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Mid-Island Times

& Levittown Times

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Friday, December 14, 1990

Giant Local Holiday Tree



More than 100 gifts were collected for local senior citizens at the first day of Spiegel Associates' Project: N.O.E.L. (Neighbors Offering Elders Love) Community Drive. On hand to officially launch the campaign by lighting Spiegel Associates' giant Holiday Tree were, left to right: Peter Schmitt, Town of Oyster Bay Commissioner of Community and Youth Services; Jerry Spiegel, chairman of Spiegel Associates, Jericho, one of Long Island's most prominent real estate development firms; Angelo Dellgattl, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor; Santa (David Krowkowski of Westbury), who arrived atop a Jericho fire truck; and Gene Mayer, formerly the fourth ranked tennis player in the world, Mill Neck. The public is invited to leave new wrapped gifts, such as scarves, decks of cards, board games, gloves, etc., at Spiegel Associates' headquarters at 375 North Broadway, Jericho, until December 19.

Professional Day At Caumsett Pk.

The East Woods' faculty and staff held their annual Professional Day at Caumsett State Park in Lloyd Neck. This year's theme was on communication and teamwork. With the assistance of the Queens College Outdoor Education Program coordinators, the faculty and staff joined in activities which emphasized

cooperation, teamwork and problem solving techniques. In addition, time was given to investigate and discuss professional issues which they face. It was a day to reflect, share and renew their commitment to education and to East Woods School.

Physical Fitness Regis. In Jan.

The Town of Oyster Bay will be holding registration for a Physical Fitness Program for Women 18 years of age and older from January 2, 1991 to February 15, 1991, according to Town Councilman Douglas J. Hynes.

The Program, which is being offered free to Town residents, will be conducted at Marjorie R. Post Park in Massapequa and runs from February 21 through March 28. The classes will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m., 10-11 a.m. or 1-2

p.m.

"This program is for individuals who desire to improve their physical condition with flexibility, exercise and muscle toning," Councilman Hynes said. "It's a great way to keep in shape over the winter."

Councilman Symons noted that registration forms are available at Town of Oyster Bay Libraries, Town Parks, or residents can call the Dept. of Parks at 795-1000, ext. 7787.

Day Care Center Needs Support

A committee of employees from the Bethpage School District has been working to organize a self-sustaining day care center. The Bethpage Employees Day Care Center will benefit those who work for the school district and who have pre-school children. The school district has contributed a room at Central Blvd. School. The Center will open on February 25, 1991.

Fund raising events such as cake and raffle ticket sales are taking place on school conference nights. If you win the raffle, you may be the new owner of a Color Television Set!

If you have any toys, books, furniture, rugs, or other equipment that may be used in a day care setting, kindly take the materials to Jan Bain, Principal at Central Blvd. School. Any questions may be directed to Janice Yale, Chairperson of the Bethpage Employees Day Care Center, at JFK Middle School, 931-7280. We appreciate any support you may give!

The Staffing Committee is searching for a Teacher Coordinator with experience in infant-toddler care. A Bachelor's Degree is preferred. Two part-time assistants experienced in infant-toddler care are also needed. No degree is required for those positions. If you are interested, please send your resume to Ms. Dawn Eichhorn, Kramer Lane School, Kramer Lane, Plainview, N.Y. 11803.

Mexican Exhibit Bus Trip

The Hicksville Public Library has a bus trip going to the much talked about, Special Mexican exhibit, "Splendors of Thirty Centuries" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Also the exquisite Christmas tree at the museum will be on display.

The date is: Thursday, January 3, 1991. Cost of bus transportation is \$13.50. Museum donation and lunch on your own.

The bus will leave Municipal Park Field #7 (entrance on West Cherry St. or West Carl St. in Hicksville) at 9 a.m. Leave city 3:15 p.m. Reservations may be made at the Circulation desk, of the library. Cash only, no refund unless trip is cancelled or someone on the waiting list takes your place.

No smoking on the bus. All Welcome.

Five Member Board Remains New Motion Closes Willet

By Maureen Traxler

In another volatile meeting of the Hicksville School Board, the five trustees voted on December 5, to rescind the October motion to close two schools in September 1991 and, in a subsequent motion, voted to close Willet Avenue School next September. The recommendation to close Willet drew cries from residents that Willet will be a "sacrificial lamb" offered to the public as a result of the Board's deliberations on school closings.

The Board opted to remain a five-member unit and elected trustee Carole Wolf as its new president and Arlene Rudin as vice president.

Resign! Resign! Resign! One after another angry parents and residents chided Board members for their conduct over the past several months and called for the resignations of trustees James Martillo, Bill Collins and Arlene Rudin. Strong sentiments filled the high school auditorium as the remaining Board members tried to recover from its November meeting. Residents were overwhelmingly unhappy with their elected officials and expressed the following comments:

"We have had our Watergate," shouted one resident, while others charged "gross incompetence," "unprofessionalism," and "collusion." Mrs. Helen Lafferty alluded to a link between Martillo, Collins, Rudin and the HCT (the teachers union). Janet Von Barga charged that certain Board members were "out to get" Superintendent Fenton. Mrs. VonBarga said she and other deeply concerned citizens will "do everything in our power to see if we can legally have you removed from office."

Ron Hildebrandt quoted from the district policy code. He speculated that Board members had directly violated certain sections, and said, "Since you do not fit the criteria, please resign."

In answer, Board President Wolf simply stated, "I'm not going anywhere." Trustee Martillo elaborated, "I'm not going anywhere. I've got nothing to hide...I'm staying here to fight."

At the opening of the session, trustee Arlene Rudin acknowledged that she had made two mistakes: voting for the close of East Street School and writing to Board President Miltenberg. She said that her letter was written "to save embarrassment by the Board."

"My resolve is strong. I have never been a quitter," Mrs. Rudin stated, and she concluded by asking "for your patience as we try to get along with the district's business."

Prior to the lengthy general public session, the Board voted 4 to 1, with Board Secretary William Bennett opposing, to accept the resignations of President JoAnn Miltenberg and Vice President Pat Rooney.

Mr. Bennett praised Mrs. Miltenberg as an outstanding Board member, having good rapport with the Superintendent. "She came from the ranks of the PTA and because of this, she knew the problems of each child." He assessed Mrs. Rooney as a woman of quality and active in PTA and education circles. "I am going to miss both of them," concluded Mr. Bennett.

Upon accepting the seven-month contract as president, Mrs. Wolf told the audience that she will make some promises to them, and she asks for promises from the people of Hicksville.

Mrs. Wolf said that she will tolerate "no personal attacks at the table," and that she will "not tolerate mob rule." "This is not a circus, but a 49-million-dollar business. As soon as all of us realize this and learn to respect each other and respect each other's opinion, we can go on with the business of the Board" the new president stated.

Remain Five-Member Board

Attorney Gregory Guercio informed the Board that, in light of the resignations, the Board had several options: (1) operate as a five-member board, providing they can operate in a smooth and orderly fashion, (2) call a special election, which could occur after legal notice, about eight weeks time, or (3) appoint by a majority vote of the whole membership of the board (four votes).

Mr. Guercio pointed out that if the Board is not able to function with five members, it may become necessary to appoint. In rare cases, the superintendent of the supervisory district (at present, BOCES director Dr. Ira Singer) may appoint a competent person, or the Commissioner of Education may be called upon to call for special election.

Assuming the Board continues with five members until the next election in May, at that time the candidate elected to Mrs. Miltenberg's seat may be sworn in that evening, because the term is still in effect, commented Mr. Guercio. The seat vacated by Mrs. Rooney, however, would not be filled by the winning candidate until

Right Around Home

By Maureen Trazler

Zooming traffic on Hempstead Turnpike, trees which reach for the sky, people leaving behind the fast food wrapper, such is life now-a-days in Nassau County. But amidst all this, there is an island of serenity, a small piece we could call God's little acres. These 79 acres located just west of the Meadowbrook Parkway near Nassau Community College are what is left of the Hempstead Plains.

Where once grasses grew eight-feet tall, where earth met sky on the horizon with nary a twig to obstruct your view, the 60,000-acre Hempstead Plains were an eastern extension of the Great Prairie of the Western Plains.

Hicksville resident Carol Niedich-Ryder, Associate Curator (Life Sciences), Division of Museum Services of the Nassau County Dept. of Parks and Recreation, recently took the members of the Hicksville Community Council on a step-by-step journey through time on the Hempstead Plains. Ms. Ryder narrated a slide presentation at the Council's December meeting, and invited those attending to become excited about nature and its effects on our modern life.

The Hempstead Plains had the same characteristics of the Great Plains of the West, warm season grasses, wind deposited fertile soil and "prairie burn," the fires needed to control weeds. The roots of the grasses stretched some 15 feet under the soil. There was a constant burst of wildflower blooms from May right through October. This was the land found by the local English settlers in the mid 1600's.

Much of the plain remained intact, until the mid 1800's, when Alexander Stewart, a man of vision, bought 7,500 acres at \$55 an acre and created his planned community, Garden City. He cut down grasses and planted trees.

Troops were quartered on the Hempstead Plains as early as Civil War days and on through the World Wars. The Plains were also a great place for aviation and housed many small airfields in its day. In 1909, Glen Curtis flew his lighter-than-air plane 25 kilometers to win the \$10,000 prize from the Science American. And of course, we all know of the Charles Lindberg fame.

In 1949, with the crash of the potato crop and the return of the nation's young war heroes, William Levitt turned hundreds of acres of Plains into quick-style homes, and so was born Levittown.

Time saw more and more development and then in 1972, with the completion of the Nassau Coliseum, most of the Hempstead Plains dimmed into the past.

But there was a different sort of visionary back in the 1970's named Arthur McManus, a botanist, who pursued his dream with Nassau County, and secured a small piece of land as a nature preserve. The property was not officially dedicated as parkland and remained under the ownership of Nassau County. Nineteen of the 79 acres today are under the auspices of Nassau Community College.

In late 1989, members of civic and environmental organizations heard that the county was considering the sale of part of the remaining 60 acres to the Marriott Hotel for a parking lot. They petitioned the Town of Hempstead to save the preserve and the Town did. In October 1989, the Town established the perpetual preservation law and turned the land over to the Nature Conservancy.

Ms. Ryder told the Council members of her quest to return the land to its natural state. First, remove the litter and abandoned car parts. Second, take out the trees and shrubs. And third, plant the grasses of the old Hempstead Plains. There were plenty of volunteer helpers and quite a job was done.

Today, Ms. Ryder explained, there is an abundance of plants and wildlife, and many endangered species. "If we don't save them," Ms. Ryder added, "they will literally be wiped off the face of the earth." Asters and pea plants, goldenrod and mint, long-eared owls and hawks, rabbits and red fox, all share the safe haven of the parkland. The preserve is, too, a resting spot, watering hole and a place to find food for migratorial birds.

Ms. Ryder reminded her audience that in numbers there is strength, and through the efforts of some of our local naturalists, a piece of our past will last into the future.

Hicksville VFW Post #3211 is asking residents for the names and addresses of family members serving the Operation Desert Shield. The Post will send a package to each serviceman and woman during the holiday season. Packages may contain some of the following items: toiletry articles, magazines, insect repellent and copies of **The Mid Island Times**. Don't delay, call the Post Commander Vincent Ferrara at headquarters (931-7843) or Chairman Tony Previte (735-2464) today.

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Again, I am angry and hurt because you ignored our plea on behalf of our students and chose to close a school anyway.

Sincerely,
Terry Mochtinger
Pres. Bd. of Education

In Service

Navy Lt.j.g. Steve P. Hunt, a 1984 graduate of Holy Trinity High School of Hicksville, recently reported for duty with Helicopter Combat Support Squadron-Three, Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego.

He is also a 1988 graduate of Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay, Mass., with a Bachelor of Science degree. He joined the Navy in June 1988.

St. Edward's Celebrates Thanksgiving

A beautiful Thanksgiving feast was enjoyed by St. Edward's kindergarten class, dressed up as Pilgrims and Indians.



Dressed in costumes they made in class are Lindsey Jellig, Danny Nawrocki, Justin Teague, Paul Genovese, Sriteja Rao, Christopher Coutura and Christina Polizzi.



Patently awaiting their traditional Thanksgiving Feast are Victoria Mason, Sonny Fabbri, Frank Scaccia, Manuel and Nicholas Abbondandolo.



Enjoying their special celebration are Krista Knausman, Wayne Chow, Caitlin Malley, Bryan Lajole, and Jaquelin Arnett.

Perspectives in Health

Drinking and Driving: What Can We Do About It?

One in a series of free programs addressing important health care issues brought to you by the Nurse Specialist Group.

Celia Strow, R.N., Founder of Long Island Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) will discuss the group's accomplishments and provide information on membership.

Justine Ellerman, B.S., R.N., C.D., Program Director of Alcoholism Treatment Services will describe the inpatient and outpatient assistance offered to alcoholics and their families at Winthrop.

Filmed interviews with convicted drunk drivers and family members of people who were killed by drunk drivers will be shown.

DATE: Tuesday, December 18
TIME: Registration and refreshments - 6:30 p.m.
Program - 7 to 9 p.m.
PLACE: Breed Conference Room

Admission is free, but since seating is limited, we suggest that you call 663-2234 to reserve your place.



Winthrop-University Hospital

259 First Street, Mineola, New York 11501
A non-teaching affiliate of SUNY Stony Brook School of Medicine

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Nursery Children's Thanksgiving

The children of Community Church Nursery School, Syosset celebrated Thanksgiving with their annual play held on Tuesday, November 20. Follow-

ing the show, featuring the children dressed as pilgrims and Indians, they feasted on home-made treats.



Community Church Nursery School, left to right: Caroline Gomez, Nicole Primato, Stacy Kim and Mrs. Janet Cox.



Community Church Nursery School - Pilgrim Erica Tymeck.



Children enjoying their own Thanksgiving Feast after the show.



Community Church Nursery School - Pilgrims Robert Savarese and Matthew Beard.



Nursery School Director, Rev. Jean Butler with Nicole Primato and Caroline Gomez.

LEGAL NOTICE

LONG ISLAND THERAPY ASSOCIATES-Substance of Certificate of Limited Partnership signed and acknowledged by all of the partners and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau on November 8, 1990. The name and principal office of the partnership is Long Island Therapy Associates, 4273 Hempstead Turnpike, Bethpage, New York 11714. Its business is to purchase, own, operate, lease and sell equipment and office space and to administer non-medical and non-technical aspects of a radiation therapy establishment. The term for which the partnership is to exist is from the date of the filing of the Certificate of Limited Partnership in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau until the close of business on December 31, 2040, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms of the Partnership Agreement. The name and place of residence of each General Partner is as follows:

Therapy Management Asset, Inc.
201 Moreland Road
Hauppauge, New York 11788
The name, place of residence, cash contribution, and percentage of interest in the partnership of each Limited Partner is as follows:

SONAL, INC.
201 Moreland Road
Hauppauge, New York 11788
Cash Contributed - \$10
Percentage of Interest - 85%

No Limited Partner has agreed to make additional capital contributions. The value of the contribution of a Limited Partner may be returned to him in whole or in part in the sole discretion of the General Partner. No Limited Partner may substitute an assignee as contributor in his place without the prior written consent of the General Partner, except that such Limited Partner's interest may be transferred without consideration upon death by testamentary instruments or intestate succession. Such assignment is further subject to the assignee agreeing, in writing, to be bound by the terms of the Partnership Agreement. The General Partner may admit additional Limited Partners. No Limited Partner shall have priority over other Limited Partners as to contributions or compensation by way of income. The remaining General Partner or General Partners may continue the business of the partnership upon the death, retirement or insanity of a General Partner. There is no right of any Limited Partner to demand or receive property other than cash for his contribution.

BN 3093
6X 11/30;12/7, 14,21,28;1/4

GRANDPARENTS - Send in your grandchildren's photos and enter our "World's Most Beautiful Grandchildren" contest. Just send a photo and a brief description of the child (or children) along with your name and address to: Litmor Publications, Beautiful Grandchildren Contest, 81 East Barclay St., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801. We'll do the rest!

Local Resident To Perform

Debbie DePompa, a 1988 graduate of Hicksville High School, has been chosen to be a member of the Performing Ensemble of Danscore, the touring dance company of Suny College at Brockport.

As the culminating performance of a successful fall touring season, Danscore presented a dance concert on December 7 and 8, in Suny Brockport's Hartwell Dance Theater. Choreography for each of the dances in the program was created by Suny Brockport students, faculty, alumni, or, in one case, an interesting combination of choreographers.

DePompa danced in "Phrases," the opening number, which is a composite of individual movement phrases choreographed by each dancer as part of the audition process for the Danscore Performing Ensemble. The individual dancers' movements were

then arranged by Santo Giglio, associate professor of dance. The work served as an introduction of the dancers in the performing Ensemble as they presented their own personal statements woven together in this arrangement.

And, as such, it was an appropriate opening to the Danscore concert. A junior majoring in dance and health science, DePompa is the daughter of Irene and Joe DePompa of East End Avenue, Hicksville.

RESTAURANT OWNERS

Have you seen the Reader Ratings Section in Discovery Magazine? For one low price you can advertise your restaurant in eight weekly newspapers. Don't miss out, call for information today!

931-0012

Neighborhood Watch



Oyster Bay Town Supervisor Angelo A. Dellgatti, fourth from left, recently spoke to members of the Hicksville Neighborhood Watch Program at the Hicksville Public Library. The Supervisor discussed ways residents can watch out for one another and reduce crime in their communities. Joining in the discussion were Jane Schreiber, fifth from right, and block captains of the Hicksville Neighborhood Watch Program.



We're Making Life Healthier for You!

Around-the-Clock Anesthesiology

There are times when surgery is necessary and minutes count in saving lives. If an anesthesiologist is not present in the hospital around the clock but must be called from home or office - a distance away - those minutes, or hours, may be lost. And so may your life.

Now you may have greater peace of mind if you need emergency surgery - including an unplanned Caesarean section - at

North Shore University Hospital at Glen Cove. Your hospital has just added 24-hour coverage by Board-Certified anesthesiologists - a service rarely, if ever, available in a community hospital.

Peace of mind. Any time, day or night. Full coverage for medical care because emergencies can occur at any hour.

This is just another step we are taking to make life healthier for you!

NORTH SHORE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL AT GLEN COVE



Young Programs At Bethpage

Puppet Show Treat - "Eeyore's Birthday" by Maggie Puppets. Wednesday, December 26, at 2 p.m. - A delightful romp through the land of Winnie the Pooh and his fantastical friends in the Hundred Acre Wood. With unusual puppets, colorful staging, exciting interludes of audience participation. Children's puppet theater at its merry best. School-age children. Register from November 19.

Spectacular Magic with Yo-Yo the Clown. - Thursday, December 27, 2 p.m. - Come on over and climb aboard our rollicking roller coaster of fabulous magic. See live disappearing doves; trick wands, ropes, cards; rabbits in unexpected places, magic balloons - and more! A glittering kaleidoscope of magical delights with large illusions, loads of laughs and audience participation too. School-age children. Register from November 29.

All programs are open to youngsters who reside in District No. 21. Please bring your library card as your ticket of admission. For further information, please call 931-3907.

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931-0012

Five Member Board Remains New Motion Closes Willet

Continued From Page 1

July 1, added Mr. Guercio, because Mrs. Rooney's term would have ended on June 30, 1991.

Trustees Collins, Martillo and Wolf preferred working as a five member board; Mr. Bennett agreed to work with five members, but expressed a desire to consider the appointment route, and Mrs. Rudin urged the Board to find two candidates by soliciting resumes from interested residents. Mr. Guercio added that in the case of appointees, interviews would proceed in open forum.

Rescind Motion To Close Schools

Trustee Martillo then motioned that the Board rescind the closing of two schools as of September 1, 1991, as directed to Superintendent Fenton on October 24.

Immediately an exchange took place between trustee Bennett and attorney Guercio as to the appropriateness of Mr. Martillo's voting. Mr. Bennett let it be known that the district has been served with a petition to the Commissioner of Education by resident Donna Martillo questioning the closing of schools in this district. Mr. Bennett asked if Mr. Martillo was making the motion "so that the petition could be withdrawn." "An elected official on the school board could very well be influenced by the petitioner," reasoned Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Guercio replied that conflict of interest has a statutory meaning, saying the status of relationship to the petitioner is not a matter of law. "He changed his vote, isn't that proof," retorted Mr. Bennett. To which Mr. Guercio replied, "status alone is not proof."

