

Nun marks silver jubilee

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order at 18 and made a career of teaching, working with troubled young people, and helping shape young minds as a school administrator. She felt a calling to religious life throughout high school, even though she at one time viewed the nuns in her own all-girls school as "silly."

"There was something internal and I just answered that," she said. "I felt that I was drawn to it."

She is one of 10 sisters left from her original class of 75 who entered religious service 25 years ago, but she is humble about her milestone. "I don't see this as a big accomplishment," she said. "Personally, this is my commitment. I guess it's important in a time when not enough people are making a religious commitment."

NUNS LIKE Sister Lenore have changed more than their appearances and lifestyle in the past 25 years. Instead of the order supporting them for life, they get out and support the order. "It's not quite what it used to be," she said. "We have to get jobs. Like everybody, we get hired and fired."

She has enjoyed the challenge of working with junior high school students who are on the verge of adulthood but are still growing and learning. She currently supervises about 200 students in grades 7 and 8 at Beahan, a private, Catholic junior high. Most Beahan students come from Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary next door.

Each year, Sister Lenore chaperones an eighth grade trip east to see Washington, D.C., and Gettysburg. She also occasionally subs in the classroom and spends much of her time managing by walking the halls of the school.

She sees a difference in today's child, calling them more "worldly" and "less sheltered from family problems."

"The pressures are so diverse," she said. "I'm concerned more than ever. Kids today need more stability. But the core of the kid is still there — underneath all that, they're still kids."



Mary Ann and Leonard Pochelaki watch as their daughter, Sister Lenore, opens gifts presented by her students.

photos by SHARON LAMUEUX/staff photographer



Beahan students (from left) Jenny Vast, Allison Machacek, Amy Heinrich, Jessica Daigler and Christine Clervi perform in a "Nunsense" skit in honor of their principal, Sister Lenore.

Parade planned

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He acquired the "Guardian of Freedom" in 1975. Lamont's crew is composed of pilots and friends from the Detroit area. The plane is based at the Detroit City Airport.

The aircraft first served with the United States Air Force in Alaska and in the Aleutian Islands as a patrol bomber. Later, it was used in the Korean War.

Sheila Sigro, 28, of Redford Township, crowned Miss Michigan for 1990-91, will also highlight Farmington's Memorial Day parade.

She is a professional model and make-up artist. Married to husband Curt for more than six years, Sigro has a daughter, Vanya, 4. She is a former Farmington resident.

THE FARMINGTON Exchange Club will once again distribute flags at the Memorial Day parade, said Bob Rock, club chairman and owner of the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington.

"We have sponsored the 'Give a Kid A Flag to Wave' program for numerous years now, but this year has even taken on more of a special meaning," Rock said.

"The entire nation was visible in supporting our troops as they did their duty. We want everyone in Farmington to be able to show their support also. While Memorial Day 1991 is special because of the Gulf War, it still provides that chance for

all of us to remember. Whether in peacetime or war, we can put our own problems on hold, step back and be thankful for the sacrifices that others have made for us."

Any group still wishing to participate can contact Christensen before 1 p.m. on Saturday at 474-8554.

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