

retiree: t memos  
**Margaret Miller**

# Where the shows of yesteryear play

Like most retirees, Joe and I spend more time watching television than we used to. At least, we spend more time looking at our 25-inch screen.

But mostly it's tuned to cable movies, or films we've recorded, or cable rebroadcasts of old shows, or independent station's broadcasts of a few quiz shows, or assorted sports events. In fact, except for the evening news, big games and "60 minutes," we have virtually nothing to do with NBC, CBS or ABC.

We've talked about this recently, harking back to the remembered remark of former Federal Communications Commission Newton Minow (yes, we did a lot of groping before Joe came up with the name.) What he said more than two decades ago was that network TV was a "vast wasteland." We didn't fully agree then, but the more we see now the more we think the term fits the scene today.

IN THE DAYS when we were hard-put to find television watching time, there were a number of network drama shows we really enjoyed, "The Untouchables," "Kojak," "Columbo" and "Ironside" are a few that come to mind.

All but the second TV life of Raymond Burr we can do catch occasionally in reruns now. And doing so proves to us that nothing in today's lineup compares in quality, though we keep trying shows recommended by daughters -- "Cagney and Lacey," "Cheers," "Crazy Like a Fox" and even

the highly-acclaimed "Murder, She Wrote."

Network mini-series, it seems to us, have taken a similar slide. "The North and the South," the most recent offering we didn't finish was a far cry from "Roots" and "The Winds of War." Even public television seems less enticing in its recent offerings. We gave up on "Bleak House" and more or less hung in there on "The Citadel." What has become of the beautifully done dramas that used to be eagerly awaited Sunday evening?

ONE VIEWING pleasure is just about the way it used to be. We have to record "Jeopardy" to watch it in the evening instead of morning, but we enjoy it as much as we did when we watched it with the girls quite a few years ago.

Our watch-list never did include situational comedy, except for "M.A.S.H." But in retirement we have discovered rebroadcasts of "Barney Miller" on cable, and we gladly put up with its canned laugh-track to enjoy its marvelous writing and acting.

Writing, of course, is the key, and it seems to us quality writing just isn't often there any more. Why not? I leave the question to others. I'm retired.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for Observer Newspapers for 16 years. She and her husband Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.

## Bahler-Edwards

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bahler of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Margaret Kain to John J. Edwards, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Edwards of Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School and the University of Michigan. She is employed with Lauer Associates in McLean, Va. Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan and is employed by Edwards Brothers of Silver Spring, Md.

A December wedding is planned in Mercy Center.



## Sharette-Martin

Mr. and Mrs. Roland J. Sharette of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Denise Suzanne to Vern Phillip Martin, son of Elinor Maltr of Berkley.

The bride-to-be is employed as a paramedic with Suburban Ambulance Service and her fiancé is employed with the Royal Oak Fire Department.

A May wedding is planned in First Methodist Church of Royal Oak.



# Behind small script is persuasive talker



graphology  
**Lorene Green**

Dear Lorene:  
Ever since you were a guest speaker at our club meeting, I became fascinated with the study of graphology. I have noticed a big change in my handwriting from grade school. It was very small, then straight up and down, and now it is as you see it.

I am 33 and right-handed. I would appreciate if you could analyze my handwriting. Also, could you venture a guess as to my profession. Thanks ever so much.

D.R.,  
Livonia,

Dear D.R.:  
All factors must be taken into consideration, so it is a little risky to make a determination without seeing the actual handwriting sample. However, I can tell you that small handwriting is a sign of good concentration and interest in mental challenges.

Vertical handwriting is done by the objective person whose mind rules her heart.

And your present style, which is larg-

er and right slanted, tells me you are probably more social and outgoing than you were previously. In new situations or relationships you may still be a tad inhibited.

THE UPWARD SLOPE to your lines

tells me you are usually optimistic and look on the bright side of life and living. However, a few lower loop endings are drooping and your spirits were also doing a little of that at the time of this letter. Some signs of worry are here too.

You can be a rather persuasive talker and enjoy an upbeat conversation. Thinking is done methodically and logically. You do not rely on intuition for your answers. You are well organized, neat and orderly with a sense of pride evident in what you do. Also you are interested in growing and improving yourself.

If you would like to have your handwriting analyzed through this newspaper, write to Lorene C. Green, a certified graphologist. Age, signature and handedness are all helpful. Feedback is always welcome.

## Accessories for tea are on display

The special exhibit in Plymouth Historical Museum is featuring items used to serve tea such as tea pots, tea caddies, spoons and tins, which held tea, and tea cups and saucers.

Ceramic tea services consisted of a

tea pot, cream and sugar, cups and saucers and a cake plate, and were used to serve afternoon tea. For many years tea did not come in bags but was sold loose in tins and then stored in caddies.

Also on display are hair wreaths, a

lamp and a statue used as memorials during the Victorian Era.

The Plymouth Historical Museum, 165 S. Main, Plymouth, is open 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for youth and 25 cents for children.

## Volunteers are called

Persons interested in volunteering at Common Ground, Oakland County's 24-hour crisis center, are invited to attend an orientation session at 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at Common Ground, 1090 S. Adams, Birmingham. No appointment is necessary. For other information about volunteer opportunities at Common Ground, call Karen Conway, coordinator of volunteers, at Common Ground's business line, 645-1173.

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