Mr. Martillo stated that he didn't agree with the first motion to close East Street and Willet Avenue Schools, that "it just wasn't going to work." He continued by outlining a series of proposed events: closing one school, the movement of the sixth grade to the middle school and concluding, "then it may be more viable to close more schools."

Failing to be persuaded to challenge the appropriateness of Mr. Martillo's vote, the Board voted 4 to 1 (with Mr. Bennett voting nay) to rescind the motion to close two schools.

Bennett motions to close East Street School

Following the vote, Mr. Bennett motioned to close one elementary, East Street School, by September 1, 1991. He emphasized the building's location, property size, age and financial stress on the district as reasons for closing. "I would like to close one school where the taxpayers would get a distinct advantage," commented Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Bennett's motion went down to defeat, 4 to 1.

Motion to close Willet Avenue School

Mrs. Wolf motioned that the Board of Education close Willet Avenue School effective September 1, 1991. Mrs. Wolf clarified her campaign position not to close schools by saying that upon receiving information on the eight schools when she came to the Board and being privy to enrollment projects for 1991-92, she sees the necessity to close one

school. She said the problem of singleton classes (one section on a grade level) in Willet Avenue School prompted her decision. She added that safety is an issue and that she would not force any child to cross any major thoroughfares. Mrs. Wolf preferred moving the total student population of the Willet School into Woodland Avenue School.

Mr. Bennett charged that this would amount to a 4¢ savings to the taxpayer, saying, "It makes no sense." He estimated that the closing of East Street would have been a \$40 savings for taxpayers. Mr. Bennett attacked the idea as "tokenism...Don't sacrifice it (Willet) on the altar of East Street," he declared.

Mr. Bennett cautioned, "Don't do it now, because it's going to leave a lousy taste in our mouth when we wake up in the morning." He concluded, "You're all on record of closing two schools. What's the other school you're going to put at risk?"

The Board voted 4 to 1 to close Willet Avenue School, with Mr. Bennett the lone dissenter.

Other Board Matters

Dr. Fenton recommended that residents of the Hillside Terrace community bring their request to be redistricted to Woodland Avenue School to the Board facilities subcommittee. The Superintendent also asked the Board to postpone review of the Comprehensive Assessment Report due to the late hour. The Board did, however, accept the report.

The Board approved the schedule of Central Office salaries effective July 1, 1991. The new schedule carries a 6% increase for all Assistant Superintendents, Directors and Assistant Directors and administrative staff.

Speaking on behalf of the staff, Dr. Fenton noted that the increase is lower than any other group in the district and that the salaries are below that of comparable positions in Nassau County. The Board approved the increases, with Mr. Bennett abstaining.

The Board further approved the Schedule of Rates and Salary Adjustments for part-time and support staff effective July 1, 1990, at a 7% increase.

The Board unanimously approved the list of substitute teaching personnel which had been reviewed for New York State invalidated certificates. Dr. Fenton noted that, after asserting pressure on the State Education Department, the department will be notifying districts of invalidated licenses as of this month.

The Board voted to abolish the position of School Nurse Teacher (SNT) at the Middle School, effective upon the retirement of the present SNT in January. The Board approved the creation of a Registered Nurse position at the Middle School. This move will eliminate one SNT position in the district.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, December 19, at 8:15 p.m.

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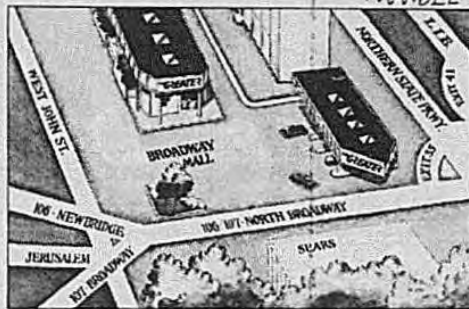
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2			
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Greater Names Branch Manager

New York, N.Y. (December 6, 1990) - The Greater New York Savings Bank announced recently that it has selected Theodore Torgersen to manage its new branch in Hicksville. Scheduled to open on December 15, the Greater's newest branch is located in Hicksville's Broadway Mall on Route 106-107.

Mr. Torgersen has been branch manager of The Greater's Church Avenue branch in Brooklyn since 1988. "I'm pleased to have the opportunity to bring my banking experience to the Hicksville

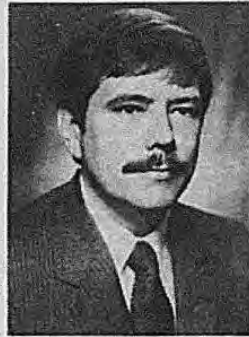
community," said Mr. Torgersen.

Since The Greater's month-long grand opening celebration coincides with the holiday season, the Bank will offer its depositors holiday gifts for opening accounts. Those opening an account will be able to choose from one of five groups of brand-name products depending on the size of the account they open. Gifts range from Robeson 3-Speed Electric Hand Mixers and G.E. Headset Radios for opening a \$1,000 account to RCA TVs, Black

& Decker Vacuums and G.E. VCRs for \$50,000 accounts.

All visitors can enjoy prizes and sweepstakes drawings and weekly fairs featuring Santa's elves giving free balloons, puppet shows, holiday carollers and other live music in the mall on each Saturday from December 15 through January 12.

"We hope that area residents will stop by and help us celebrate both the grand opening of the Hicksville branch and the holiday season," said Mr. Torgersen. "We want to give our visitors the opportunity to learn more about The Greater and our excellent services and also enjoy the holiday festivities."



Theodore Torgersen

Stamp Machine At Library

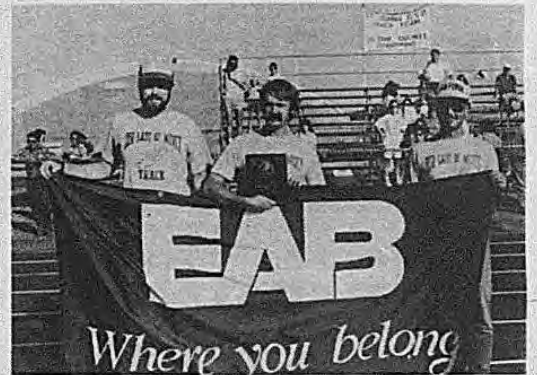
For your convenience, the Post Office has installed a stamp machine in the Hicksville Public Library. This time of year makes the service even more useful.

A book of 20 stamps cost \$5. The machine will accept 5 single bills or one \$5 bill. Crisp bills work best.

EAB Track Championship



Rick Nolan, head coach Our Lady of Mercy, Hicksville and Bob Gandioso, Manager EAB MacArthur Airport branch, pose with four team members who proudly display the trophies they won at a recently EAB sponsored Track Championship.



EAB recently sponsored a Fall Track Championship. Proudly displaying third place honors are Rick Nolan and members of the coaching staff of Our Lady of Mercy in Hicksville.

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Pumpkin Decorating Contest Winners



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Winners of the Pumpkin Decorating Contest at Willet Ave. Left to right: Jenna Nolan, Alexander Zedalis, Stefanie Palmer, Kimberly Pfander, Douglas Rinderfer and Kristine Anstey.



Left to right: Elizabeth Wolfken, Deanna Monti, Michelle Monti and Anthony Webber also show off their prize winning pumpkins.

Holy Family Receives Award



Oyster Bay Town Councillman Thomas L. Clark, left, Town Councilwoman Ann R. Ocker, third from right, and Town Clerk Carl L. Marcellino, second from left, join in honoring members of the Holy Family School in Hicksville on receiving the U.S. Dept. of Education Award of Excellence. School Principal Sister Eileen McMahon, third from left, accepted the award on behalf of the school. Also on hand for the event were Rev. Monsignor Edward J. Donnelly and School Superintendent Sister Mary Kieran.

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Pepperoni	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	MIKE'S SPECIAL
Pepper	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Sausage • Mushroom • Anchovies
Meat Ball	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Peppers • Pepperoni • Onions • Garlic
Anchovies	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Meat Ball • Extra Cheese • Olives
Fresh Garlic	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Sicilian - \$15.00 Neapolitan - \$14.50
Onions	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	(Made To Order)
Mushrooms	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Stuffed Pizza - \$15.00 White Pizza - \$10.00
Olives	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Broccoli or Spinach Pizza - \$10.00
Extra Cheese	9.25	1.50	1.00	10.25	Vegetable Pizza - \$12.00
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	Mozzarella Sticks 6 for 3.50 12 for 6.00	Souvlaki Plate 6.50
	Garlic or Buttered Bread 1.50	Spinach Pie 1.00
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3rd graders, left to right: Jamie, Marilyn, Nicole D., Nicole M., Tamara, Elizabeth and Ann, love Fridays at Wilket Avenue.



Some 2nd graders also enjoying Ice Cream Day are left to right: Kimberly Pfaender, Cathy Mulder and David Musinski.

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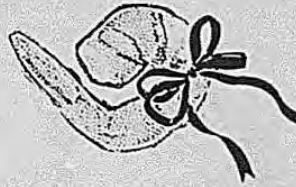
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Enrollment Up Or Down?

As the Hicksville School district discusses the feasibility of closing schools following years of declining enrollment, the question is often debated as to whether the district will see a rise in the number of school-age youngsters.

The school district recently released percentage figures comparing State, County and district student enrollment for the coming years.

New York State Education Department projections of overall student population tend to be slightly under the figures projected by the school district for the 1991-92 school year, but show a 1% higher figure in 1992-93.

The 5 year and 10 year enrollment projections show Hicksville with 4,365 students in 1993-94 (a 1/10th of 1% increase over the present population of 4,359), and 4,255 students in 1999-2000 (a 2% decrease from the present figure). On the Nassau County level, the number of students increases 4.9% in five years to 178,410 and increases in 1999-2000 to 197,407, a 16% increase over the present level.

Supt. Dr. Catherine Fenton notes that the five year projections are more reliable. The ten year projections are simply and extension of the formula used to determine the first five years.

December Programs At Bethpage Library

Pretty as a Picture - Create a Super Holiday Gift! Saturday, December 8, at 2 p.m. - Make someone happy - design a colorful snapshot frame, a versatile present for the holidays or any time - for the tree, a desk, a room. Presented by Katherine Agrillo, specialist in Children's Crafts. Grades 1-5. Bring a snapshot 2" by 3", a bottle of white glue, a pencil, some scrap trims. We'll supply the rest. Register from November 15.

Puppet Show Treat - "Eeyore's Birthday" by Maggie puppets. Wednesday, December 26 at 2 p.m. - A delightful romp through the land of winnie the pooh and his fantastical friends in the Hundred Acre Wood. With unusual puppets, colorful staging, exciting interludes of audience participation. Children's puppet theater at its merry best. School-age children. Register from November 19.

Spectacular Magic with Yo-Yo the

Clown. Thursday, December 27, 2 p.m. Come on over and climb aboard our rollicking roller coaster of fabulous magic. See live disappearing doves; trick wands, ropes, cards; rabbits in unexpected places; magic balloons - and more! A glittering kaleidoscope of magical delights with large illusions, loads of laughs and audience participation too. School-age children. Register from November 29.

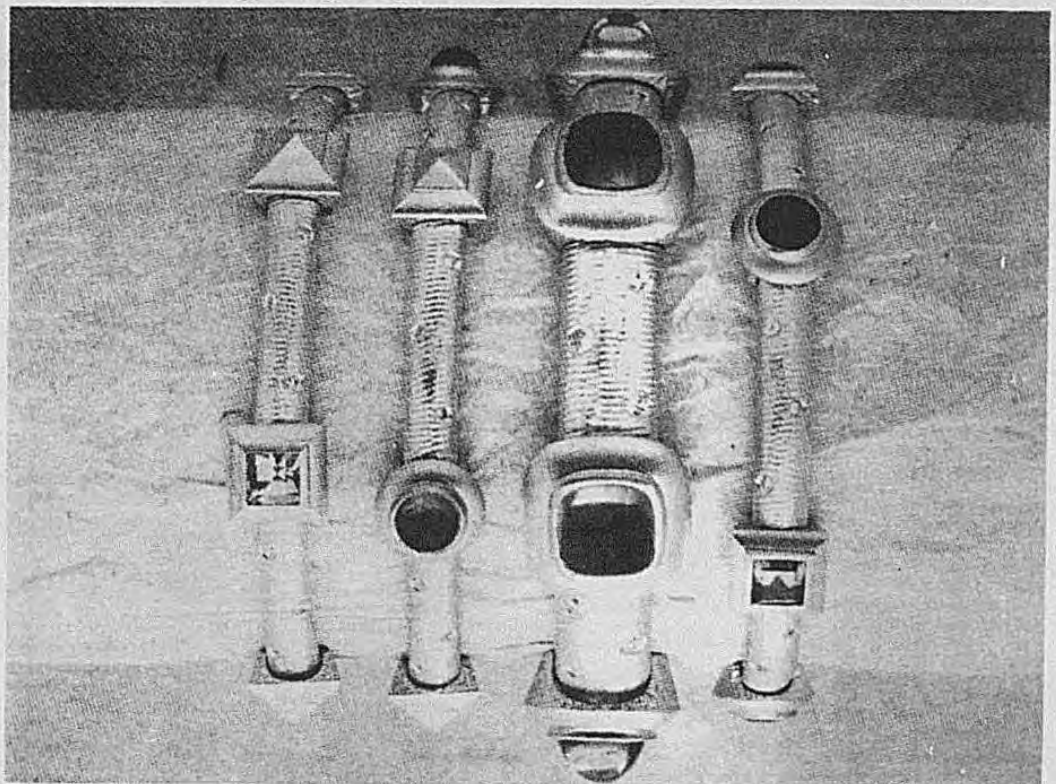
All programs are open to youngsters who reside in District No. 21. please bring your library card as your ticket of admission. For further information, please call 931-3907.

10-YEAR DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

GRADE	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-2000
Kindergarten	276	312	312	312	312	312	312	312	312	312
First	318	280	317	317	317	317	317	317	317	317
Second	317	309	272	307	307	307	307	307	307	307
Third	374	321	313	275	312	312	312	312	312	312
Fourth	356	386	332	323	284	322	322	322	322	322
Fifth	304	358	389	334	325	286	324	324	324	324
Sixth	320	302	356	386	332	323	284	322	322	322
Seventh	374	332	313	369	400	344	335	333	333	333
Eighth	364	384	340	321	378	411	353	342	342	342
Ninth	334	362	382	338	319	376	408	340	340	340
Tenth	354	337	366	385	342	322	380	344	344	344
Eleventh	335	352	335	364	383	340	321	342	342	342
Twelfth	333	332	349	332	360	380	337	339	339	339
TOTAL PROJECTED ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE CONFIGURATIONS										
K-6	2265	2269	2290	2255	2189	2179	2178	2215	2215	2215
7-8	738	715	653	690	779	755	688	676	676	676
9-12	1356	1383	1431	1420	1405	1418	1446	1364	1364	1364
TOTALS	4359	4367	4375	4365	4373	4352	4311	4255	4255	4255

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Dutch Lane Gives Thanks

Before the closing of school for Thanksgiving recess the 1st grade students from Mrs. Saul and Mrs. Calio's classes got together and dressed up as Indians and Pilgrims to have their very own Thanksgiving Feast.

The children studied all about the culture of the Indians and Pilgrims and worked together to make their very own costumes to

wear at their Thanksgiving play. Parents, grandparents, and siblings were invited to meet in the Dutch Lane All-Purpose room. There was a full feast of turkey, dressing, gravy, potatoes, sweet candied yams and veggies; also dessert. It was a fantastic day, and the parents and teachers worked hard to get it all together!



Mrs. Saul with seven of her little Indians, Elizabeth Rothbard, Diana Norton-Taylor, Michelle Magee, Alyse Parsekian, Mrs.

Saul, Michelle Ward, Dana Keufner and the little Indian running away is Decana LaRosa.



Mrs. Calla's little pilgrims Jenna Parente and Robert Carloni enjoying their Thanksgiving feast!



Laura Ward, Jenna Parente, Matthew Scally and Sarah Iovena line up to go to the all-purpose room to put on their play.

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Citizens Budget Advisory Comm.

In an effort to cut costs and proceed more efficiently, the Hicksville School Board has approved the formation of a Citizens Budget Advisory Committee. This independent committee will advise the board on matters pertaining to the formulation of a school budget. The advisory committee met and chose its officers: Thomas Farrell, Chairperson; William Kelly, Vice-Chairperson; and Charles Butt, Secretary.

Title	Lname	Fname
Mrs.	Burke-Werneburg	Adele
Mr.	Butt	Charles M.
Mrs.	Carton	Mary E
Mr.	Cunningham	Charles P.
Mr.	De Freitas	Robert B.
Mr.	Farrell	Thomas J.
Mr.	Kelly	William J.
Mr.	Leo	Joseph P.
Mr.	Longo	Vincent J.
Mr.	Lupski	Thomas E
Mr.	Rabin	Howard
Mr.	Ranschburg	Herbert J.
Mr.	Rudin	Kenneth
Mr.	Rudis	James
Mr.	Sacco	Peter P.
Mr.	Siegel	Jeffrey A.
Mr.	Thomas	Mark B.
Mr.	Van Berckelaer	Joseph
Mr.	Varvaro	Thomas C.
Mr.	Willard	Frank H.



Nassau County Executive Thomas S. Galotta, third from right, attended the Awards Dinner of the Nassau County Soccer coaches, held at the Huntington Town House. Also present were: Alvin Sherman, of Plainview, Chairman, Exceptional Senler Games; Fred C. Biller, of East Williston, Garden City High School coach who was honored for his 25 years of service; Ed Moeller, of Hicksville, Vice President; Tom O'Leary of Huntington Station, Vice President; Roger Winter, of Huntington Station.

Storybook Characters Come To Life

The second grade students in Mrs. Shinners' reading classes at Central Boulevard School celebrated National Children's Book Week in November. They wrote letters to a favorite storybook character and also made a puppet depicting this person or animal. On November 14, the children shared their books, letters, and puppets with their classmates. Mrs. Shinners culminated the event by putting on a witch's hat and reading the story "The Witch Who Forgot."

It was an exciting experience for all who participated.



Jillian Stiffa named her puppet "Liz". She chose that name for the girl who hides in the book "My Secret Hiding Place."



Sukhl Singh holding his dinosaur puppet. This dinosaur leaves his home in the country and visits the city in the book "Home For A Dinosaur."



Brendan Corey's puppet is Captain Hook. He is the mean pirate in the adventurous book "Peter Pan."



Marc Dondero has made a pet monkey puppet from the book "Curious George." This is a very popular humorous children's book.



Daniel Callse's puppet is the big mean ghost in the book "The Goofy Ghost."



Nicos Nerantzinis made a Teddy Bear puppet who is afraid of something under his bed in the book "The Monster Under My Bed."



Susan Chianese with her puppet, the witch who can't remember where she put her things, in the book "The Witch Who Forgot."



John Hagan's puppet is a very helpful fire dog. This fire dog does very important work in the book "The Big Red Fire Engine."



Lisa Pellegrino's puppet is Rosa, a rabbit who can't stop hiccuping in the book "Hiccups, Hiccups."



John Melreles shows his puppet, a special man from the humorous book "The Man Who Didn't Wash His Dishes."



Patrick Tramontina is holding the Teddy Bear puppet. This Teddy Bear goes into space in the exciting story "Trouble In Space."



Kristen Barkey showing her puppet, a ghost that can't hiss or boo. Her favorite book is "The Goofy Ghost."

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Dutch Lane PTA Candy Sale



Dutch Lane PTA's candy sale top thirteen sellers for the school are - top row: Ariel Fox, Tara Parsekian, Daniel Hill, Jeremy Grand and Shaun Glover. Lower row: Alyse Parsekian, Frankie Reddy, Christine DeGennaro and Victoria Schack. Missing is Kuefner. Daniel Hill led the group with the sale of 465 candy bars. The winners each received Toys-R-Us gift certificates. Our fundraiser was a huge success!

Delligatti Urges Gov. Reconsider Plowing Cutbacks

Calling the proposed cutbacks on plowing and sanding state roads "ill-conceived," Oyster Bay Town Supervisor Angelo A. Delligatti has appealed to Gov. Mario Cuomo to reconsider the plan.

In a letter to the Governor, Supervisor Delligatti said the cutbacks, which are being considered as a cost-saving measure by the state Dept. of Transportation, would have a potentially devastating effect on Long Island. "While there is little doubt these cutbacks will impact on other parts of N.Y. State, Long Island will bear the brunt," Supervisor Delligatti stated. "Long Island, perhaps more than any other part of the state is dependent upon the car. Our roads are our lifelines."

