



the lively needle

Mary Kay Davis

Mailman brings array of letters

I love to get letters and thank you for writing them. My mail is always interesting and sometimes it edges over into the hysterical. Let me share a couple of goodies with you.

Normal letters run to announcements from museums, shows and galleries concerning exhibitions and demonstrations that might interest you. These make the column if they arrive a month in advance, while the next month's columns are in production. If they arrive the week before the event, they probably don't even get read in time. Mary's columns, God willing, will be in the editor's hands by April 16.

Letters mailed to this newspaper's office get picked up whenever I drop by, which isn't very often. Mail sent to P.O. Box 1077, Birmingham, 48012 gets read and copied with on time.

After one column on my private Battle of the Buge, this letter appeared. (I think I stated my problem a little.)

"DEAR MARY KAY,

How awful you must feel to be so obese! And just think of what you're doing to your arteries and to your veins by carrying (sic) all that blubber around with you. It's a wonder something hasn't happened to you before this.

I graduated from ——— with a phys. ed. major so you know I know what I'm talking about. I can peel that flab right off you in no time at all. My ladies usually pay me \$25 every exercise class but I'll give you your first one free at no charge whatever. Please call me at 222- ——— to tell me when you're coming. And do it soon because you owe it to yourself."

A column on antique quilts produced this one:

"Dear Mary Kay,

I was interested to read about your collection of old quilts. I have a lot of old ones that my mother made back in Kentucky. They're all hand made and she was always working on the damn things. They're taking up a lot of room. Do you think they're worth any money?

I could get them out of the trunk and put them on the bed for you to see if you could come around to my apartment. Call 222- ——— after 6 p.m. because my wife just divorced me."

But the very best arrived a few weeks ago scribbled on a Chat-ham Good Neighbor Free Message form. It was addressed, God knows why, to me.

"Psychiatric Clinic Business for Sale. Best offer acceptable. Gross over \$150,000. Annually. Office furniture available also three-plus N.Y. Carpeting. Dr. ——— 2-19-80. 1-313-222- ———"

(I had to check — the number's in Flint and this column doesn't run there.)

I want you to know that I'm declining all of these kind offers. However, if any of you want to take them up, all you have to do is write me a letter.

volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of volunteer opportunities. Further information about these and other volunteer needs at over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau at 642-7272. Any non-profit organization needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau.

base reading, writing, math and money management are needed by The Association for Retarded Citizens in Birmingham. Time commitment is for two or three hours per week in the afternoon or evening.

INFORMATION DESK — Weekend volunteers are needed by Providence Hospital, Southfield, to staff the information desk. The hours are Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Sunday 5:30-8:30 p.m. Training is provided.

TUTOR — Volunteers who can teach

Gerald's of Franklin presents



BARB MAZER
Fashion Consultant



BARB CAREY
Fashion Consultant

The New You ... Spring Forecasts

We're giving it all to you in an all New Spring Fashion Workshop.....

\$30

1st week ...

The Spring Collectables - Investment buying, new colors, shapes & lengths.

2nd week ...

Finishing touches - spot-lites on accessories & the new hair trends.

3rd week ...

What's right for you - Our fitness expert will demonstrate no-nonsense tips on fitness & diets. Learn how to camouflage figure problems.

Two classes each Monday
Beginning April 14th-21st
9:30-11:30 AM 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Call:

Gerald's of Franklin

628-7176
FOR YOUR REVISIONS
32770 FRANKLIN RD.

Create your own rainbows



If there's not a rainbow in the sky, your child can bake one in the oven and put sunshine in any day. (Photo by Pat Bordman)

Did you ever hear of chasing rainbows? How about the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? Or the song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow?"

Rainbows have inspired stories, folk tales, and wishes. They have held people in suspended fascination over their beauty and fantasy-like appearance. That an image of such translucent beauty can appear in the sky unbidden, then disappear just as mysteriously is truly the stuff of magic for a child.

Nothing will touch your child's imagination like the chance to eat a rainbow! Here's how:

- 1 cup soft butter
- ¾ cup white sugar
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- ½ tsp. baking soda
- ½ tsp. salt
- food coloring

Mix the butter, sugars, egg, and vanilla together. Set aside. Blend together flour, soda, and salt. Now, combine with the sugar mixture. Divide the resulting dough into four or more parts.

Color each part with food coloring to make a color of the rainbow. Then, on waxed paper, place each color of dough and form into a strip about 4



Pat Bordman

inches wide and one-fourth inch thick.

Stack the strips on top of each other. Press them down so the stripes will stick together. Wrap them in waxed paper and refrigerate overnight.

When the dough has thoroughly chilled, slice it in one-quarter inch slices. Gently curve the slice into an arch. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet for about seven minutes at 375 degrees. Now, go munch a rainbow.

