

ENGAGEMENT



BAMBONEK, son of Charles and Joyce Bambonek of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is earned a master's degree in physical therapy from Oakland University and is employed at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He is currently working on a master's degree in mechanical engineering from U of M and is employed at Ford Motor Company.

A December wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church in Birmingham followed by a reception at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills.

TOBE-SAMBENEK
Thomas and Janet Tobe of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Amy Claire to Charles Gregory

50TH ANNIVERSARY

KOBMAN 50TH

Don and Ginny Kobman, long-time residents of Farmington now in Brighton, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends at a dinner hosted by their three children on Nov. 3.

Don is a member of Farmington High School, Class of '47. Both are graduates of Michigan State University where they met. They returned to Farmington to live after Korean War service.

Don and Ginny were active members of the Farmington



Jaycees and Jayettes, especially in the annual JC shows.

100 YEARS OLD



at the age of 18, she left Maple Forest and went to work in Detroit as a housekeeper. Henry Ford was often a guest to the home of the people she worked for.

On Aug. 16, 1921, she married Clarence Barber and had three children: Frank, Thomas and Shirley. The Barbers lived in Livonia until 1951 when they moved to Houghton Lake. In 1973, the Barbers moved to Higgins Lake where Andora lived until 1996. Her husband died in 1973 and her son, Thomas, in 1993.

Her hobbies included fishing, sewing, cooking for her family, picking blueberries, playing cards and walking. She walked the Mackinac Bridge twice.

Andora currently lives at the Farmington home of her son and daughter-in-law, Frank and Marie Barber. She has 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

A small private party will be held in her honor.

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Miss Farmington begins whirlwind reign

Tracey Finlayson was crowned Miss Farmington/Oakland County in July. This is the first in a monthly series in which she'll chronicle happenings related to her reign.

It has been a whirlwind journey since I was crowned on July 18. Back then I was in the midst of taking tests for my new job as a healthcare representative. My participation in the pageant was my break from work. I was amazed, stunned, excited and scared all at the same time when they called my name; uncertain of how I could manage two jobs at once. Pharmaceutical sales rep by day; Miss Farmington by night.

At the Founders Festival, I had the time of my life. It was exhilarating riding on a float in the parade, waving to the people of our community. Five years ago I spent a lot of time in downtown Farmington picking up litter, sweeping sidewalks and painting green park benches for the Downtown Development Authority. I'd like to thank Mark Rebov for being my bodyguard during the parade and dancing partner at the nighttime festivities.

Leaving on a jet plane

Since the Founders Festival, I've spent three weeks in Cleveland and two in New York for job training. In October, I'll be in Columbus, New York and Pittsburgh for more training. At home, I've been busy. I served at the Marshmallow Fry and Fry outting. I had my first rule-play experience playing Vanna White at the annual Farmington golf outing by helping to pass out auctioned goods. I also ventured to Bay City to attend the Miss Bay Arenac pageant. The first pageant I ever attended was Miss Farmington in July.

I created a Pennies for Peace program sponsored by Metro Bank in which all funds are donated to the American Red Cross for victims' families. Receipts bins are set up at the four Metro Bank locations. I also worked at the radio telethon at Oakland Mall for disaster relief. I attended the Farmington/Hills multicultural event at the Coast Center. This organization is a class act and should be recognized for its hard work and dedication to creating a harmonious community.

Earth education

Ah, the platform! The ability to use the Miss Farmington scholarship pageant as a vehicle

I'm extremely proud to represent Oakland County, having been born and raised here.'

Tracey Finlayson
—Miss Farmington/Oakland

to promote my platform was the key aspect that propelled my involvement. My platform is earth education. My goal is to increase awareness of environmental issues. The quantity of water and electricity we use, food we eat, air we breathe. I for one want to ensure that my children will grow up in a clean world, and not one plagued with contaminants that cause illness. Earth education differs from environmental education because it teaches people how to live lightly and reduce their environmental footprint. My biggest information resource right now is the Institute for Earth Education in West Virginia. I'm also working with city officials Dave Boyer, director of special services for Farmington Hills, and Joe Derek, city naturalist.

Coming events

On Oct. 26, I'll be involved

with the hay ride and haunted walk at Heritage Park. I'll be dressed in disguise.

On Oct. 27, Make A Difference Day, I'll be with the William Grace Girl Scout troop cleaning up the grounds of the Masonic Temple in downtown Farmington.

Special thanks

I'd like to thank the residents of Farmington and Farmington Hills for their support, to Maureen McRae for help backstage, and to Angela Corni, former Miss Farmington, for filling me in at the grand opening of the new Farmer Jack where \$500 was raised for Goodfellows.

Special thanks also goes to Fred Fernandez from Farmington for purchasing my competition evening gown, to Bob Heinrich for allowing me to host Pennies for Peace at area Metro Banks, and Lane Valliere from WJEM TV in Saginaw who helped me with creation of brochures. Also in Bay City are Dani Patterson and Yvette Douglas, my pageant queens. They help me prepare for Miss Michigan and I sincerely appreciate their hard work.

I'm extremely proud to represent Oakland County, having been born and raised here. I

TRACEY'S TALES



Tracey Finlayson

graduated from Farmington High in 1996 and the University of Michigan Business School, Ann Arbor, in 2000. I truly embody Dorothy's saying from my favorite childhood movie, "There's no place like home."

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