

Spotlight on Women

m. m. memos

Someday I may learn that no one is more inflexible than youth at the dinner table.

You just don't try to spring food surprises. I get this message periodically, and it came through again in response to my latest efforts to be a more creative cook.

It was after the weekly battle with the menu list, you see, and I was even more bored than usual with the standard entries. (I don't say entrees because the term doesn't seem to fit hamburgers, hot dogs and grilled cheese sandwiches.)

And I had been reading about these fabulous women who make a culinary adventure of every meal, so I decided to snap out of Kitchon Dullsville.

Well, the first "new" casserole I tried was an advent, but not quite what I had in mind. The girls finally agreed it wasn't too bad if you didn't look.

The next was only a little better. They decided this new use of hamburger might be quite edible if I'd leave out the green pepper next time.

So I turned my attention to a dinner-for-two with the man of our house. And don't tell me that only the young are adventurous. He was much more appreciative of my efforts - at least that's what he said.

So back to the hot dogs and hamburgers and canned soup and the few specialties-of-the-house they've grown up with.

I'll wait a month or so before I go in for creative cookery again.

-Margaret Miller

Chapter Is Given Recognition

The Northville-Plymouth Chapter of the League of Women Voters has been granted recognition from the league's national board.

The chapter was organized on a provisional basis slightly more than a year ago.

Current president of the chapter is Mrs. William McAninch of Plymouth.

Recognition means that the local chapter members may now choose their own local study topics and may announce conclusions of any studies as the official position of the particular branch of the league.

Mel Ravitz will speak at the local chapter's annual dinner meeting Tuesday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Hotel of Plymouth. Ravitz is chairman of the Southeastern Council of Governments and president of the Detroit City Council.

The annual business meeting of the league will begin at 8:30 p.m. following Ravitz's speech.

Once a month, several rooms in St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Livonia turn into a pediatrician's office.

Well, not quite a pediatrician's office, points out Mrs. Laura Rolan, retired nurse who dons her white cap for that first Wednesday afternoon of every month.

"This is a Well Baby Clinic," Mrs. Rolan says. "We can't take anyone with a temperature."

But, for the fee of a dollar per child per visit, families can get regular checkups and standard shots for youngsters from birth until they start kindergarten.

THE SERVICE is provided by a pediatrician and two public health nurses sent by Wayne County Health Department and some willing volunteers who are members of the Livonia Health Guild.

Ladies in the Guild have been working in the clinic for 13 years. The monthly clinics were absent from the scene for several months, but started up again in March.

"And with just one announcement I had two month's appointments filled," said Mrs. Mildred Wheaton, Livonia, who takes calls from parents interested in bringing their children.

Ten examinations are scheduled each first Wednesday in the church located on Five Mile just west of Inkster. Between examinations, quite a few extra babies get shots.

PARENTS and well babies arrive at 12:30 p.m., and members of the Health Guild record the vital statistics. Volunteers working last week were Mrs. Irene Seife, Mrs. Shirley LeTourneau, Mrs. Mildred Wilson, Mrs. Patricia Whitaker and Ann Koschmann, all of Livonia, and Mrs. Dorothy Fischer.

Pediatrician for the day in the April clinic was Dr. Carlos Amaya, who has been with the Livonia clinic several times. He examined the babies with the help of public health nurses Anna Johnson, Mrs. Sharon Burstein and Mrs. Carol Gillis.

Mrs. Rolan was on hand with a sterile cover for the makeshift examining table as each new patient arrived to see the doctor.

"I've headed the clinic ever since we started in the Sheldon Center 13 years ago," she said. "Most of the time I've been the only registered nurse among the volunteers."

Mrs. Rolan, who was night supervisor in the obstetrics department at Herman Kiefer Hospital before her retirement, has been a Livonia resident 33 years and is eligible for her 30-year as an American Red Cross volunteer. She also has been Livonia's Mrs. Senior Citizen.

She finds the clinic a satisfying volunteer work and feels it fills a needed service, with children coming from all over this area - Livonia, Redford Township, Plymouth, Westland, Garden City and Northville.

MRS. WHEATON, a member of the Guild for about four years, joined to help with the clinic. "I like working here better than going to luncheons," she explained. "Parents interested in bringing babies to the clinic can call her at GR 4-738."

The Livonia Health Guild, now 28 years old, has four members a year and also gives other community services like furnishing volunteers for blood banks.

"We also run a loan closet," Mrs. Rolan said, "so families can borrow equipment like hospital beds and wheelchairs. This is just for Livonia residents, and we ask for a \$5 deposit so the items will be returned when people are through with them."

