

10 will vie for title of Miss Farmington 1980

Ten beautiful and talented young women will compete for the title of "Miss Farmington 1980," a \$1,000 scholarship and the opportunity to compete for the Miss Michigan title, during the 7th annual Miss Farmington Scholarship Pageant, set to begin at 7 p.m. July 23, in Vladimir's.

The pageant, again, promises to have all the excitement, entertainment and glamour of a Miss America Pageant. The local pageant is an official franchise of the Miss Michigan and Miss America Pageants and each year has turned away the overflow from standing-room-only crowds.

Tickets are \$4 each and are on sale now in the Farmington Chamber of

Commerce Office, 23715 Farmington Road.

THEME FOR THE pageant this time around is "Here Comes The Sun," and star of the show is Vickie Jean Whinnery, Miss Farmington 1979 who will turn over her crown to the new winner at the pageant's grand finale.

Vying for the crown are Joan Elayne Birberick, Carol Ann Cheatham, Melanie Esther Churella, Sheila Mae Furman, Deborah Lynn Kurzeja, Donna Sue Jablonski, Mary Theresse Jean, Deborah Anne LaVerre, Kimberly Marie Thomas and Donna Humphrey Williams.

Executive director for the pageant is Patricia Fallon, who has held that posi-

tion since the onset of the Miss Farmington Pageant.

Chuck Johnson returns this year as master of ceremonies, who promises an enjoyable evening for the entire family with special entertainment coming from April Arabian, Robbie Henderson and Rich Roehle. Music will be provided by the Bill Swayze Trio.

Pageant-goers will also be greeted by each of the former Miss Farmingtons: Susan Reed, who took the title in 1974, then went on to become Mrs. Michigan in 1977 as Susan Arciniaga; Jan Fredricks, 1975; Holly Schmidt, Miss Farmington 1976 and Miss Michigan 1977 who is now Holly Lichtman;

Dorlisa LaMarra 1977; and Pamela Prichard 1978.

MISS FARMINGTON 1980 will be selected by a panel of judges who will award points to each contestant in four categories.

Talent constitutes 50 percent of the total points. The swim suit parade, on-stage personality, and judges' interviews each are worth 16 2/3 percent in points to each of the contestants. The judges' private interviews with the contestants will take place the afternoon prior to the pageant and are based on the young women's personality, mental alertness, sincerity, general knowledge and intelligence.

Total cumulative points in each category are computed and the names of the top five point-earners are sent to the judges, who then select Miss Farmington and her first and second runners-up.

A special award is presented to the winner of the talent competition.

The 10 local girls are an official part of the Miss America Pageant which is the largest scholarship foundation for young women in the world. The accumulated sum given in similar pageants throughout the country surpasses the \$2 million mark this year.

THE FORMAT for this year's pageant follows traditions of past pageants.

When the new queen and her court are announced in Vladimir's, the contenders and their escorts form a motorcade traveling west from the restaurant on Grand River, west of Eight Mile, to the Downtown Center on Grand River and Farmington Road, when Miss Farmington 1980 makes her first official public appearance.

She is greeted by the Franklin Village Band, under the direction of Dr. Conrad R. Lam, who provide the musical climax of the pageant evening.

The Franklin Village Band will be in concert prior to that time as part of the Founders Festival activities. The band will herald the motorcade at about 9:15 p.m.

Pageant still survives on support of community

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

The 10 young women who are vying for the title of Miss Farmington this month have counterparts in thousands of local pageants staged throughout the nation.

The accumulated amount pledged for scholarships this time around will hit the \$2 million mark, pledged by local individuals and businesses, retaining the National Miss America Pageant's name as the largest scholarship foundation for women in the world.

The entire program is made possible by the volunteers who give their time, talents, enthusiasm and money, some who give and work throughout the year to make their local or state pageants possible.

THE MISS FARMINGTON Pageant now holds the reputation of being one of the most prestigious in the state, stemming from its supporters.

"We can start out with Vladimir's and John Anhut (Inkeeper for Botsford Inn) when we talk about supporters," said Pat Fallon, executive director of the local pageant since its inception in 1974.

"Vladimir's and Botsford are both glamorous places, offered to us year after year. Our pageant is as stunning as it is because we have Vladimir's to stage it in."

"How can other pageants compete

with us if they have to put theirs on in a high school gym?"

The pageant contenders, their families, the committees and the entertainers all move across the street to Botsford Inn for a lavish reception after the new title holder is named, another elegant setting in keeping with the pageant's prestige.

