

# New judge accustomed to being a role model

By PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

Being a role model is nothing new for Denise Langford-Morris, the West Bloomfield resident who next week will become the first black judge on the Oakland County Circuit Court.

She was appointed to the position by Gov. John Engler, who earlier this year asked Oakland County Republicans to begin searching for more black attorneys — presumably for possible judicial appointments.

Rochester Hills City Attorney Larry Terman and 52-3 District Court Judge James Sheehy were candidates for the position.

As the first black circuit judge in Oakland County, Langford-Morris acknowledges that she will likely be seen as a role model.

She was something of a role model in 1971 when she graduated from Cass Tech in Detroit — despite being the mother of a small child — and enrolled at Highland Park Community College, subsequently transferring to Wayne State University.

She was married when she graduated from Cass Tech, Langford-Morris recalled. But the marriage

did not last. It ended in divorce, leaving her as a single parent in search of an education.

She graduated from Wayne State in 1975 and, after getting a job with the Michigan Department of Social Services, continued work on a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

She said her interests turned to law because of her job, a child and adult protective services worker, and the legal situation at the time.

"At that time (the mid 1970s) protective services workers were required to present their cases in Wayne County Juvenile Court," said Langford-Morris.

That developed a knowledge of — and liking for — the legal profession, she said. "So I went to law school, the University of Detroit," graduating in 1982.

Langford-Morris got her first full-time job as a lawyer in 1984, when she interviewed with the Oakland

County prosecutor's office. After three years with the prosecutor's office, Langford-Morris joined the firm of Zampias, Paskin, Nagi, Baxter, Johnson and Walker in Troy, where she specialized in civil litigation.

Shortly thereafter, in 1989, Langford-Morris joined the U.S. Attorney's office, handling a wide range of assignments including cases involving employment discrimination, condemnation, premises lia-

bility, auto negligence, food stamp fraud and representation of government officials.

Langford-Morris is a behind-the-scenes Republican activist.

Her husband, Barre Morris, is an executive with the General Motors Corp.

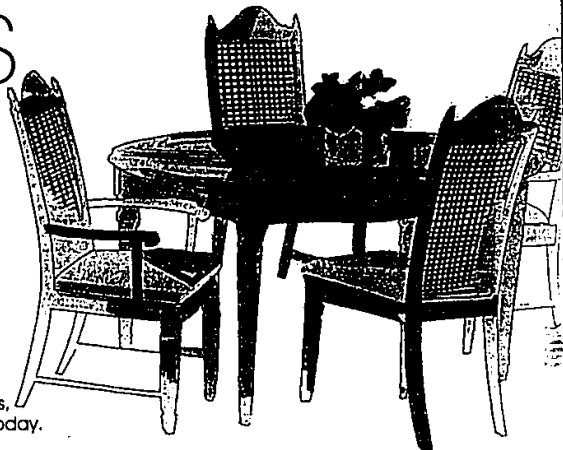
Langford-Morris has two step-children and one daughter, the one she carried as a senior at Cass Tech. Christie, now 21, is a sophomore in college.



Denise Langford-Morris

## SEARS LIVONIA OUTLET

WE'RE TURNING THE TABLES ON HIGH PRICES!



NOW YOU CAN SAVE 10% TO 50% BELOW RETAIL PRICES.

Sears Furniture & Appliance Outlet brings a lot to the table — chairs, sofas, bedding, appliances, and much, much more. Come see for yourself today. Quantities are limited.

PRICES GOOD THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1992

### DOT SALE

Selected Items Only



ORANGE DOT

ADDITIONAL

20%

OFF OUR CLEARANCE PRICE

SELECTED DINING ROOM SETS AND CHINA CABINETS, SOFAS AND SOFA SLEEPERS.



BLUE DOT

ADDITIONAL

30%

OFF OUR CLEARANCE PRICE

SELECTED CURIOS, ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS, RECLINERS AND ACCENT CHAIRS.