The Supervisor went on to say that any cutbacks in plowing and sanding would not only jeopardize the safety of the entire populace, but would negatively impact on local businesses. He pointed out that since trucks in anything but

optimum condition would seriously impede the operation of business.

Referring to the Town of Oyster Bay, Supervisor Delligatti pointed out that most of the Town's major north-south and east-west roads are state owned, and that most do not carry the minimum 50,000 vehicles a day to be exempt from the cutbacks.

"If these roads are not properly plowed and sanded, traffic will be looking for alternate routes," Supervisor Delligatti said. "This means they will be traveling on local streets, which are not designed to handle the amount of traffic a parkway or expressway can safely accommodate. An 18-wheel trucker used to traveling at high speeds on an expressway will present an unacceptable hazard to other drivers if he is diverted from his regular route because that road has not been sufficiently plowed or sanded."

In conclusion, Supervisor Delligatti again urged the Governor to reexamine "this imprudent pro-

posal." He said that any savings the state might realize would have to be weighed against the tremendous threat to the safety and economic well-being of Long Islanders. He also reminded the Governor that on a visit to Oyster Bay last spring to participate in Earth Day ceremonies, the Governor called himself a Long Islander. The Supervisor invited him to start treating long island "like one of the family instead of a distant and not so well thought of relative."

Supervisor Delligatti also wrote to the chairmen of the State Senate and State Assembly Committees on Transportation asking their help in dissuading the Governor from proceeding with this plan.

Children's Concert At Hicksville Library

The Hicksville Public Library will present a concert by the very popular group "Sneakers" on Saturday, January 12, 1991 at 2 p.m.

This concert is designed for children 4 years of age and older. This is a special kind of vocal group, one kids could have fun with while learning something about themselves and how to relate to the world around them. The songs are fresh and exciting...all sung in the style of current pop rock music.

This concert is free and all are welcome.

Co-sponsored by the Town of Oyster Bay, Dept. of Community & Youth Services, Cultural & Performing Arts Division.

In Service

Air Force Maj. Jan F. Gallard, a clinical social worker, has arrived for duty at RAF Lakenheath, England.

He is the son of Lucienne Alexandre of 7 Tobias St., Hicksville. His wife, Nancy, is the daughter of Harris and Edith Nesbitt of 3 Bleaker Road, Rochester, N.Y.

The major graduated in 1972 from Holy Trinity High School, Hicksville, and received a master's degree in 1986 from Rider College, Lawrenceville, N.J.

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU

Index #10591/90, United Penn Bank, Pltf., vs. Jeanette O'Shea, et al., Defts.

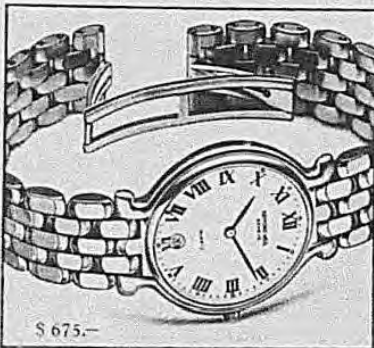
Pursuant to Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated October 24, 1990, I will sell at public auction on the north front steps of the Nassau County Courthouse, 262 Old Country Road, Mineola, New York, at 10 a.m. on January 18, 1991, premises known as 28 Linden Avenue, Bethpage, New York, 11714, Nassau County, located on the N/S of Linden Avenue, 100 feet E/O Lincoln Road, being a parcel 187.15' x 100'.

Joshua A. Elkin, Esq., Referee Stanley Beals, Esq. Attys. for Plaintiff 500 North Broadway Jericho, New York

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created American Immigrant Wall of Honor. You can choose the name of an ancestor or just your own family name. And you'll receive an Official Certificate of Registration. To register additional names, list each name and country of origin on a separate sheet. And remember, there is a minimum gift of \$100 for each.

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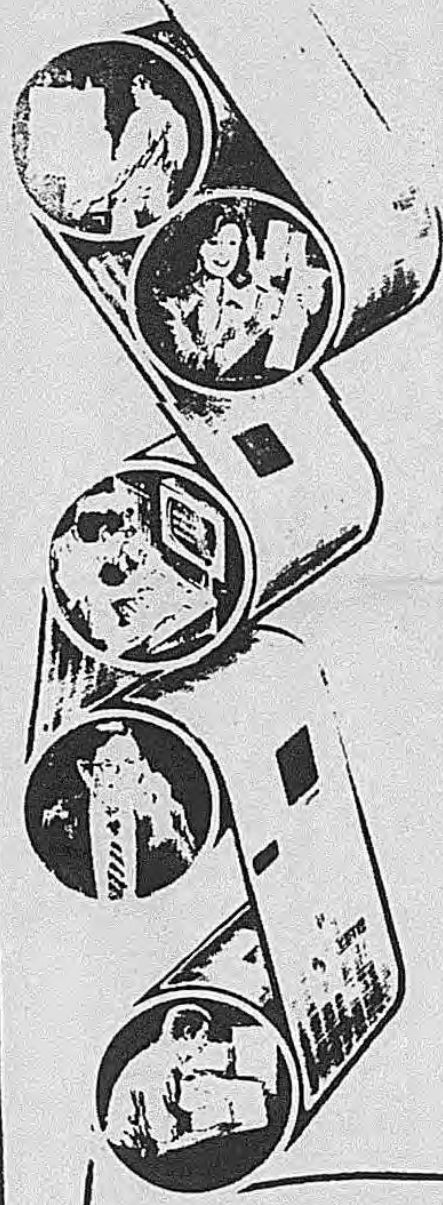
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Nursery Children's Thanksgiving

The children of Community Church Nursery School, Syosset celebrated Thanksgiving with their annual play held on Tuesday, November 20. Follow-

ing the show, featuring the children dressed as pilgrims and Indians, they feasted on home-made treats.



Community Church Nursery School, left to right: Caroline Gomez, Nicole Primato, Stacy Kim and Mrs. Janet Cox.



Community Church Nursery School - Pilgrim Erica Tymeck.



Children enjoying their own Thanksgiving Feast after the show.



Community Church Nursery School - Pilgrims Robert Savarese and Matthew Beard.



Nursery School Director, Rev. Jean Butler with Nicole Primato and Caroline Gomez.

LEGAL NOTICE

LONG ISLAND THERAPY ASSOCIATES-Substance of Certificate of Limited Partnership signed and acknowledged by all of the partners and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau on November 8, 1990. The name and principal office of the partnership is Long Island Therapy Associates, 4273 Hempstead Turnpike, Bethpage, New York 11714. Its business is to purchase, own, operate, lease and sell equipment and office space and to administer non-medical and non-technical aspects of a radiation therapy establishment. The term for which the partnership is to exist is from the date of the filing of the Certificate of Limited Partnership in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau until the close of business on December 31, 2040, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms of the Partnership Agreement. The name and place of residence of each General Partner is as follows:

Therapy Management Asset, Inc.

201 Moreland Road Hauppauge, New York 11788

The name, place of residence, cash contribution, and percentage of interest in the partnership of each Limited Partner is as follows:

SONAL, INC.

201 Moreland Road Hauppauge, New York 11788 Cash Contributed - \$10

Percentage of Interest - 85%

No Limited Partner has agreed to make additional capital contributions. The value of the contribution of a Limited Partner may be returned to him in whole or in part in the sole discretion of the General Partner. No Limited Partner may substitute an assignee as contributor in his place without the prior written consent of the General Partner, except that such Limited Partner's interest may be transferred without consideration upon death by testamentary instruments or intestate succession. Such assignment is further subject to the assignee agreeing, in writing, to be bound by the terms of the Partnership Agreement. The General Partner may admit additional Limited Partners. No Limited Partner shall have priority over other Limited Partners as to contributions or compensation by way of income. The remaining General Partner or General Partners may continue the business of the partnership upon the death, retirement or insanity of a General Partner. There is no right of any Limited Partner to demand or receive property other than cash for his contribution.

BN 3093

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GRANDPARENTS - Send in your grandchildren's photos and enter our "World's Most Beautiful Grandchildren" contest. Just send a photo and a brief description of the child (or children) along with your name and address to: Litmor Publications, Beautiful Grandchildren Contest, 81 East Barclay St., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801. We'll do the rest!

Local Resident To Perform

Debbie DePompa, a 1988 graduate of Hicksville High School, has been chosen to be a member of the Performing Ensemble of **Danscore**, the touring dance company of Suny College at Brockport.

As the culminating performance of a successful fall touring season, **Danscore** presented a dance concert on December 7 and 8, in Suny Brockport's Hartwell Dance Theater. Choreography for each of the dances in the program was created by Suny Brockport students, faculty, alumni, or, in one case, an interesting combination of choreographers.

DePompa danced in "Phrases," the opening number, which is a composite of individual movement phrases choreographed by each dancer as part of the audition process for the **Danscore** Performing Ensemble. The individual dancers' movements were

then arranged by Santo Giglio, associate professor of dance. The work served as an introduction of the dancers in the performing Ensemble as they presented their own personal statements woven together in this arrangement. And, as such, it was an appropriate opening to the **Danscore** concert.

A junior majoring in dance and health science, DePompa is the daughter of Irene and Joe DePompa of East End Avenue, Hicksville.

RESTAURANT OWNERS

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931-0012

Neighborhood Watch



Oyster Bay Town Supervisor Angelo A. Dellgatti, fourth from left, recently spoke to members of the Hicksville Neighborhood Watch Program at the Hicksville Public Library. The Supervisor discussed ways residents can watch out for one another and reduce crime in their communities. Joining in the discussion were Jane Schreiber, fifth from right, and block captains of the Hicksville Neighborhood Watch Program.



Around-the-Clock Anesthesiology

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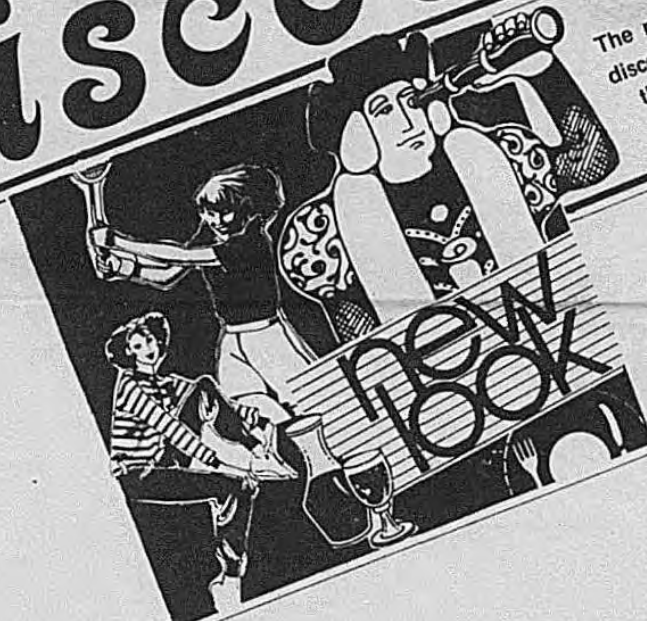
Part Two of the Mid Island Times
Syosset Advance, Williston Times,
New Hyde Park Herald Courier,
Bethpage Newsgram, Jericho News Journal,
The Garden City News
and Great Neck News



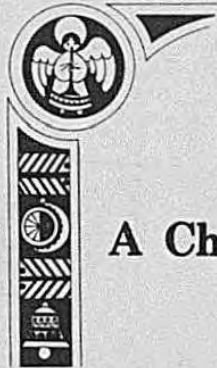
Discovery!

Magazine

The newspaper edition that helps
discover new writers, new ideas
through input and special
family features.



Friday, December 14, 1990



A Christmas Story

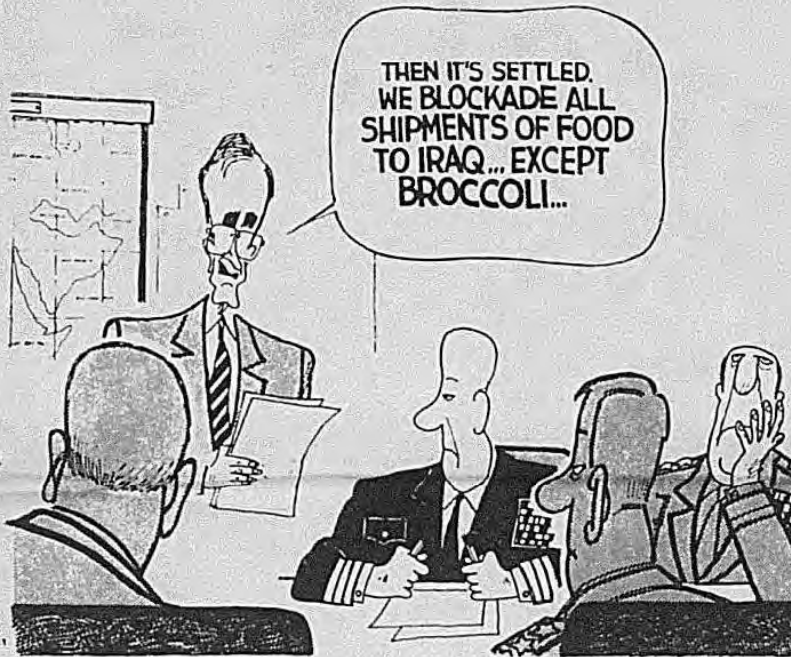


SEE PAGE 3



THE QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Should Congress have to declare war before we fight in the Gulf?



Callers Mixed On Making Palestine Part Of Talks

Answers were mixed on whether the Palestine question should be tied to a withdrawal in Kuwait in answer to this question: "Do you think talks with Saddam Hussein should include the Palestine situation?" Here are some of the answers:

The Palestine situation has nothing to do with the Iraq problem. Two different conditions are involved. Jordan invaded Israel and Israel conquered the land it now owns. The Camp David Accord set up plans for solving the problem. Egypt received the Sinai desert and many settlements through this same accord. The PLO has proved time and again that it is not interested in peace and orderly negotiations. The moderate Arabs on the west bank who want to sit at the peace table are assassinated. As long as the Arab world and its friends outside the middle east encourage the PLO there can be no negotiations that will be acceptable. Saddam is using this as a smoke screen to achieve his own cause. A.G.

SHOULD INCLUDE PALESTINE

I believe talks with Hussein should include the Palestine situation. While the Arab Israeli dispute is not a direct cause of the Iraqi aggression it is an underlying irritant which has inflamed the entire Arab world and there can be no peace in the mideast until this dispute is solved. This is the opportune time to bring the problem to a head. If it is not addressed presently it will continue to fester until another serious crisis emerges. The U.S. should lean on Israel to respect Arab wishes for a dialogue and settlement. A.B.

In order to bring lasting peace to the middle east the terrible plight of the Palestinians must be addressed in talks with Saddam Hussein. There are crimes being committed against the Palestinian people. Consequently these atrocities generated the Intefada. Conflicts if not discussed could explode into a major war. If the conditions of the Palestinians are ameliorated lasting peace could be brought about in this volatile part of the world. G.M.

WAIT UNTIL LATER

While the Palestine-Israeli situation is certainly an important issue, Saddam Hussein, who has still not agreed to peacefully pull out of Kuwait, is probably the last person in the world whom the Israelis would want involved in discussing this problem. President Bush is absolutely right in saying that there is no linkage in Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait with the Palestine situation. Certainly once the Persian Gulf crisis is solved, that would be an appropriate time for the United Nations to try to resolve that very difficult Palestine problem. C.K.

STICK TO UN DECISION

One of the things which has bothered me ever since the Kuwait seizure took place has been the possible and even probable eventuality of Yasir Arafat and the PLO becoming involved and naturally the Israelis as well. Now that Saddam Hussein has disposed of the hostage problem, it is not difficult to appreciate the fact that the Palestine situation has always been a trump card ready to be used at an appropriate moment and that moment has now arrived. King Hussein of Jordan has definitely declared his opinion that the linkage between Kuwait and the Palestine problems exists and while it makes the Iraq pullout much more difficult, I feel that we should stick to the United Nations decision as well as our declared policy to back it with force if necessary. Actually, Israel should have realized that their recent confrontation with the Arabs would give the PLO and their friends including Saddam Hussein a welcome diversion. However, that is a very intricate problem which Arafat has been unable to solve for years and we should not give even the slightest hint of support to Saddam in our forthcoming talks. P.G.S.

Call 931-0027

24
HOURS

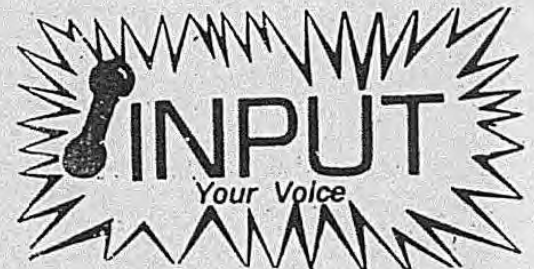
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You are not limited
to the above
but may talk on
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2. Confine your INPUT to one subject.
3. Limit your opinion to five minutes (make notes before calling)
4. Leave your name and telephone, or simply use a pen name (your message can be anonymous)
5. Publishers reserve the right to edit, modify or omit any and all material.





A Christmas Story



To The Editor:

Over our entire married life of over 41 years, each year we have celebrated Advent, the four Sundays preceding Christmas. It is a custom that I brought back from Germany. We invite friends at 4 o'clock in the afternoon for Coffee and Cake and those that wish to stay later will join us in open sandwiches. Each Sunday, one candle is being lit until on the fourth Sunday the four candles of the Advent Wreath all burn together.

We were always surrounded by family and friends on those Advent Sundays, until the year of 1981, when my husband was transferred to Europe. We arrived in late October and I found myself, all alone, awaiting the arrival of our furniture and the first week of December was approaching.

Here find my first Christmas letter home, based on a true happening.

I hope your readers will enjoy it as much as my family and friends have.

Margot G. Torino

A Christmas Story

Once upon a time there was a man and a woman who loved each other very much. They had two man children and each of them took a wife and the whole family lived happily together, caring and loving each other.

One day the man came home and told the woman that she must pack all her belongings because they were going to travel across the big ocean. They had to say goodbye to their sons, their daughters through marriage and all their many relatives and friends.

The woman took all that they could carry and they left the New World. After many days they reached their destination, but hard as they looked they could not find any lodgings. After many days of searching the woman saw an empty house and asked if they could move in. But the authorities said that it would take three months to obtain a permit. The man and woman could not wait that long and moved in anyway hoping that nobody would find out.

The man went to work every day leaving the woman alone in the house, all empty and dirty. So she started to clean, every day, as only she knew how. Now, she was not an old woman, but she was also not a young woman any more and the work was very hard, but she was happy that she could do something to improve their surroundings.

The people in the village spoke with a foreign tongue and it was many a day that the woman came home from shopping not knowing what she possessed, and she sat many a day with her book of words seeking what she had known before.

One day the man went on a trip of several days leaving the woman behind in the empty house and she was very lonely. So she went into the countryside enjoying the birds and cows in the fields, the beautiful mountains and green meadows. All of a sudden from the big sky above, down came a terrible fog engulfing everything around her. She could not see the road before her and she was frightened. She ran home as fast as she could, hoping that she would not get lost. When she finally reached home, she was very tired and she sat down on the only chair there was and cried.

The next day the man came home and brought her some sweets. He had thought of her every day that he was away and was happy to be home again. The woman then knew that home was where the two of them were. The next day was the day of Advent, and in the evening the woman lit a candle that she had carried with her from the New World, and by the glow of the candle, she reached for the man's hand. As they were holding their hands their eyes met and she knew that everything was going to be all right.

She felt foolish for having been sad, for ever being lonely. As the first day of Advent was the beginning of the Holiday Season that she loved so much, so was it also the beginning of a new and happy life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Margot Torino lives in Garden City. This is her first contribution to Discovery. The story is based on a true happening.

DINING GUIDE

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READER RATINGS

Q. We are not wine drinkers. If we're giving a party, what kind of wines should we stock in order to take care of our wine-drinking friends' pleasure-from cocktail hour through dinner? T.R.

A. For the cocktail hour you might have on hand dry or sweet sherry, or dry or sweet vermouth, or any of the popular "apertiffs." Many choose a glass of dry white wine at the cocktail hour (either chilled or "on the rocks").

For the first course, or to drink with any fish, salad, chicken, veal, or fruit, a chilled white wine is nice (such as a Chablis, Soave, Riesling, Chenin Blanc, Pinot Chardonnay).

