

editorial opinion

Jackie Klein writes

Kollege kids learn lots

The kids who go to kollege these days really soak up the kulthur. They have a lot of kouth and klass—all third.

Gary Friedman, budding photographer of the Observer & Eccentric, is a shining example of erudition. Here's how he identified the following in a fine arts quiz in his kollege journalism class.

1. "The Scarlet Letter"—"I got one once from a rich friend who invited me to his Bar Mitzvah."

2. "The Zoo Story"—"Once upon a time there was this little zoo with three bears and three little pigs. One day the three bears ate the three little pigs and now we have one less bedtime story to read."

3. Venus Di Milo—"First wife of Aristophanes."

4. OPHELIA—"Second wife of Aristophanes."

5. Aristophanes—"He's the guy who split when he couldn't pay alimony to his first and second wives."

6. The Last Supper—"It was last night at a cafeteria in Birmingham. The hamburger was pretty decent but the French fries were greasy."

7. Arturo Toscanini—"It's a special brand of meat sauce you put on spaghetti."

8. "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"—"I try not to because it's usually colder than hell on a winter night, and I'm allergic to wood."

9. The Parthenon—"The building in Greece or Italy or wherever that they copied the Lincoln Memorial from."

10. Emily Dickinson—"She's the fine, nice, good all-around American lady who invites you over to her house for cookies and milk."

11. "HEDDA GABLER"—"She's the nice Jewish lady down the street who makes sure you have enough chicken soup on Friday night."

12. "The Lady's Not For Burning"—"Raquel Welch."

13. Erle Stanley Gardner—"Some country Wheeler dealer who doesn't know how to spell his first name."

14. "Ship of Fools"—"The Poseidon Adventure."

15. Edna St. Vincent Millay—"A lady whose name is too long for her driver's license."

16. "The Wife of Bath"—"The husband of dirt. Makes almost as much sense as his wife."

17. "The Murders in the Rue Morgue"—"Just look on the front page of the Detroit papers every day."

18. Fortia—"It's a really neat-o car that has a neat-o price tag."

19. CORDELIA, Goneril and Regan—"The mistresses of Ronald Reagan. But how did anyone find out?"

20. Katherine Cornell—"A lady who was the first to try out for the boy's football team so they named a university after her."

21. Willy Loman—"The main character in 'The Death of a Salesman' who didn't know how to drive."

22. Christopher Plummer—"He's the great, great grandfather of Joe the plumber who discovered Drano in America."

23. "The Illiad"—"First cousin to 'The Odyssey.' For further information ask Ophelia, second wife of Aristophanes."

As I mentioned before, Gary takes great pictures.

Carl Stoddard writes

Washing dishes

"Listen," my wife said, "what about that questionnaire you filled out before we were married?"

"What questionnaire," I asked cautiously.

"The one in which you said the man should share equally with the woman all the house work. The one where you proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that you weren't a chauvinist."

"Oh. That one," I said. "What about it?"

She pointed to the stack of dishes in the kitchen and raised a questioning eyebrow. "I think it's time to get a dishwasher," I said.

AND WE did. But it wasn't exactly what I had in mind. I had a conflict between what I wanted and what my checkbook would allow.

So under the false assumption that I was saving money, I bought a used dishwasher. For \$25. From my brother-in-law. Which didn't work. The dishwasher, that is, not my brother-in-law. He works.)

Anyway, I took the machine home and set it in the kitchen and looked at it. Just \$25, and it was mine. Only about \$20 more, my brother-in-law said, and it would be repaired, fixed-up and running like new. And my wife would forget about that questionnaire. But first things first, as they say.

I called the repairman and dutifully stayed home all day on the appointed day he was to arrive. (I wish they would narrow the time down a bit!)

Well, along about 2 p.m., the repair man showed up in a white shirt and carrying a small bag of trouble.

"What's the problem?" he asked.

"It leaks. I think it needs a new seal," I explained, trying to look like I was mechanically minded.

"We'll see," he said. Then the repairman took a glass from our kitchen counter, filled it with our water and poured the water into our broken dishwasher. The water quickly ran onto our floor.

"IT LEAKS," he said. "Needs a seal."

"Oh," I said.

"Well," he said, letting the last part of the word drag out while I started looking around for my checkbook. "If I can fix it, it'll cost about \$50. But if the shaft is bent, forget it. That'll be all she wrote."

Except, of course, for the check—which I would write.

