

consumer mailbag



Grace Gluskin
of Concern, Inc.

Try herbs to season food

I plan to reduce my family's salt intake by using more herbs in my cooking. I have planted several different ones in my yard but really don't know how to use them or keep them over the winter months. Where can I get that information?

Anne M. West Bloomfield

Using herbs in cooking can be an adventure. They enhance the simplest foods, giving even everyday dishes a gourmet quality. You don't say in your letter which herbs you have planted in your garden so it would be impossible for me to make specific suggestions. There are, however, excellent books available from the public library to help you along.

Preserving herbs for use year-round is a relatively simple procedure. Most can be preserved by drying. Just tie small bunches of like herbs together and hang upside down in a room with good ventilation. They can also be spread loosely on screening or cheese cloth to dry. Herbs should be kept cool while drying and protected from sunlight to insure good flavor.

When herbs are dry and brittle to the touch, crush and store in covered labeled glass jars.

Can anything be done to reduce the effects of acid rain on our fresh water lakes?

Ellen S. Bloomfield Hills

Short-term attempts to neutralize lake acidity by adding lime are being tried but at best this is only a temporary solution and can cause additional problems by leaching other metals from the bottom waters, further endangering aquatic life.

The only permanent solution is to limit the pollutants at their source. Technology to remove SO₂ and NO_x

from fossil fuels (the primary cause of acid rain that endangers our lakes) exists today. The methods are expensive but the cost of doing nothing may be far higher.

The National Academy of Science recently cited a study estimating losses totaling \$5 billion to the eastern third of the U.S. including damages to fishing and related tourism, lumber and paper industries, crops, buildings and monuments and the expense of additional drinking water treatment.

Consumers can help protect our fresh water by supporting a strong Clean Air Act. Ask your Congressman to oppose the weakening of the Clean Air Act now up for reauthorization and to support the addition of provisions to control acid rain.

ECO-TIP: Michigan strawberries make wonderful summer soup. Try this easy recipe on your family:

4 cups berries
2 cup water
2 tsp. cornstarch dissolved in 1/4 cup water
Juice of 1/2 fresh lemon
Honey to taste
Boil for half-and-half or milk to make 1 quart

Cook berries in water for about 10 minutes or until berries are soft. Strain and pour into one quart measure and add milk or half-and-half. Return to pot and bring to boil. Add lemon juice honey and cornstarch. Stir until thickened. Chill and serve with a dollop of plain yogurt.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions. Address mail to Grace R. Gluskin, Concern Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

ERA foe Donnelly says rights not lost

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ation in employment, she said. That is already done by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

From voluminous files, she drew a pamphlet containing a statement made by Phyllis Schlafly in a TV debate with Griffiths.

Schafly claimed ERA would do nothing for women in employment. Griffiths is quoted as responding, "I never claimed it would."

Her perception of the amendment is that it would make state and federal laws sex neutral.

"Under ERA, we couldn't have separate sex activities such as women's colleges and sororities. Many federal and state laws that benefit women would be out if it passed."

"DESPISE HER opposition to ERA, Donnelly thinks the law that legislates equal opportunity in employment is 'a good law.' She also brands as 'a really good law' Title IX of the omnibus education bill of 1972.

Title IX outlaws sex discrimination in educational institutions receiving federal aid and has been particularly noticeable in improving the lot of females in school sports.

In fact, while STOP ERA has not

supported this kind of legislation, she also favors laws that brought equality to credit. Because of them, ERA is not needed, she said.

Growing up in Lincoln Park and Detroit, Donnelly worked as a secretary for an airline company before her two girls, Nancy, now 12, and Angie, 14, were born.

"AFTER EEOC, everything changed. They started recruiting women and minorities for management. If I had stayed, I would have had a good career."

Her daughters are "very supportive" of her anti-ERA activities, she said. What bothers her about the last few years, she said, is that television, radio, magazines and newspapers were "inspired by celebrities" and failed to see how "our side was mobilized."

"The number one mistake (of ERA supporters) was the fact they didn't allow for the fact not all women think alike."

"A lot of women felt it was not fair that one group of women should set themselves up as a self-appointed group to speak for women as a class."

"You can't get around public opinion and ram something through that people don't want."

Griffiths thinks more men will be supporters later

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ERA because it was her maneuvering that got the bill out of committee and onto the Congressional floor in 1972. She collected 218 signatures from Republicans and Democrats alike and traveled thousands of miles testifying before state legislatures in support of the ERA.

Anti-ERA groups she describes as not a strong, united body — but merely loud.

They were a group of high-pressure women, who got to the "old-time Congressmen," she said.

Public awareness also will help the cause, she contended, because people today keep tabs voting records of their senators and representatives.

class reunions

The Observer & Eccentric will help locate classmates for school reunions. Send announcements to Margaret Miller, Observer & Eccentric, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Full names must be used with telephone numbers.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH 1957
The class that graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in June 1957 will have a 25-year reunion July 3. For details call Dee Buono at 866-6400.

FERNDALE LINCOLN 1957
A July 10 reunion at the Sheraton Inn is planned for January and June 1957 graduates of Lincoln High School. More information is available from Paul J. Diaz at 355-3444.

ROCHESTER 1977
The Rochester High School class of 1977 will have a five-year reunion July 24 at the Rochester Elks Club. Make reservations with Steve McGarry at 651-8276.

ROCHESTER ADAMS 1977
The Addison Oaks clubhouse will be the place for a five-year reunion of the Rochester Adams High School class of 1977. Festivities will begin at 7 p.m. For information call Jeff Kowalczyk at 375-0415.

TROY ATHENS 1977
The five-year reunion of the Athens High School class of 1977 will take place 7 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. July 31 in Imperial House, Fraser. Tickets at \$25 per person or \$45 per couple will cover dinner, drinks and dancing. For reservations call Gerald Gordinier at 731-9148, or Joyce Tarkiewicz at 689-9035.

TRENTON 1967
Reservations still can be made for the 15-year reunion of the Trenton High School class of 1967 on Aug. 7 in Thon's Crystal Garden, Southfield. Tickets are \$20 and include dinner, liquor, beer, set-ups and dancing to the band August. To make reservations, send

checks to Susan Hunter Welsbrod, 43142 Hadley Court, Canton 48188.

WAYNE 1952
The Wayne High School class of 1952 will have a 30-year reunion Aug. 7. Information is available from Kay Dobek at 348-8738.

FARMINGTON HARRISON 1977
The Harrison High School class of 1977 will hold its five-year reunion Aug. 14. Those who have not received an invitation should call Marty Testasacca at 478-5752, or Ralph DePolo at 624-5464.

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