



Family portrait: Erin Nutt, Dagnie Carlson, Robert Nutt, Nancy Nutt and her husband, Paul, at their 7-Eleven store on Farmington Road. See related story on B1.

Vintage from page B1

staying at the Power settlement. Cynthia Collins did the cooking. On their farm, the Collins family had a potash factory and a store. Potash is used to make soap and fertilizer.

Although Cynthia was already 30 years old when her son was born, she had two more sons and four daughters. In 1826, Seymour Newton, probably Cynthia's brother, established a distillery across the road from the potash factory.

An early death

There was a creek on which the distillery was built. Seymour Newton died in 1831 and is buried in the Collins plot at Oakwood Cemetery. He was only 33 when he died.

About this time, in the early 1830s, it became evident that the business center of Farmington was on Shiawassee and Division streets rather than down on Nine Mile Road. The Collins family purchased the home of the first Postmaster, Ezekiel Webb, when Dr. Webb decided to move. Webb is said to have had a dispute over land with his friend Arthur Power. The first Post Office is located on the current Farmington Road which was once called Division Street. It is an historic site.

The Collins family lived in the house that was the first post office. George Collins also became Post Master of the Township. The Collins built a new store on Shiawassee. When the business center moved from Shiawassee to the new plank road in 1850, the Collins store moved to Grand River, the new business center.

Constantine Collins, one of Cynthia's sons, had helped with the construction of the plank

road. The little store that the Collins had on Shiawassee was painted red. It was recycled many times including being used as a school.

Postmaster and farmers
John Collins succeeded his father in the general store and was post master like his father for many years. His brothers were farmers.

The Collins land and cow pasture was right on Farmington Road. When the fire of 1872 destroyed a portion of the business center, it was on Cynthia Collins' cow pasture that the new Township Hall and Masonic Temple was constructed.

George W. Collins died in 1893, but Cynthia lived to the age of 92. She was one of the members of the community that helped with the writing of "The History of Oakland County" published by the L.M. Everts Company in 1877. This book is a source for much of what we know about the early history of the settlement of Farmington.

One of Cynthia's grandsons,

■ Cynthia Collins lived to age 92. She helped write 'The History of Oakland County' published in 1877.

William Collins, graduated from the University of Michigan pharmacy school. He had a drugstore in Owosso. He became a member of the state board of pharmacy during the administration of Gov. Fred Warner. Fred Warner is Farmington's only governor serving the state from 1901-11. He is one of three Michigan governors from Oakland County.

Cynthia Collins is remembered as the first "white" woman in Farmington, and the first one to give birth here. The Masonic Temple, a landmark at the corner of Grand River and Farmington roads, is located on what was once known as Cynthia Collins cow pasture.

Ruth Moehlman is a local historian and author of "Heritage Homes of Farmington."

Farmington/Farmington Hills 50th Anniversary of Korean War Era Commemorative Community Committee
22409 Floral, Farmington, MI 48336

If you wish to purchase a Korean War Era Commemorative Flag similar to the one pictured here, please contact the committee address above.

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Address _____
Phone Number _____
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Vets sought

The committee for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War is looking for local veterans of that era (1950-53) to share their war stories.

The search is not limited to veterans who live in Farmington or Farmington Hills. Korean War veterans or their family members can use the coupon at left or contact Wally Christensen at 474-8554.

Chat room from page B1

■ Forget strapping tape. It's expensive and nearly impossible to remove. Masking tape works just as well, and it comes off all on its own by the time you've arrived at your new home.

■ Never label boxes. It provides a false sense of security. By the time you unpack, you won't remember what "LR by petra" means anyway.

■ Purchase seals of plastic garbage bags. Whatever small stuff you've procrastinated about packing away can be safely transported in these flexible, inexpensive containers. Just be

careful not to leave them lying around too long, lest they be mistaken for actual garbage.

■ Newspapers aren't just fun to read, they make great packing material. Just not for anything that's particularly fragile.

■ Count on breaking or losing at least one irreplaceable item. You might consider asking to borrow your mother's antique crystal punch bowl, to protect your own valuables.

■ Finally - before you file for palimony or head into divorce court - remember this is just a temporary condition. Nothing about it is worth sacrificing an entire relationship over and moving never killed anyone.

Except the friend who forgets to schedule that stress test.

Joni Hubred is a new Farmington resident and a reporter for the Farmington Observer.

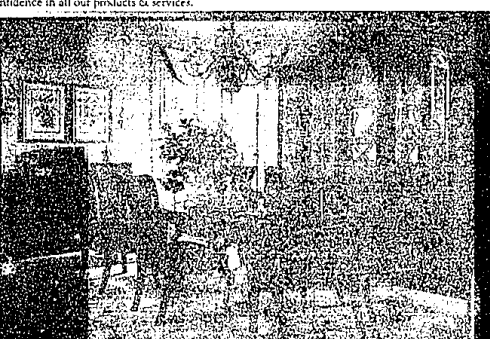
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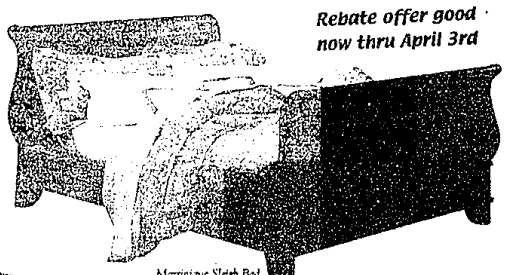
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