

Ralph Burbank Celebrates 90th Birthday Today at Party

Best wishes to Ralph S. Burbank of Getmac Lane, Canastota, who is celebrating his 90th birthday today at a family dinner party at the Valley View Restaurant in Chittenango.

Best wishes, too, to Ralph's wife of 64 years, Christine (Thelen), will be 84 May 3.

The Burbank family includes five children and spouses, Selma and Louis Cafarechio of 4905 James St., East Syracuse; Ralph and Theresa Burbank of East Syracuse; Margery Muzo of Clearwater, Fla.; Christine and Jack Casella of Minoa, and Rita and Bill Crotty of Baldwinsville. The family also includes 31 grandchildren (nine of whom live in nine states) and 44 great-grandchildren.

Ralph was born on the North Side of Syracuse and lived in Fremont, East Syracuse and Rochester before moving in 1972 to Canastota, where he and Christine are members of St. Agatha's Church.

He worked for 45 years for New York Central Railroad before retiring in 1969. He wrote a weekly column for the Canastota Bee Journal, "It Seems to Me," from 1985 to 1993. He is writing his autobiography.

Ralph played saxophone in his band. He has been an avid sportsman — bowling, and playing and umpiring baseball. He plays golf at Casolwood Course in Canastota.

Christine, who also grew up on the North Side, on Grumbach Avenue, worked for a time for her father, who managed the Thelen Iron Works at 920 Canal St., Syracuse.

In Rochester, she worked for the Seal Bag Co., and in East Syracuse, she worked in St. Matthew's Church rectory, in East Syracuse Schools and in the New York Central Railroad depot.

Ralph and Chris keep their minds alert by reading, doing puzzles and enjoying word games like "Upwards."

It's a girl

Elizabeth Marie DiBello was born to Leonard and Michele (Griffin) DiBello of 756 Taft Road, April 7 in St. Joseph's Hospital.

Elizabeth, who weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 20½ inches, is the couple's first child.

Proud grandparents are Leonard and Cathy DiBello of 759 Taft Road, James Griffin of Kirkville and Mary Griffin of East Syracuse.

Great-grandparents are Louise Cavanaugh of Taft Road, Leonard and Dolores DiBello of Cicero, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Griffin of Jamesville and Mrs. Cosimo Figliomeni of Mattydale. Elizabeth also has a great-great-grandmother, Nellie Cavanaugh of East Syracuse.

Wheelchair needed

The Senior Citizens' Association of Centerville Court, Sandra Lane, North Syracuse, is appealing for donation of a wheelchair to be loaned to residents with an immediate need or who are waiting for delivery of a personal wheelchair.

Call Audrey Tafel, president, at 458-2316, or Sue Baron, 458-7867, if you can help.

Find a pendant?

If you did and it is a garnet stone on a chain that also has the charm "Mom" inscribed on it, it's probably the one lost at The Nottingham, Jamesville, in the vicinity of the dining room. It has deep sentimental value. Call 446-4074 if you have the item or information.

Center seeks volunteers

Volunteers are being sought by the Spiritual Renewal Center, 1118 Court St., to work at craft sales in churches during weekends. Call Carlyn at 472-6546.

Fund-raisers

A benefit to help the family of 12-year-old Paul Coulter of Central Square handle difficult financial problems will be held 7 to 11 p.m. Friday at Beefeater's Restaurant,

Route 11, between Mattydale and Syracuse.

Paul underwent pancreas transplant surgery in February and is a patient in the University of Minnesota Hospital. The donation is \$15. There'll be music by the Sunday Night Road Band and other entertainment. Call 668-9175 for more information.

The Lyncourt School PTA will hold its sixth annual fun fair 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at the school, 2709 Court St. There'll be food, games and other fun.

Onondaga Hill Presbyterian Church, Makyas Road, Onondaga Hill, will hold a "New to You" sale and a bake sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. There'll be a \$1 bag sale 2 to 3 p.m.

Truxton United Methodist Church will serve a charbroiled steak dinner at 4:30, 6 and 7:15 p.m. Saturday. The donation is \$12. Reservations must be made; call (607) 842-6433.

Fyler Community Church, Fyler Road, Kirkville, will hold a craft show and bake sale 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Food will be available.

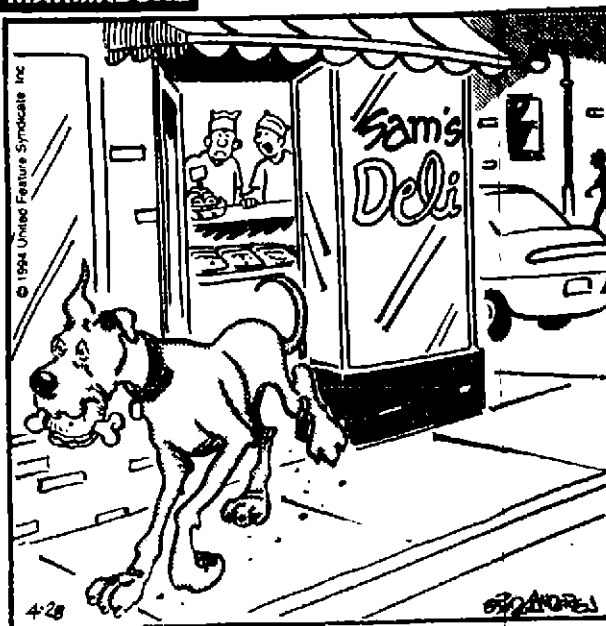
St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 927 Meadowbrook Drive, will hold a garage sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. There'll be clothes, furniture, jewelry and other household items.

Pediatric Aids and the Make-a-Wish Foundation will benefit from a musical program featuring Krusin Country and other bands and singers at the Valley American Legion Post, 110 Academy St., 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday. The donation is \$2.