For the meat or game course (or the salad with cheese), serve a Burgundy, Bordeaux, Chianti, Cabernet Sauvignon, or Zinfandel at a cool room temperature (from 60 to 70 degrees).

Rose wines should be chilled, like white wines. A rose is best served with a light dish and is more popular in hot weather than in cold.

For dessert you may serve the same wine you had from the previous course. Or if it's something festive like an anniversary, dessert time is the moment to bring on the champagne (the drier the better!).

Some people enjoy a sweet wine with dessert, such as port or a sweet sauterne or sherry, but one seldom sees this custom followed anymore in this country.

Q. Recently when four of us were dining out, two married couples, one of the husbands left the table for a few minutes. The remaining husband, left with his wife and the wife of the other, lit the cigarette first of his wife's friend, then of his own. His wife felt that as her escort he should have lit her cigarette first. Which is correct? R.T.

A. As one woman was left alone, the husband and wife remaining are, in effect, her host and hostess for the moment. Therefore, it was correct for the remaining husband to light the guest's cigarette first, then his wife's.

Q. After finishing a meal at a good restaurant, I had an experience that could have been avoided by the restaurant. When I offered a particular credit card the waiter said that they did not honor that card. I did not have another and barely had enough money to pay in cash. Shouldn't the restaurant have told us in advance which credit cards they accept?

A. Not exactly. You should have inquired in advance if you did not see a decal of the card you had on display. They really have no way of knowing what card you have and it is an accommodation to you that the cards are accepted so you should have borne the responsibility.



DINING GUIDE

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DINING GUIDE

READER RATINGS



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Q. I've notice many restaurants are now doing away with white tablecloths in favor of colored cloths of beige, light pink, peach or light gold. What do you think of this trend?

A. I happen to like it. I find tablecloths of a soft light color are easy on the eyes and add to the relaxing atmosphere. But this is just a personal opinion. Of course, white cloths are always correct and probably will continue to be preferred in more formal restaurants.

Q. Not long ago I ate in one of the most expensive restaurants on Long Island. Everything was beautifully cooked and served, but ketchup was placed on the table in the original Heinz bottle. I was appalled!

A. Perhaps the restaurant was afraid dinners would not recognize the ketchup if it was placed in anything except the familiar bottle. I agree, though, that a Heinz bottle was out of place in the setting you describe. A small crystal dish, with a word of explanation from the waiter, would have been more appropriate.

Q. What are the rules of etiquette for eating cakes or confections?

A. Large pieces of cake should be eaten with a fork, and so should large or small cakes that are sticky or messy. Tiny cakes served in a paper frill may be picked up by the fingers and eaten the same way as chocolates or bonbons.

Q. The term "smorgasbord" has been around a long time and everyone knows it means buffet. But I would like to know the derivation of this word.

A. Smorgasbord comes from the Swedish and it can be translated simply as "sandwich table".

Q. Where restrooms have a person handing you towels, what is the proper amount to tip?

A. In many cases the attendant operates on a concession basis, taking the tips in return for keeping the restrooms clean and maintained. If you are feeling generous a dollar is enough and will cover any subsequent visits to the restroom. However, you are not obligated to tip the person.

Q. At a restaurant where there is valet parking and you do not have a reservation, what do you tip the person when you cannot get a table and decide to leave?

A. Depending on whether you frequent the restaurant regularly, the tip is optional and the attendant will understand if you pass him up this time.

YOU CAN BE A RESTAURANT CRITIC - If you visit any of the restaurants selected for inclusion in this section - call 931-0027 at any hour and tell your ideas. We want you, the reader, to be our critic. Your message then can be printed in this space.

DINING GUIDE

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DINING GUIDE

READER RATINGS



SPECIALTIES

The LaMarmite in Williston Park is one of the top restaurants on Long Island according to the ad you have. We will go along with that. We have been going to this restaurant on and off for some time. It is something special and spoils you for the many other "run of the mill" places.

One thing nice about La Marmite is that it has several specialties of the house each day and they are genuine specialties. We have been disappointed elsewhere with the specials because they often turn out to be items that were made of leftovers. At LaMarmite we have to say they are really "special".

Another fine point about LaMarmite is that you are given attentive service from the beginning with the valet car parking to the end of the meal. This is really a first rate restaurant. G.E.

.....
 YOU CAN BE A RESTAURANT CRITIC - If you visit any of the restaurants selected for inclusion in this section - call 931-0027 at any hour and tell your ideas. We want you, the reader, to be our critic. Your message then can be printed in this space.

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 Complimentary Cocktail, Fresh fruit & Salad Bar.
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MING garden

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 (opposite Macy's & Herman's) **248-9790**

Q. What is the limit for visits to an all you can eat salad bar?

A. If you are only paying to eat at the salad bar, then hunger and a certain amount of self-consciousness should dictate the number. It is at a restaurant that includes it in with the entree then twice would seem sufficient considering you will have a meal to eat afterwards.

Q. What is the proper amount to tip a waitress at a buffet brunch where all she serves you is coffee?

A. Since the waitress is still providing you with a service and she is not being paid any more for the brunch shift 10 percent would be appropriate unless the service and food has been very good. The waitress still has to share her tips with the rest of the staff.

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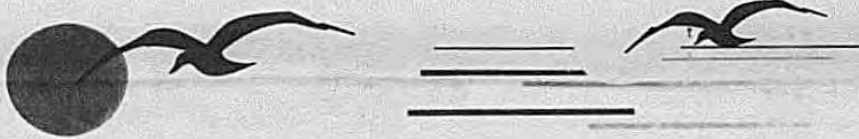


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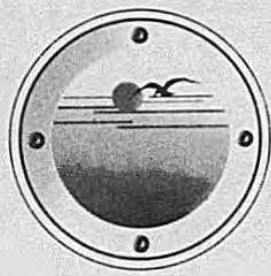
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Q. I notice that some people pick up wine glasses by the bowl. However, I think it looks more elegant to pick them up by the stem. What is your opinion?

A. I agree with you that it is more attractive to pick wine glasses up by the stem. In the case of white wine, it also keeps the wine cool for a longer time!

Q. I am a busy professional woman who finds it difficult to entertain at home. My working hours as an attorney are long and tiring. I really don't feel like coping with guests on the weekend. Would it be all right to repay my social obligations by inviting people to dine out?

A. Certainly that would be proper. Social obligations do not have to be repaid on a strictly tit-for-tat basis. Your friends would enjoy a delicious dinner in a relaxed restaurant atmosphere more than an at-home meal served by a hostess they sense is harried and exhausted.

Q. Recently I attended an elegant wedding and I noticed that the champagne was served in a tulip shaped glass rather than the traditional broad brimmed type. Is this something new?

A. It is a fairly new idea. The theory now is that a tulip shaped glass preserves the effervescence (bubbles) of champagne longer than a wide brimmed glass.

Q. If two women dine out together, and neither is the guest of the other, what is the best way for them to pay the bill?

A. The best way I know is by asking the waiter to bring separate checks, and why this is not done more often I cannot understand. The second best plan is having one woman pay the check, then settling the bill afterwards with her companion.

GREAT PLACE

The other night we were thinking about going out to dinner and someone suggested the New Hyde Park Inn. A funny thing is that we have been there many times and enjoyed the Inn for banquets and testimonials but never went there for dinner before.

I am calling to tip off your readers that Willy Rueck's New Hyde Park Inn is a great place to go for a regular dinner at any time. There is a fine dining room and the menu is complete with entrees of all types of meat and fish. We had a most enjoyable time there last week and everyone of our party of four said it was the best ever. H.L.



YOU CAN BE A RESTAURANT CRITIC-If you visit any of the restaurants selected for inclusion in this section-call WE 1-0027 at any hour and tell your ideas. We want you, the reader, to be our critic. Your message then can be printed in this space.

DINING GUIDE



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THE HEALTHY GOURMET



Every year about this time the Pork Producer's Council reminds me that pigs are leaner than ever and pork, skillfully prepared, is delicious. Because it's traditional for this season, pork seems to taste better now than any other time. And once a month pork is a surprise.

But we are overcooking it. This new, leaner pork deserves better. It dries when cooked the way we used to. I learned to cook pork forever because my mother told me it carried trichinosis. But pigs are fed commercial food, not garbage these days, and trichinosis is so rare it's no longer a threat.

Besides, trichinae, the small worms that cause the disease, are destroyed when pork is cooked to just 137 F on a meat thermometer. We used to cook it to 170 F. We didn't know the difference. Now we do. Roast pork at 325 F to 350 F until a meat thermometer registers 160 F. Medium-well done, it is unbelievably tender and juicy.

Lean pork is a once-in-a-while dish. If it has been a "while" for you, the recipes below are good choices — new, low in fat and sodium, but best of all, absolutely delicious.

Notice that the chops are easy, but nutritional values are given for a 3-ounce serving! You might want to buy smaller chops or cut them in half. Pork Fajitas work nicely for busy cooks. Marinate the pork strips in the morning; stir-fry briefly at night after work and serve in warm tortillas. The pork fillets, cooked with a yam and an apple, make a one-dish meal.

HONEY-GARLIC PORK CHOPS

- 4 thick, boneless center pork loin chops
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon dry sherry
- 2 cloves garlic, minced

Yields 4 servings. Each 3-ounce serving has about 235 calories, 83 milligrams cholesterol, 9 grams

fat and 325 milligrams sodium.

Put chops in heavy plastic bag. Combine marinade ingredients (lemon juice, honey, soy sauce, sherry and garlic) and pour over chops. Seal top and refrigerate at least 4 and not more than 24 hours. Remove chops from bag and drain. Place on rack of broiler about 5 inches from heat and broil, turning once, for 12 to 15 minutes.

PORK FAJITAS

- 3/4 pound pork tenderloin
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Freshly ground pepper
- 4 to 6 flour tortillas
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1 medium green or red bell pepper, cut into strips
- 3/4 cup chopped tomato
- 1/4 cup low-fat sour cream

Yields 4 to 6 servings. Each serving has about 300 calories, 50 milligrams cholesterol, 12 grams fat and 320 milligrams sodium.

Trim fat from pork and cut with grain into 2-inch strips. Cut strips across grain into 1/4-inch slices. Pork slices best if partially frozen. Mix 1 tablespoon of olive oil with lime juice, garlic, chili powder, garlic powder and pepper and place in plastic bag. Add pork to bag and refrigerate overnight.

Heat oven to 350 F, wrap tortillas in foil and heat them in oven for 10 to 15 minutes. Remove pork from marinade. Heat large skillet. Add 2 tablespoons olive oil and pork. Stir-fry for 4 or 5 minutes. Add onion and bell pepper and continue to stir-fry until vegetables are crisp but tender, about 4 or 5 more minutes.

To serve, place a little of the pork, chopped tomato and sour cream in the middle of a tortilla and fold over.

KITCHEN KIDS



Freshly baked breads

When kids first come up with the idea of cooking, most parents don't consider tackling breads. The reason is the amount of time necessary for doughs to rise and develop.

I must admit, not even I sit around long enough to wait for many bread doughs to proof properly. But the good news is that not all breads need hours to rise before baking.

The first recipe is for Popovers. This is a funny bread, a longtime family favorite of ours, that is simply blended together and immediately placed in a hot oven to puff up.

The second recipe is for Chewy Bread Sticks. Again, this is an easy bread recipe to mix together, then once rolled and formed, these breads are popped in the oven and baked. They will puff slightly while they bake and turn a golden brown color. Eat them while they are warm with dinner.

POPOVERS

- 2 teaspoons solid vegetable shortening for tin
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt

Utensils: Paper towel, measuring cups and spoons, 12-cup muffin tin, mixing bowl, rubber scraper, oven mitts, cooling rack, fork.

Yields 12 popovers.
 Preparation time: 15 minutes.
 Baking time: 35 minutes.

Place oven rack in center of oven. Then turn on oven to 400 F. Using paper towel, spread shortening evenly over bottoms and sides of muffin cups.

Break eggs into mixing bowl. Add milk and oil. Using electric mixer, mix on low speed until blended.

Add flour and salt and mix on medium speed for 2 minutes. The batter should be smooth. Stop mixer at least once to scrape sides of bowl clean with rubber spatula.

Using 1/4-cup measure, scoop batter into each muffin cup. The cups should be filled about halfway.

Put oven mitts on and put muffin tin in oven. Bake until popo-

vers are puffed and golden brown, about 35 minutes.

Wearing your oven mitts, carefully transfer tin to cooling rack. Tilt pan to let popovers fall out. Remove any stubborn popovers with fork. Serve while they are hot with butter and honey.

CHEWY BREAD STICKS

- 1 tablespoon vegetable shortening for baking sheets
- 1 1/2 cups warm water
- 1 package active dry yeast
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon table salt
- 3 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 tablespoons coarse salt

Utensils: Paper towel, cookie sheet, measuring cups and spoons, large mixing bowl, wooden spoon, ruler, small bowl, small fork, pastry brush, oven mitts, metal spatula, cooling rack.

Yields 2 dozen bread sticks.
 Preparation time: 40 minutes.
 Baking time: 15 minutes.

Place oven rack in center of oven. Turn oven on to 425 F.

Using paper towel, spread shortening evenly over cookie sheet.

Pour warm water into mixing bowl. Sprinkle yeast over water and let it stand about 5 minutes to soften. Stir with wooden spoon until completely blended.

Add sugar, table salt and 1 cup of flour; stir until blended. Add 2 cups more of flour, 1/2 cup at a time, stirring after each addition. Dough should be well blended.

Sprinkle a little of remaining flour over clean kitchen surface. Turn dough out of bowl onto floured surface. Knead until dough is smooth and elastic, sprinkling with flour if dough is sticky.

Pull dough into 12 equal pieces. Roll each piece into rope, about 12 inches. Cut each rope in half and set on baking pan. Roll remaining dough the same way.

Break egg into small bowl. Add 1 tablespoon water and stir together with fork. Brush egg wash over the sticks and then sprinkle each stick with salt.

Put oven-mitts on and put baking sheet in oven. Bake 15 minutes.

Q. We'd been planning to buy a larger house before our last baby arrived, but with this economy, we're staying put. Our 7-year-old will give her room to the baby and move to the attic, but I'm worried because it's drafty — and ugly. What can I do about the walls to make it snuggler? — U.B.

A. Upholster them. It's easier than you think with some of the new do-it-yourself systems now on the market.

The charming attic example we show here was created by designer Yolanta Samek of Charme Rustique in Rockaway, N.J. She has used French provincial fabrics made in Provence and something called Sabrafix, another French import that features toothed wooden tracks.

You simply cut the tracks to fit and staple them to the wall, then apply panels of fabric. Stretched taut, the fabric is as practical as it is pretty because it will help contain drafts and comes off to wash.

There are other good — and budgetwise — ideas to adapt here, too:

- The bed is nothing but a single mattress on a homemade wooden frame that rests on four large blocks. The entire frame is covered in fabric to match the wall.

- The canopy is made from a half-round of wood, covered in fabric and nailed to the ceiling. Velcro strips hold the side curtains, which are swagged, knotted and hand-stitched to the upholstered wall.

- Even the hanging light is slip-covered to match. Elastic bands at top and bottom make it a snap to slip off for cleaning.

The fabrics, by the way, are worth a second look. They're from the "Les Olivades" collection of cotton prints, and can trace their designs back to the late 16th century, little changed since then.

By Rose Bennett Gilbert

Decor Score

Q. We are shopping for a new floor for the master bath and by accident saw something in a restaurant that really has us excited. The floor was covered in porcelain tiles, according to the manager. The tiles are very shiny and quite beautiful.

I've never heard of porcelain tiles. What are they exactly, and would they work in an ordinary house? — S.B.

A. According to the experts at Crossville Ceramics in Tennessee, porcelain tiles are to ceramics what fine china is to pottery; that is, they are made of finer materials and fired at extremely high temperatures to produce the most durable, scratch- and waterproof finish possible. That's why you'll find them in heavy traffic areas like restaurants and shopping malls.

But to answer your question: Yes, porcelain tiles are more expensive, but they will work beautifully on the home front, too.

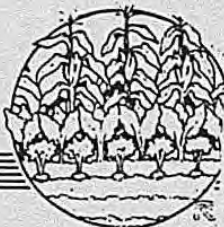
Until Crossville started making them four years ago, all porcelains were imported from Italy. Now you will find them color-coordinated to other bath products, like plumbing fixtures, as well as such decorative items as window shades, all of which will make your project easier.



INSTANT ELEGANCE — Fabrics from Provence lend a touch of France to upholstered walls, bed frame, canopy and lamp.

Decor Score

Backyard Gardener



By Patrick Denton

Today I would like to describe for you two gardening books published earlier this year.

"Tips for Carefree Landscapes" by Marianne Binetti (Garden Way Publishing, 192 pages, paperback \$8.95). Here is a book for people "who want to work smarter, not harder in their gardens." It is also designed to be a helpful guide for gardeners who are perhaps fanatics regarding rose care but would welcome a minimalist approach to lawn maintenance.

For reducing garden toil and enjoying the lifestyle of a lazy gardener, the author's golden rule is "Don't fight Mother Nature." She offers several basic landscaping guidelines for using Mother Nature as a powerful gardening ally, such as choosing plants native to your area, working with what you've got by selecting plants naturally suited to a site's conditions, enlisting willing and attractive volunteer plants and repeating plantings of items that

prove to be raving successes in your garden.

"Tips for Carefree Landscapes" devotes chapters to the areas of home gardening that offer great opportunities for saving labor — lawns, flowering shrubs, bulbs, annual and perennial flowers, roses, ground covers and potted gardens, weed and pest problems.

Each chapter starts with key points for easy pleasures from the plants under consideration — with a list of simple rules to follow for easy success growing roses, a list of the easiest perennials to grow, 10 beautiful bonuses that come with growing flowering shrubs, three reasons to stop striving for a perfect lawn. All the chapters end with a useful series of most-asked questions on the chapter's topic.

In between, mainly in at-a-glance point form and often with rollicking humor, the chapters are filled with labor-saving tips such as pruning pointers for roses, a list

of the easiest annuals to grow from seed, warning signs to plant problems, and sidebars with such titles as "Best Places to Plant Ground Covers" and "Top Twelve Shrubs for Year-Round Color."

In a chapter called "Plant Problems: The Lazy Way to Deal With Bugs, Weeds, and Disease" there is a section titled "Murders of Mercy: How to Decide When It's Time for the Axe." Here, Marianne Binetti shares with humor a philosophical outlook on ailing plants:

"One of the golden rules of lazy gardening is to go with the flow and plant only what loves to grow in your yard. A seriously sick plant is not showing great adaptability to your yard and lifestyle. Any plant that grows too demanding for a lazy gardener doesn't deserve to live. There is no room for guilt in the garden."

The author then offers four signs of distress in plants and suggests the dumping of any plant that's guilty of three out of these four "deadly sins."

And as she tells the story of her family's slow progression toward using an old-fashioned push mower, she has this to say about the early days struggling with heavy power mowers and tangles of electric mower cord:

"To tell you the truth, I often pleaded pregnancy during those

early years of marriage and avoided mowing the lawn. (If you're past the child-bearing years, opt for the osteoporosis excuse. Tell everyone your bones are thinning.)"

"Tips for Carefree Landscapes" offers the home gardener a wealth of sensible, usable guidelines to easy gardening pleasures, with regular chuckles thrown in.

"Herbs & Cooking," a recent addition to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Plants & Gardens handbook series, is a collection of articles by expert herb growers on the culture and use of herbs. Nantucket's Abbie Zaber contributes a design for an Elizabethan herb garden. Seattle's Jerry Sedenko offers ideas for ornamental herb plantings along parking strips. Ontario's Patrick Lima's "Tea Leaves" describes in detail a series of tea herbs and tea blends and how to turn them into delicious hot and cold herbal teas.

There are many recipes included in the articles. "Dessert From the Herb Garden" gives recipes for such enticing treats as rose geranium and sweet cicely sorbet, lavender ice cream and rosemary-thyme shortbread. To order "Herbs & Cooking," send \$6.95 per copy plus \$1.50 for postage and handling to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Order Department, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11225.

By Desiree Vivea



Rich holiday flavors

Those little bottles of extract in the baking section of the market always give me the urge to experiment. So many flavors to try, so many treats for the taste buds. Extracts are most widely used in desserts and baked goods, and lots of holiday recipes rely upon extracts to lay a subtle foundation of mouth-watering flavor.

Of all the extracts, vanilla is the most popular. The extract is made by soaking vanilla beans in an alcohol solution so that vanillin, the bean's essential oil, dissolves into the alcohol — thus producing the richly flavored extract.

