



'People are much more frank about the problems they have now'—Abigail Van Buren

Says Dear Abby

Writers frank about problems

By NANCY KASSEN
As if the problems of one's own life aren't enough, Abigail Van Buren has made a career out of trying to solve those of her readers.

Known to most as columnist "Dear Abby," the petite Sioux City, Iowa, native spoke about her advice column at the Raleigh House Thursday (Nov. 14) for those attending a luncheon to benefit the Academy of the Sacred Heart, a private girls' school in Bloomfield Hills.

The mail for Dear Abby has changed since she first started her column in 1956, she said, because "people are much more frank about the problems they have now." They realize that to be troubled is not a sign of weakness, but to admit faults and seek help takes courage.

Although a range of subjects are covered in her mail, questions about drug problems, adultery and premarital sex are most common.

OUT OF THE 1,500 to 2,000 letters which arrive each day, she chooses some for her column, she said, based on their broad appeal to readers or their humor, and personally answers the others.

A small staff is responsible for typing replies, but each one is a genuine "Abby answer," based on her personal philosophy and sometimes the advice of consultants in medicine, psychiatry and the clergy.

Admittedly a product of her culture and upbringing, her advice

is often of the old-fashioned variety. For example, if a girl writes to ask whether or not to "go all the way" with a boy, she said, she advises against it, explaining "If she's asking me, then she's not ready for that kind of commitment."

An though more and more women in letters are admitting to adultery, she said, she can't sanction it. "Everyone should still respect their vows of marriage," she said.

IF PEOPLE are considering living together before getting married, she said, their guideline should be whether or not it could hurt other people.

"Commitment is a very personal thing," she said, and "there is a lot to be said for minding one's own business."

How one feels about oneself, though, is terribly important in life, she added, as is affection for the family and how one behaves.

The majority of her letters come from young marrieds and single persons between 25 and 30, some seriously seeking help and others just writing to get a problem off their mind.

For those in complex situations, such as unwed mothers considering giving up their child, she said, she will make referrals to local doctors, clergymen, or social organizations.

MANY PEN PAL relationships with Abby have started from her column, and she often receives feedback about how her readers

are now doing.

Her column was not her first venture in helping others. She previously worked as a volunteer

for mental health, in the League of Women Voters and for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Woman gets CYO award

Jean Pilon of West Bloomfield has been awarded the St. Anne Award by the Catholic Youth Organization of the Archdiocese of Detroit for her service in encouraging spiritual development in youth.

Ten awards were presented in the archdiocese.

Mrs. Pilon was cited for work in Girl Scouting and parish programs.

A 14-year veteran of Scouting

activities, Mrs. Pilon is the leader of Girl Scout Troop 103. She is also a member of the Northern Oakland Girl Scout Council program services committee.

A member of St. Colman Church in Farmington, Mrs. Pilon initiated a program titled "Colman Challenge" in 1967 for teenage girls of the parish. The teen group was designed to encourage parish and community service.

Mrs. Pilon has six children.

AN EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS WATERCOLORS AND OILS BY CAROLYN KOMAR

STILL-LIFE AND FLORALS

DAILY 11 TO 4:30
NOV. 21 THROUGH DEC. 12

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'twas a couple of weeks
before Christmas...
when wee little ones and taller ones, too
will be coming to Jacobson's
children's night
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22... 7 to 9 P.M.

We have it from a most reliable
source (an elf that hails from some-
place up North) that Santa and his
helpers will be joining us here... for Fun
Wish-making... good-things and Cheer!

P.S. Come join us! Bring the entire family.

Jacobson's
Woodward at Willits - Birmingham

2 HOURS FREE PARKING... WHEN YOU MAKE A PURCHASE

SHOP JACOBSON'S THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS 'TIL NINE

Byzantine-Ruthenian rite explained on TV

On Monday, at 11 p.m. on WTUS, Channel 56, the Very Rev. Emil Masich, V.F., dean of the Detroit Deanery of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma (Ohio) and the Metropolitan Detroit Byzantine Choir under the direction of Nicholas J. Nagrant of Farmington Hills, will present a half-hour program explaining the origins of and a brief history of the Byzantine-Ruthenian Rite of the Catholic Church.

This program is an historic first for viewers as this is the first time that the Byzantine-Ruthenian Rite will be featured on either a radio or television program in the Detroit area.

The Detroit Deanery is composed on nine churches, including Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic

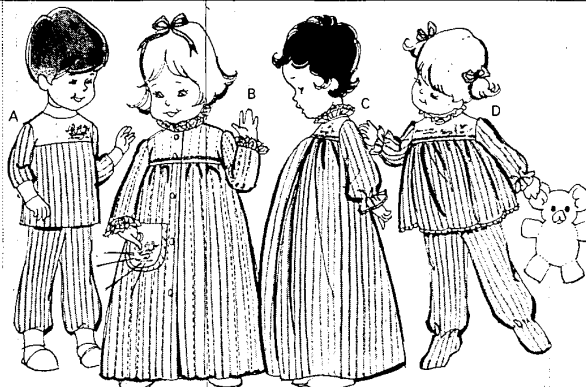
Church in Livonia where the Rev. Don G. Freude, S.T.L., is pastor.

Nagrant is in his fifth year as director of the a capella choir whose members reside in cities from the entire metropolitan Detroit area.

St. Anne's group to host bazaar

St. Anne's Mead Auxiliary will hold its annual Christmas tea and bazaar Friday at St. Anne's Mead retirement home, 16106 W. Twelve Mile Road, Southfield.

Mrs. Roland Pearson and Mrs. John Gilray, both of Birmingham, co-chair the event which benefits the retirees at St. Anne's.



red and white candy stripe nightwear for infants and toddlers...
"Christmas Mouse" motif on flame retardant, super soft polyester ground.

A. Boys' crewneck pajama in 2-3-4 sizes, \$7 B. Lace-trimmed, quilted robe with nylon lining and a "mouse" in the pocket that really squeaks. In 9-12-18 mos. sizes, \$11; 2-3-4 sizes, \$12 C. Granny gown with white lace trim, in 9-12-18 mos. 2-3-4 sizes, \$6 D. Smock-top, footie pajama in 9-12-18 mos., 2-3-4 sizes, 8.50

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Orchard Mall
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CHICKADEE MALL
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