But long before that 30 committees are working to set the stage and working with the contenders to put them at their smashing best for their walk down the runway.

MEANWHILE, Focal Point, another regular supporter, is taking what will amount to about \$900 worth of pictures.

Schroeder's Flowers has donated the fresh flower decorations that adorn Vladimir's stage for the pageant for years, and will do so again.

Town Toggery and Washington Clothiers are outfitting escorts and ushers with tuxedos, at no charge to the pageant committee.

Terry Sever from TL Printing has tickets printed again, ready and on sale now.

"The bottom line for last year was \$4,400 that it cost for the scholarships, the band, sound equipment, things we just can't cut corners on, things that are very important for the girls, which is what it's all about," Ms. Fallon said.

"The Miss Farmington Scholarship

Pageant is responsible for itself," she continued. "We are not a part of the Founders Festival Committee. We're on our own."

LETTER OF solicitation have reached the professionals in the community this month asking for their support for the first time.

"If we went to the business people, it would be taking away from their contributions to the festival and we didn't want that," Ms. Fallon said. "We hope the doctors and lawyers come through for us to be a part of the scholarship foundation and support our girls here."

The Miss Farmington Pageant has never had any trouble getting volunteers. Of the 30 serving on the committee now, 28 are repeaters.

Further, all former Miss Farmingtons, back to 1974 when Susan Reed took the crown, will be back on stage as part of the festivities July 23.

"And that speaks pretty much for itself," Ms. Fallon said. "Vickie Jean Whinnery (Miss Farmington 1979) has turned into a beautiful teacher," Ms. Fallon said.

"She's been with our contenders for a couple of months now in rehearsals and workshops helping them in every possible way."

When asked about the former Miss Farmingtons, Ms. Fallon said, "They are all looking beautiful and doing beautifully."



Fueling the workers

Joe Tocco, (far right) a fourth-generation vendor 1, 1980. Tocco is an enthusiastic tenant, anxious to of produce and owner of Farmington Fruit, was up move to the square's Tally Hall, a village of food on the roof to fuel construction workers on site at shops. Tocco's store is now across the street from Loehmann's Hunter's Square, scheduled to open Oct. the new center, on 14 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

Farmington Country Club marks 25th anniversary

Farmington Country Club will mark its 25th year at 27700 Haggerty Road with a dinner and the opening of new three-par hole July 26.

Cocktails will be served at 7 p.m. on the porch and dinner will be served at 8 p.m. in the dining room for the anniversary evening when Preston Meisel and Leroy Bidwell will both be honored.

Meisel is the club's golf professional who has been with the club for 20 years. Bidwell has been grounds keeper for the past 15 years.

"The new number three par three hole is in a very beautiful wooded area with a 182 yardage," said Don Hickey speaking for the club.

"The fairway is a very narrow one, about 30 yards wide from tee to green, and tree lined right and left from tee to green," he said.

The club's number four and 11 holes have both been redesigned.

"Number four is now 549 yards par five with out-of-bounds on the right side and a pond comes into play on the

left about 180 yards from the tee," Hickey said.

"These changes make the front nine a very challenging par 36," he said.

The 11th hole was re-designed to a 419 yard par four, which makes the back nine a tougher par 36.

All members and former members are invited to the anniversary dinner by calling the club, 553-3833 for reservations.

Barbecued chicken served

The date for Farmington Masonic Temple Association's annual Chicken Barbecue has been set for Sunday, on the temple's grounds, at the corner of Farmington Road and Grand River.

Serving hours are from noon to 6 p.m.



Knife throwing in Silver Dollar

Farmington resident Doug Deaton (at right) tries his hand in the knife throwing competition in Silver Dollar City, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Silver Dollar is an 1870's family theme park featuring pioneer craft demonstrations, live shows, rides and daily competitions.



Vickie Jean Whinnery, Miss Farmington 1979, turns over her crown to the new title holder, who will be named Wednesday in Vladimir's. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Kelly Mixon appointed

The R. A. De Mattia Co., a Livonia-based design and building firm, has announced the appointment of Kelly Mixon as coordinator of marketing services.

The Farmington resident is the first woman hired in a managerial capacity by the company.

As an intern throughout her college years, Ms. Mixon worked on various marketing functions for the company. She is a recent graduate of Lawrence Institute of Technology.



KELLY MIXON

Summer Clearance
July 17-31

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30% to 70% off

a selection of
dresses, suits, sportswear,
swimwear, handbags, accessories

Units 1520
All Sales Final
No C.O.D.'s.

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