

Tracey's Tales

Travels with Miss Farmington

It's that time of year when everyone gets ready for the holiday season. I have many exciting things to look forward to like the educational product programs I'm helping organize for my employer, Pfizer, Inc., and the holiday Christmas party I'm organizing for disadvantaged children from Oakland County. It'll be held Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Masonic Temple.

Pennies from heaven

My hope is that my year of community service justifies the honor I've already received, a proclamation from the city of Farmington. At the Farmington City Council meeting on Nov. 19, Bob Heinrich, president of Metro Bank, and I presented funds raised for the American Red Cross from our Pennies for Peace program.

I recently spoke at the American Legion Post 346. Last week, Farmington Mayor Bill Hartsock interviewed me for a short program to be shown on cable TV-12. I'm truly grateful for the opportunities to speak in public, be taped on television, and have an article published in the newspaper. These experiences all help me to develop those essential skills that will allow me to gain a competitive advantage at the Miss Michigan competition next June. I'd like to congratulate Angela Corsi for winning the

Miss Great Lakes title. I will be participating in the Miss Michigan program along with this former Miss Farmington.

God Bless America

Firefighters and policemen are heroes. This has become more evident in light of recent events. When I was in New York for my job, I met firemen from the Westchester Fire Department, some who had volunteered at Ground Zero. I thanked them for their courage and selflessness. They looked at me as if they couldn't believe I'd take time to thank them. To say I was humbled is an understatement. Speaking of heroes, I had the honor of speaking at Farmington's ceremony (directly after Congressman Joe Knollenberg) to honor veterans and those that died Sept. 11, 2001. It's almost impossible for Americans of my generation to fathom "great sacrifice (our forefathers) laid upon the altar of freedom" to quote Abraham Lincoln.

Lighting the way

The holiday party I'll be host-



Tracey Finlayson

ing, *Holiday Wishes: A Dream Come True*, will be catered by Papa Romanos of Farmington. Girl Scout Troop 3850 will co-host with me. Then Santa Claus is coming to town on Nov. 25 in Farmington and on Dec. 1 in Canterbury Village and Southfield, respectively. You can bet I'll be there to greet him when he arrives. And I'll be at the downtown Farmington tree lighting ceremony. It's amazing how holiday lights inspire a feeling of security and hope.

Tracey Finlayson of Farmington is the reigning Miss Farmington/Oakland County. Contact Tracey at her e-mail address: traceyfinlayson@yahoo.com

Musicale offers Wassail

Here We Come a Wassailing is the December program of Farmington Musicales at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5. It will be at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road between 13 Mile and 14 Mile in Farmington Hills.

Members will be dressed in Renaissance-era costumes and there will be a Boar's head processional. The king and queen will be Carolee and Howard Caylor. There will be pages and princesses, a madrigal ensemble and musicale chorus.

Amy Dolan Maloney will sing English Christmas carols. Lauren Erickson will play recorder. Charlene Berry will play the dulcimer. Old-style English refreshments will be served. There's a \$3 charge. For more information, call Betty Walker at 661-0707.

New crown for Corsi

Angela Corsi, former Miss Farmington, was crowned Miss Great Lakes recently and will compete in the Miss Michigan scholarship pageant in Muskegon next June.

Corsi, who was Miss Farmington 2000, bested a field of 21 candidates to be named Miss Great Lakes. This competition is "open," which means anyone who lives in Michigan is eligible to compete. Corsi is a second year communications major at Michigan State University. A career in public relations is her goal.

She is a 2000 graduate of Mercy High School. Her



pageant platform is "America United: Countless Histories. One Future" celebrating the diversity in America. This platform is a direct result of experiencing the diversity at Mercy High and the Farmington community.

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