

Like mom, she wants a career in politics

Carol Smith plans on following in her mother's footsteps.

The daughter of Farmington Hills council member Joanne Smith already has made a few tentative steps toward her goal of a political career through Girls State.

The mock government which included city and county authorities recently became the starting grounds for Ms. Smith's own ambitions.

"I learned a lot. We had to use parliamentary procedure. I had to remember not just to speak out," said Ms. Smith, 17.

She was chosen for Girls State after the Our Lady of Sorrows Altar Society decided they would sponsor a student from the parish for the mock political gathering.

The history department at Our Lady of Mercy High School, Farmington Hills, chose Ms. Smith as the Sorrows candidate.

Once she arrived at Girls State, she became involved in setting up the government from city officials through county administration. After one day as a city council member, she was elected a county commissioner.

Her toughest battle as county commissioner was the fight with the budget figures.

With 30 cities in the county, the administration faced dissent over budget allocations.

"THE CITIES never agreed on anything," she said.

Their budget was finalized on the last day of Girls State.

Before assuming office, Ms. Smith participated in party politics and campaigning.

Her party, the liberal Nationalists,

swept the election. Only one Federalist won an election — a seat on the state Supreme Court.

Ms. Smith credits her party's victory to hard work. Party members stayed up until 5 a.m. hammering out their platform, which embodied many of the ideas found in Michigan's constitution.

Their thoroughness in explaining their position helped them win supporters, she said.

But that thoroughness was hard won. "Girls would stand up and would want one word changed in a proposal," she said.

"It was fun. We had comfortable seats. No one fell asleep. If they did, they woke up when the votes were being taken.

"Sometimes we were so loud that the votes had to be taken by a show of hands."

Voice votes were often loaded by shouting from enthusiastic supporters hoping to pass their proposals.

AS THE WEEK LONG life of Girls State went on, it wasn't without drama.

During a state legislature debate over state paid abortions, a group of "pregnant" women demonstrated against the proposal by staging a procession through the chambers.

"People were kicked out," said Ms. Smith.

Along with the times of hijinks, there was a time to learn. Special interest groups allowed the girls a chance to explore contemporary problems.

A proposed highway in Grand Lodge now opposed by some residents there came under study at Girls State. The highway would cut through natural lands and farms, according to Ms. Smith.

She was among a group of girls who worked to stop the highway at Girls State.

The fate of the real highway remains unanswered.



CAROL SMITH

Energy crisis makes Isuzu's gas-saving diesels big sellers

By MARY GNIEWEK

Three years ago Raymond F. Prussing foresaw the energy crisis as an opportunity to replace automotive engines with small diesels in all types of vehicles.

Prussing severed his ties with General Motors Corp. as an Overseas Operations executive and launched Isuzu Diesels of North America (IDNA). Since 1976, he has cornered a large chunk of the diesel market by acting as exclusive North American distributor for Isuzu Motors of Tokyo, the largest diesel manufacturer in Japan with 300,000 engines built last year.

Prussing, whose independent firm is newly headquartered in Farmington Hills Industrial Park, says diesel en-

gines are the wave of the future because of fuel and maintenance savings.

"World production is up 20 percent a year," he said. "It's refined to the point where (diesel) is near being socially acceptable. They're being used where they have never been used before."

IDNA projects 6,000 sales this year and 21,000 by 1981. Sales for the first six months reached \$10 million, and customers include International Harvester, Deere and Co., United Parcel Service and the American Motors Jeep.

"ANYONE WITH A gas engine is a prospect," Prussing said.

The company already has sales offices in 50 states and Canada and warehouses on the east and west coasts. Locally, IDNA diesels are sold at Michigan Engine in Novi. If growth demands it, warehousing will be done in Farmington Hills.

To date, the Industrial Park facility houses executive offices, training rooms for sales engineers and business offices. Testing is done there, like using a diesel engine with a gas transmission in a motor home.

"It has 23,000 miles and still no problems," Prussing said of the vehicle parked behind headquarters on Freeway Park Drive.

Prussing believes Isuzu's diesels are best because they are "born" automotive diesels, not reconverted tractor or gas engines.

"Our distribution system includes a myriad of applications—marine, small generator sets, automotive, farm

equipment and trucks," said Executive Vice President J. William Coyle, formerly a finance director with Detroit Diesel.

"The largest market is automotive because of the energy crisis," he continued. "While the initial cost is higher — about an \$800 option — diesels are more economical. They don't have spark plugs which cause maintenance problems. You don't need 20,000 mile check ups with diesels. Diesels built in the 1930's are still in operation today. They're heavier, stronger and can be re-built."

"RIGHT NOW THERE is a shortage because they can't be produced as quickly as gas engines. But it's possible that the auto industry may go entirely diesel further down the road."

Isuzu of Japan is 34 percent owned by General Motors and are used in the Buick Opel cars and Chevy LUV trucks. Prussing is convinced that 25 percent of GM's passenger car sales will be diesel by 1985.

"Practically all heavy duty trucks are diesels and have been for years," Coyle added. "Oldsmobile has stopped taking new orders."

"I've seen Cadillac Seville's with diesels, and Delta 88's, Capris, and Bonneville's. In the 'X' line cars, the Chevy Citation and Oldsmobile Omega, it's not unusual for diesels to get 50 or 60 miles per gallon under any conditions."

IDNA diesels meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency auto emissions standards, though Coyle claims they are less polluting than gas engines if properly maintained.



One of Isuzu's diesel test trucks. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



Raymond F. Prussing, president of Isuzu.

