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FOCUS

WHEN Linda Isabella, 31, was a Farmington High School senior, she was awarded the scholarship for the most money for a B+ etc.

"Well, 30 years have passed and the money is still being paid for the good grades," she said.

Linda, 4'11", will be one of the oldest graduates from the Farmington High School program. She'll be sitting in cap and gown during commencement.

"We thought we'd turn the tables on her," said Douglas, the Trusty Master of Graduation. "We sent her \$4 because she got four As. Now she sits in her report card every morning."

Actually, Linda's triumph in school surprised Keith, who didn't know she liked to play.

"We always thought she graduated," said Trudy, who's very athletic, a real go-getter.

Linda, one of eight children, is a farm in Michigan, though she school in the 10th grade to help with the chores. "People did that in those days," she said.

Since starting adult school, Linda said she's made "a B or two, but mostly A's." Her favorite subject? Mathematics, especially algebra.

"It makes me feel good to think I can do it (graduate)," she said. "It's sort of an honor."

Since starting adult school, Linda has been hitting the books hard, according to her husband, John, who is still active with his flower-refinishing business.

"Some nights she has her books spread out on the dining room table until 11 o'clock or later," he said.

Linda's plans after graduation? "I'm just going to take it easy for awhile," she said. "I've been working hard for 2 1/2 years. But I may take a couple of courses at OCC. I'd like to learn about computers."

Linda's graduation, by the way, will come 30 years and one day after Keith's, according to Trudy, who takes pride in figuring such things.

LET'S GO Kroger-ing... and help the students and Booster Club of North Farmington High School in the process.

It'll be Kroger Day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, at the Kroger store at 13 Mile and Halsted roads. Five percent of the sales that day will be donated to support academics, clubs, drama, music and sports at North Farmington.

North students will be on hand to provide free carry-out service. Hot dogs and pop will be sold to shoppers.

MEMORY LANE — From the May 3, 1991, Farmington Enterprise:

An historic home in Farmington will "yield to business growth," according to a front-page headline. The Tollman home, in the family since about 1885, was to be removed from the site so that the adjacent Curt Hall Pontiac agency could expand. The dealership had purchased the house from Mrs. Stephen A. Lockman of Pontiac.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



Alicia Nells, Southfield resident and producer on the "Dayna" show, hopes the audience follows her advice.



Joan Cherry Isabella: 'I'd like to teach college, write a book, have 15 children... well, maybe not 15.'

TV producer

2's 'Dayna' show is her baby

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

A neat deck of cards isn't what Joan Cherry Isabella is all about. She prefers tossing the deck and seeing where and how the 52 cards land.

"I think I'm even-keeled, determined and open-minded. I like to take everything in and look at it in a new way," said the 31-year-old Farmington resident.

A new way of looking at things is what Isabella and her fellow producers are counting on for the success of the almost two-month-old, hour-long "Dayna" talk show on WJBK-TV.

Isabella is the show's executive producer, a job she was hired for in November 1990.

"My strongest suit is content. I

know your neighbor

think credibility is more important to everyone on the show than is flash or glitz. We will not insult our audience. We will not go for the lowest common denominator. We are not a 'freak of the week' show."

Her day begins at 8 a.m. with a meeting where the producers and others involved with the show go over what's coming up and what last minute changes are needed.

ON WEDNESDAY, for example,

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Neighbors nettled by felled trees

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Frank Yanke drove up to his house Friday afternoon and did a double take. Something looked different in back of his yard where five, 20-30-foot trees had stood when he left for work that morning.

"It hits you on the second look. For whatever reason, the guys cut down the pine trees Friday morning," said Yankee, who lives on Fink, just east of Orchard Lake Road.

His house is behind the Twin Orchard office building, which faces Rockdale and is owned by five partners, one of whom is architect Michael Downes. The partners will occupy the building.

The first 5,000 square-foot building is complete. The second 5,000 square-foot phase will be built when the first phase is fully leased. The trees that were cut down are on the office property.

Downes has since been ticketed by the city for cutting the five trees without permission. He's also been ticketed for occupying the building without a permanent certificate of occupancy.

Yanke is angry that the trees that would have buffered his house from view of the office are gone.

A NEIGHBOR, Craig Trombley, on Rockdale, east of the office, also is angry. He's upset about the trees

Frank Yanke is angry that the trees that would have buffered his house from view of the office are gone.

as well as some site items that have yet to be completed, including a wall separating the office parking lot and his yard.

"I looked at literally a mess for months," said Trombley who has been trying to sell his house, but says he can't because potential buyers are put off when they see the mess next door.

But Downes, who in this case is the office project's architect, owner and developer, says there are reasons for the delays and for cutting the five trees.

"I have to move the drainage or move the trees. In this case, we moved the trees," said Downes, an architect in Farmington Hills since 1982. "We couldn't move the building or the lot line. It was my feeling we could always replace the trees. I don't want that to sound like I'm not an environmentalist."

Downes' site plan for the office building was approved by the planning commission with the five trees

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Residents clamor for noise berm

They push for I-696 buffer

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Bob Schulkins, who lives on Howard Road, didn't know anything about it until he turned on the TV.

Then he saw the Farmington Hills City Council agree to build an earth berm on the natural beauty road to protect the two residents closest to I-696 from traffic noise.

Schulkins isn't one of those two residents. He's unhappy about that. The longtime resident as well as others have fought to have some kind of barrier the whole length of their area by the freeway.

But he's ready to do battle again. With other neighbors, Schulkins has started a petition drive to force the city and Michigan Department of Transportation to build a berm — from Drake to Halsted — to buffer all homeowners along Howard Road, Knights Drive and Old Homestead from I-696 traffic noise.

"They're closest to the freeway," Schulkins said of his two neighbors who will be protected with the berm.

"You just don't get any rest in this house. You sit in our living room and you swear the cars are going straight through here." — Bob Schulkins
Howard resident

"My house is 600-700 feet away up on a hill. But they (his two neighbors) don't get noise anywhere as near as we do. I'm suffering and they're using my money to fix the problem."

THE CITY will build the berm for the two residents closest to the eight-lane freeway using \$30,000 from MDOT. "We said, 'give us the \$30,000 and we'll do it,'" said Tom Bissell, Farmington Hills public services director.

MDOT will only build sound barriers

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Schools eye parental consent law, seek best way to comply

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington school officials say they will comply with a state law requiring them to inform teenage girls how they can get abortions without a parent's consent, though they're yet to decide how it will be handled.

"We're exploring the information supplied by the court, we reviewed the law, and we'll comply," said school/community relations director Pamela O'Malley. "The question is how to best do that."

"Since it includes sixth grade students, we want to be careful not to traumatize students. We don't want to cause any problems."

The provision is part of a controversial parental rights bill, Public Act 211 of 1990, passed by the state legislature last fall. Under the law, girls age 17 and

younger may no longer have an abortion performed without the consent of a parent or guardian, except with judicial approval. Schools must distribute a written guide to female students in grades 6-12 no later than next fall, detailing how they might obtain a probate court waiver.

O'MALLEY SAID she and other administrators will meet today to discuss the law and how it can best be handled in Farmington. She said there is concern over a conflicting law, Public Act 226 of 1977, which prohibits districts from teaching about abortion.

Estralee Michaelson, a health curriculum coordinator for the Farmington district, stressed that, regardless of what procedure the district uses, the law would not become part of the curriculum. "This is not a curriculum

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