

She finds good life

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she compared to a bunker. The bunker was in a lumber yard. "Each room held 40 children like me age 6-17. Women who were age 18-30 and men age 18-50 were taken away to a labor camp."

Wagner was 13. "Wallenberg was going to continue doing it until the Russians or the Americans came. The Germans couldn't take the Jews into the concentration camps as fast as they wanted because the Americans had bombed the railroads."

Wagner's mother, Suzette Brunn, and grandmother had instructed her to seek shelter with Wallenberg. Her father, Hendrik, and brother, Robert, had already been taken to a concentration camp.

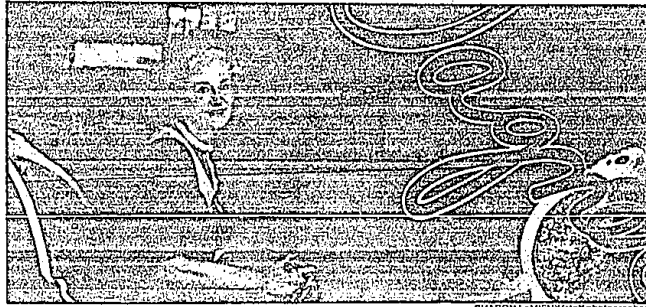
"The Nazis took 17-18 streets out of the area and made it into a ghetto, and they had all the Jews there," Wagner said.

"They confined people; they had gates and closed them at night. We were allowed to go out for an hour everyday. At first, they didn't want to take me. I told them my mother said I had to stay there."

The Germans came into Hungary in 1944. "For some reason, the Jews in Budapest were the last ones," she said.

IN THE meantime, Wagner's mother and grandmother acquired gentle papers and rented a new apartment. Then her grandmother went looking for Wagner and took her out of the bunker.

Of her time in the bunker, Wagner said: "They had these little basins



Kitty Wagner, owner and founder of the Kitty Wagner Facial Salon and Spa in Hunters Square, was honored with a certificate of ap-

preciation from Gov. Blanchard, congratulating her on her 25th year in business.

that they brought for us to use to wash and I got fleas or lice because we all used it. It was dark. We were hungry; we talked about food."

Reminiscing, Wagner recalls her youthful ravens. She remembers seeking only to learn later that they were corpses.

By a stroke of luck, she returned to the family's old apartment and discovered her father, who had escaped from a concentration camp. "He didn't know we were still alive," Wagner said. "He was just a shadow of a man. He was so hungry and so starved. It was January and it was cold. The apartment had no windows because they all burned out because of the bombing."

Wagner said she took wood from the Danube to make a fire for her father. "The irony of it was my dog, Lulu, a poodle, was there. My dog had staid there (in the apartment)

the whole time," she said. LIKEWISE, HER brother, Robert, was also told his family had died. By a fluke, he went to the barbershop across the street from the old family apartment and the barber said, "Don't you think your family looks fine?"

"You mean they're alive?" he asked, "and he jumped up with half his hair cut."

Wagner's mother, Suzette, never saw America. She died in 1957 when Wagner was expecting her daughter, Suzette, who is named for her grandmother. Suzette Wagner-Josell, who is now pregnant with her first child, is vice-president of the salon. Wagner also has a son, Gary, who lives in California.

Wagner was married to Joseph, her late husband in 1948. A cosmetic chemist, he developed more than 300 formulas for skin care products that are exclusive to Kitty Wagner Facial

Salon. The chemist's products are now produced in Israel and Vienna. She first became interested in facial salons when she accompanied her mother to European salons in order to find ways to cover up a facial scar. "I used to tag along and I watched a lot," she said.

WAGNER'S FIRST salon was on James Couzens in Detroit. Today Wagner is well-known among celebrities like Liza Minnelli and Christina Ford, who regularly visit.

Wagner is also a frequent volunteer at the Holocaust Memorial Center in West Bloomfield. She is involved in the American Magen David for Israel, a blood drive interest. Her philanthropic interests include the Michigan Cancer Foundation and the Detroit Symphony.

"It's been a good life, even though it didn't start out so hot," she said.

Center Kindergarten programs filling up

Center Kindergarten programs in the Farmington School District are filling up for the fall.

Early childhood centers at Fairview and Alameda are nearly full as the district begins handling the overflow of children at the Farmington Community School — the former Shawanawasco School/Center.

The two early childhood centers can handle a total of 255 children. The centers handle a full complement of two- to five-day programs, said assistant superintendent Mary Lou Ankele. Farmington Public Schools also offers traditional kindergarten programs at each elementary school.

The Farmington Community School houses not only the Center Kindergarten overflow but many adult and community education programs for the district. The district media center is being moved this summer to accommodate more programs and students.

OTHER FALL programs for Farmington-area preschoolers include:

- Community Education tuition nursery program — For children 3-5 years, children can participate in

this program, which includes a gymnasium, science center and playground. Classes are limited to 16 children.

- PALS program — The Potentially Able Learners program is for 4-5 year olds who are eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 1990. Free screenings for this program are done in August and January. Parent and child attend one half day per week.

- Bilingual Education Class — Four-year-olds may attend this class one year before kindergarten. Of the 16 children enrolled, half must come from a home in which the predominant language is not English. The class meets five days per week and parents are required to attend a weekly parent meeting.

- Parent/toddler program — Children from 22 months to 3 years and their parents participate in this program. This tuition program is tailored toddlers needs.

With the exception of the PALS program — offered only at Farmington Community School — all programs are held at Farmington Community School, and Alameda and Fairview early childhood centers. For further information, call 477-1778.

clarification

The name of the winner of the 1989 Miss Farmington Scholarship Pageant was misspelled in Thursday's Observer.

The winner is Kerie Colleen Dwyer of Farmington Hills.

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INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for paving and seal coating until 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, July 19, 1989 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 35500 Shawanawasco, Farmington, Michigan 48024, addressed to Beverly Hausman. They will be publicly opened and read at the Board of Education meeting at 7:30 P.M. on the same date.

A bid bond or certified check for 5% of the bid must accompany our bid proposal form which may be obtained from our purchasing department.

JANICE ROLNICK, Secretary
Board of Education

Public: July 19 and 17, 1989

Arthritis Today
Joseph A. Weiss, M.D., Rheumatologist
18823 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: 478-2806

ARTHRITIS & MENOPAUSE

Some women note that during menses their hands or swollen since that gloves are difficult to put on, and rings hardly come off. Other women experience muscle aching and joint stiffness. All women with arthritic conditions report a decrease in joint complaints during pregnancy. These observations bring up the question of the role of female hormones in arthritis.

A number of investigations have looked into this possible association. To date no study has found a relationship between a woman's female hormone status and the risk of developing arthritis.

Pregnancy reverses arthritis because the hormones generated at that time have a cortisone-like effect on the joints. Under the conditions of gestation, the anti-inflammatory effects of steroids take over while the ill-effects are suppressed.

The aching joints associated with menopause are not arthritis related but often herald the beginning of osteoporosis, a problem of bone strength, not of joint integrity.

Thus the evidence to date indicates that attempting to change a woman's hormone status to control arthritis is not warranted.

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