

Behavior shows granddaughter needs therapy

STREET SENSE
BARBARA SCHIFF

Voice Mail Message: Barbara, My granddaughter is 21. I am very concerned about her. She cannot seem to manage without a boyfriend and has had a series of them, mostly losers, and sometimes even abusive. My granddaughter is attractive and intelligent; why does she settle for men who are so beneath her?

There are other things about her that concern me. One is that she often lies to make herself more important than she is. Recently, she told me that she had gotten an important new job when it was impossible that that had happened. I believe that she has been lying like this for years. I don't know why.

Also, she loses her temper easily. Little things can set her off. She is almost never this way with me, but her brother has complained to me about it. With me she is very sweet, loving and considerate.

I watch a lot of daytime TV and to me this sounds like the behavior one has when they have been sexually or physically abused, low self-esteem and anger. I spoke with a friend who knows her well about this and the friend agrees with me. We both think she must have been abused in some way as a child for her to act the way she does.

It troubles me that she is so confused and that she was abused as a youngster. Can you shed any light on this?

Grandma
 Dear Grandma,
 Your concern for your granddaughter is understandable. As you describe her, she is in trouble and in need of counseling.

However, you are jumping to conclusions by thinking that she must have been abused for her to behave in this way. There are many different environmental and genetic circumstances that could lead to this. One of them is abuse and there are many others.

I do not know the extent of your influence on your granddaughter or what the relationship is between you, she and her parents. If you are in a position to recommend counseling, that is what your granddaughter needs.

Barbara
 If you have a question or comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. You can also leave a message by calling 953-2047, mailbox 1877, on a Touch-Tone phone.

'Keeper' examines bizarre trial

BY JOHN MORGAN
SPECIAL WRITER

Known collectively as the "Ward boys," the four elderly bachelor brothers milk the cows, feed the turkeys and live in a squalor not unlike their livestock. On cold nights, they sleep in the same room and often in the same beds.

The townspeople don't get too close: "You leave them alone, they leave you alone," says one of the Wards' neighbors in rural New York. "If you're in a restaurant, you don't just play your ass down next to 'em; you might even move down a seat or two."

But when one of the brothers ends up dead one morning and the police say they have Delbert Ward's signed confession of murder, the neighbors are up in arms. They raise bail money and find a lawyer who can prove that Delbert, nearly illiterate, didn't know what he was putting his name to. It's the district attorney's job to prove that Delbert, tired of hear-

MOVIES

ing the cries of the terminally sick brother, put his hand over William's mouth and suffocated him.

The documentary account of the trial and the men who went from outcast farmers to full-blown media figures make up "Brother's Keeper." The amazing new film, playing this weekend at the Detroit Film Theatre, is the most exciting documentary to hit area screens since "Roger and Me."

Not that the two have all that much in common. Michael Moore's personalized account of GM's pulling out of Flint was as much about himself as it was about Roger Smith. Here, film makers Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky try to stay out of the camera range, though they can be heard asking usually intelligent questions.

Oh, occasionally they'll stum-

ble into a "how did it feel when you knew your brother was dead?," but many of their questions are sincere and compelling. And though they've been criticized for further corrupting the rusticity of their simple subjects by filming, they try to remain objective and, by all accounts, accurate.

The brothers, Lyman, Delbert and Roscoe, live on the family farm left to them by their mother, who died some 30 years ago. It hasn't been cleaned since. Cats roam the place and dirty clothes lie in piles. A new television set, their main link with the outside world, is simply stacked atop the one that broke.

By following Delbert over the span of a year in preparation for the trial, we see a man changing. Local ladies put on a fund-raising dinner for him, dance with him, and pack the courtroom during the trial. A lighted sign outside a local restaurant keeps drivers updated on trial results while just

below it reads "Pork and Ham Dinners \$3.99."

