

Computer To Answer Nutrition Questions

A new computer-based facility which will receive questions about nutrition and consumer problems and provide on-the-spot answers is being developed by Michigan State University Economists.

Called NUCOINS it stands for "Nutrition-Consumer Information System."

According to Frances M. Magrabi and Virginia Beauchamp, NUCOINS project leaders, the system will help disadvantaged families improve their diets and levels of living.

"We are now attempting to determine the kinds of information these families want and need," Dr. Magrabi says. "Ultimately, all Michigan residents could have access to NUCOINS information through computer terminals in county offices of the Cooperative Extension Service."

MSU EXTENSION home economists and field workers may also carry portable computer terminals. "Portable terminals which make use of telephone lines, would allow consumers to get instant answers to their problems right in their own homes," says Mrs. Beauchamp.

A typical conversation with the computer might go like this:

COMPUTER: Hello! May I help you?

USER: I need information about buying food.

COMPUTER: Choose from the following food info: meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, milk and other dairy products, fruits and vegetables. What product do you want to know about?

USER: Buying eggs.

COMPUTER: About buying eggs... Retail stores usually carry only two or three sizes in one or two grades. The sizes that you will find most often are extra large, large and medium... etc.

USER: I would like to know about eggs as a meat substitute.

COMPUTER: About eggs — meat substitute... Two eggs will provide about the protein equivalent to a serving of meat... also an excellent source of iron... when you serve eggs to your family, you can be confident you are giving them the kind of protein needed to build and repair body tissues.

USER: Thanks. (Word "thanks" cues computer to end of use.)

DR. MAGRABI and her colleagues hope to conduct the first actual tests of the NUCOINS system sometime around the end of this year.

If these tests go well, the system could be in full operation as early as 1972.

The scientists are also considering the possibility of programming the computer in Spanish as well as English.

"Many of us feel that Michigan's large Spanish-speaking population could benefit from NUCOINS," says Dr. Magrabi.

To insure the continued usefulness of NUCOINS when it goes into full operation, the computer's store of information will be constantly reviewed and updated.

"As new research findings come out, the information being stored will be changed accordingly," says Mrs. Beauchamp.

The College of Human Ecology, the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service have expressed their interest in the NUCOINS concept by providing initial funds for research and development.



JOIN STAFF—Nick and Tina, smoking and talking mannequins, have joined the Tuberculosis and Health Society in its anti-smoking programs. Donna Castaneda, staff member of the society's respiratory disease department, introduces the two. The mannequins are the size of 13-year-olds.



LIGHTS UP—This picture shows Nick's lungs as Miss Castaneda lights up a cigarette for him. The mannequins are available for exhibits at places of business, department stores, civic organizations and in schools. Anyone interested in using the mannequins should call the society at 961-8183.

Take a day off Oct. 23.

Have a quiet continental breakfast, watch Hudson's put on a fashion show, hear Sixten Ehrling conduct the Detroit Symphony, and save some money, too. October 23, Ford Auditorium, 10 a.m.

The breakfast and fashion show begin at 10 a.m., the concert at 10:45. And due to the courtesy of National Bank of Detroit, tickets are half the normal price: just \$1.50 and \$2.50.

And because it all happens in the morning, you'll have time to do some shopping and still be home before the kids come trooping in from school.

Tickets are on sale now through all women's clubs and at all National Bank of Detroit offices.

October 23, a day of quiet culture. Heaven knows you've earned it.

Naturalists Available For Lectures

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority naturalists are available this winter season for lectures to school assemblies in the Detroit area including the counties of Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne during each school day from Monday, November 2, through Tuesday, March 30.

This was announced by William F. Hopkins, chief naturalist, who said naturalists from Kennington or Stony Creek Metropolitan Parks will visit the schools for only one-half day, but will provide up to three lectures during a visit accompanied by slides or films.

The illustrated lectures concern the woods, fields, water areas and wildlife in southeastern Michigan and are available by advance appointment only.

A 25-minute program designed for youngsters from kindergarten through the second grade features two young raccoons as they explore their park home. There is a selection of five 45-minute programs for grades three through twelve. The lectures are entitled "Fascinating Insects," "Life in a Woodlot," "Ecology," "Design for Survival" and "Plants on the Move."

Many schools in southeastern Michigan have already received 1970-71 applications for these free lectures. However, schools which have not yet received prior information, should contact the Nature Program, in care of Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, 600 Woodward, Detroit, 48226, or phone 961-5865.



EUGENE J. KENDRA, of 21015 N. Meadowlark, Farmington, has been named manager of the Prudential Insurance Co.'s Flint district office. He was manager of the Detroit area district. Kendra graduated from Michigan State University in 1951.

Bogart Wins Award From Metals Unit

Harold N. Bogart, director, Manufacturing Development Office, Ford Motor Co., Dearborn has been selected to receive the 1970 William Hunt Eisenman Award of the American Society for Metals. Bogart lives at 3443 Lytle, Farmington.

The honor will be presented to Bogart during the 1970 Metal Show and Materials Engineering Congress, Oct. 19-22, in Cleveland Convention Center. The award is given to recognize unusual achievements in industry in the practical application of metallurgy to the production of metals or their engineering use, and was established in 1960 in honor of the late founder-member and 40-year national secretary of ASM.

Friedman Makes Change

Earl M. Friedman, of Oak Park, has been named a salesman for the Detroit area of National Life Insurance Co. of Vermont.

Friedman had been an agent with Kadish-Friedman Insurance Associates, 23530 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

Wrigley Purchases 23 Packer Locations

Three former Packer Supermarkets in Observerland are among the 23 Packer stores purchased by Wrigley Supermarkets, a division of Allied Supermarkets, Inc.

The additional 23 locations will mean a total of 69 Wrigley supermarkets are now operating in the Detroit area.

"The overwhelming success of the 'merchandising' practice recently adopted by Wrigley has prompted us to expand our Detroit area operations," declared William Letson, vice president-general manager of the Wrigley Division.

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SCOTTISH VACATION—Mr. and Mrs. Glen Isaacson, 20540 Osnum, Livonia, their daughter Sue and their son Kevin, spent August touring Great Britain and included a stop at Edinburgh Castle in Scotland during the Edinburgh Festival. They are pictured here on the castle ramparts with a soldier from the Queen's Own Highlanders.

Antiques Forum To Open Oct. 12

The Midwest Antiques Forum, held annually at Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, embarks on its second decade when it convenes this year Oct. 12 through 16.

The Henry Ford Museum's Decorative Arts Galleries and the famous Tanshull Wing of American Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts and by films and informal tea discussions.

Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Mass.; Wendell D. Garrett, managing editor; "Antiques," New York; Graham Hood, curator of American Art, Detroit Institute of Arts; Mrs. Helen Bullock, senior editor and historian, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D. C.; and Minor W. Thomas, chief curator, New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, New York.

The program relates various classes of antiques to aspects of collecting. Participants will learn how to identify antiques, how to care for antiques, how to study and understand them, and how they should be used and displayed in the home.

A special forum exhibit will complement the theme. Using pieces from the museum's collections covering various styles and periods, it will show how to display and use antiques in the home for the greatest enjoyment.

For registration forms contact Midwest Antiques Forum, Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, 48121, or call (313) 271-1620, ext. 282.

THIS YEAR village and museum officials have announced some innovations designed to encourage greater participation by individual registrants.

Panel discussions and illustrated lectures by recognized authorities on the theme "Collecting Antiques: Know Your Antiques" will be followed by question periods and augmented by guided tours of

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