While vanilla is the most widely used extract, there are lots of others, among them anise, coffee, brandy, rum, cherry, lemon, orange, pineapple, maple, pistachio, walnut, spearmint, peppermint and wintergreen.

Most extracts contain alcohol, although many health food stores carry some flavorings (commonly vanilla, almond and coconut) made without alcohol.

Most extracts come from the real thing — the fruit, nut or whatever. Always go for the real extract when you have a choice: Imitation vanilla just isn't the same as that made from the real bean, and it's worth it to pay a little extra to get the true flavor.

Black walnut is one extract that's only available in imitation form — real walnut extract just doesn't taste like walnuts — but the imitation gives an approximate flavor.

Extracts are concentrated flavor and should be used sparingly, although some are more concentrated than others. For instance, you'd use just ¼ teaspoon of almond, one of the most intensely flavored extracts, in a recipe where you'd use a whole teaspoon of vanilla. Almond extract, by the way, is popular in Scandinavian cuisines and delightful in rice puddings, cookies and nut cakes. In Vienna, cooks traditionally use 2 parts vanilla to 1 part almond — a classic combination.

Add just a hint of a flavoring extract with a little powdered sugar to heavy cream before whipping to gently flavor the cream.

Ever wonder why vanilla extract usually comes in a dark glass or plastic bottle? The dark container shields the extract from light, which can cause flavor to deteriorate. Always store extracts in a cool, dark place and remember to screw the cap on tightly after use. Buy the smallest size available of flavorings not frequently used.

Recipes in this column are tested in 625- to 700-watt microwave ovens.

MICRO-TIP OF THE WEEK

When a recipe calls for scalded milk, you've got it made. It takes only 1½ to 2 minutes at HIGH (100 percent power) setting to scald 1

cup milk in your microwave. (Watch carefully so that milk does not boil over).

BUTTER RUM CUSTARD

- 2 cups milk
- 3 eggs
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon rum flavoring extract
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- Dash grated nutmeg

Yields 6 servings.

Preparation time: 10-15 minutes.

Cooking time: 15½-21 minutes. Oven setting: HIGH (100 percent power); LOW (30 percent power).

Measure milk into 4-cup glass measure. Microwave, uncovered, at HIGH setting 2½ to 4 minutes, or until scalded. In 1½-quart microwave-safe casserole, beat together eggs, sugar, flavorings and salt. Stir in scalded milk all at once.

Pour mixture into 6 generously buttered 6-ounce glass custard cups. Arrange cups in a circle and microwave at LOW setting 13 to 17 minutes, or until centers are set.

Remove cups and sprinkle lightly with nutmeg. Let stand until cool, then cover and refrigerate until serving time.

HOLIDAY FRUIT MELBA

- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 (16-ounce) can sliced peaches
- 1 (10-ounce) package frozen raspberries, thawed and drained
- ½ cup red currant jelly
- ¼ teaspoon almond extract

Yields 4-6 servings.

Preparation time: 5-10 minutes.

Cooking time: 6-9 minutes (plus 3 minutes standing time).

Oven setting: HIGH (100 percent power).

Place cornstarch in 1½-quart microwave-safe casserole. Add small amount of peach liquid and stir to make smooth paste. Add remaining peach liquid, then stir in all remaining ingredients.

Microwave, uncovered, 6 to 9 minutes, stirring every 3 minutes, until mixture is thickened. Let stand, uncovered, 3 minutes. Serve warm over pound cake and ice cream.

COOL MINT DIVINITY

- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ½ cup water
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 egg whites
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- ¼ teaspoon peppermint extract

Several drops green food coloring

Yields about 3 dozen pieces.

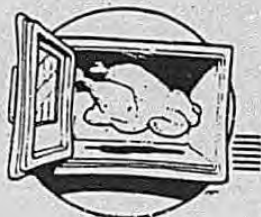
Preparation time: 15-20 minutes.

Cooking time: 8-11 minutes.

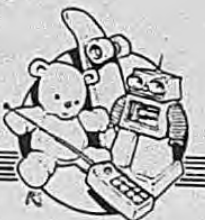
Oven setting: HIGH (100 percent power).

Combine sugar, water, corn syrup and salt in 2-quart microwave-safe casserole. Cover and microwave 5 minutes; stir well. Microwave, uncovered, 3 to 6 minutes longer, or until hard ball forms when small amount of mixture is dropped into cold water. Let cool for 3 to 4 minutes.

While sugar mixture cools, beat egg whites until very stiff. Pour hot sugar mixture in steady drizzle over beaten egg whites, beating constantly until mixture holds its shape and loses some of its gloss. Stir in vanilla, peppermint extract and food coloring. Mound by teaspoonsful onto wax paper and let cool thoroughly. Store in airtight container.



Our Children



By Willard Abraham, Ph.D.

Q. This is our daughter's last year in high school, and the sadness has already started to develop about her separation from us. She is an only child, and her relationship with my husband and me has been very close. We will, of course, miss her dreadfully, but it is her possible concerns that worry us most.

Helping us all cope with this situation is why we have come to you.

A. You have a lot of company in this situation, but there are several factors that might help all three of you.

Trying to control your worries about separation and not sharing them too heavily with her are important. You will miss her, but her new experiences and friends will help her adjustment. So will an occasional telephone call, a visit by you to the campus, and visits home for her once in a while.

If a firm college or university choice hasn't been made yet, you and your daughter may want to consider different ones based on their distance away from home (as well as many factors like institutional quality and cost) — or even her enrollment in a community college and staying at home for another year, more or less, if that seems appropriate.

Input from her school counselor on all these matters might be very helpful.

Q. My husband is a non-smoker, so he isn't involved directly in the smoking issue. But he sure gets involved through me.

I began when I was 15 years old, so I've been at it for 20 years. I guess you could say I'm hooked on cigarettes because I've tried to stop several times and haven't succeeded. After two or three days I gave up the fight and started lighting up again.

He is after me all the time to stop, not for my health (that doesn't seem to concern him) but for our kids. They are just 3 and 5 years old, and he thinks it is bad

for them that I smoke.

I think that's nuts. What do you think?

A. Here are some recent facts reported in a study published in the highly respected *New England Journal of Medicine*: Non-smokers raised in home with smoking parents have been exposed to double the usual risk of lung cancer; the estimate is that 17 percent of all lung cancer in this country is among those who never smoked but who were exposed to smokers during their childhood.

So it apparently may not be what either you or I think that important. Your husband appears to be on the side of this research, which was conducted by Dr. Dwight T. Janerich of the Yale School of Medicine.

Q. I saw a small news item about a new book whose theme is related to the future of our children. For the life of me I can't find the clipping that triggered my interest, although I'm usually so careful about such things. I probably hid it away in some obscure spot for safekeeping. It's really safe, that's for sure!

I hope you can help me identify this book. I know no more about it than I've already told you, but anyone with children ought to be concerned about what they will have to adjust to in this wild world of ours. We have three precious little ones, and we're certainly worried for them.

A. You may be referring to a book called "Childhood's Future" by Richard Louv, who is a columnist for *The San Diego Union* newspaper. It is due to be released in January by Houghton Mifflin.

Excerpts from the book are scheduled for this fall in *Sierra* magazine with a chapter on children and nature and *New York Times Magazine* with one on a school principal fighting her personal drug war.

It sounds like it will provide interesting reading for both parents and teachers.

Cooking Corner



Trading on tradition ... combining new flavors

By Linda Susan Dudley

Asian and Mexican are the two primary influences on cooking today, according to Hugh Carpenter, a self-taught Los Angeles chef who takes the culinary pulse daily in his restaurants and in bookstores where his cookbooks are sold.

Carpenter said the integration of these two cuisines into American cooking is evident by the fact that ingredients such as fresh ginger, cilantro and tortillas can be found throughout the United States, "even in the Midwest."

Further evidence: The chef said 15 percent of the recipes in his second and latest cookbook, "Chopstix," are Hispanic inspired.

Asian and Hispanic populations are swelling, and their influences have crept into the food on our tables and the dishes created by restaurant chefs, he said.

Carpenter, in fact, predicts a return to the kitchen for cooks who abandoned cooking classes, menu planning and home-prepared food in general and embraced takeout and frozen microwave oven products in the late 1980s.

What makes Carpenter think we're all heading back to the kitchen?

"What are all these people putting in gourmet kitchens for, anyway?" Carpenter asked.

Besides, according to Carpenter, cooking styles and menus are getting simpler and more unpretentious.

Carpenter agrees with others who state that — as restaurants get more expensive — in-home entertaining will be in vogue once more.

But not kill-yourself-for-weeks, every-dish-a-masterpiece entertaining.

He means the kind where the host or hostess won't be in the kitchen while the guests have all the fun.

"I love entertaining in the home and we've got to convince people they can throw a dinner party," Carpenter said.

Carpenter said the cook need not make entertaining an ordeal.

"The cook doesn't have to do it all," Carpenter stressed.

He said a dinner menu for a light supper for a few family members or friends might be as simple as hot and sour soup, fresh white corn on the cob, a tossed green salad and a dessert from a good bakery.

In other words, the cook is really only preparing one dish from scratch, the soup. The salad comes from the deli or fresh produce bar and the dessert is ready-made.

"Dinner doesn't have to be a gastronomic event, just something where you serve food to facilitate interaction with friends," he con-

tinued. "Stay in the room with friends, don't hustle back and forth from the stove to the table."

"What you've done is prepare one signature dish for guests to enjoy and remember."

Although Carpenter became a catering chef in 1971, it wasn't until more than a decade later that he became one of about a handful of influential American chefs. And it wasn't until his first book, "Pacific Flavors," was published in March 1988 that he established himself as a permanent force in the food world. Since then, "Pacific Flavors" has sold more than 50,000 copies and is in its fifth printing for Stewart, Tabori and Chang, Carpenter's New York publishing house.

His two lavish, glossy, pictorial cookbooks (a third one is due out in 1992) are actually co-produced by Carpenter's photographer/wife, Teri Sandison, and they share the credit lines.

It works like this: Carpenter and his wife brainstorm the book's concept and recipe ideas. Then he creates recipes. Next, Carpenter (and some of his former students) retreat to kitchens to test cook. Sandison, working with a stylist, creates beautiful pictures of the finished food for the book.

Carpenter said he's not much involved in the photographic process. "I leave that to the experts," he said.

Carpenter said he'll try a recipe as much as five times and if it doesn't work, he'll discard it.

Carpenter credits his wife as part of a winning publishing combination.

"Before I married Teri in 1985 I couldn't get a cookbook published," he said in an interview. He met his wife when she signed up for one of Carpenter's Oriental food travel tours that year.

...
In Carpenter's kitchen, old standards like meat loaf become Szechuan Veal Meat Loaf. The Asian flavors of ginger and fish sauce, cilantro, lime and chilies are paired with American poultry for Thai-High Barbecued Chicken (or turkey). Even a simple dish such as garlic bread gets a dash of Chinese chili sauce in Carpenter's new-wave version.

YAKITORI

- 12 bamboo skewers, 4 inches long
- 4 chicken thighs
- ¼ cup Chopstix Barbecue Sauce (recipe follows)
- Singapore Satay Sauce (recipe follows)

Yields 4 to 8 servings as an appetizer.

Soak bamboo skewers in water

for at least 6 hours. Bone thighs (see note) if butcher has not already done so, then pull away and discard skin. Cut each thigh into 4 strips. Place 1 piece of chicken on cutting board. Put fingers of one hand on chicken strip to stabilize it; with other hand, push skewer down length of strip. Skewer should be visible only at either end of chicken strip. Repeat with remaining strips.

Rub barbecue sauce on chicken strips. Marinate for 30 minutes or longer. Have satay dipping sauce ready to serve with chicken.

If broiling, place broiling rack at highest setting, then preheat broiler to 550 F. Line baking sheet with foil, set wire rack on top and coat rack with non-stick spray. Lay chicken strips on rack and cover exposed ends of skewers with pieces of foil.

Turn oven setting to broil and broil until chicken is firm, about 4 minutes. Skewers do not need to be turned while broiling. If using a gas barbecue, preheat to medium (350 F). If using charcoal or wood, prepare a fire. When coals or wood are ash-covered, brush barbecue rack with cooking oil. Then place chicken strips over medium heat and grill for about 2 minutes on each side, basting with marinade.

Serve chicken strips at once, accompanied by dipping sauce.

Each person spoons a little of the sauce down the length of meat and then nibbles the meat from around the skewer.

Note: To bone thighs, cut around the bone at one end of each thigh. Pinch the end of the bone with your thumb and index finger and pull your fingers down the bone, stripping off the meat.

...
Carpenter says this sauce lasts indefinitely in the refrigerator if the cook omits the green onions and cilantro.

CHOPSTIX

BARBECUE SAUCE

- 3 tablespoons white sesame seeds
- 1 tablespoon chopped garlic
- 1 tablespoon finely minced fresh ginger
- ½ cup minced green onions
- ¼ cup minced cilantro

- 2 teaspoons grated or finely minced orange peel
- 5 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 3 tablespoons plum sauce
- 2 tablespoons Oriental sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons distilled white vinegar
- 2 tablespoons oyster sauce
- 2 tablespoons dark soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry
- 2 teaspoons Chinese chili sauce

Yields 1½ cups.

Place sesame seeds in ungreased 10-inch skillet and cook over high heat until they turn light golden, about 2 minutes. Tip out immediately. Mince garlic and ginger in food processor. Add green onion and cilantro, mincing again. Transfer to bowl, then add sesame seeds and remaining sauce ingredients. Mix well.

SINGAPORE SATAY SAUCE

- 2 tablespoons unsalted roasted peanuts
- 1 small shallot
- 1 clove garlic
- 6 tablespoons coconut milk
- ¼ cup peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons peanut oil
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ½ teaspoon Chinese chili sauce
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin
- ¼ teaspoon ground coriander
- ½ teaspoon turmeric (optional)

Yields about ¾ cup.

Mince peanuts in food processor and set aside. In food processor, mince shallot and garlic. Add all remaining ingredients except peanuts and process until completely smooth, about 20 seconds. If you want a little deeper color, add turmeric and blend again. Sauce should be as thick as very rich cream. Transfer to small container to store. Use within 3 days.

Sprinkle nuts over sauce just before serving. Carpenter says Satay Sauce should always be served at room temperature. If it has been refrigerated, bring to room temperature and stir vigorously. You may have to add a little peanut oil or water to thin sauce.

SMART MONEY

Real estate — For better and for worse

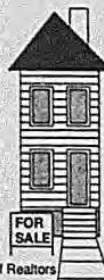
The annualized sales pace for residential real estate was down 2.5 percent during the third quarter of the year when compared with the same time in 1989. Some states, however, showed gains, while others entered major slumps.

SALES IMPROVED

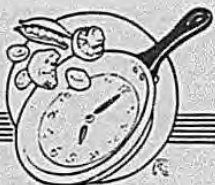
Nevada	+25.0%
Idaho	+22.0%
South Dakota	+19.5%
Utah	+19.0%
South Carolina	+12.6%
West Virginia	+9.3%
Texas	+8.8%
Wisconsin	+8.6%
Arizona	+8.4%
Oklahoma	+7.3%

SALES SLUMPED

Massachusetts	-24.3%
Dist. of Columbia	-23.5%
Delaware	-23.5%
Rhode Island	-22.3%
New Hampshire	-20.9%
California	-18.9%
Arkansas	-18.1%
Maryland	-16.7%
Washington	-14.4%
Hawaii	-14.0%



SOURCE: National Association of Realtors



With Gallic flair

By Melanie Barnard
and Brooke Dojny

We both love good American home cooking, but even we would be the first to admit that those French sure have a way with the skillet and whisk! While the four-star restaurants in France represent the ultimate in culinary chic and glamour, it's the little bistros and the home cooking of the country that we really prefer.

We didn't start out to plan this menu with a Gallic theme, but the French influence does have a way of creeping in when we're thinking about food to serve on a special occasion.

Savory Veal and Vegetable Stew is a simple enough affair, but the use of veal (a delicate meat that the French cook beautifully), wine, chicken broth and savory vegetables results in a sophisticated melange that is perfect for entertaining. The recipe can be multiplied easily.

Tarte Tatin is a specialty at Maxim's in Paris, but was popularized by the Tatin sisters at their country hotel around the turn of the century.

Apples are simmered in a dark, bittersweet caramel sauce, then covered with a round of pastry and baked in the oven in their skillet. The tart is unmolded on a plate so that the crisp crust is now on the bottom forming the base.

You can, of course, make your own pastry if you prefer, but here we call for using oven-ready refrigerated pie crust, one of our favorite recent discoveries.

The veal stew is lovely served with rice pilaf or egg noodles, a salad of dark greens with a balsamic vinaigrette, and warm French bread. Bon appetit!

TIPS

- Be careful when working with caramel. It can scorch quickly, and if it spatters on your skin, the hot sugar syrup can give bad burns.

VEAL AND VEGETABLE STEW

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 pound boneless veal shoulder, cut in 1-inch cubes
- ¼ cup flour
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 cups chicken broth
- ¾ cup white wine
- 2 teaspoons dried sage
- 4 carrots, peeled and cut in 1-inch lengths
- 2 small parsnips, peeled and cut in 1-inch lengths
- 1 cup frozen pearl onions
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 3 tablespoons chopped parsley

Yields 4 servings.

Preparation and cooking time: 55 to 60 minutes.

Heat oil in large skillet. Pat

meat dry. Combine flour and pepper in paper or plastic bag. Shake veal in bag until coated with flour. Sauté over medium-high heat until nicely browned on both sides, about 5 minutes total.

Add garlic to skillet and cook over medium heat, stirring, for 1 minute. Add chicken broth, wine and sage; simmer, partially covered, for 10 minutes while preparing vegetables.

Add carrots and parsnips to skillet. Partially cover and simmer 30 minutes. Add onions and simmer 5-10 minutes, until vegetables and meat are tender. Stir in mustard and parsley before serving.

Note: If parsnips aren't available, just use 2 more carrots.

QUICK TARTE TATIN

- 4 Golden Delicious apples (about 1½ pounds)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon lemon zest
- ¾ cup sugar, divided
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 (½ package) refrigerated pie crust disc
- Whipped cream

Yields 6 servings.

Core and peel apples and slice about ½ inch thick. Toss in bowl with lemon juice, lemon zest and ¼ cup of sugar.

In 9-inch skillet with oven-proof handle (preferably cast iron), melt

butter. Add remaining ¼ cup sugar and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly with wooden spoon, until syrup is bubbly and turns a caramel brown about the shade of walnut shells, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat.

Working carefully to avoid spattering, spoon apples into syrup, spreading with back of spoon to make an even layer. Cover skillet, bring to simmer, and cook 5 minutes, until apples have exuded juice.

Uncover and cook over medium-low heat for about 15 minutes, spooning syrup over apples occasionally until apples are almost tender and syrup has reduced and thickened again.

While apples are cooking, preheat oven to 425 F. Unwrap pastry and carefully place inside skillet over apples, tucking edges under. Cut several vent holes in pastry.

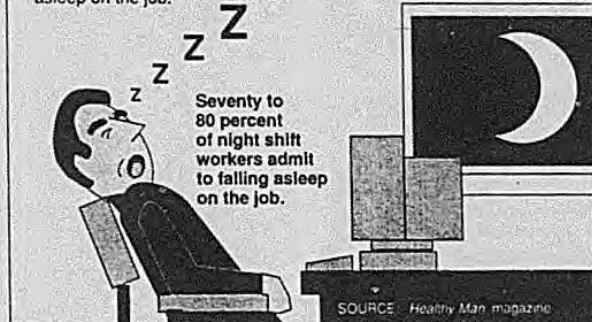
Bake tart in preheated oven for about 20 minutes, until crust is nicely browned. Remove from oven using an oven mitt (remember that handle is hot!) and invert carefully onto large serving plate. Rearrange apples on top of tart if they are in disarray.

Cool at least 20 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature, with whipped cream on the side. (Can be made up to 6 hours ahead.)

HEALTH WATCH

Nighthawks battle urge to sleep while on the job

A majority of people who work on night shifts battle the urge to fall asleep on the job.



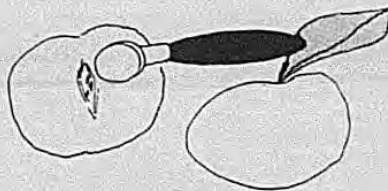
KITCHEN HINTS

You want to bake apple pies

But seeding the fruit is a bore.