And while it is sometimes hard to tell "the boys" apart beneath their shaggy gray beards and baseball caps (and harder yet to understand what the heck they're saying), the movie paints vivid portraits of all three. Perhaps the most unforgettable sequence shows brother Lyman (by his own account "the nervous one") shik-ing, almost dying of fright on the witness stand.

Long after the jurors read the verdict the lingering question remains: Did Delbert really slay his brother? Ultimately, this grows less important than the question of whether or not the justice system is suited to handle a case as delicate and extraordinary as this.

If you have a comment for John Morgan, call him at 953-2047, mailbox number 1868, on a touch tone phone, or write him care of Street Sense, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across Metro Detroit as reviewed by John Morgan.

ANN ARBOR SILENT FILM SOCIETY
 Ann Arbor Sheraton Inn, 3200 Beausoleil (across from Riverwood Mall), Ann Arbor, Call 761-7800 for information. (\$3)

The Real Chaplin — A festival of films from screen legend Charlie Chaplin is highlighted by the feature "City Lights" (USA — 1931) along with several shorts. On the program: "Kid Auto Races in Venice" (1914), Chaplin's second film appearance and a clever example of his early impromptu style, "A Busy Day" (1914), "Behind the Screen" (1916) and with Jackie Coogan in "The Kid" (1921).

DETROIT FILM THEATRE
 Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Call 833-2323 for information. (\$5; \$4 students and senior citizens)

"Brother's Keeper" (USA — 1992), 7 and 9:30 p.m. April 16-17, 4 and 7 p.m. April 18. This documentary explores the facts behind a bizarre New York murder trial

involving four illiterate bachelor brothers.

HENRY FORD CENTENNIAL LIBRARY
 13671 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Call 943-2330 for information.

"On Approval" (Britain — 1943), 7 p.m. April 12. In this British farce, a couple take a holiday in Scotland to test their suitability. They are joined by another couple taking a similar "on approval" approach to matrimony. Writer/director/producer Clive Brook also stars, here with Beatrice Lillie.

MAPLE THEATRE
 4135 W. Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills. Call 855-9090 for show times. (\$5.75 evenings; \$2.95 twilights)

"Strictly Ballroom" (Australia — 1992). A rebel dance champion is being stifled by the "strictly ballroom" rules imposed at a local dance competition. Not surprisingly, he falls in love with his dance partner in this colorful, music-filled Aussie hit.

"Mac" (USA — 1993). John Turturro makes his directorial debut in this moving story of three Italian brothers who try to

cash in on the residential construction boom in the 1950s. A heartfelt tribute to Turturro's father handled with charm and insight.

"Olivier Olivier" (France — 1992). In this new film from director Agnieszka Holland ("Europa, Europa"), a misbegotten boy returns after several years and many wonder if he's the real thing.

MICHIGAN THEATRE
 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 668-8397 for information. (\$5; \$4 students and senior citizens)

"Fanny and Alexander" (Sweden — 1983), 3:45 p.m. April 12. In this lyrical story set at the turn of the century, Ingmar Bergman tells the tale of a Swedish family through the eyes of a small boy. Bergman decided he would be his last feature film as director, and it turned out a masterpiece. "Strictly Ballroom" (Australia — 1992), through April 15 (call for show times). For description, see Maple listing above.

RABELAIS COFFEEHOUSE
 22010 Harper, St. Clair Shores. Call 779-0107 for information. (Free)

"Captive Women" (USA —

1952), 11 p.m. April 12. In 29th-century New York a post-apocalyptic society has evolved into peaceful. Mutes harassed by violent Norms. Sounds like a winner.

REDFORD THEATRE
 17360 Lahser, Redford. Call 637-2560 for information. (\$2.50)

"Giant" (USA — 1956), 8 p.m. April 16, 2 and 8 p.m. April 17 (organ overture begins a half hour before show time). "Gone With the Wind" wears a Stetson in this epic family saga starring Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean (in his final role).