PATRICIA BORDMAN has taught elementary school and conducted workshops and lectures on education. While attending Oakland University graduate school, she became interested in photography. She and her husband have two daughters and live in Farmington Hills.

© Patricia Bordman 1980

Save energy—but don't get ripped off

We'd like to insulate our home but are afraid to choose a contractor. One of our neighbors was badly taken by a company that used inferior material. Where can I go for good advice?

Mrs. John C., Jr. Livonia

With increased public interest in saving energy comes an increase in the possibility of unsafe products and consumer fraud in energy product sales and servicing. If you have a complaint or a question about the safety of an energy device — insulation, solar equipment, an automotive device, etc. — contact your state consumer protection office. The address is Richard Knechtges, Fraud Prevention Specialist, Michigan Energy Administration, Michigan Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 30228, Lansing, 48909 or call 800-292-4704.

Has saccharin been cleared as a carcinogen or will it be banned?

Fred M., Bloomfield Hills

According to the National Cancer Institute, sac-

consumer mailbag

charin is a weak carcinogen and should be regarded as a potential risk in causing bladder cancer. In a 15-month study of 9,000 persons, the NCI observed that heavy users of artificial sweeteners, especially those consuming both diet drinks and sugar substi-

tutes, had a 60 percent higher risk of bladder cancer than non-users. The Food and Drug Administration tried to ban saccharin in 1977 but Congress imposed a 10-month moratorium on the FDA's proposal. The moratorium has since expired, but saccharin is still being used as a food additive.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions on consumer and environmental issues. Address mail to Concern, Inc., Detroit, One Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

Classes offered

Sex roles, ferns and unidentified flying objects are among the topics of spring classes for adults at Cranbrook Institute of Science, 500 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills.

Classes beginning in April and May are:
"Measuring Planetary Motion," beginning at 7:30 p.m. April 15; "Fun With Ferns," beginning 7:30 p.m. April 15; "Reptiles: Past and Present," begin-

ning 7 p.m. April 16.
"Creative Close-Up Photography," beginning at 10 a.m. April 13; "Mushrooms," beginning 7:30 p.m. April 24; "Introductory Lapidary," beginning at 7 p.m. April 17 and May 15.
"Faceting and Advanced Lapidary," beginning at 7 p.m. April 15; "Basics of Birding," beginning at 7:30 p.m. April 14; "Sex Roles," beginning at 7 p.m. April 15.

Al Kay Jewelers Presents
its First

RING IN SPRING SALE

For 3 Days Only
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 12, 13

HONEST TO GOODNESS

40% OFF EVERYTHING IN STOCK*

All 14 & 18KT mounted goods, chains, bracelets, watches & giftware
All Sales Final

Al Kay Jewelers

27831 SOUTHFIELD RD.
LATHRUP VILLAGE, MI 48076
PHONE: 559-5780
MON-SAT 10-5:45, FRI TIL 8:30
SUN 10:00-5:00

*Loose semi-precious & precious stones and all labor charges excluded

ASH WALLPAPER CO.

Fine Wallcoverings Since 1948

OVER 600 BOOKS INCLUDING

- Marimekko • Greeff • Bob Mitchell
- Manuscreens • Charles Barone • Schumacher

We will match any Advertised Discount on Wallcoverings!

Come in for Professional Aid in your selection

ASH WALLPAPER CO.

2374 FRANKLIN ROAD
Just N. of Square Lake Road - E. of Telegraph
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am to 5 pm 858-7010

BILL WILLIAMS STUDIO

The Thirty Second Annual

PERSONALITY CHILD CONTEST AND PORTRAIT SALE

For every child under 6 years old \$9.95
One 8x10 Camera Color Portrait
A regular \$33.50 Value

Contest Opens Feb. 29th
Closing date April 12th

1st Prize - \$100
2nd Prize - \$50
3rd Prize - \$25

Make your appointment NOW

Studio Contest Hours
9:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Monday thru Friday

We use Kodak paper. For a good look.

Take advantage of our special discount prices from a nice selection of proofs

bill williams
STUDIO, INCORPORATED

Our New Studio
Walled Lake - 669-2220
2159 Pontiac Trail
Closed on Mondays

Royal Oak - 548-7660
1107 Crooks Road

WINDOW DECOR DECLARES WAR

WE WILL BEAT YOUR BEST PRICE

Michigan's Largest Selection of Brand Name Vertical & Horizontal Blinds Complete Line of Graber Products

Reduce Installation Charge With This Ad

Free Decorative Ideas in most cases

WINDOW DECOR

by Les Wright
Commercial & Residential
new 1980 patterns, fabric & style
EXPERT INSTALLATION

No measurement charge
No freight charge
In most cases
Operators on Call 7 Days

100's of Fabric Styles to choose from
call for appointment
FREE ESTIMATES

642-5515