Here's how to core quickly:

1. Peel the apple and cut in half, lengthwise.
2. Use a melon baller to remove the center in one quick twist.
3. Clean up the stem end, too, with another quick twist.



Adult lunch box ideas

By Sharon Achatz

Brown-bagging gets a bum wrap from most working adults. P.B. and J. day after day just doesn't cut the mustard, but a brown-bag lunch for the grown-up set can be much more than the same old sandwich.

There are plenty of sandwich fillings to choose — from peanut butter to sliced turkey to egg salad. But, in fact, there's no need to include a sandwich each day. Take crackers or rice cakes with vegetable spread one day, and pack up a bit of Southwestern flair the next day with a bean and cheese burrito loaded with lettuce, tomato, salsa and sour cream.

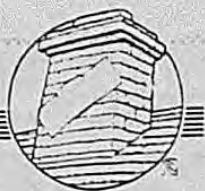
And don't feel limited to traditional pieces of fruit. Fill a plastic container with melon balls or prunes for a nice change of pace from bananas and apples. Or get an extra punch of protein with your fruit by taking a dried-fruit-and-nut mix, combining your favorites of raisins, pineapple, apricots, coconut, almonds, peanuts or pecans.

Lunchtime vegetables needn't be limited to the lettuce and tomato on your sandwich. Cut up raw vegetables to nibble on, bringing along a container of ranch dip if you like. Or feel like a kid again by making Ants on a Log — simply fill a celery stalk with peanut butter (the log) and then dot the peanut butter with raisins (the ants).

Since there's a kid in every adult, don't forget some sort of treat every day. Quick breads and fruit-filled cookies are a healthy switch from candy bars and chips, and there's no shortage of individual-size prepackaged treats in your market, from pudding to yogurt to applesauce.

A lunch box treat isn't limited to the edible realm, however. If you're packing a lunch for another adult, toss in a flower, a colorful napkin, a special note, a holiday card or tickets to a ball game, the theater or a movie.

Here's How



By Gene Gary

Q. Both our kitchen and family room floors are covered in tile in shades of brown and gold. The tile was there when we purchased the home. Now I would like to redecorate in a much lighter color scheme and I want to get rid of this ugly flooring. Is there any way I can put a new layer on top of the old?

A. If the tile in good shape, you should be able to lay another tile layer directly over the old.

First you will need to roughen the existing tile surface so you get better adhesion when applying the new tile layer. Use an electric grinder or masonry rubbing stone.

If the existing tiles have rounded edges, the grout joints may be slightly lower than the tile surface. Larger tiles will span the gaps, but if the new tiles are the same size or smaller than the present flooring, you must fill the joints with grout to level the surface.

When level, apply an adhesive that is recommended for installation over existing tile. Re-grout as you would new tiling.

If the existing tile surface is

cracked and damaged, or if the flooring surface under the tile is faulty, you may have to install an isolation membrane over the old tiles.

Tile damage (cracks or shifting) over a large area is a sure sign of problems with the undersurface often caused by faulty installation or moisture. An isolation membrane accommodates the subflooring movement without affecting the new tile.

Attach the membrane to the existing tile with latex tile adhesive. Go over the material with a hand roller to eliminate air pockets and ensure a tight bond. Let the adhesive cure for 24 hours, then apply tile over it.

This also works well where cracking has occurred because tile was set over two different subfloorings, such as a concrete slab and plywood subfloor, and for any repair where it is impractical to correct structural problems affecting the subflooring.

Whether the retiling is a do-it-yourself project will depend on how handy you are with tools,

measurements and tile cutting required for a job of this type.

One thing to remember: You will need to accommodate the increased height of your new floor in such areas as door thresholds, baseboard installations and allowances for adequate room for opening and closing lower kitchen cupboards, etc.

Q. The oak flooring in our home has dark spots left there by the previous owner. We would like to maintain natural wood floors, but do not know how to go about removing these stains.

If we can't get rid of these spots we will have to install carpeting instead. Can you give us some suggestions on how to go about restoring this flooring?

A. Since you do not know the cause of the staining, you will have to experiment with spot-removal techniques. Rub each stained area with No. 00 steel wool and a good floor cleaner or mineral spirits.

Follow this by thoroughly washing spotted areas with household vinegar. Allow it to remain three or four minutes.

If the spots remain, sand with fine sandpaper, feathering out 3 to 4 inches into surrounding area, re-wax and polish.

If repeated applications of vinegar do not remove spots, apply oxalic acid solution directly on the

spotted areas. Use 1 ounce oxalic acid to 1 quart of water (pour acid into water and avoid any splashing). Take great care when using acids as they can be harmful. Wear rubber gloves.

Pour a small amount directly on the spot and let the solution stand one hour. Sponge spot with clear water. A second treatment may be helpful if spot refuses to yield.

The oxalic acid solution will bleach the wood and the areas treated will have to be stained and refinished to match the original color. Sand the area with No. 00 sandpaper and apply matching finish, feathering out into surrounding floor area. Let dry.

Buff lightly with No. 00 steel wool. Apply second coat of finish, let dry and wax. If stains are still visible, the only remaining remedy is to replace the affected flooring or install carpeting.



FOR TEENS

By Willard Abraham, Ph.D.

Dr. Abraham: I'm a 19-year-old young lady with a problem about a young gentleman who is a few years older than I am.

The first part of my problem is that I am completely "head over heels" in love with him. He is the most compassionate, caring, understanding person I have ever met.

I have been in love before, but not a thing in the world can come close to how I feel when his name is mentioned. I melt like ice when I see him, and I feel as if I'm a gliding bird when he is near.

The second part of my problem is that I have never wanted anyone or anything more than I want this individual. I want him because I care so much about him and because he is so dear to my heart.

We talk every now and then, and we have really good talks. I know he knows how I feel to a certain degree, but that's where the third part of my problem comes in.

Basically we are two shy people, and we can be talking along and it seems as if we are making some progress, but then in our next conversation I feel as if I should back off.

What should I do? The last thing in the world I want is to scare him off.

How can I get him to give me a chance? He's very sensitive, and I don't want to offend him in any way.

— Price of love

Price of love: You apparently have made more progress than you may think you have. Your conversations appear to be meaningful to both of you.

Why not continue with them, with each of you enjoying the sharing of ideas you talk about? Through them he probably will recognize how fond you are of him, and you'll be able to tell how he feels about you.

You say he is sensitive, but you are, too, and that is an attractive characteristic. But try not to let your sensitivity create a barrier between the two of you. Perhaps you can discuss that matter with him.

I have a feeling you won't pressure him or come on too strong in any way, so I don't even have to mention the need not to push, scare or offend him.

You seem to be a lucky pair, and if it is shyness that is one of the traits you share, it is one that may help strengthen your relationship.

I hope so much that all goes well with both of you. Please write again.

Dr. Abraham: I live near a small grocery store where I see the same clerk every time I go there. He is

very friendly, easy to talk with, and he always can get me to laugh, even when I'm down. He is so cute, that I feel when he smiles at me I'll have trouble talking to him. I get funny feelings inside when I'm near him.

I daydream about putting on a miniskirt and tight blouse when I go see him and having him give me a hug.

Is it normal to feel this way, or am I going crazy? I am 16, and I think he is in his early 40s. Please answer soon as maybe there are others in the same position as I am. — Jennifer

Jennifer: Young people occasionally have fanciful thoughts and infatuations toward older people of the opposite sex. Sometimes they confuse limited friendships with more deep feelings.

Please try to cast your eyes in other directions and toward younger males. Plenty of them are also cute, friendly and able to make a person laugh.

It could be safer for you to cut down on or eliminate the grocery store visits. Although that may not seem reasonable to you right now, I hope you'll give it some very serious thought.

Dr. Abraham: I'm a 13-year-old girl who has a very serious, complex problem.

I moved to Georgia last summer and stayed for eight months with my father. I met a young man there, and we became involved. Then my mom made me move back to Ohio.

We wanted to wait for each other, but now we are drifting apart.

There is another young man who lives near me, and I'm really starting to like him a lot.

I don't know which one I should go with. I really do still love my Georgia friend with all my heart, and we've been keeping in touch. I feel something strong with my Ohio friend, too, but not as much as I do with the first one. But maybe I'll never get to Georgia again.

Please help me. — S.M.

S.M.: As you indicate, it is definitely possible to like two people very much although in different ways.

Keeping a relationship with both of them for now (even though one has to be by letter) may be the best thing to do.

Your situation is the kind that time often takes care of.

Dr. Abraham: I'm so tired of my mother nagging me because of what I wear. I'll admit it is sometimes kind of ragged, but not dirty, and I dress like

all the other kids do.

They'd laugh at me if I wore the kind of clothes my mother likes.

So I have a choice — be like the other kids and keep my friends, or do what she wants and lose them. — Jimmy

Jimmy: Are there other factors in the appearance picture that she objects to, such as your hair or face? If there are, and you are willing to do something about them, maybe you can arrive at a compromise with her.

However, if it's only the clothing that creates the conflict, perhaps she hasn't seen how the others look. If that's true, seeing them when they leave school or at a mall or movie theater may help give her the idea that you are really in the mainstream.

If both you and she should both understand that this complaint of hers will pass in time because as teens get older they usually change their appearance preferences, she may tend toward backing off. Don't expect her to lay off you totally, but the reduction in her criticism may give you some relief.



LOCAL READER

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- Call 931-0012
- Williston Times • Mineola Edition
- New Hyde Park Herald Courier
- Call 746-0240

NOW after 2 p.m. phone in your ad 24 hours a day to our special after hours ad number. You can phone your ad 24 hours a day and it will appear in the next issue of the paper (up to the 12 noon deadline for week of publication). If you miss the hours of our regular ad takers at any of the above numbers call 746-0240 and give your ad 24 HOURS A DAY.

Help Wanted

FT/PT SECRETARIAL position needed for busy marketing office in Garden City area. Call 485-9181. gcD3

TELEPHONE SOLICITOR to work at home. Leads furnished, good compensation, permanent immediate opening. Mr. Morgan, 931-0012.

CASHIER-DELIVERY BOY and stock person. Experience helpful. Ask for Jimmy. 742-0222. gcD3

LAYOUT ART ASSISTANT Immediate opening. No experience necessary but willingness to learn. Permanent part time. Must be able to work Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings. Serious inquiries only. 931-0012.

F/T SECRETARY - G.C. Pleasant personality and phone manner, typing, and steno. Computer knowledge helpful. 873-6200. gcD2

CHILD CARE - EXPERIENCED loving, dependable, non-smoking woman needed to care for 16 month old boy in our Westbury home on Monday-Friday. P/T for month of January. References. 997-8533. gcD3

REAL ESTATE SALES person needed for active Garden City office. For confidential interview to join the #1 sales team in G.C. & earn top commission splits call Kathleen Whelan 746-6245. gcD3

PERSONS WANTED TO COVER meetings in Great Neck, Garden City, New Hyde Park, Williston Park, Syosset, and Bethpage for local weekly newspapers on stipend assignment basis. Call 931-0012 for more information.

Help Wanted

LOVING RESPONSIBLE babysitter for 5 & 7 year olds in my home. Weekdays, late afternoons and evenings, and Saturday night. Own transportation, call 621-4232. wd2

CHILD CARE NEEDED FOR MY 2 Children. P/T evening hours. Excellent salary. References required. 485-9070. gcD4

AU PAIR - DO YOU HAVE ONE? Does she have a relative or friend who would like to be one? Two children - 3 years and one year. Please call and leave message. 248-6308. W-J-1

CHILD CARE FOR 4 MONTH old. 8:30 - 5:30, Mon. - Fri. Will bring child to your home. Please call (516)358-4675. gcD3

TYPIST TO WORK 15-20 HOURS per week Mon. through Wed. eve from 5 p.m. Should be good typist ready to begin at once. Call 931-0012 for apt.

TYPIST TO WORK 20 HOURS per week Mon. through Wed. days. Should be good typist ready to begin at once. 931-0012.

LARGE INSURANCE AGENCY Clerical F/T, filing, advancement, excellent benefits. Mitchell Field area. 745-0800, ext. 307. W-D-2

CHILD CARE WANTED for two girls, ages 4 and 2½, in my Garden City home. Four days a week, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 to 5:30, Wednesday, 7:30 to 5:30. Older daughter attends nursery school Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 to 11:30. Must be energetic, creative and love children. Drivers license and car a plus. Must speak English. Local references necessary, non-smoker. Call day (516) 433-6911. Evenings, (516) 747-4095. hD1

Help Wanted

NURSE, RN NEEDED - FEE service. Flexible hours. IV experience a plus. Nassau, Queens location. 742-6240. W-D-2

STOCK & SALE, HARDWARE clerk, P/T. Will train retiree. Munder's Hardware, 316 Hillside Ave. 746-1075. wtfm

LIVE IN HOUSEKEEPER babysitter needed to assist professional couple with housework and care of one child. Licensed driver preferred, but not necessary. Excellent salary & working conditions. Please call & leave message. 334-8089. W-J-1

MOLLOY REALTY INTERVIEWING for F/T, licensed associate to start after the holidays. Please call Bernice Rossi, 747-2010 evenings for confidential interview. gcD4

P/T ONE DAY - THURS. dictaphone IBM Wheel Writer 70 series II typist. Insurance agency. Pleasant office in Williston Park. (516)742-7180. - gcD4

P/T CLERK, TYPIST Receptionist for E. Williston Teacher's Center. Mon., Tues., Wed., 2:30 to 5:30, when school is in session. \$8 per hr. Knowledge Macintosh - a plus. Call 876-8726. Leave message. wd2.

Situations Wanted

FOR DEPENDABLE CHILD care services or light housekeeping call 485-1622, ask for Florence. Excellent references. gcD3

HOUSECLEANING/DAY WORK Experienced, English speaking, own transportation and good references. Call anytime at 565-2119. gcJal

NURSE'S AIDE Compassionate, looking for position to take care of elderly or children. Hospital and nursing home experience. References. Please call 378-6764. gcJal

HOUSECLEANING AVAILABLE by woman with experience. 546-6934. gcJal

IRISH MOTHER OF 11 MONTH old will take care of your child in your home. Excellent references. Call Jenny (516)489-8840. gcJal

HOME AIDE AVAILABLE FOR work Monday through Friday. Certified, 10 years hands on experience, willing, thoughtful and trying. Ability to record vital signs. Call 753-2094. \$7.50/hr; 10 hrs. daily. Uniform. gcJal

Situations Wanted

GOOD HOUSEKEEPER-LIVE IN with experience & references. Call Rosario (516)775-1954. gcD3

CALL-A-SITTER WILL SERVICE all your needs 7 days a week and nights. Will come to your home or pick up. Running errands, housecleaning, shopping and meals. My service is personal, reliable and trustworthy. Excellent references. Call now 285-6716. gcJal

HOUSECLEANING AVAILABLE Mon. - Sat. Good references, own transportation. Call between 4 p.m. & 11 p.m. (516)483-8617. gcJal

HOUSECLEANING AVAILABLE Mon. - Sat. Call 4 p.m. - 11 p.m. Karina (516)731-3618 gcJal

COMPANION/AIDE WITH experience available part time/full time. Please call 491-7454. W-J-1

NURSE'S AIDE SPECIALIZING in home care. Checkable references. For information, call Dorothy, 546-8757. gcJal

I WILL CLEAN YOUR HOME AS I would my own. Experience & references. 248-6020. gcD2

LOVING MOTHER, EXPERIENCED teacher will care for your child in my Williston Park home. 747-2183. wj1

LOOKING FOR HOUSECLEANING or office cleaning job. 358-7058. gcD3

ATTENTION VACATIONERS would you like to go away and know that your dog or cat is well taken care of? Mature woman who loves animals will give your pet lots of TLC. Fenced in yard. 352-9113. GCD4

I OFFER MY SERVICES to clean houses & apartments in Garden City. I am a responsible lady. I am a legal resident of the United States. I have good references and experience in all kinds of housework. I like kids. My telephone number is (718) 658-2049. Please ask for Sara Alfaro. Please call from 2-7 p.m. gcD3

MOTHER & DAUGHTER TO clean your home. Experienced. Own transportation. Call after 4 p.m. 294-4341. W-D-3

I WILL PICK UP YOUR WASH on Sundays & Deliver on Mondays or Tuesdays. Also ironing if needed and do table cloths. Senior citizens half price. 538-9428. gcD3

Situations Wanted

YOUNG POLISH LADY available for housecleaning and babysitting. Speaks English, experienced, references. Call evenings. Ask for Beata (516) 538-8918. gcD3

HOME ATTENDANT AVAILABLE for FT work. Experience & own transportation. 718-898-2716. gcD2

NURSE'S AIDE AVAILABLE for night duty. Call Patricia after 7 p.m. 718-468-0491. gcD2

GARDEN CITY R.N. WITH excellent and recent references. Does home care nursing. Monday-Friday, hours flexible. Call 742-8073 after 5 p.m. gcD4

RELIGIOUS & EXPERIENCED woman in the care of children & elderly offers her services. References available. Will live in or out. Call Josephine Howard 718-498-7427. hd2

HOUSECLEANING AVAILABLE by the hour. References & transportation. Call Lucy up until 1 p.m., 481-3856. gcD2

HOUSECLEANING BY THE day. References, own transportation. Call Mrs. Kelly between 6 and 8 p.m. 747-6428. gcD4

HOUSECLEANING JOB WANTED. Experience & transportation. References. 564-8321. gcD4

MY HOUSEKEEPER IS AVAILABLE P/T in your Garden City home. Excellent worker. Experienced. Call 739-1610. gcD4

IRISH GIRL - NURSE'S AIDE available to take care of elderly. References available. Call (718)470-6275. gcD3

NURSE'S AIDE AVAILABLE to work nights. Experience & references available. Leave message. (718)470-6275. gcD4

HARD WORKING LADY neat, honest & reliable with good references and own transportation. Call after 5 p.m. 739-1620. gcD4

BABYSITTING AVAILABLE in my Garden City home. Walking distance to Stewart School. Prefer from 2 p.m. on. Flexible with current references. 741-3156. gcD3

NURSE'S AIDE FULLY EXPERIENCED in hospital, nursing home and private duty, willing to take a long term case. Work hours 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. \$10 an hour. References. 546-2521. gcJal

Situations Wanted

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE in my Albertson home. Loving mother, former nursery school teacher. P/T or F/T. Excellent references available. 747-1507 wd4

I NEED A HOUSECLEANING job for 4 days. Experience & good references. Please call 489-6154 after 6 p.m. gcD3

COLLEGE STUDENT, FEMALE available December 15 - January 9 to clean, babysit, run errands. Experienced working at home parties. Call 742-0562. gcD3

NICE & RELIABLE YOUNG lady wants to work as a babysitter or do some housecleaning. You can call anytime, 718-347-5482. gcD3

NURSE'S AIDE FOR ELDERLY or sick, part-time or full-time, long term, experience in hospital and private home. Very kind personality. Call 248-4029. gcD3

NEED A JOB INTERNAL OR IN & out cleaning house. Experienced. 481-1448 or 292-2744. gcD3

NURSE'S AIDE - LOOKING for work day or night. Private home or hospital. 868-0403. gcD3

EUROPEAN WOMAN domestic help available. Live in or out. Housekeeping/child care. English speaking, own transportation. 565-5071. gcD3

Real Estate For Sale

GARDEN - CITY PRIME location, 3 BR, 3 bath ranch, walk to village. Williamsburg decor, new EIK, deck with hot tub, 2 car attached, marble fpl, wall to wall, 3 room fin. bsmt. with kitchen, mid \$400's. 742-8337. gcJ1

WANT GARDEN CITY? TUDOR - Estates Section - 4 BRs, 3 baths second floor, 2 rms, 1 bath 3rd floor, lg. FDR, LR/fpl, 3 other rms first floor, double lot. Now all for \$525,000. 248-7397. gcJ1

GARDEN CITY & VICINITY: Holiday bargain. Have a chimney for Santa to slide down! **Western Section:** 3 BR Ranch, 2 baths, skylite kit., LR/fpl, full fin. bsmt., 2 car attached. 80 x 100 beautifully landscaped plot, \$375,000. **Western Section:** 3 BR Colonial, 1 1/2 baths, 22 ft. LR/fpl, EIK \$258,000. **3 BR Colonial,** EIK, new first floor fam. rm. & new windows, new EIK, new skylites. \$229,000. **Country Club Estates:** Relocation special, company pays commission, 1/3 acre, plus 24 x 44 pool. 3 BR Slate roof Colonial, 2 1/2 baths, den, fpl, breakfast rm., 2 car, walk all. \$250,000. (For Tudor Lovers) 4 BR Turreted slate roof French Tudor, 2 1/2 baths, granite fpl, sunken LR, great wood details. Walk all. 2 car. \$220,000. **4 BR English Tudor,** two plus two half baths, new EIK, den, fpl, Florida rm., skylights, new roof, all new windows. Transferring owner. \$229,000. **Absolutely Mint - 3 BR Brick Ranch,** two new baths, new EIK, fin. bsmt., new WV, fpl, \$159,000. **3 BR Bungalow,** 1 1/2 baths, fin. bsmt. \$125,000. **Elatne J. Nolan,** 485-7054 or 292-9749. wd2

