

Floral Tributes

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even though the family must be there part of the day.

Wengers have 13 greenhouses. In February of 1972 an extensive fire starting from a short circuit destroyed about half of their greenhouses but everything is rebuilt and back in operation. The community turned out to help and in a week's time they were back in business. Millie says "We are ever indebted to the community. It was a tremendous experience." Her son said, "If it did nothing else it

restored faith in fellowmen."

Each one of the family, having grown up in the flower business, has acquired the gift of making individual personalized arrangements. Millie expresses it this way, "It sort of becomes a part of you, in every arrangement. Flowers express many things for many people. You feel as though you're a mediator between the person that's sending it and the person receiving it."

Besides making sales at their place of business and making deliveries they belong to two

telegraph organizations so they perform a complete service to their customers.

Wengers sell mostly cut flowers. They also sell a few artificial flowers. They use mostly plants and artificial flowers for their display room

Their greenhouses are used largely to grow most of their cut flowers. They raise mums, pom poms, carnations, iris, daffodils, tulips, freshias, snap dragons, daisies and geraniums for cutting. They raise the majority of their geraniums, cinerarias and Easter lilies. They also grow potted tulips, hyacinths and daffodils. They finish some blooming plants in their greenhouses. They buy other plants from growers. Their green plants used for planters come from Florida. They import roses and orchids from specialists. They also import foliage, some from Florida and some from Oregon. They buy all the dried flowers they use.

Wengers' sales, as most florists are for weddings, funerals, hospital work, banquets, anniversaries, birthdays, holidays, appreciation and thank-yous.

Millie, Betty and Mary Rupp are the main designers but some others help make parts of the arrangements. They also are the main decorators of their display window and display rooms although some others help occasionally.

Carl Bomberger and Rev. Paul Wenger were given a citation March 15 for cooperation and helping with Brownstown Vo-Tech floriculture program at the FFA banquet. Wengers sell flowers to the teacher and help her with designing and greenhouse work. They also hire students from the school to give them experience.

The Wenger family is very active in their respective churches. Rev. Paul Wenger is assistant to the pastor of their

church, the Conestoga Church of the Brethren, Bareville, and helps when the pastor is away. He presides at weddings and funerals also.

Mrs. Miriam Wenger has taught the three year old children in Sunday School ever since she was married. She also directed the choir. Betty and Allan Bewley are members of the same church. Betty helps with the youth department.

Millie and Carl Bomberger are members of the Lancaster Church of the Brethren where she teaches the second grade children Sunday School class.

Debbie Kolb not only works with flowers at Wengers but expects to have a lot of flowers on her lawn. She has started pansies and daisies in dozen size foam egg cartons on her window sills and will buy some plants. She seems to have a green thumb and has been very successful growing house plants. She says "My garden will be my hobby this year. I will freeze vegetables and will can some."

Debbie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Bob) Trout of Bird-in-Hand, graduated from Conestoga Valley High School, then went to the Maryland Medical Secretarial School at Hagerstown, Md. She worked as a medical secretary for an orthopedic surgeon in Lancaster before marriage. She said, "It was really rewarding and interesting."

Debbie's father is president of "Mr. and Mrs. E. Roy Trout and Sons" egg plant which is on the farm he grew up on and his mother, Mrs. Roy Trout, still lives there. They buy all sizes of white and dark eggs from regular farmer producers. They process the eggs and sell them to a lot of local stores, stores in Philadelphia and at the store they own in Philadelphia. They also sell dairy products at their Philadelphia store. Mrs. Robert Trout and two of Bob's sisters work there and they hire about ten people.

As a girl Debbie washed eggs, put broken eggs through a sifter that were frozen for bakeries, worked on candlers and helped pack the eggs. Now they have automatic egg packers which put the eggs in 15 or 30 dozen crates as well as one dozen containers.