For the next hour or so, he hammered and wrenched and worked on the machine. For a while, he held out hope, but in the end I was told the patient would not survive. Unless, that is, I wanted to shell out about \$100.

I didn't. So I was left with a \$25 dishwasher that had dribbled water all over the floor and a dishwasher repairman who wanted \$17 for not repairing the dishwasher.

I paid him and he wiped his hands on our paper towels and left.

UNFORTUNATELY, he didn't take the dishwasher with him.

When my wife came home, she asked about the dishwasher. I had her sit down, like they do on Marcus Welby, and told her the sad news.

"Well," she said. "I guess we'll have to do the dishes by hand until we can afford a dishwasher."

"Yes, I guess we will," I said.

So now we take turns doing the dishes.

When it's her turn, the dishes get done. When it's my turn, I hide them in the defunct dishwasher.

So far my wife hasn't caught on, but I imagine that along about Wednesday she's going to ask what happened to all the dishes.

I hope I can think of a good answer by then.

From our readers

Watergate spills into Farmington

To the Editor:

Why does the City of Farmington Hills have a planning board, when the city council disregards their recommendations?

Would you believe that with the shortage of homes and tight mortgage money, the Farmington Hills City Council has rezoned three lots in the center of our block-long street from residential to parking for the "sole benefit" of Vladimirs Catering, over the protest of all resident home owners, plus the majority of the planning board.

Our homes are being devalued, so one company can make more money. Is this the kind of justice we want from city hall? The parking lot benefits only Vladimirs, not the entire area, nor the entire city.

I am a senior citizen and can not afford to give my home away so I'll have a parking lot a few feet from my bedroom window. Who would want to buy my home now?

The city council apparently can do this to anyone, on any street. Yours could be next.

I sincerely hope Watergate hasn't spilled over into Farmington Hills.

MRS. GERTRUDE C. ANDREWS
Farmington
Oct. 3

Reply is irrelevant

To the Editor:

A note of appreciation to you is in order for bringing Mr. Teicher's views and also mine to the attention of your readers.

Mr. Teicher's reply is as irrelevant as is his proposal. Obviously, his sole concern is not the education of Southfield's children; that has been relegated to an incidental fringe benefit of debatable value.

I would suggest again that Mr. Teicher resign from the board and plead for his cause as a private citizen rather than as an elected official.

Joshua Lifshitz
Southfield

(Editor's note: Leonard Teicher, school board member, replied: "It's obvious he and I disagree significantly on my role and concern regarding educational issues. My first concern is the education of the children in the district. As to hiring practices being irrelevant to the board, that's just not a realistic view. That (hiring policy) is one of the school board's prerogatives."

FEA thanks newspaper

To the Editor:

The Farmington Education Association and its 750 teacher members want to take the opportunity afforded to us through the Observance of "National Newspaper Week" to congratulate you and your employees on a job well done.

The responsibility entrusted to the newspaper media to report community events in a forthright, comprehensive manner is an awesome one; requiring a concerted orientation to task, as well as an enduring sense of integrity. The Farmington Observer & Eccentric has met this standard, discharging duties in such a fashion as to be worthy of special recognition.

We deeply appreciate your long.

Roger Allen
Executive director
Oct. 8

crowley's
66th anniversary
SALE 20% OFF AND MORE
Depend on Crowley's to bring you beautiful fashions at savings during this sale event.

FAMOUS MAKER
LONG ROBES
\$13.99

Regularly \$19. Choose from pretty Empire styles in cotton or nylon tricot. Soft pastel florals. Easy care, 5 to 13. Junior Lingerie (#82) Livonia Mall, Westborn Mall, Farmington and Birmingham

EMBROIDERED
WARM PAJAMAS
\$6.99

Regularly \$9. Perfect for the cold weather ahead. Choose pink or blue in an easy-care fabric, S-M-L. Nightwear (#67) at Birmingham, Livonia Mall, Westborn Mall, Farmington.

ASSORTED
FASHION SCARFS
\$2.59 or 2/\$4.99

Regularly \$4 and \$6. Many colors in oblongs and squares. Polyester chiffons, twill, acetates and challis. Fashion Accessories (#26) Livonia Mall, Westborn Mall, Farmington and Birmingham

VARIETY OF
JEWELRY
\$1.79

Regularly \$3 to \$5. Colorful and tailored golden and silvery styles. Bangles, necklaces, chains and earrings. Jewelry (#19) Livonia Mall, Westborn Mall, Farmington and Birmingham.

