



Women on the Go

Busy Mother Fills Variety Of Roles

By MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

The telephone rang shortly after 9 a.m. in the public relations office of the Detroit Race Course and chic Jean Burke answered.

"Hi," she smiled, recognizing her young son's voice. "How was the camping trip? Orange juice and cookies for breakfast?"

A little more conversation and she admonished nine-year-old Richard that he and his brother were to stay home after their overnight camping trip. Then she turned back to the business of arranging parties at the race course.

Jean Burke has been meeting head-on the challenge of being both mother and father to three lively boys for close to a year now.

She's found that the biggest part of the job is keeping their lives as normal as possible since their father, Edmund Burke, suffered a fatal heart attack last November.

She's learned that Richard, Edmund, 11, and even six-year-old Michael can help a lot and accept responsibility since she has to go to work.

"They're supposed to keep their rooms clean and do yard work," Jean said. "They may grumble a bit, but they do it."

And finally, Jean is determined that the part of her life that went to stretch beyond the home and help others is going to continue.

It was last Thanksgiving that the family, on the way to dinner with the family of Jean's sister, stopped at St. Mary's hospital because Ed Burke didn't feel well.

He died there in just a short time.

"The hardest thing I ever did in my life was take the boys home and tell them what happened," she recalled. "And for a long time we all had trouble accepting it."

"But the boys are doing well now—people have really been wonderful to us."

Jean went to work in March at the Wolverine Harness meet at DRC, posing photo finish pictures. Then came 54 nights as a board member at Northville Downs before her current DRC assignment. With evenings hours and the help of a baby-sitter she could still be home with the boys a lot.

She continued as president of the Parent-Teacher Association at Webster school. She also worked one afternoon a week in the school library, and was the mother usually on the spot to serve hot chocolate to the safety squad boys on the coldest mornings.

The evening hours went on until the end of July when the DRC season began. Jean and the boys had a lot of outings earlier in the summer, and when she switched to day work she planned two weeks at day camp for the older boys, leaving Michael with her sister, Mrs. Norma Korby of Westland.

The Korbys also took the Burke boys for a week in northern Michigan.

"It was so important to keep their lives full this summer," Jean said.

On the job at DRC, Jean helps put on parties for groups on an outing and has decided she most enjoys the senior citizens — "They're so cooperative and appreciative."

Expecting to get back tonight work soon when the DRC season ends, Jean plans to give two afternoons instead of one to the library each week now that Michael is in first grade.

She'll also be "sort-of" co-president of the PTA and figures she'll play an active role with that group. "We're having a meeting soon

at my house to plan next year's programs," she said. "Last year we had a speaker from Martin Luther King High School in Detroit."

"We got a lot of static — some people didn't like it. But we had at least one program in the human relations field again this year. You have to let people know what's happening — it's easy for some to close their eyes to it out here."

Jean also has served as a Democratic challenger in local elections and recently joined the Livonia League of Women Voters.

She worked hard in a losing cause during the last millage vote in Livonia, and is disappointed at the fact that residents voted down the opportunity to "send the kids to school all day for just \$50 a year."

"It makes me mad when I think what people blow their money for," she said.

Looking back on the year, Jean is grateful to a lot of people especially her sister and her husband's former employer, Richard Condotz of the AFL Service Employees International.

"Some people you can't ever thank enough," she said. There are three boys who might say that about an extra-special mother.

Bulman Sets First Meeting

The first general meeting of Bulman Nursery Inc. will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Livonia.

Speakers for the evening are Mrs. Arlyne Lewis, the new teacher — director of the nursery, and Mrs. Kathy Range of Livonia speaking on "Communication and Public Relations." A September activity that has been planned for both the three and four-year-old groups of children is a visit to Applecrest Farms.



CAMERA CONSCIOUS HORSE — Zorabanda seems more concerned about the camera than the Burke boys who were visiting the Detroit Race Track with their mother Jean Burke, public relations staff member of the DRC. Bob Gaff, (right) is the jockey who's holding the racer steady for (left to right) Edmund, 11, Mrs. Burke Michael, six, and Richard, 9. (Observer photo)



MRS. STEVEN PETERSON (Tania Weiss)

Aldersgate Setting For Peterson Vows

Aldersgate Methodist Church, Redford Township, was the setting for the Aug. 16 wedding of University of Michigan graduate students Tania Louise Weiss and Steven Harold Peterson.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morton Weiss of Kiloach Avenue, Redford Township, and the bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Peterson of Creswell, Ore.

The Rev. Bartlett Beaver and the Rev. William Wagner officiated.

GIVEN BY her father in marriage, the bride wore white silk tulle with lace bodice and embroidered lace applique on the front of the gown and on the train.

Her veil was elbow-length, and she carried white roses and carnations.

MRS. EDWARD WEISS of Westland, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Cynthia Weiss, sister of the bride, Toni Reisman of Detroit and Hanna Ajlunis of Ann Arbor.

Lee Peterson of Creswell was best man for his brother and the ushers were Edward Weiss of Westland and John Pastinski and Peter Chereson of Ann Arbor.

Dinner reception was held in the DAY Hall in Redford Township.

THE COUPLE honeymooned in Stratford, Conn., and Toronto before returning to Ann Arbor to continue studies in chemistry.



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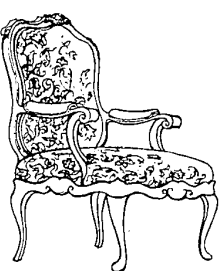
The engagement of a young couple in Medieval Europe was announced quite differently from today's manner of publication. They presented themselves to their local priest, and in the presence of witnesses, the Marriage Banns were prepared. At certain intervals, the Banns, or announcement of intent to marry, were published within the church on three different occasions; after which the wedding could take place.

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