

North Farmington Baptist Church

The Long Cha Pans settle in

By LORAIN McCLISH

Members of North Farmington Baptist Church who were instrumental in the resettlement of a Cambodian couple in Farmington think they may have set some kind of record in the speedy Americanization of Long Cha Pan and his wife La Chan.

"They're on the verge of being totally self-sufficient," said Marion Tanton, who served on one of the congregation's half-dozen committees to sponsor the young refugees.

After living here less than eight weeks, Pan switched from one job to another that was more to his liking in a tool-and-die shop in Southfield.

After two trips to the supermarket with Kathy Shippy, who served on the housing, clothing and food committee, Mrs. Pan knew exactly what she wanted to purchase and what not.

The couple are knowledgeable in the ways of money, insurance, bill paying and budgeting through the tutoring of Don Pierce. Most recently, they opened a savings account.

English classes are coming along well.

"ALL THIS and then the added readjustment that all young couples must make who have a new baby. It's more of an overload than most of us could take," said Barbara Kull, who with her husband Bob served on the committee to take care of the couple's medical needs.

La Chan arrived in Detroit pregnant, a surprise to the sponsors which set the medical and clothing committees scurrying.

Then another surprise: The Pan's daughter, Jo Lee, was born prematurely.

But not before a baby shower could be arranged. The only difference between La Chan's shower and the traditional American baby shower was that no one played any games. Instead La Chan learned how to use the many gifts she received.

"She is so shy," Mrs. Tanton said. "We realize now what a great deal we were asking of her to go through the motions of a baby shower. But she puts a positive note on everything she does. She makes a tremendous effort to please, and she learns fast."

DR. STAN NICHOL, pastor of North Farmington Baptist Church, and his wife Micki, together with Mr. and Mrs. Kull, assumed the roles of grandparents for Jo Lee and acted as troubleshooters for La Chan during her stay in St. Joseph Hospital in Pontiac.

"Our super angel through it all was Maggie Hansen," Mrs. Kull said, speaking of a Farmington resident who works as a clinical nurse in the hospital. "She understood that La Chan had no prenatal care at all, that it was important we bring in food she was accustomed to, that it was going to be near-impossible for us to explain to her that rules prohibited bringing her under-5-pound baby home."

Ms. Hansen ran interference all the way, without the help of interpreters, and cleared the path for not only a pleasant stay for Lachan, but the early release of the infant.

"And she's doing beautifully," Mrs.

Tanton said of Jo Lee, "gaining rapidly and in very good hands."

The grandparents ran into only one small snag during their hospital vigil. The hospital staff stood adamant on wanting a name for the birth certificate. La Chan saw no reason for the hurry; Cambodian babies are just not named immediately.

But the grandparents were able to work through the snag.

"We're not sure how the Pans would spell Jo Lee, but that's what it is phonetically, Americanized," Mrs. Kull said.

LONG CHA PAN and his wife both have farming backgrounds, and both spent four years as residents of Aranyprathet Refugee Camp in Thailand before being forced out under Communist pressure.

Long Cha still carries a piece of shrapnel in his head from those days.

He is an adept student in his twice-a-week English classes, which is very apparent. This is a particular boon to his sponsors who were concerned with communication since his native Khmer doesn't even have an alphabet that can be identified with English.

"And he is certainly accepting his responsibility as a new father and head of the household," Mrs. Tanton said. "This couple is all that we could have hoped for, and more."

The Pans still must be driven everywhere they go, a task taken on by Eleanor Boyd, though Charles Tanton drives Pan to work every day.

Jim Devlin headed the committee on finding employment for Pan.



Long Cha Pan and his wife La Chan, with baby Jo Lee are on the very beginning of being totally self-sufficient through the tutoring of their sponsors, members of North Farmington Baptist Church. The Cambodian couple arrived here the first week in August. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

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— Barbara Kull

Radio psychic launches celebrity luncheons

"Jacqui," WXYZ Talkradio's resident psychic, will be featured lecturer at Farmington Community Center's first Celebrity Luncheon set for Thursday, Oct. 23.

The event will be given in Adat Shalom Synagogue, 2901 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, which is able to accommodate the 1,000 or more luncheon guests expected to attend.

The concept of a Celebrity Luncheon Series for the Farmington area was the brainchild of several Farmington residents headed by Gail Perrin, luncheon chairwoman. The women presented the idea and volunteered to organize the programs.

The group consisting of Sally Jacobs, Delores Ferguson, Joan LaVanway, Kathy Dowling, Betty Haycock, Ruth Heinrichs and Betty Wolfe sensed the

acceptance of such a series and felt it could be financially beneficial to the non-profit Farmington Community Center.