Real Estate For Sale

GARDEN CITY ESTATES Elegant, beautifully decorated and renovated Dutch Colonial. Center Hall, 5 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, Living Room with fireplace with authentic Dutch tiles, formal Dining Room, Sun Room, Finished Basement. Brass light fixtures, Laura Ashley curtains and wallpaper throughout. Hardwood floors, new eat-in-kitchen with cherrywood cabinets and top of the line appliances, two car garage. New furnace and water heater. House surrounded by dozens of azaleas. Excellent location, within half mile from Mineola and Hempstead train lines. Tullamore Park. Homestead and Stratford Schools just around the corner. By owner. \$495,000. 742-4271. gcJa1

WYNDHAM MT. CONDO 3 BRs, 1 1/2 Baths, fireplace, EIK. Steps to Ski Lift. \$120,000. 747-3729. gcJa1

SOUTHOLD - IDEAL VACATION Retirement home. 770 North Bay View (off Pine Neck). 3 BR Ranch, 1 bath, DR, kit, LR/fpl, attached garage. Low taxes, 1/2 block to sandy bay beach & boat ramp. Sacrifice \$135,000. 765-2963. Owner. gcJ1

NEW HYDE PARK VILLAGE Custom 3 BR Colonial. Low taxes, walk to RR - stores. Large LR/fpl, large EIK, deck with hot tub, new windows & siding, new plumbing & electric throughout house. Many extras. Must see! Owner. \$225,000. 488-1318. wd3

LARGE LEGAL TWO FAMILY house for sale. Mineola Park Section. 4 1/2 over 5 1/2. Gas heat, fin. bsmt., carpeted, fpl. Walk to RR, hospital. 50 x 100. Mid \$200's. 746-3141. wd3

GARDEN CITY PRIME Estates Section Split, 3 BRs, 2 baths, LR/fpl, FDR, EIK, paneled playroom & Lower basement. Oversized 1 car garage, patio, 2 zone gas heat. Walk to schools & RR. Low \$400's. Owner 747-3882. gcJa2

PRIME LOCATION MOTIVATED seller - Barnes High Ranch, 3 BRs down, 2 BRs up, 2 1/2 updated baths, new kit., FDR, LR/fpl, screened back porch. Asking \$330,000. 742-4984. gcD4

GARDEN CITY PRIME Estates Area - 4 BR, centerhall brick Colonial, 3 1/2 baths, LR/fpl, FDR, EIK, all appliances, full bsmt., 2 car garage. Excellent condition. Owner, 294-8025, \$549,000. gcD3

QUALIFIED BUYERS ONLY Opportunity to own mint-condition 5 Bedroom, 3 1/2 bath Dutch Colonial. Family room, finished basement, 2 fireplaces, modern Eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage. Heart of the Estates Section. Mid \$700's. Write only: Box 524, Mineola, N.Y. 11501. gcD4

GARDEN CITY - SAVE \$400,000! Price reduction plus 8.5% mortgage by owner saves \$1,000 per month in mortgage payments! It's less expensive than you think to trade up to this 5 BR Colonial on Oxford Blvd. 248-2450. gcD3

Real Estate For Sale

GARDEN CITY ESTATES 3 BR side hall Colonial. New EIK, 2 full baths, fin. bsmt., large LR & FDR. Taxes \$2600. Asking \$325,000. 248-2009. gcD2

GARDEN CITY SUPERB Adelphi location. All brick and slate centerhall Colonial. 3 BR, 2 1/2 baths, new EIK, den, party rec. room with kitchen and bar. 2 car detached. Low \$400's. 326-8024. gcJ1

GARDEN CITY IDEAL STARTER house. 4 BRs, 2 new baths, Cape, all new windows and siding, oversized lot. Sacrifice at \$200's. 742-8337. gcJ1

WATERWAYS AT BAY POINT in Moriches. Waterfront Commodore. Verticals, vacuum system, many other extras. Walk pool, tennis, clubhouse. Greatly reduced. Call 741-8247. Leave message. gcJ1

GARDEN CITY ESTATES Starter house. 3 BRs, kit, LR, FDR, 1 1/2 baths, fin. attic & bsmt., a/c & fans, 1 1/2 car garage. Automatic sprinkler system. Low taxes. Mid \$200's. 248-6512. gcD3

TUDOR - EAST WILLISTON: Completely redone, new designer kit., park-like grounds, 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, fin. bsmt., 2 car garage. Asking high \$300's. Call days, 212-309-3125. gcD3

HONESDALE, PA. - 2 1/2 YRS. old, L shaped Ranch. 3 BRs, concrete foundation on 3/4 acres. \$129,000. Call owner 717-253-0118. wJ1

EAST WILLISTON STARTER 2 BR, LR, DR, 1 1/2 baths, new windows, roof, Wheatley SD, low taxes. Move-in condition. Low \$200's. Owner 248-2379. wd2

CUTCHOEGUE - COUNTRY CLUB Setting - Custom built Colonial on magnificent acre. 3 BRs, 2 1/2 baths, 2 car attached garage & CAC. Below market value \$259,000. **Laurel - Well maintained** oversized Ranch on 1/2 acre deeded beach, 3 BRs, 2 baths, LR, DR, fam. rm., EIK, 2 car garage. Asking \$195,000. **Southhold - Short walk to beautiful bay beach.** White & bright 2 BR with gas heat, garage & low taxes. Perfect year-round vacation home. Only \$129,500. **Cutchogue - Stunning Contemp** on very private wooded acre. Master BR suite/jacuzzi plus separate 2 BR/bath wing. Great rm/fpl. Steps to bay beach. Asking \$325,000. **Marlon King Realty** 734-5657. gcD2

GARDEN CITY, N.E. "Desperate - Own 2 homes" - Move in condition. Split level. 3BR, 2bath, cent. a/c, Alum. siding, patio, den. Best buy in town - \$299,000 (516)746-7281. gcD4

GARDEN CITY MOTT Colonial - All new throughout. 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, large EIK, family room/FPL, LR/FPL, DR, 2 car garage \$395,000 (516) 746-5654 eves & weekends (212) 903-8862 days. gcD3

GARDEN CITY MOTT Colonial - All new throughout. 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, large EIK, family room/FPL, LR/FPL, DR, 2 car garage \$395,000 (516) 746-5654 eves & weekends (212) 903-8862 days. gcD3

GARDEN CITY MOTT Colonial - All new throughout. 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, large EIK, family room/FPL, LR/FPL, DR, 2 car garage \$395,000 (516) 746-5654 eves & weekends (212) 903-8862 days. gcD3

Real Estate For Sale

LAUREL - 5 BR RANCH: BIG IS the word for this luxurious suburban home. Ideal large family, M/D or home with income. 8 large rms., 2 1/2 baths, bsmt. Terms available. Asking \$179,000. **Bookmiller Real Estate** 722-4423. gcD2

SOUTHOLD - STATELY Colonial home on 3.6 acres with 50 foot ROW to sandy bay beach. 5 BRs, 4 1/2 baths, 3 fpls, LR, DR, large EIK, library, sun rm., enclosed porch, 3 car garage/carriage house with deck. 20x40 INP, 9 zone inground sprinkler system. Drastically reduced to \$525,000. **Southold Condo - Founders Village - Center of town.** 2 BRs, 2 baths, LR/fpl & dining area. EIK, CAC, full cellar, low monthly maintenance. Walk to everything. Asking \$172,500. **Orient - Two 7.5 acre parcels - one with bay front, second with ROW to bay.** Very desirable area. Owners anxious. First bid gets choice of parcels at \$280,000 each. **Southold - Charming year round 2 BR, 1 bath cottage,** LR/fpl, EIK, screened porch, full cellar. Private backyard. Near village & bay beach. Great starter, second home or retired couple. Owner/broker. Asking \$135,000. **Madelyn Baker Realty** 765-2310. gcD2

MATTITUCK - LOVELY Waterview from this inviting home on shy 3/4 acre wooded parcel. 3 BRs, 2 baths, kit., dining area, LR. Walk to Peconic bay beach. \$169,000. **Marilyn Lang Realty** 734-6690, 734-6472. gcD2

GARDEN CITY SPLIT LEVELS: Western: Immaculate \$300's. Estates: Spacious \$400's. Central: Unbelievable \$500's. **Vera Ataman** 354-1994. gcD2

GARDEN CITY - ALL THE right ingredients. Stately brick Colonial, 4 BRs, 4 1/2 baths, fpl, professional suite & more. A must see. **Garden City - Stunning center hall expanded Ranch - all oversized rms., 5 BRs, 3 baths.** \$289,500. **Caldwell Banker** 766-3900. gcD2

GARDEN CITY ESTATES Section - Side hall Col., 4 BR, LR/fpl, 3 1/2 baths, EIK, FDR, den & sun room, fin. bsmt. Walk to train \$480,000. Principals only, 422-4575. gcD2

SOUTHOLD - CALIFORNIA Ranch, landscaped for privacy, wooded surroundings for summer on year round living, swim in heated in-ground pool or walk to resident beach. LR, DR, fam. rm., double fireplace, country kit., appliances, 3 BRs, 2 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, c/a/c, fin. bsmt. Principals only. \$298,000 negotiable. 765-9247. gcD2

MINEOLA - 2 BR 2 bath corner apartment. Oak floors throughout, 6 closets (2 walk in) 2 parking spaces. \$98,000. Immediate occupancy. 80% deductible. 328-7068 or 747-7430. gcD3

GARDEN CITY PRIME village location. 2 BR condo, completely renovated, new kit., new marble bath. \$189,000. Also available for rent \$1550. 326-8024 gcJ1

Real Estate For Sale

KEUSEY'S EXCLUSIVES Doll House - great starter, completely renovated, full of charm, new EIK & den, 3 BRs, 1 bath, low taxes. Owner relocating. Won't last. Make offer. Only \$219,500. **Contemporary Colonial** on 85' x 130' lot. 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, den, 2 car with electric eye. Asks \$269,900. **English Colonial** 60' x 145' property. Needs TLC. 4 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, LR/fpl, FDR, kit, heated sun rm. & garage plus low, low taxes. Reduced to \$289,000. **To settle Estate - Western Ranch,** CAC, LR/fpl, FDR, EIK, 3 BRs, 2 baths, rec. rm., extras. \$264,900. **Expansive living area** in this 3 BR, 2 1/2 bath Contemporary. Large property, EIK, fam. rm.. Asking \$345,000. **Move right in** to this spacious & gracious lovingly cared for Western Colonial. 4 BRs, 2 1/2 baths, EIK, large garden rm., FDR, LR/fpl, rec. rm., convenient to all. Offered at \$379,000. **Rambling 5 BR,** center hall expanded Ranch, den & rec. rm., 4 baths, CAC, half acre on prestigious street, walk village & all. Only \$575,000. **Property, property, property - Central Section,** expanded Ranch on 120 x 200', 4 BR, 3 baths, den, new EIK, CAC, yours for \$599,000. **Estates Colonial - that has it all -** Center hall, ultra modern EIK, fam. rm., 6 BRs, 3 1/2 baths, deck, large deep property, high \$600's. **Put a little Mott** into your life - CH Colonial, LR/fpl, DR, kit., Florida rm., 2 BRs, 1 1/2 baths. Priced to sell \$325,000. **Why Rent? Affordable 1 BR Co-op** heart of village. Private entrance & garage too. Walk to all only \$69,500. **Edwin M. Keusey** 747-1300. gcD2

GARDEN CITY ESTATES Brick Center Hall Colonial. 3 BR, 3 baths, LR/fpl, FDR, den bsmt rec. rm, screened porch, attached 2 car garage. \$400's. Owner 248-8425. gcD3

GARDEN CITY ESTATES Elegant, beautifully decorated & renovated Dutch Colonial. Center hall, 5 BRs, 3 1/2 baths, LR/fpl with authentic Dutch tiles, FDR, sun rm., fin. bsmt. Brass light fixtures, Laura Ashley curtains and wallpaper throughout. Hardwood floors, new EIK with cherrywood cabinets & top of the line appliances, two car garage. New furnace & water heater. House surrounded by dozens of azaleas. Excellent location, within half mile from Mineola & Hempstead train lines. Tullamore Park, Homestead & Stratford Schools just around the corner. By owner. \$495,000. 742-4271. gcD4

BERKSHIRES, COLUMBIA County, Route 82 Ancram, Gallatin, New York. Near Taconic St. Park and Catamont ski area. New England ranch on hilltop, beautiful view, 3 BR, mod. kit. with ceramic floor, picture window. LR/stone fpl, both rms paneled -- beamed ceilings. 5 appliances. Great well with ample water. Full bsmt., oil heat, 2 car insulated garage. Screened breezeway. Fully furnished on 4 acres and 5 house barn. Price \$165,000. Lease purchase option. Adjoining this home, 54 acres with pond. Great deer and turkey hunting. \$200,000. Call collect Florida (407) 498-3452 or (305) 941-3980. hd4

Real Estate For Sale

WATERVIEW ESCAPE! YOUR summer place or year round home. 6 beautifully planned rooms. Great rm., farm style kit., 3 BRs, 2 bath units, 2nd floor deck with fantastic water views. 500 yds. to beach/boating. OHW heat, appliances. Asking \$199,000. Bookmillers Real Estate 722-4423. fx52

GARDEN CITY MOTT Center Hall Colonial, 4 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, LR/fpl, DR, new kit., den, plus fam. rm. with cathedral ceiling. Fin. bsmt., 2 car garage, oversized park-like plot. Mint. Principals only. \$475,000. 746-7507. gcD3

NEW HYDE PARK - BEAUTIFUL Cape in great area. LR, FDR, den, new kit & appliances, new tiled bath. 3 BRs, great fin. bsmt with separate entrance, full kit & new bath. Attached garage, beautiful yard, superb condition throughout. Owner \$255,000. 437-0427. gcD4



GARDEN CITY - NO MONEY Down 2 BR Co-Op, many extras. Central Loc/Sp. End unit 1st fl. - Modern kitchen w/appl. Lease/optin to buy at \$1,200/month with rent applied to purchase price. Move in before winter and get 80% tax break! Call owner 742-0359. gcD2

MINEOLA - THE REGENCY Very large and sunny 1 BR CO-OP. Maintenance 75% deductible. Lowest price. \$74,000 plus 2 months free maintenance. By owner 873-8839. gcFeb1

GARDEN CITY HAMILTON Gardens. Best location. Walk to everything. Large 1 BR apartment. Front to back, quiet top floor, heated garage. \$125,000. Immediate occupancy. Assumable mortgage. gcJ1

MINEOLA PRICED TO SELL Spacious 1 BR, 1 bath Co-op, garage & reserved parking space. Walk to transportation. Must sell. Make offers. Asking \$90's. Broker 747-4045. gcJ1

FOREST HILLS, WOODROW Wilson Apartments. Large, bright 3 1/2 room co-op. Terrace facing 108th Street, 24 hour doorman, large closets, new paint and carpeting, walking distance express trains, bus, shopping. For quick sale by owner. 201-376-3365. hd4

CHERRY VALLEY - MUST SELL 1 BR, new EIK, asking \$79,000. Owner agent. 294-5121. gcD4

IF YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL Check out the Professional Guide in this newspaper. For a low price of just \$10.50 per week you can get your message across to readers of all eight weekly newspapers we publish. Call today for more details. 931-0012

Real Estate For Sale

GARDEN CITY/CHERRY Valley Co-Op. 2 BR second floor end unit. Owner relocated. 703-527-1397 - leave message. gcJ3

GARDEN CITY HEMPSTEAD Mulford Place, large 1 BR in charming building. Decorator bath, closets galore, like new. Must be seen. \$79,900 neg. 489-9666. gcD2

MINEOLA CO-OP GARDEN Plaza. 2 BR, 2 baths, fully renovated, 60% tax deductible. Quiet top floor corner apartment with extras. Walk to LIRR. \$139,000. Principals only. 746-5646. gcD3

GARDEN CITY - NO MONEY down 2 BR Co-Op, end unit 1st floor. Exc. loc. extras. Lease + option at \$1,200/mo. May apply to purchase. Ready for the holidays & get 80% tax break! 742-0359. gcD2

GARDEN CITY/HEMPSTEAD Mulford Place. Large 1 BR in charming building. Decorator bath, closets galore. Like new. Must be seen. \$79,900 neg. 489-9666. gcD2

SUNNY 2 BR CO-OP ON Seventh St., Garden City. Convenient to all. Best location in town. Low maintenance. Asking \$159,000. By owner, 294-9318. gcD3

HOUSE FOR RENT IN GARDEN City South. A spectacular, customized Ranch. 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, fpl, completely fin. bsmt. \$1500 by owner. 489-5640. gcD2

MINEOLA: HORTON HOUSE 1 BR, large LR, secure building. Convenient to RR, hospital, stores. Must sell. \$89,000. By owner, 747-8711. gcD3

GARDEN CITY - CHERRY Valley Co-op: 2 BR, new kit, bath, washer, dryer, dishwasher. Second floor, a/c, wall-wall. Mint condition \$132,000. 741-4248.