Debbie married Dennis Kolb and they live in East Lampeter Township adjoining the 60 acre farm where he grew up. He is the

son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Kolb and is part of their corporation "Melvin Kolb, Inc.", nicknamed the M K Ranch. Besides the home farm which has 50 cow stalls they rent a farm near Strasburg to pasture their cattle. They own a large dairy farm at Woodsboro, Md., near Frederick, which has stalls for 100 milking cows. They do not grow anything. They ship cows and sell them. They hold all their sales at this Maryland farm and hold one a month.

Dennis gets up at 5:30 a.m. and milks cows and cleans the stable and milk equipment. In the afternoons he goes around selling cows. Kolbs also rent the Esbenshade farm nearby where they keep mules. They buy a couple loads of mules every spring and sell them. They own four trucks and hire some trucks.

Dennis grew up in the Conestoga U. B. Church but now attends Bird-in-Hand United Methodist Church where Debbie is a member. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association. Debbie is an honorary member of Job's Daughters, Bethel 4 Chapter in Lancaster. She belonged five or six years and held several offices in it.

Debbie's grandmother taught her to sew. She sews quite a bit but used to do more than now. She likes to go to public sales and fix up the things she buys. In high school she was a majorette and twirled a baton. She now helps her sister with baton routines. She says "I love to keep house and cook."

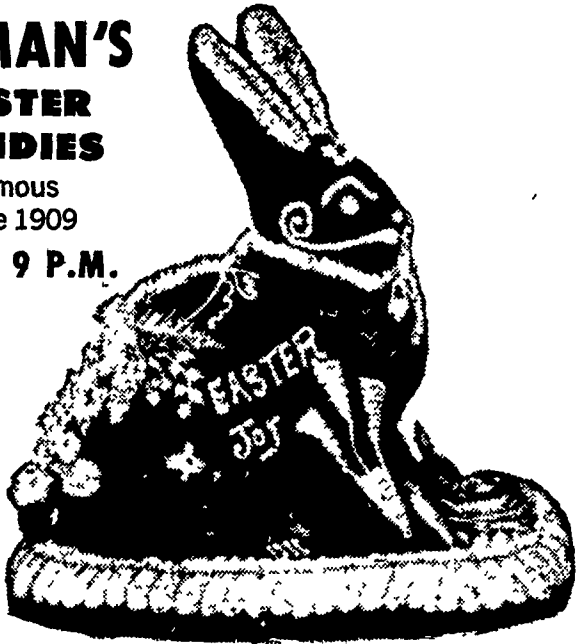
Here are some of her recipes that could very well be used for Easter Sunday menus

- xxx
Creamed Eggs
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
2 tablespoons flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
Few grains pepper

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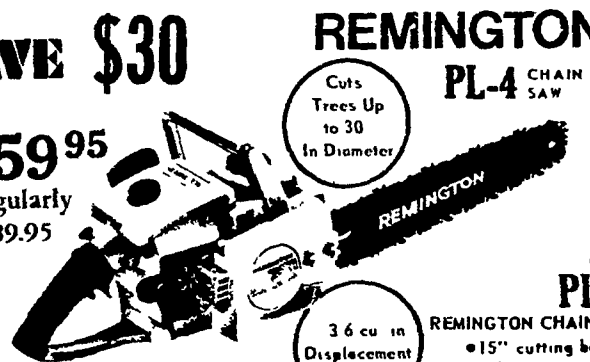
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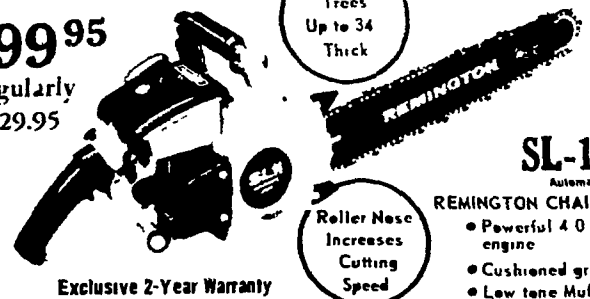
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