

### Breastfeeding Is Subject For Series

A new series on "The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding" will be sponsored by LaLeche League in the home of Mrs. Ben Pierce, 44585 11 Mile Rd., Novi, beginning at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Other meetings in the series will be held at the Pierce home Nov. 25, Jan. 21 and Feb. 23.

Topics to be covered will be the advantages of breastfeeding, overcoming difficulties, the family in relation to the breastfed baby and nutrition and weaning.

LaLeche meetings are designed to give encouragement to mothers who would like to nurse their babies.

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### 'Women On The Go' by MARGARET MILLER

## Teacher's Top Writer

Linda Arndt is a prize-winning writer who spends her working hours teaching others to write.

This Farmington High School teacher proved her own excellence this year by winning the University of Michigan-Novis award, one of the most coveted prizes in the field of creative writing.

Now in her fourth year on the high school English faculty, she's working to impart to creative-writing students the ingredients of a good piece of prose or poetry.

She has some pretty definite ideas on both teaching and writing.

**DARK-HAIRED** Linda, who lives in Plymouth and looks more like a college student than a high school teacher, chose rather somber subjects for the quartet of short stories that won her the Hopwood prize.

There was the woman who couldn't, even in the face of tragedy, make people more important in her life than things, and the farm woman whose mind gave way when she realized the terrible toll her hard life exacted.

Also in the group was a story of the end of a romance, and one about a hill family saddled with a retarded girl who had come to them as a founder.

"A great deal of modern literature deals with unhappiness," Linda said, "it must be that way, if only to contrast with happiness.

Linda is delighted with the interest in creative writing at Farmington High, but a little overwhelmed at having 60 students in two classes.

"The kids are doing their second short stories now," she said, "and I haven't finished correcting the first ones they did, it takes me 20 or 25 minutes to read each story carefully and make comments on it, and that adds up when you have 60 of them.

"I wish I'd had time to prepare them better to start the second stories, but they have to keep writing. I found it easier the year I had an adult education creative writing class -- there were just seven members then."

SHE'LL SOON move her students on from prose writing to poetry, her own first love.

"And poetry is about six times worse, both for writing and teaching," she said.

"The poet must try to arrive at an idea, or piece of wisdom or observation, then condense or boil it down, and at the same time make it beautiful. A fantastic number of things go into poetry, even if you don't worry about meter or rhyme."

LINDA said she has found that high school students, at least in the literature classes she has taught, don't care much for poetry.

"That's too bad," she thinks, "because really kids are made for poetry."

"I guess," she added,

"the kids tend to like the happy endings," she said, "We talk about writers' preoccupation with death, and consider the possibility that it's because they value life so much."

Linda's students are learning that in constructing a story it's really easier to describe unhappiness and its shades and reasons and meanings.

**CHARACTERIZATIONS**, descriptions and points of view she tries to teach with specific methods.

"I have them describe something inanimate, like an old house," she explained.

"Or, to help them learn that every part of a short story must have meaning in relation to the whole, I have them watch television and note the objects on which the camera focuses at the beginning of the show.

"Those are the parts of the story, and in writing descriptions should be done that way."

LINDA SAID she also tries to help her students understand that neither writers nor readers are satisfied any more with trick endings and easy solutions.

"The writer must be careful not to be too subtle, or his plot will be lost, but give the reader credit for some brains," she said.

"The reader, on the other hand, must appreciate the creative process and brings thought and substance to a story."

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LINDA said she has found that high school students, at least in the literature classes she has taught, don't care much for poetry.

"That's too bad," she thinks, "because really kids are made for poetry."

"I guess," she added,

"they're too busy growing up."

Linda, a native of Lansing, has been writing since she was a child and won some prizes there.

"The Hopwood has been my goal since I was in the 10th grade," she said.

She graduated from Michigan State University and now is about two thirds of the way through her masters degree at the University of Michigan.



LINDA ARNDT, writer and teacher, at her typewriter.

### COAC Plans Oct. 25 Meeting

The Council on Adoptable Children will hold its monthly public meeting at 8 p.m. Friday Oct. 25, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence, Ann Arbor.

The program will consist of a panel discussion on the Washtenaw County adoption agencies and their policies.

Panel members will include a representative of the Catholic Social Service; Lee Hout from Michigan Children's Aid Society; and Barbara McIntyre of the Michigan Department of Social Services, Washtenaw County Branch.

### Mrs. Humphrey Farmington Scheduled To Host Music Benefit To Visit Area

Mrs. Hubert Humphrey will be honored at a tea sponsored by the Oakland County Women for Humphrey, Thursday, Oct. 24, at 1:30 p.m. in the Birmingham Community House, 380 South Bates, Birmingham.

Mrs. Humphrey will arrive in Detroit, Wednesday, Oct. 23 to accept the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association for Retarded Children.

Known for her work in behalf of retarded children, Mrs. Humphrey serves on the National Board of Advisors of the National Association for Retarded Children and is a member of the president's Commission on Mental Retardation.

Mrs. Humphrey will also meet with the Macomb County Women for Humphrey-Muskie and appear at a reception at Marygrove College at 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 24, sponsored by Michigan Women for Humphrey - Muskie.

The Detroit Alumnae Chapter of the Phi Sigma International music sorority, will present its annual Scholarship Benefit Concert at 3 p.m. Sunday Oct. 27, in the Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington.

The program will feature Beverly Adams Williams, of Detroit, as organ soloist; Mrs. W.H. Cravens, of Dearborn, soprano, accompanied on the organ by Mrs. James Skillman of Farmington; and Mrs. Robert Gartin (Beverly Holmes) of Detroit, on the flute.

A string quintet, composed of Mrs. William Hohmeyer and Mrs. Walter R. Conrad, violin, Pauline Sampson, viola, John Greenleaf, cello, and Teruko Yamashita, piano, also is planned.

Mrs. Joseph Sovie, of Taylor, and Mrs. Brian Rogers, of Allen Park, and in charge of arrangements for the concert, to which the public is invited. Admission is free, but contributions may be made to support the sorority.

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