

Home ec classes lose stereotype

By BARBARA UNDERWOOD

One day the days when home economics meant cooking and sewing, period.

Although many people still believe these are the only options available to a student who studies home economics, the opposite is true, according to Susan Henry, home ec teacher at Groves High School in Birmingham.

"Home economics is starting to lose its stereotype where people think of it only as cooking and sewing," she said recently. "And the student who takes home economics is preparing for a number of careers, not just homemaking."

Ms. Henry hopes more students (male and female) will enroll in home economics courses in high school and is working to promote the courses during registration for second semester classes this week.

"I have only 60 students this semester, and that's not many in a school of 1,600," she said. "I see no reason why that can't be doubled."

BEGINNING CLOTHING and foods classes and a child development class were offered first semester. Second semester courses being offered are advanced foods and clothing and a family life class.

"An interior design course was offered fall semester, but not enough students enrolled," Ms. Henry said. In past years it has been most popular, but the child development class draws the greatest number of students now.

Classes are co-ed, with almost equal numbers of girls and boys, another indication that home economics is slowly losing its stereotyped image, Ms. Henry said.

Among the careers available to home economics graduates are hotel and restaurant management, interior design, consumer education, family health and safety, child development, home management, clothing and textiles and foods and nutrition.

"There are so many opportunities and more opening up all the time, even for males," Ms. Henry said.

CAROLYN CLARK, a junior at Groves and a student representative to the Consumer and Home Economics Advisory Committee, said, "There are ways to get people involved in home economics."

One way that is being tried is to go into the junior high schools to introduce students to the courses and careers available in home economics.

In the Birmingham School District, seventh graders now are required to take a general course which includes sewing, foods and babysitting. A required eighth-grade course offers sewing, foods and interior decorating.

Ninth graders may elect beginning foods or clothing or creative crafts.

Students in the secondary schools will be electing courses for the 1978-79 school year soon and Ms. Henry hopes

"to get an interior design class going," and also one in consumer education.

THERE IS NO prerequisite class for students who wish to enroll in interior design. Only juniors and seniors are eligible for the child development class, but there is no other prerequisite.

Also, there are no specific high school courses required for students who elect to go into home economics in college, Ms. Henry said.

She is so anxious to increase enrollment in home economics courses that she said, "I will take as many kids as I can get. I could teach 150 students each semester."

High school foods and clothing classes have changed in recent years, she said. Students are no longer told they

must make a skirt and blouse in a beginning sewing class.

"They can make almost anything they want as long as there is skill involved," she said. "It's no longer an A-line skirt with a zipper and a waistband."

Skills they must complete include two kinds of zippers, waistband or cuff, two kinds of hems, seam finishes and a collar.

Foods instruction "hasn't changed that much," she said. "We talk about fats and diets and don't teach nutrition as such but incorporate it into units we cover, such as meat."

Ms. Henry is a 1977 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She was a substitute teacher until June and was hired at Groves the day before school started in September.



SNOWMOBILE CLOTHING AT DISCOUNT PRICES

Midwest and Raven snowmobile clothing for the whole family at discount prices. Complete range of sizes starting from child's 3 to adults 4X. We also have longies for you tall folks.

SNOWMOBILE PARTS

WE HAVE A LARGE LINE OF SNOWMOBILE REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR CURRENT AND OLD MODEL MACHINES AT DISCOUNT PRICES.

Raven Junior One-Piece Suit

Reg. \$64 **NOW \$32**

RECREATIONAL LEISURE CORP.

30717 WEST 10 MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS 477-0212
HOURS: MON. 9-9 WEEKDAYS 9-6 SAT. 9-4



START 1978 IN STYLE DURING OUR JANUARY CLEARANCE

PURCHASE ANY SHIRT FROM OUR STORE AT ITS ORIGINAL PRICE AND HAVE YOURSELF ANOTHER...

FREE!

MAKE YOUR CHOICE FROM OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF TOP DESIGNER NAMES IN DRESS OR SPORTSHIRT STYLES.

SUITS & SPORTCOATS

VALUES TO \$300.00
SAVE UP TO **50% OFF**

FEATURING SUCH DESIGNER NAMES AS... • LANVIN • BOTANY 500 • PHOENIX • STANLEY BLACKER • GEOFFREY BEENE • HARDY AMIES and more

OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF	VALUES TO \$50.00	VALUES TO \$75.00
TOP COATS & OUTERCOATS	DRESS & CASUAL SLACKS	DESIGNER FOOTWEAR
20 to 50% OFF	20 to 50% OFF	20 to 50% OFF
VALUES TO \$200.00	JAYMAR • RUBY • HAGGAR & OTHERS	FRENCH SHRINER • FREEMAN
SWEATERS	• DAMON • HIMALAYA • FORUM	20 TO 50% OFF
VALUES TO \$80.00		



Food stamp policy changes

Because of recent changes in federal policy, some senior citizens who have been ineligible for food stamps may now be entitled to the food subsidies.

According to a report from the Southfield Senior Adult Center, persons who receive rent subsidies from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) may now be able to receive food stamps because the rent subsidy cannot be included when calculating income for food stamp eligibility.

Property tax refunds and federal earned income credits also are excluded from income when determining eligibility for food stamps.

The report, published in the Southfield Scribe, a newspaper for senior adults living in Southfield, said other changes will affect people who own rental property. They do not have to include several items in determining their net rental income for food stamp eligibility. These items include: interest payments on mortgages, taxes, expenses incurred for upkeep of property, and insurance on rental property. Persons should contact the local food stamp office to determine if they are eligible for the benefits.

According to the Michigan Department of Social Services, persons affected by these rule changes may be entitled to additional food stamps if their application was denied. Or, they may be entitled to a cash refund if they were found eligible but were charged too much for their food stamps because of the HUD rent subsidy.

Interior Design

M. Elene Schoenly Interiors

Oliver T. Weidner, A.S.D.
William R. Caville, A.S.D.
Mary Lou Schmidt
Caroline Palkian-Torley, A.S.D.

Commercial Residential
325 South Eton • Birmingham • 846-7660

GARAGE DOOR OPENERS

BY ALLIANCE

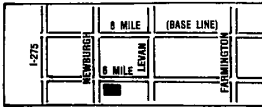
Genie MODEL GS 450
\$17500

INSTALLED
SOLID STATE CONTROLS
\$185.00 DIGITAL CONTROLS

1 YEAR WARRANTY

ANTENNA SERVICE CO.
WESTLAND PARTS & SERVICE PONTIAC
328-7575 335-5079

Alterations at Cost
No Refunds
on Sale Merchandise



STEPHEN BRUCE LTD

NEWBURGH PLAZA
(at 6 Mile & Newburgh)
LIVONIA
CALL: 464-0766

STORE HOURS: Monday-Friday 10-9, Saturday 10-6
We Honor All Major Credit Cards

"An educated consumer is our best customer"