THE FIRST celebrity, Jacqui Kendall, has earned the reputation as a most unique radio personality and has proved to be just as uncanny and fascinating in person. She has been labelled a "down to earth psychic with amazing sensitivity."

She believes "Everyone has psychic ability. It is just a matter of harnessing it."

A native of Montreal, Canada, she holds a masters degree in Humanities from McGill University. She is a parapsychologist as well as a nationally-recognized psychic who has been featured in Newsweek magazine.

Jacqui is known as an expert in astrology, numerology, ESP and telekinesis. She instructs college-level courses where she lectures on virtually every form of mind science.

Guests at the Oct. 23 luncheon will

witness the psychic "feeling out" answers and demonstrating her psychic abilities.

In the Metro Detroit area, Jacqui's voice of occult concern is heard daily

from 12:30-1 p.m. on WXYZ radio.

Benefit tickets at \$12 each are available from members of the committee or in the center, 24705 Farmington Rd., north of 16 Mile or reservations will be taken by calling the Center, 477-8404.

Weight Watchers honor Ellie Simchak

Ellie Simchak, a Weight Watcher lecturer who conducts classes in First United Methodist Church of Farmington, had one of her sessions turned into a surprise party in her honor by her fellow dieters.

"She is our psychologist, army commander, teacher, policeman, confidant, leader and friend," said Cathis Schneider.

"I've been a member here for five years and she's never received any recognition for her continued enthusiasm, example and confidence she gives in the hope that we will pick up the spark she sets."

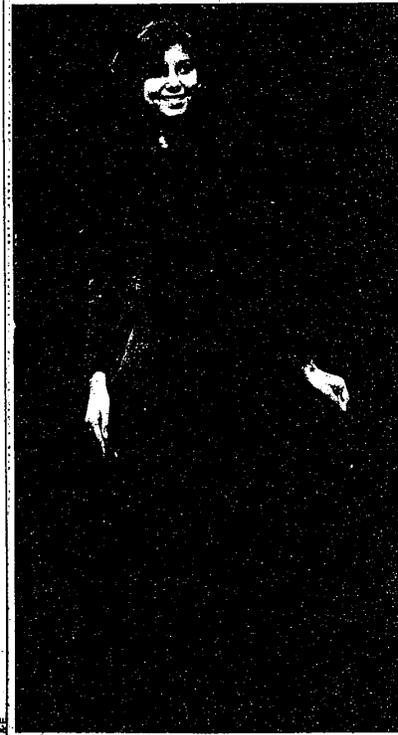
Ms. Simchak received a plaque on her birthday. "For outstanding performance in service to her fellow man."

Ms. Schneider said of her lecturer, "She dedicates herself to each and every member in a very personal, concerned way, that is not often seen when one is doing a job."

Ms. Simchak is a West Bloomfield resident who conducts the Weight Watchers sessions at 7 p.m. Thursdays.



JACQUI KENDALL



Teen to model antique gown for Mt. Carmel

Nearly a century ago, on Jan. 25, 1887, Louise O'Leary was married in a gown she sewed herself. Her marriage to James Furlong took place in Emmet, a small, Irish community near Fort Huron.

"The irony is that her own great-granddaughter, my daughter, Kathy, 16, was the only one tall and slim enough that we could find to model it now," said Louise Bazil of Birmingham.

Mrs. Bazil added that another ironic touch is her grandparents were married at Our Church of Mt. Carmel. Kathy will model the pale brown gown in a "Then and Now" Fashion Show for the Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital Guild.

The fashion show will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday. The show, which will present antique and contemporary

fashions, will take place at the Michigan Inn in Southfield.

The antique fashions are by Helen Kopka and the contemporary by August Max of the 12 Oaks Shopping Mall.

Proceeds of the event will augment the hospital's research programs in pancreatic/islet cell transplantation.

After a cocktail hour, luncheon will be served preceding the show. Tickets are \$15.

Co-chairwomen are Nancy Dizon of Farmington Hills and Donna Reynan of Royal Oak.

Committee members include Isobel Ross and Lois Bro of Farmington, Nancy Lee Fawcett of Birmingham, Bets Leary of Madison Heights, Connie Deane of Detroit, and Stella Wades and Flo McNichol of Farmington Hills. Marie Fetters is guild president.

Kathy Bazil of Birmingham, 16, will model the wedding dress made and worn by her great grandmother in 1887 for the Mount Carmel Hospital Guild "Then and Now" fashion luncheon tomorrow at the Michigan Inn in Southfield. (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

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