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

GETTING OLDER AND BETTER

are antiques which will be displayed and sold at the Farmington Community Center's show on July 27. A champagne preview will take place on July 26 on the center's grounds. In addition to offering a sneak peek at the antiques and a little bubbly to tickle the noses of prospective buyers, the preview will allow history buffs to take part in the unrolling of a scroll which marks the center being named a state historical site. Seems when the center was built as a home during the turn of the century, the owner turned to American architectural styles instead of the then in vogue European ones. Years later, the state is recognizing this pick America first attitude. Tickets to the soiree are still available from the Community Center, 477-8404.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM needs community volunteers to help get the project off the ground. The program which is being presented in conjunction with the Farmington Public Schools and Oakland University is scheduled to begin this fall in Farmington High School. It will help drop-outs readjust in their return to the classroom. Volunteer commitments involve one to two hours a week to meet with a student in an informal setting. Training in educational communications begins this month. For further information contact Richard Rutter at 569-2083 or Kathy Devine at 476-1941 by July 16.

RUMMAGE, RUMMAGE rummage is the sound of sale devotees going through the Farmington Area Jaycee Auxiliary's First Giant Rummage Sale on July 14 at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge campus. Anyone interested in selling some of their household items can take advantage of this event to set up their own table. The rummaging will take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. accompanied by pizza and pop. Table registration will take place the morning. So, don't just sit there, clean out that basement. There's gold in that junk.

IT'S A SNAP to win a contest. That what Angles is sure Monte Nagler and Sham Dahiya would say. The two Farmington area residents were runners-up in the color slide category of the Automobile Club of Michigan's 1978 MemberPhoto travel photo contest. Nagler's entry pictured a boat in the waters off Honolulu and Dahiya's was a view of the Conference Hall at Jal Pur, India. Judges chose from nearly 1,400 slides and prints.

INSIDE FOUNDERS: As the date for Farmington's annual festival nears, events are beginning to shape up. Here's the latest ticket and schedule information:

• **MISS FARMINGTON:** Advance tickets for reserve seats at the 1979 Miss Farmington Scholarship Pageant, July 25 are now on sale at the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce office in

the Masonic Temple building on Grand River and Farmington Road.

Tickets will be \$3 in advance and \$4 at the door. The pageant will begin at 7 p.m. at Vladimir's on Grand River near Eight Mile.

• **SUNDAY IN THE PARK:** This year, the kick-off for the festival from noon until 6 p.m., July 22 in the City Park on Shiloh and Power. At 1:30 p.m., the Farmington and Farmington Hills City Council will belly up to the bases and play ball in the Second Annual City Council Softball Game. Last year, the Farmington group won the trophy and will try to retain it.

At 4 p.m., the Festival Pet Show will give the four-legged set time to strut their stuff in the park. The ugliest pet, the two most evenly matched pets, the pet with the waggiest tail and other categories will make up the judging.

• **HILLS POLICE Firearms Demonstration:** The demonstrations will take place at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. on July 27 and at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. on July 28 at the Farmington Hills Police Pistol Range on Grand River behind Chrysler's Farmington Engineering Laboratories, east of Farmington Road.

The department's pistol team will use hand guns, shotguns, machine guns and rifles. Trick displays such as up-side-down shooting and shooting by sighting through mirrors are included in the program.

• **SQUARE DANCING:** Dancing will take place two evenings during the festival. The Spinning Gears will start the dancing at 9 p.m., July 26 in the Downtown Farmington Center. From 9 p.m.-11 p.m. on July 28, in the center, the Fancy Farmers of Farmington will give spectators and dancers a second evening of toe-tapping, foot flinging merriment.

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

To connect with the Farmington Observer, use the following numbers:

- Staff — 477-5450
- Delivery — 591-0500
- Classified Ads — 591-0900
- Display Ads — 591-2300
- Phone Ads — 591-2300

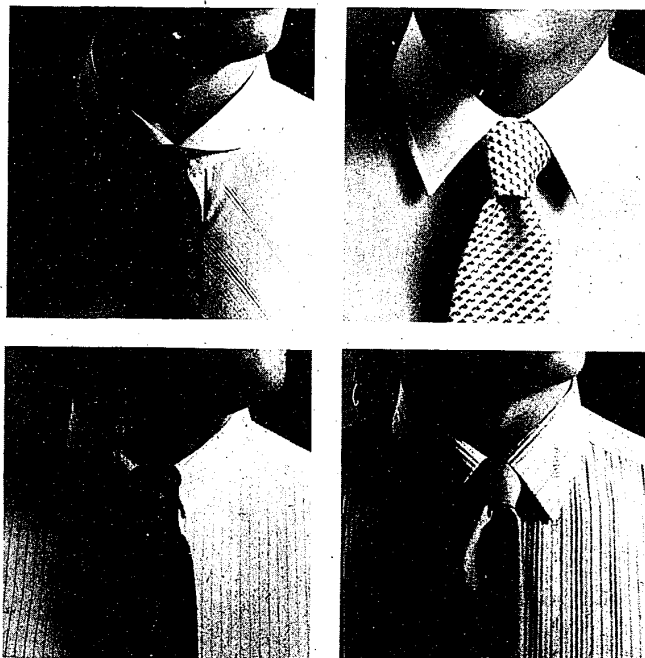
MAIL IT TO US

To send in items for Inside Angles mail letters to: 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington, 48024. Allow one week for publication. All materials become the property of the Farmington Observer. Sorry, photos can't be used.

Less is more

Today, less collar means a more up-to-date look. Collars are not merely shorter, they are shaped, streamlined, and designed to enhance the look of narrower lapels and ties.

But besides more fashion, there are also more options: more ways for you to express your sartorial sense. Here we show just a few examples from our dress shirt collection, in both full cut and tapered styles. Shirts and ties at Northland, and Oakland.



HUDSON'S