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**New school will be named after Binks**

**By FONTANA HERALD NEWS**

Kathy Binks has been an influential proponent of education in the Fontana Unified School District for the past four decades.

Her dedication was rewarded on Nov. 15 when the Fontana School Board decided unanimously to name an elementary school in her honor.

The school, known previously as Elementary No. 31, is being built on the corner of Baseline and Cypress avenues and is scheduled to open sometime next year.

"I love this district," Binks said. "I've loved it ever since (husband) Dean and I moved here more than 40 years ago.

"I'm very honored that a school is being named after me. And I love that it's right around the corner from where I live, so I can ride by all the time and see how it's doing."

Binks has been a member of the School Board for 20 years. She has also been a long-time supporter of the PTA in Fontana, serving with the organization at North Tamarind, Juniper, and Tokay elementary schools and Alder Middle School at various times.

The Binks family has been operating an Ettie Lee Home for youth for 39 years, helping hundreds of boys in the process.

"Dean and I have four children, 11 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, and we're so thankful that our children didn't mind sharing their home with all these boys over the years," she said.

Kathy and Dean Binks will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary next July.

"I love working with the people in Fontana," Kathy Binks said. "I also love seeing the progress that has been made here over the years."



The FUSD continues to expand, and plans are being made for additional schools in the district. A groundbreaking ceremony for Elementary School No. 28 was held on Nov. 15. This school, which is being built on a nine-acre site on Beech Avenue between Randall and Merrill avenues, is expected to open in September of 2007.