GREEN DOT

ADDITIONAL

40%

OFF OUR CLEARANCE PRICE

SELECTED BUILT-IN, DROP-IN, AND SLIDE-IN RANGES, DINING AND DINETTE TABLES.

ALL MERCHANDISE PRICED FOR IMMEDIATE TAKE WITH

### SUPER BUY

MATE'S BED

TWIN SIZE

NOW

\$89<sup>88</sup>

MATTRESS AND BOARD SOLD SEPARATELY

8 TO SELL

### SEARS WAREHOUSE OUTLET

12001 SEARS AVE.  
LIVONIA

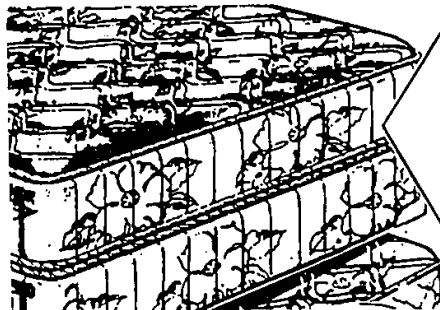
1 MILE WEST OF MIDDLEBELT  
OFF PLYMOUTH ROAD



12001 SEARS AVE.  
LIVONIA, MI

PHONE 422-5700

DELIVERY NOT INCLUDED IN SELLING PRICES OF ITEMS ON THIS PAGE



EXCEPTIONAL VALUES ON MATTRESSES AND BOX SPRINGS ASSORTED SIZES

SOLD IN SETS AND SOME SEPARATELY

IN STOCK CONDITION

PREVIOUSLY SELECTED MERCHANDISE NOT INCLUDED ★ LIMITED STYLES, QUANTITIES AND MODELS  
Merchandise selection consists of new, used, reconditioned and damaged merchandise.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MON.-FRI. 10:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M., SAT. 10:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M., SUNDAY 12:00 NOON TO 5:00 P.M.

### INKWELL

Inkwell provides information about education issues and students from the Farmington area. Mail information to: Inkwell, The Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336 or send information via fax to 477-9722. Please include a daytime phone number on your news release. Items will not be taken over the phone.

### SUMMER PROGRAM

Corby Laverty, a Farmington High School student, is attending the Cornell University Summer College, a six-week program for outstanding high school juniors and seniors who are enrolled in college courses for credit.

Laverty is one of 600 participants from 24 countries and 42 states. They are admitted to the program based on their high school records, application essays, recommendations and standardized test scores. In addition to earning college credit, students also participate in non-credit seminars to explore academic and career opportunities in fields ranging from fashion to veterinary medicine.

### SCHOLARSHIPS GIVEN

Two Farmington Hills residents and recent high school graduates have been awarded scholarships to Alma College this fall, where they will be freshmen.

Phillip Allmen, a 1992 graduate of the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Kevin Kopacz, a 1992 graduate of North Farmington High School, have been awarded scholarships by the college.

Kopacz, of Nottingham Court, is receiving a Trustee Honors Scholarship.

Allmen, of Commons Court, will receive a Presidential Scholarship. Both students also are each receiving a Performance Scholarship in instrumental music.

### ATTENDS WORKSHOPS

Naomi Smith of Farmington Hills participated in the Summer Journalism Camp for Minorities at Oakland University. Ball State's Journalism Workshop in Muncie, Ind., and at a Journalism workshop at Central Michigan University this summer.

She plans to attend the High School Journalism Workshop for Minorities at the University of Michigan in early August.

Smith, a North Farmington High School student, won full scholarships for all the workshops by the Knight-Ridder Foundation, the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund and the Detroit Free Press. She was valedictorian at the CMU workshop and plans to study broadcast journalism.

All of the workshops recruit selected high school students to study journalism, broadcasting and photojournalism with top newspaper and broadcasting professionals. They also provide opportunities for students to publish a laboratory newspaper.

### LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Amanda Amos of Farmington Hills was selected to attend The National Young Leaders Conference sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council from July 28 to Aug. 7 in Washington, D.C.