GARDEN CITY/CHERRY Valley Co-Op - 1 BR, 1 bath. Prime corner unit facing courtyard. Excellent financing available. No points. \$99,000 Serious inquiries only. 248-1878. Mon. - Fri. gcD3

GARDEN CITY - SEVENTH ST. Co-op. Second floor, totally renovated kit., BR, LR + TV rm. Refinished floors, new windows, 1 car garage. Low \$100's. Owner, 248-6512. gcD3

GARDEN CITY CO-OP - 2 BR second floor unit. Center of Village. One block to LIRR & all shopping. Refinished floors, new windows. Owner \$149,000. 873-9469, leave message. gcD3

SELLING YOUR HOUSE? We can offer you top exposure in the Display Classified Section of Discovery. One low, low price will put your house on the market in over 22 communities! Deadline is Monday of every week for Friday publication. Call immediately. 931-0012

Real Estate For Rent

ROOMMATE WANTED for large new Townhouse. Own BR with separate bath. Close to parkways & shopping. \$700 a month plus utilities plus 2 months security. 679-1897. gcJ1

RENT PROFESSIONAL OFFICE- waiting room, A/C, carpeted, front entrance. Syosset. Reasonable. Call eves. 364-1469. hj1

GARDEN CITY FURNISHED room available for rent. Private entrance, private bath, parking. Convenient to all. No kit. 741-3791. gcJ1

2BR APARTMENT IN NEW Hyde Park. Walk to RR & bus. Heating included. 1 car garage. \$850 month. Call eves 775-5481. gcJ1

FRANKLIN SQUARE - 4 RM apartment. Full bath, clean. Immediate occupancy. \$750 all inclusive. Also 3 rm apartment, clean \$625 a month all inclusive. Near shopping & transportation. 737-2718. gcJ1

TWO BRIGHT SUNNY FURNISHED rooms. Complete LR, complete BR, complete bath. Walking distance to LIRR & bus. Business person preferred. No sharing. Non-smoker. 742-0520. wJ1

BELLEROSE VICINITY: 4 ROOM apt. second floor, in private 2 family house. Young business couple preferred. References. \$650. Principals only. 718-776-7475. gcD2

FRANKLIN SQUARE - 1 BR Apartment, full bath, EIK, utility room with washer/dryer, A/C, wall to wall carpeting, good closet space, private entrance, parking. Walk to RR & stores. Near park. Nice quiet neighborhood. All amenities. Must see. \$750. 775-1475. gcD3

GARDEN CITY VILLAGE: 2 BR, first floor apartment. Immaculate. All appliances, washer/dryer, park like setting. Convenient to everything. Walk to LIRR. \$1200 with option to buy. 741-4088. gcD2

ELMONT BASEMENT APT 1 BR, LR, full bath, efficiency kit., plenty of closet space. Private entrance. \$550 a month included utilities. Mature business person, no children, no pets. 437-4456. gcJ1

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE - fully furnished rm. for rent. Prime Jericho Tpke. location. Reasonable rate, utilities included. Month to month lease. Perfect for CPA, ESQ., etc. Call 248-6922 or 742-2008. gcD3

MINEOLA - STUDIO ROOM furnished. Quiet residential area. No cooking, no smoking. One person only. 747-1110. wD3

FLORAL PARK - BRAND NEW deluxe 3 room apartment. LR, BR, kitchen, fully tiled bath, patio, storage space. LIRR convenient to all. \$625. Owner (516)488-2314. gcD4

Real Estate For Rent

ONE BEDROOM APT IN Bellerose, Queens. EIK, LR, full BR. Second floor, private home. Separate entrance. Mature single person preferred. No pets. Walk to bus, church & stores. \$650 plus gas & electric. Call noon to midnight. 516-333-7898. wD3

HOUSE FOR RENT/CARLE PL. Dream house. 4 BR, 2 1/2 baths, fpl in family room, FDR, EIK, super large house for impressive entertaining. Carle Place schools. Park like grounds, 2 car garage. Sedacca R.E. 747-0020. W-D-2

LINDENHURST AREA: THREE (3) room apt. Private entrance, near Sunrise Highway. Great security. Bedroom, kit & sitting rm, cable included. Private home, upstairs apartment. \$650. 741-9740. wD4

ROOMMATE - WANTED Garden City Apt. to share. Spacious & luxurious 2 BR. Prefer female, near RR. Rent \$600. Call Lisa 742-2991. gcD4

FRANKLIN SQUARE BASEMENT apt. BR, LR, EIK, full bath, near all. Private entrance. No pets, non-smoker. \$600, immediate occupancy. 358-2264. gcD3

NO. LYNBROOK COLONIAL - 4 BRs, 2 baths, breakfast rm., mirrored wall, DR, gas heat, 75 x 150 fenced yard, garage, walk RR. \$1250 mo. Elaine J. Noan 485-7054 or 292-9749. wD2

LEVITTOWN FURNISHED studio, LR/BR combo, Murphy kit., private entrance, private bath, close to parkways. Perfect for quiet non-smoking, working person. \$475/month. Utilities included. No pets. 579-4186. Gentleman preferred. gcJ1

GARDEN CITY FURNISHED small apartment in private home. Separate entrance, walking distance to RR & stores. Utilities included. Single person - non-smoker, non-drinker, no pets. \$400 per month. Reference & security. Call 352-6641. gcD3

CATHEDRAL GARDENS/G.C. border. 3 room apartment located on a quiet cul-de-sac block near RR and shopping. Close to Adelphi/Hofstra. Separate entrance. Gas & Utilities included. Available Jan. 1. \$650 486-0625 or 292-0484. gcD4

HOUSE FOR RENT IN G.C. South. A spectacular, customized ranch. 3 BR's, 1 1/2 baths, fpl, completely finished bsmt. \$1500 by owner. 489-5640. gcD3

APTS FOR RENT: BEAUTIFUL 1 BR, very private; large 1 BR, 1 1/2 baths; beautiful apt. house 2 BRs. Studios: Inexpensive. Royal Realty 742-3355. wD2

BELLEROSE 1 BR APARTMENT Full bath, large kit with dining area, ceramic tile. First floor, private entrance with nice yard, wall to wall carpet. Walk to RR & stores. Nice residential neighborhood. \$675. 292-0484 & 292-0302. gcD4

Real Estate Wanted

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SKI WYNDHAM - SLOPE Side Condo - 3 BR, 2 baths, sauna, fpl, immaculate. Daily, weekly, monthly. (516)536-2668. gcD4

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Beautiful petite round emerald ring, surrounded by diamonds. Brand new. Worth \$500, selling \$250, firm. 747-2435, after 6 p.m. gcJa1

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stove \$75. Hot Point portable dishwasher, 21 1/2" x 24 1/2" x 36" \$75. Mink jacket, fashionable styling \$100, size 10/12. Prices negotiable. 486-7307. gcD2

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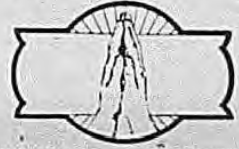
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Novenas

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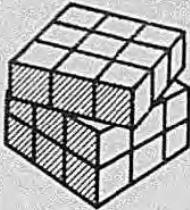
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Welcome Wagon

437-0577

How to dine out with kids

By Eleanor Widmer

When our sons were 3 and 7 years respectively, we found ourselves with the opportunity to spend a year in Europe. My husband was ecstatic. I cringed with dread at the prospect of hauling my children from one foreign dining room to another.

Like all parents, we had had our share of red-faced, howling embarrassment when we took our children to dine. I'm not talking about stopping off for fast food, but escorting them to proper restaurants with waiters and waitresses, china and utensils and sometimes even white tablecloths.

There they drove us crazy by asking every minute, "When is the food coming, when will it get here, what's taking them so looong?"

By the time the dishes arrived, their appetites had waned; they had filled up on too much bread, consumed too much water and managed to spill a glass or two.

Having insisted that they wanted nothing more than meatballs and spaghetti, they now rejected them. As soon as we weren't looking, they draped spaghetti around the salt and pepper shakers and wept copiously because they desired what other patrons were having.

Yet the moment we left the dining room, they not only were famished but also wanted the very food they had scorned.

I'm sure that any parent can report dozens of such incidents. But when we left for Europe, I was determined that we wouldn't be ugly Americans whose children didn't know how to conduct themselves properly.

Long before we arrived in Paris, I explained to our sons that they would have to wear jackets and ties, that cold cereal and milk were not available for breakfast, that they were not to be astonished if they were offered coffee for breakfast — children in Europe routinely drank coffee.

I called upon their patriotic zeal to prove that Americans could have elegant and excellent manners and presented the experience as both a challenge and an adventure.

What can I tell you? It worked.

In general they became knowledgeable about foreign food, learned how to wait between courses, and looked forward to each day's food adventure.

You don't have to embark on foreign tours to achieve the same results. Here are a few guidelines to make your children good diners and to enable you to enjoy yourself when you are out with them.

• Select adult restaurants that serve interesting food.

Your child may be familiar with Chinese offerings, but a Saturday or Sunday *dim sum*, with carts rattling down the aisles, and the vast selection of dumplings, rice wrapped in lotus leaves, shrimp, chicken and pork served in tiny exotic portions will prove fascinating to a child.

And you might try Moroccan or Afghan food, where you can sit on the floor amid pillows. I took a 4-year-old girl to an Afghan restaurant, where she was enthralled by the seating arrangement and was able to eat the least spicy dishes.

The same applies to Japanese restaurants. Either take your place at the *tappan* table where the chef cooks before your eyes, wields his knife and salt and pepper shakers as if he were at a ballet, and puts on a big performance, or request floor seating on *tatami* mats.

Many cities now have restaurants where you either cook raw food on hot rocks (known as hot rock cookery), or where you prepare skewers of raw food to cook on hibachis that are built into the tables. It's true that you have to

instruct your child about table cooking, but children are apt to be better behaved when called upon to meet a challenge.

If you are having pizza, select places where they prepare individual small ones — known in many restaurants as gourmet pizzas — and let your child select his or her own topping.

And, of course, we have ubiquitous salad bars where the offerings may be staggering and the prospect of trying so many different ingredients may prove appealing.

• Always prepare your child well in advance about the type of cuisine that you will be eating. You also have to make clear who will be doing the ordering.

I always allowed my children to decide on their own choice of entree, after relating what the dish consisted of and how it was cooked.

If my sons made mistakes and didn't like their selections, we never made a fuss but took home the uneaten portion, which the adults ate the next day.

If you prefer, you may choose the entree and the child may select dessert.

Unless they are babes in arms, make sure that your child receives an individual plate.

Praise, praise, praise for good behavior, but don't compel the child to finish everything.

• Hope for the best, but always be prepared for the worst.

Even under the best circumstances children get bored easily, require endless trips to the bathroom, squirm in their chairs.

Arrive at an early hour when the restaurants are the least busy and inform your waiter or waitress that you would appreciate fast service.

Call in advance to discover whether the restaurants have high chairs or what their policies are about strollers. Some won't allow strollers because they block the aisles.

You take infants to restaurants at your own risk, but a child at any age is volatile.

Mainly for Seniors

By Leonard J. Hansen

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits will rise by 5.4 percent starting with checks received in January 1991.

Veterans pensions will increase 5.4 percent effective Dec. 1, 1990, but Congress did not authorize a cost-of-living increase for veterans receiving disability compensation.

Medicare Part B premium costs will be increased in 1991, and Congress has cut back on the program budget.

Here are the details:

SOCIAL SECURITY INCREASE

Social Security benefits will show a 5.4 percent increase in checks received Jan. 3, 1991, based on the cost-of-living difference between the third quarter of 1989 and the third quarter of 1990. It is the largest percentage raise since 1982.

For the average Social Security annuitant receiving \$571 per month, the increase will be \$31 to a new average of \$602. Social Security recipients may calculate their expected benefit level by calculating a 5.4 percent increase from the present level and dropping the cents following the decimal point.

Actual benefit checks will not reflect the full cost-of-living increase because in its federal budget resolutions Congress increased Medicare premiums by \$1.30, an amount deducted from Social Security benefit payments.

Cost-of-living adjustments are calculated annually but must be approved by enabling legislation passed by both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and signed by the president.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

Supplemental Security Income checks for low-income beneficiaries will also be increased by 5.4 percent to a maximum of \$407, effective with checks received Jan. 3, 1991.

EARNINGS TEST LEVEL INCREASED

Social Security benefit penalties continue for beneficiaries under the age of 70 who continue to work, but the earning allowance before the reduction of benefits is also increased by the cost-of-living adjustment. Effective Jan. 1, 1991, beneficiaries 65 to 69 years of age may earn \$9,720 in working income before being penalized \$1 for each \$3 earned above that level. Recipients age 62 through 64 who continue to work will now be penalized \$1 for each \$2 earned over 7,080 in gross working income. Investment or non-earned (by working) income is not considered in the benefit-reduction penalties.

Specific legislation was introduced in the 1989/90 congressional sessions to remove the Social Security earnings test and its penalties, but was rejected by Congress. Instead, the legislators opted for small modifications in the program — increasing the threshold of allowable earnings before pen-

alty for workers age 62 through 69 and reducing the penalty from \$1 for each \$2 earned above the threshold level to \$1 for every \$3 earned by workers age 65 through 69.

VETERANS' PENSIONS

Veterans' pensions will increase by 5.4 percent starting Dec. 1, 1990, the amount authorized by Congress — and signed into law in late October by the president — as part of the approved compromise budget and federal deficit-reduction package.

DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Disabled veterans receiving service-connected compensation will receive no cost-of-living increase, according to Linda Stalvey, spokeswoman for the federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

"Somehow there was a mix-up," she stated in an interview. "The House of Representatives approved legislation for a 4.5 percent increase, but it was not taken up by the U.S. Senate. The cost-of-living increase was not included in the budget authorizations in the compromise legislation."

Congress adjourned without approving the adjustment. Payments at present levels to disabled veterans are budgeted and are not threatened and should continue on schedule.

The omission of cost-of-living increases for disabled veterans is sure to raise protest from service and veterans organizations, and government representatives claim that the error will "have to be corrected, either by administrative action or on a priority basis when Congress convenes in January 1991."

COSTS FOR MEDICARE

In the five-year budget agreement in late October, Congress directed a \$25 increase in medical cost deductibles — or cost sharing — paid by senior citizens. Medicare Part B premiums are now scheduled to increase \$16.30 from \$29.90 in 1991 to \$46.20 in 1995. Higher-income workers, starting Jan. 1, 1991, will pay more in Medicare taxes from their paychecks, with gross income of \$125,000 now being subject to taxation, up from \$73,700 in 1990.

Overall, the new budget resolution cut 6 percent from Medicare spending — \$42.5 billion over five years — through new cuts in reimbursement rates to physicians and providers of medical services, and some coverage reductions still to be identified.

Mainly for Seniors

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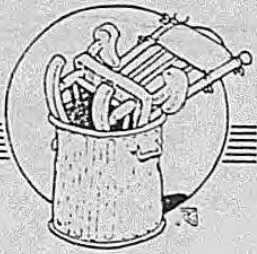
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ANTIQU OR

JUNQUE

By James G. McCollam



'Nippon' mark comes from Japan

Q. Enclosed is a picture of a tea set that is marked with a maple leaf and "Nippon — Hand Painted." It is very delicate and translucent when held up to the light.

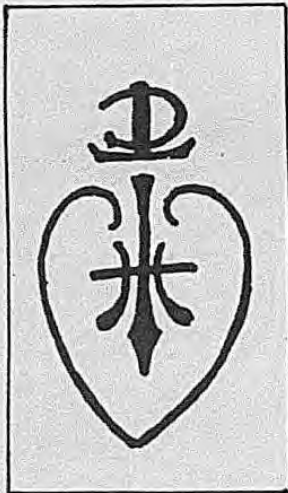
Anything you can tell me would be appreciated.



A. Your 11-piece Japanese tea set was made in the early 1900s. ("Nippon" means "Japan.") It would probably sell for about \$225 to \$235.

Q. The attached mark is on the bottom of my chocolate set, which consists of a pot with six cups and saucers. It is decorated with large pink roses on a brown and white background.

Can you tell me who made this and how much it is worth?



A. This mark was used by the Carl Tielsch Co. in Altwasser, Germany, about 1900. Your 13-piece chocolate set would sell for about \$325 to \$335.

Q. Someone told me that old plastic-case radios are valuable. I have an old Bendix radio in a black and green marbled plastic case. The model number is

526MC. It still works, but the quality of the sound isn't very good.

Does my radio have any value?

A. Small plastic-case radios of the 1930s have become extremely popular with collectors. "The Antique Trader Antiques and Collectibles Price Guide" lists your radio for \$600 to \$800.

Q. I would appreciate any information you can provide about a ceramic figurine marked "WW-Made in Austria." It is a girl sitting on a rock with a drape around her hips and legs. The figure is 6½ inches tall.

A. "WW" stands for Wiener Werkstatte (Vienna Workshop), a studio in Vienna that produced all aspects of the fine arts during the early 20th century. Figures similar to yours have sold in the \$800 to \$900 range.

Q. I have a Windsor chair that everyone thinks is more than 200 years old. It is a comb back with seven spindles and knurled arms. The seat is deeply shaped and is marked on the bottom "Wallace Nutting — 415."

I would appreciate it very much if you could provide any information about this chair.

A. Wallace Nutting made reproduction furniture in Connecticut from 1917 to 1941. His work was so fine that it was often identified as authentic by experts.

Chairs like yours have sold at auction from \$1,100 to \$1,700.

BOOK REVIEW

"Wicker Furniture: A Guide to Restoring and Collecting" by Richard Saunders, Crown Publishers Inc. 201 E. 50th St., New York, NY 10022, \$18.95 plus \$2.00 postage or at your local bookstore.

This book contains detailed information on where to find wicker furniture, how to date it and how to restore it. There are additional clues to detecting reproductions and fakes. This is an important book for dealers and collectors.

Send your questions about antiques with picture(s), a detailed description, a stamped, self-addressed envelope and \$1 per item to James G. McCollam.



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Points on Pets

By R.G. Elmore, D.V.M.

Some facts about golden hamsters

Q. Our children recently were given a golden hamster. We do not know the sex of the animal. How can we tell what it is? We also would appreciate information regarding the reproduction cycle. We are considering getting a second hamster and raising a litter.

A. Hamsters make interesting household pets. They are small and can easily be housed. Since there are commercially available foods specifically for hamsters, feeding these pets is not difficult.

Hamsters are members of the rodent family and are native to the warm regions of Europe and Asia. There are many subspecies. The golden hamster is the most common form found as a pet.

Male and female hamsters can be differentiated from each other after they reach sexual maturity. If the hamster is viewed while it is lying on its back, the male has testicles that fill the scrotum and partially block the view of the tail. The female's entire tail can usually be seen. The female also has an obvious external genital opening that is moist following urination.

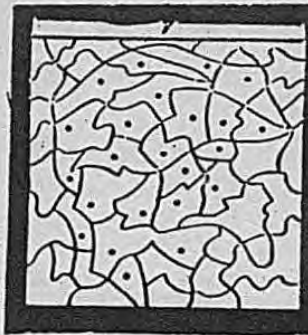
Hamsters reach puberty, the point at which they can reproduce, at a very young age. Although most authorities state that the golden hamster reaches sexual maturity at approximately 42

days of age, occasional animals have been reported to reproduce as early as one month of age. Generally, the female hamster should be 8 to 10 weeks of age and the male should be 12 weeks old before breeding them.

The reproductive cycle of the female hamster lasts four days. When the female hamster is at the peak of her reproductive cycle, she will accept the male's presence. Mating will take place and may last as long as 30 minutes. Pregnancy in hamsters last 16 days. The average litter size is nine. Hamsters are usually weaned at about 3 weeks of age. Mating will occur again about two to three days following weaning. Hamsters usually live for one to three years.



JUNIOR EDITION



Aunt Tilly's Corner

As you can tell by looking in the newspapers and store windows, it's holiday time of year - time to do shopping for Chanukah and Christmas.

I'm sure all my young readers are busily writing lists of gifts they wish to receive and gifts they want to give Mom and Dad, grandparents, brothers and sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins, not to mention friends! It isn't easy.

I try to do my own shopping systematically. First I get presents for people who live far away. I have family members in California, so I have to get them "out of the way" first. Then I go on to the people close by!

Your friend,
Aunt Tilly

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Mail your entry (just clip our cartoon) to this newspaper at:
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YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

Annual benefit increase

By William M. Acosta

Q. Every year there is usually an increase in the Social Security benefits. Will the benefits go up in 1991? — M.H.

A. Social Security beneficiaries will receive a 5.4 percent increase in benefits, beginning with the payments that Social Security beneficiaries receive Jan. 3, 1991. The automatic cost-of-living adjustment is made annually.

Q. I work for the federal government and will be receiving a pension when I retire in two years at age 65. Will I also be able to receive my Social Security benefits? — F.W.

A. If you expect to receive a pension from a job not covered by Social Security and you also have enough Social Security credits to be eligible for retirement, a modified benefit formula may be used to figure your Social Security retirement payment. The modified formula will result in a lower benefit. But your pension from the job not covered by Social Security is not affected by this change. Contact your local Social Security office for additional information.

Q. If I take reduced retirement benefits on my own work record at age 62, can I receive spouse's benefits later when my husband retires? — G.J.

A. You can retire as early as age 62, but your benefit will be

permanently reduced to take account of the longer period of time that you will receive checks. When your husband retires, you can take wife's payments if they would be higher. But remember, your payment will always be reduced.

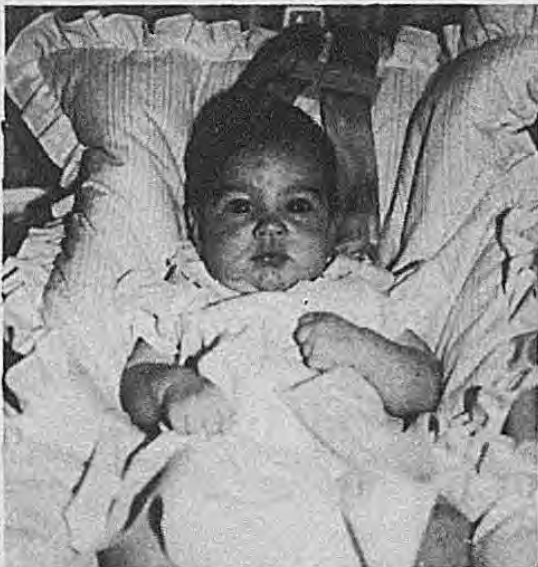
Q. My mother-in-law, who is age 72 and lives with us, has very little income. Is it possible that she could be eligible for Supplemental Security Income even though she was not born in the United States and is not a U.S. citizen? — D.L.

A. To be eligible for SSI, a person must be a U.S. citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence or an alien living in the U.S. under "color of law," that is, allowed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to reside in the United States. Further information is available at any Social Security office.

Questions on Social Security may be sent to William M. Acosta, Social Security Office, 880 Front St., Room 1-N-8, San Diego, CA 92188.

YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

The World's Most Beautiful Grandchildren



Here is one of my latest grandchildren's photo's. She was born August 12, in Kingwood, Texas. She has deep blue eyes, dark brown hair and is 2 months old in this picture. She is a very good baby and of course I think she is beautiful. She has a two and a half year old brother and parents that are so happy.

Elizabeth Hamel
Garden City