STAR JOHN R
 32289 John R (at 14 Mile), Madison Heights. Call 685-2070 for show times. (\$6 evenings; \$3.75 twilights)

"Let's Kill All the Lawyers" (USA — 1993). Local filmmaker Ron Senkowsky takes on the legal profession in this one-joke comedy filmed on location in Detroit and Ann Arbor. Talented stage actors James Vezina and Rick Frederick play a shameless shyster and his apprentices who watch colleagues one by one bit the dust. Occasionally clever but mostly a trial.

Jello from page 4B

record company so they gave us money. We said we could make 11 of them," Manspecker said.

Much to the surprise of Zoo — and themselves — Green Jello completed the task.

"They're happy and they're shocked at the same time. They didn't really expect us to do it. It was a big farce," he said.

It's such a big farce that Manspecker can't believe anyone watches it.

"It was kinda like watching 'Three's Company,'" he said. "By the time it was over, a half hour of your time was already gone. When

they're done watching our video, 45 minutes will go by. People will say, 'What happened to my 45 minutes? I got robbed!'"

It's even more of a surprise to him that the six-minute song "Three Little Pigs" is played on the radio.

Manspecker admitted that his group's live shows are even more farfetched. The show begins with Manspecker, dressed as a cow, driving up on a moped while other cast members throw desserts at him.

"It's gonna be like a cartoon pa-

rade," Manspecker said. "If you're expecting to see some giant Broadway production, stay home. You'll have a miserable time. Expect to see something funny and real cheesy."

Green Jello opens for Testament on Thursday, April 16, at Harpo's, 14238 Harper, Detroit. Doors open at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Must be 18 to enter. Call 824-1700 or 646-6666 for more information.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

On the Town

Can't Get Out of Town? Get to The Clarion for our

Spring Break P.A.C.K.A.G.E

Starting at \$69.95

Includes:

- One Night In A Luxurious Guest Room
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Complimentary Canvas Tote Bag Full of Goodies: Coloring Book & Crayons, Fun Kit, Pop & Cookies
- Full Use Of Our Facilities: Indoor Pool, Whirlpool, Fitness Center, Saunas, Restaurant & Lounge

Call for details on our Whirlpool Rooms & Suites

Valid April 9 - April 16, 1993

(Must Present Ad at Check-in)

Reservations Required - (313) 553-0000

Clarion Hotel & Executive Suites
 Farmington Hills

31525 W. Twelve Mile Road

LOOK-LISTEN-LEARN

LOLO

LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES

National Library Week
 April 18-24
 1993

Downtown Farmington's

Luigi's

Feature Of The Week

BBQ Ribs or Spaghetti
 Luigi's Special
 23340 Farmington Road
 Farmington, MI (313) 477-1880
 Dinner - Carry out
 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

\$5.95

HAVE YOU PLACED YOUR CLASSIFIED AD TODAY?

Corsi's

Served in our beautiful banquet hall.

We seat 400 guests for all occasions.

Wednesday Buffet

Featuring:

- Homemade Soups
- Salad Bar with Fresh Fruit
- 3 Homemade Pastas
- 1 Meat Entree and Vegetable
- Assorted Pizzas
- Homemade Bread & Garlic Rolls
- Dessert Table

Served 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Groups Welcome - Cocktails Available

531-4960

Adults Under 10 Years Seniors 16⁺ 15⁺

We cater to all occasions.
 7 Mile between Lakeside & Middlebelt
 Livonia

Kyoto
 Japanese Steak House

FREE BIRTHDAY DINNER

WHERE STEAKS ARE SO TENDER, YOU CAN CUT THEM WITH A STICK.

Bring your birthday party of four or more and this coupon to KYOTO during the month of April and we'll treat you to the best priced anniversary FREE. It will be sliced, diced and sized right before your eyes, and if you really need a knife, that's on us too.

DEARBORN (at Fairlane Center) 893-3208
 TROY (West Big Beaver Road) 648-8346
 FARMINGTON HILLS (across from Novi Hill) 348-7900

One per table. Not valid on other days. See us for more details. Excludes other special events.