

consumer mailbag

Parallel lines for pricing

What are the black lines appearing on food labels?

F.C. Redford

Many food labels now include a small block of parallel lines of various widths, with accompanying numbers. This is the Universal Product Code (UPC). The code on a label is unique to that product.

Some stores are equipped with computerized checkout equipment that can scan the code and automatically ring up the sale.

In addition to making it possible for stores to automate part of their checkout work, the UPC, when used in conjunction with a computer, also can function as an automated inventory system. The computer can tell management how much of a specific item is on hand, how fast it is being sold, and when and how much to order.

You mention Region V of the EPA in your col-

umn often when referring to pollution problems.

What is Region V?

J.S. Troy

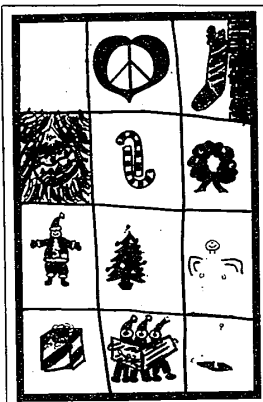
Region V is the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency that serves Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

As part of a nationwide effort, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Region V functions in cooperation with other Federal agencies, state governments and communities to maintain and improve the quality of the environment in these six states.

ECO-TIP

Use self-cleaning ovens sparingly; self-cleaning ovens use large amounts of energy.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions. Address letters to Concern Inc. Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.



For mentally ill

A child at Fairlawn Center in Pontiac drew the design for this card that benefits the Mentally Ill Children. Cards at \$6 for 25 may be ordered from Mrs. James T. Riley, 1285 Indian Mound West, Birmingham, 48010.

Counselors discuss sexual matters

"Dimensions in Human Sexuality" is the title of the Michigan Personnel and Guidance Association's 16th annual convention.

Scheduled for the Renaissance Center Nov. 16-18, the convention is expected to draw 2,000 participants. The participants — counselors, educators, parents and human-services personnel — will get the chance to explore both professional and personal attitudes about changing sexual, moral and social issues.

Mary Calderone, M.D., will kick off the convention as the Monday morning keynote speaker. Internationally recognized as the president and co-director of SIECUS (Sex Information and Education Council of the United States), she will speak on "Sexuality in Infancy and Early Childhood: Implications for Society."

Other nationally recognized speakers invited in-

clude Dr. Paul Gebhard, director of the Institute for Sex Research-Bloomington, Ind.; Dr. Richard L. Prentiss, professor of psychology at SUNY, N.Y.; and Dr. Robert Koldny, associate director of the Masters and Johnson Institute, St. Louis, Mo.

There will be 80 other presentations either directly on topics in the field of human sexuality or on other selected issues relating to the field of dance and counselor education.

A pre-convention workshop will be offered to interested participants. There also will be two informative and festive evenings on Sunday and Monday nights.

The general public is welcome and there will be registration at the door.

For further information contact June E. Wilson, publicity co-chairperson: 2739 Berry Dr., Bloomfield Hills.

Livonia art purchase show announced

The Livonia Cultural League, with the Livonia Arts Commission, will sponsor their first, international purchase award show for 1981. Two \$1,000 purchase awards will be made and the works chosen will be hung in the new Livonia City Hall. Both winners will also be selected. Entries will be pre-screened for content and invited entries will be

judged and exhibited in an art show planned for March 1-20.

Entries can't be larger than three by five feet excluding frame. Oil, acrylic, watercolor, collage and mixed media works are acceptable. Lithographs, woodcuts, silkscreen and other multiple print works aren't acceptable.



Juvenile diabetes

Two youngsters waiting for Santa carry the message of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation for Christmas card purchasers this year. The cost is \$8 for a box of 25 white cards with green envelopes, and they may be ordered from the foundation at 18551 Southfield, Lathrup Village 48076. Telephone orders may be placed by calling the foundation, 569-6171, between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., weekdays.

Skiers' weekends to start

Every Friday at 6 p.m., starting Jan. 9, a special chartered bus will leave the Bavarian Village Ski Shop on Woodward, south of Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills for Sugar Loaf Mountain Ski Resort near Traverse City, for a skiing weekend. The trip includes non-stop round trip by special bus, lodging Friday and Sat-

urday night, breakfast Saturday and Sunday, a special skiers' banquet Saturday night, lift tickets, group ski lessons and two full days of skiing.

Total cost of the weekend ski package is \$139.50 per person, based on a double occupancy. Reservations with a \$35 deposit can be made at any Bavarian Village Ski Shop.

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 Eject, fast forward, rewind, play, stop & record buttons. Carry handle & earphone jack. "C" cells, or AC adapter. (not included). Ages 3-up.
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MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:30 AM - 10 PM SUNDAY 9:30 AM - 8 PM

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LIVONIA 28150 W. 7 Mile Rd. W. HIGHWAY 24 945-1111	SOUTHFIELD 27000 Southfield Rd. at Woodward 352-1111	FLINT 3250 S. Linden Rd. at Market Rd. 352-1111	GRAND RAPIDS 3250 S. Linden Rd. at Market Rd. 945-1111	TOYS 'R' US

101 STORES COAST TO COAST