



Temptation

Actress Jacqueline Flannery of Southfield plays a chorus girl, that particularly tempting species of turn-of-the-century womanhood, in the Eugene O'Neill comedy "Ah, Wilderness!" at Henry Ford Museum Theatre, Fridays and Saturday through Sept. 9. The play is the story of young Richard Miller, portrayed by Mark Johannes, and his day of wild rebellion in a conservative New England town. Ms. Flannery, who also is a regular in Greenfield Village's Old Time Summer Festival this year, is the daughter of Southfield City Clerk Patrick Flannery. Showtime for "Ah, Wilderness!" is 8:30 p.m. and admission is \$3.

Tomatoes pass acid test

Tomatoes are the most popular home-canned food, but recently the traditional canning method has been questioned.

"During the past few years, concern has arisen as to whether tomatoes are acidic enough for canning in a boiling water bath," says Lois Thieleke, Oakland County Home Economist with the Cooperative Extension Service.

Research has shown that most varieties of tomatoes are sufficiently acidic for boiling water bath canning as long as they are firm, ripe and without bruises.

Tomatoes lose acidity as they mature, so she suggests never using overripe ones, or tomatoes with soft spots or decayed areas, even if only a small portion of the tomato is affected.

Cherry and yellow tomatoes, although seed catalogs sometimes describe them as "low acid," are suitable for canning in boiling water. However,

certain varieties—especially Ace, Ace 55, VF, Cal Ace and Garden State—are sometimes low in acidity.

Although the risk is minimal, Michigan State University food scientists suggest adding acid when canning any of these varieties. You may wish to add acid to other varieties as an extra measure of insurance.

Either bottled lemon juice or crystalline citric acid will raise the acidity of the tomatoes. It's better to add the acid to the top of the jar than the bottom.

Do not use fresh lemon juice, vinegar or a tomato canning tablet. The acidity of fresh lemon juice may vary; vinegar is less effective than bottled juice, and the tablets contain less than the suggested amount of citric acid.

To minimize spoilage, tomatoes should be washed thoroughly before canning.

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