



"I DON'T PRETEND to know all the answers," columnist Abigail Van Buren told a Farmington Town Hall audience.

"MY ADVICE is mostly horse sense."

"BUT DON'T YOU AGREE that has to come from a stable mind?" (Photos by Fran Evert)

Abby Doesn't Pull Punches

The Scroptimist Club of Farmington, sponsor of the Farmington Town Hall series, has dedicated this year's series to the memory of Alice De Podesta, charter member who died last spring.

"We all miss her helpfulness and her gracious presence," said Mrs. Helen Moorhouse, president, at the start of the opening lecture last Thursday.

By MARGARET MILLER
The lady who every week receives 25,000 "Dear Abby" letters—most of them from people with troubles—is practical and forthright when it comes to giving advice. So Abigail Van Buren, opening the Farmington Town Hall lecture series last week, said she favored abortion law reform and would give the pill to a 17-year-old thought by her

mother to be "sexually involved with her boy friend."

"She's made the decision and you can't change that," said the famed guest in answer to a celebrity luncheon question that might well have come straight from her syndicated column mailbox. "Giving her the pill is better than risking having her face an unwanted pregnancy. In this case, it's better to be safe than sorry."

ON THE MATTER of abortion law reform, Miss Van

Buren said it was her feeling that "no woman should be forced by law to bear a child she doesn't want—and that goes for poor and rich, black and white, married and unmarried."

In her talk earlier, she said she keeps on file a complete list of homes for unwed mothers throughout the country.

THE SPEAKER, slim, dark-haired and clear-complexioned, received several queries about her youthful appearance, though she happily admitted to having been married 34 years and to being a proud grandmother.

life is Mrs. Morton Phillips, described her businessman-husband as "quite a man—my lover, my best friend, my severest critic and my personal editor."

She entered the advice to the loveless field, she said, "because I read the columns in the newspapers after we moved from the Midwest to San Francisco, and I decided the San Francisco Examiner needed me."

HIER PEN NAME she took from the Old Testament Abigail, "of whom it was said 'blessed art thou and blessed is thy advice,'" and from the country's eighth president. "I tried out Abigail Adams, Abigail Jefferson, and when I got to Martin Van Buren I knew I had my man," she said.

"Isn't what it used to be," Miss Van Buren agreed in answering a question.

"But we should let our children know we love them, no matter what they do," she advised.

Children's Beginner Group Lessons at HAMMILL MUSIC LABORATORY

CHRISTINE CHAMBERLAIN
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Chamberlain of Summerwood Court, Farmington, announce the engagement of their daughter, Christine Marie, to William Joseph Spencer, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Spencer of Virginia Avenue, Southfield. The bride-elect is a graduate of Michigan State University and her fiancé has a degree from Western Michigan University. Both are employed by General Motors Corp. They plan to be married Feb. 9.

KRISTINE PUROLA
Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Purola of Riverdale Avenue, Redford Township, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristine Marie, to Geoffrey Alan Bryant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred T. Bryant of Stoneycroft Avenue, Southfield. The bride-elect is a 1966 graduate of Thurston High School and earned a degree this year from the Lawrence Institute of Technology. They plan to be married Nov. 25.

FABRIC STYLIST Minor McArthur of Redford Township will be commentator for holiday fashion shows for home seamstresses coming to J.L. Hudson Co. Northland and Westland shows this week. The showings in the fabric department are scheduled at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 3, at Northland, and on Saturday, Nov. 4, at Westland. Show items -- all using McCall patterns -- will include long and short party dresses, at-home ensembles and luxurious lounge wear, as well as several menswear items for gift giving.

New Daughter
Mr. and Mrs. Ris R. Woody of Westland announce the birth of their daughter, Kristine Elizabeth, on Sept. 18 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William S. Count of Livonia and Mr. and Mrs. Woody of Punta Gorda, Fla., formerly of Wayne.

Nurses Set Dedication

Students in the Providence Hospital School of Nursing will make a commitment to a career in health care during a special dedication ceremony at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 3, in the chapel of Duns Scotus College, Southfield.

The Rev. Nicholas Hood, a member of the Detroit Common Council, will be the speaker. Mass will be celebrated by the Rev. John Market, OFM, an instructor in psychology and sociology at the school.

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