Clinic In Church

Babies Reign Once A Month



CHECKUP - A fit candidate for the Well Baby Clinic conducted monthly in St. Paul Presbyterian Church, Livonia, is small Richard Rickert Jr. He's shown here with his father, Richard Rickert, and Mrs. Edward M. Wilson, a volunteer from the Livonia Health Guild. (Observer photo by Vince White)

Kreskin Last Town Hall Speaker?

Kreskin of ESP fame will be guest speaker at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 16, in what might be the very last Farmington Town Hall program.

Single tickets for the final program in the 1969-70 series will be sold for \$5 at the Northland Theater, Southfield, and sales at that time may have some bearing on the fate of the programs that have been sponsored for three seasons by the Soroptimists of Farmington.

MRS. NADINE CARDWELL, Soroptimist president, had announced at the Town

Hall program last month that the series was being discontinued "due to lack of support from the Farmington area."

"However, since that announcement, we've had many requests to reconsider," Mrs. Cardwell added.

"We are reconsidering, and we hope to have announcement this month."

KRESKIN, who has become known as Mr. ESP through many television appearances, will involve his audience in extra-sensory perception demonstrations as part of his theater talk.

He also will be guest at a celebrity luncheon following the lecture in Glen Oaks Country Club, 13 Mile west of Middle Belt.

LUNCHEON TICKETS may be reserved by calling Elsa Zietke, 474-7126, or Mrs. Alice DePodesta, 474-1111.

The Farmington Town Hall has since its inception been the project of the Soroptimist group. Three four-lecture series have been presented, with a major share of the profits going into a fund to build a new YMCA for Farmington.



KRESKIN

That's Gwen Frostic

A Life In Tune With Life

By GLENNA MERRILLAT

Gwen Frostic's whole life is a statement of harmony with nature.

So her eloquent plea for the preservation of our environment, made last week before the Plymouth Woman's Club, had an impact hard to equal even in this day when many others are taking up the cause of ecology.

Miss Frostic, artist and writer who makes her headquarters on an 83-acre tract in the small northern Michigan town of Benzonia, is internationally known for her love of nature.

"I like to think that we are not making notepaper, cards or books, but that we are bringing you the first violet of spring, the wind in the trees and serenity," she said.

HER POETIC philosophy was laced with humorous happenings in her mail-order business.

One such tale involved a little old lady who returned a box of chickadee notes with the following scolding:

"These do not in any way resemble chickadees!"

A lively correspondence ensued, Miss Frostic replied, "I am returning your money, the postage and the six cents for the stamp on your letter."

To this she couldn't resist adding, "But if you have ever sat in the woods and watched these little birds, you would recognize them."

Miss Frostic then received a post card that said: "I have."

"With a mailing list of 167,000, I figured we could do without one little old lady, so we removed her name," Miss Frostic said.

But several months later a letter in familiar handwriting found its way to Miss Frostic's desk. It was from the little old lady. It was a 50 cent piece in the envelope and a note which said:

"I've been thinking it over, and they weren't half bad."

IN A MORE serious vein Miss Frostic talked of ecology.

"Only if man finds a way to correlate his needs with the universe will there be any time beyond now. The answer does not lie with the government or a large group. You must work individually within your hearts to bring about the world you need," she said.

Miss Frostic said that we stand now where no man has stood before - on the brink of destruction by his own hand.

"When a tree is cut a crucial link to purifying the air is destroyed," she said. "Let each thing fill its vital niche - the birds, the floods of spring - man is part of that balance - things do not exist for man alone."

She added that we cannot turn backward, stopping auto production or closing industries, in order to solve the problem, but that we must engineer creative procedures that do not destroy.

"Let no one deny the problem, but let us develop a deep reverence for all life. Do not let us destroy a growing plant or kill a spider simply because it is there."

"The web that the spider is spinning is necessary to the great web in which all life is involved," she said.

ONCE AGAIN her humor came to the surface as she told a story involving one of her books, "Wingborne."

"We have fun with these books. When we were doing 'Wingborne' there was a little duck outside my window that wanted to be in the book."

"I told him he'd have to wait; this one was almost finished, but he could be in the next book."

"So he wanted to be in this one, so we put him in. We put his head in one section and his tail in another."

"A shipment of 30 books went to California and was

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GWEN FROSTIC and her chickadees

This Earth... with its great green trees... its infinite life... and boundless beauty... the only earth there'll ever be