

Great wall from page B1

"She remembers so much, like being abandoned at 2 1/2 in a forest. About life in the orphanage. She was in charge of two younger children, a boy and a girl. These stories would spill out at night when I put her to bed. And every night, she prays for the little boy she took care of. These children slept in bed next to her. She had to dress, wash and feed them. He was afraid of the dark and she would hold his hand every night. She saved all her McDonald's toys for him."

area adopting children through the Great Wall agency.

Helping children

"I couldn't say no to this woman. She is placing 400 children this year. Any profit she makes is channeled right back into the orphanages and helping the children."

This volunteer effort "has become the joy of my life. I now have 20 families and 40 more that are interested. Each one has a story, from a millionaire to a factory worker, all ages, all religions. It is really rewarding."

U.S. Sen. Spencer Abraham, R-Michigan, also helped expedite Champnella's adoption of Jaclyn. China doesn't release a second

child for adoption to a family where the first child is not yet a U.S. citizen.

"He was touched by our story and he's the head of the U.S. Immigration office."

With Abraham's help, little Christy became an American citizen in record time. Cindy has a picture of the darling baby girl dressed in red, white and blue on the day she was naturalized.

"I deeply love China, the people I know are people who love kids. It's an incredibly beautiful country. The woman who runs the orphanage is dedicated to finding homes for her kids. In the U.S. there are many children who await adoption but overseas it's a matter of life and death."

Chat room from page B1

your One, True Love hasn't kissed you with any passion since 1987. Your life's not what you expected - might not even be what you wanted.

It's still your life. And that young person standing over there in the cap and gown with the deer-caught-in-the-headlights look is watching how you live it.

Nothing certain

If you ask me, the "Sunscreen" columnist just didn't get it. The fact of the matter is, nothing in life is ever certain, no matter how often it's scientifically tested.

Today, for instance, your child may look like you straight in the eye and say all kinds of things that will make you feel all warm and

wonderful inside. Or, your child may look you straight in the eye and say, "I'm taking my college fund and moving to Toledo."

In either case, don't cry.

And that's the only advice you're getting out of me.

Joni Hubred is a reporter for the Farmington Observer.

Coalition seeks literacy volunteers

The Detroit Jewish Coalition for Literacy is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in the life of a child this summer.

Volunteers are needed to work with children in the Detroit, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Pontiac and Southfield school districts.

These programs build on the efforts that teachers have made during the school year and take advantage of the summer months to increase the students' achievements in literacy. Program hours and location are flexible and no previous experience is necessary.

The DJCL is an umbrella for 21 organizational partners working to increase the Jewish community's fight against illiteracy by mobilizing volunteer readers, tutors and book drive organizers. The DJCL is an affiliate of the National Jewish Coalition for Literacy. For more information call (248) 642-5393.

What A Weekend We Have In Store For YOU!

JUNE 9-11 Livonia Mall Sports Cards & Collectibles Show
Enjoy browsing through the booths of sports memorabilia, interesting coins and stamps, beanie babies, and the latest in Pokemonia.

JUNE 10 GORDIE & COLLEEN HOWE Book Signing
Mr. & Mrs. Hockey will be personalizing their book *And Home* from 1-3 p.m. Books are available for sale \$35 with proceeds benefiting area school athletic programs.

JUNE 11 Ted Lindsay Book Signing
Meet Red Wing Hall of Famer Ted Lindsay from 12-2 p.m. and have him sign your copy of *Heroes of Hockeytown*. Books are \$35.

KIDS ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE:
Kid's Karaoke: Sat, June 10 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Hallmark Kid's Craft Father's Day Project: Sat, June 10 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Stamp Collecting for Kids: Freebies at the Stamp Headquarters Kiosk

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North Farmington alum wins Tony award

A former high school classmate remembers that Karen Ziemba's obsession first and foremost was dance.

Ziemba, a 1975 honors graduate of North Farmington High School, won a Tony Award Sunday night as featured actress in the musical *Contact*, which also won Tonys for featured actor, best musical and choreography.

The Susan Stroman musical is described as "a daring dance play that pushes musical theater boundaries."

While a student at North, Ziemba sang with the cappella choir "The Northern Chorale" and starred in the musicals *West Side Story* and *Man of La Mancha*.

Ziemba received her early dance training at the Evelyn Kresan Dance Studio and also performed with the Michigan

Ballet Theatre.

After graduating from North, she attended Akron University in Ohio where she earned a bachelor of arts degree with a major in ballet. She danced as a soloist with the university's resident company, The Ohio Ballet.

Broadway bound

Following graduation from Akron University, Ziemba moved to New York City where she did stock, dinner theater and off-Broadway before launching her career on Broadway.

Her work includes being the featured soloist in the 50th anniversary show *Encore* at Radio City Music Hall and appearing in *A Chorus Line* on Broadway.

Talk show host Rosie O'Donnell was emcee of the three-hour Tony Awards program at Radio



Karen Ziemba
City Music Hall. Winners were selected by 700 members of the theatrical profession and journalists.



Optimist award winners include Keyra French and Kim Khem-moro of Harrison High, and (rear) Farmington High students Grant Weber, Patrick Klein and Ben Lukas, Jamie Binder of North Farmington, Brienne Silberschein of Farmington Alternative Academy and Angela Arcori of Mercy High School.

Optimists honor students with leadership awards

The Optimist Club of Farmington/Farmington Hills honored several students with the Optimist Leadership Award at a breakfast recently.

The Optimist Leadership Award is designed to recognize young leaders from each of the five high schools in the Farmington area: Farmington, Harrison, North Farmington, Alternative Academy and Mercy.

The award is presented to juniors or seniors who demonstrate leadership skills in working with their peers. The winners received a monetary award for the 1999-2000 school year in recognition of their contribution as a school leader.

The awards are made possible

through the Optimist Club's annual junior golf tournament, which was held this year on June 16 at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills.

Honored were Brienne Silberschein of Farmington Alternative Academy; Grant Weber, Patrick Klein and Ben Lukas of Farmington High; Jamie Binder of North Farmington; Angela Arcori of Mercy; and Keyra French and Kim Khem-moro of Harrison.

The Optimist Club of Farmington/Farmington Hills meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. to support the community and youth.

For more information, call Rita Mossamer at 474-9204.

CLUB CIRCUIT

NORTH GARDEN
The North Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon Tuesday,

June 13 at the Farmington Hills Library. Teshi Shimuro, member of the Ikebana Society will be the guest speaker. Call 553-9083.

HILL & DALE
Hill & Dale Garden Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 15 in the courtyard of the Coatic Activities Center in Farmington Hills. Call Barb at 552-2233.

BNI
The Business Network International Farmington Hills chapter will meet 7-8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 14, at the Grand Cafe in downtown Farmington. The Greater Farmington Hills chapter will meet 7-8:30 a.m. Thursday, June 15, at the Comfort Inn, 30715 W. 12 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

KIWANIS CLUB
The Kiwanis Club of Farmington Hills meets at 12:15 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday at the Steak & Ale Restaurant, 27690 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Prospective members are welcome. Call 681-8463.

TOASTMASTERS
The Toastmasters/Tonemasters Club meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Thursday, except the first Thursday of the month, at Kerby's Koney Island, 21200 Haggerty, in Farmington Hills.

FINNISH CENTER
The Finnish Center in Farmington offers a variety of clubs to join such as dancing, singing, weaving, cards and more. Call 478-6939.

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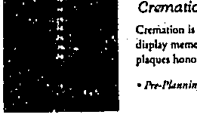
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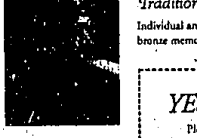
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