Perryville Methodist Church will hold a rummage and bake sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, with a bag sale from 11 to noon.

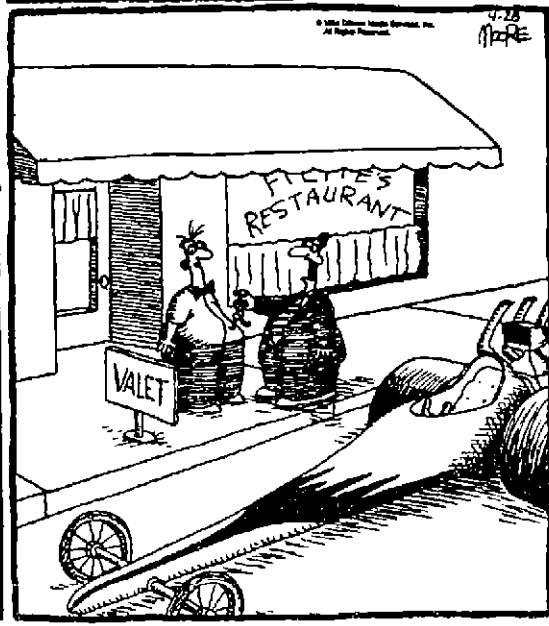
If you have items for this column, call 470-2219 or write: Joe Ganley, 6W, P.O. Box 4915, Syracuse, N.Y. 13221. Include a daytime phone number, and print proper names.

MARMADUKE



"Relax...I doubt you'll get another order for pastrami on rye."

IN THE BLEACHERS



"Here ... but be careful!"

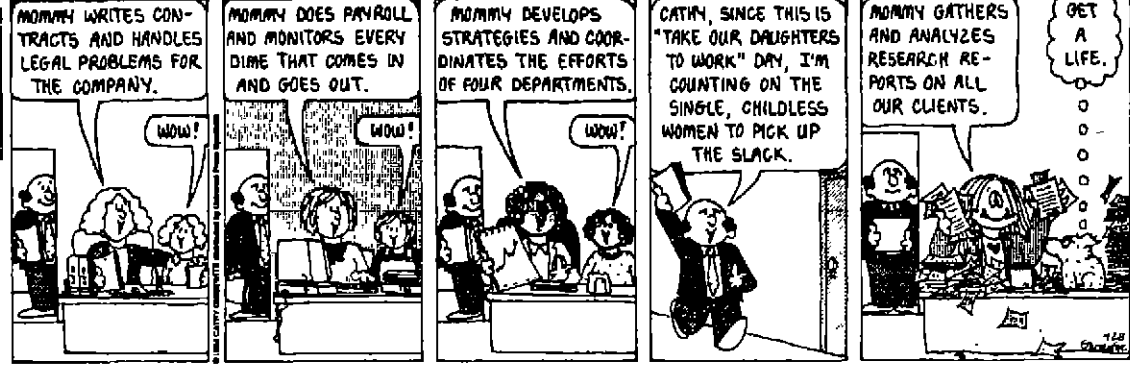
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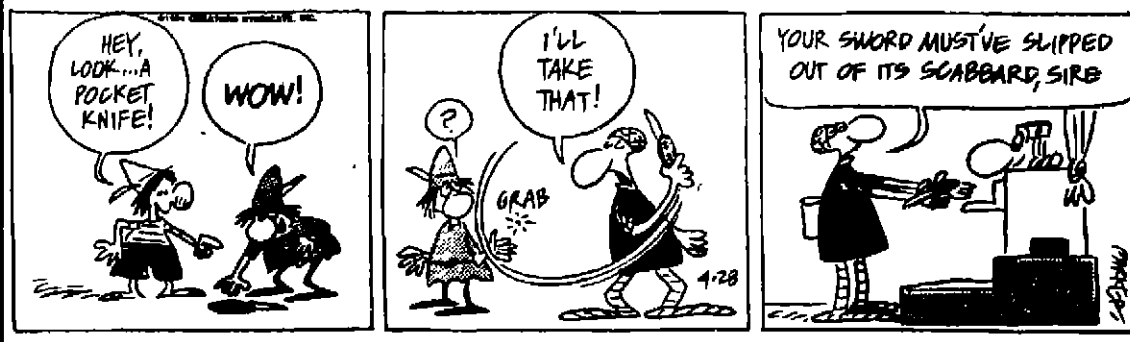
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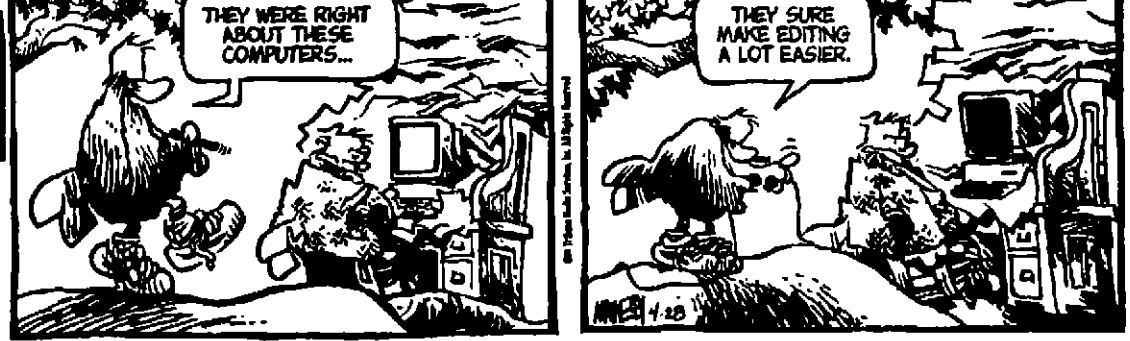
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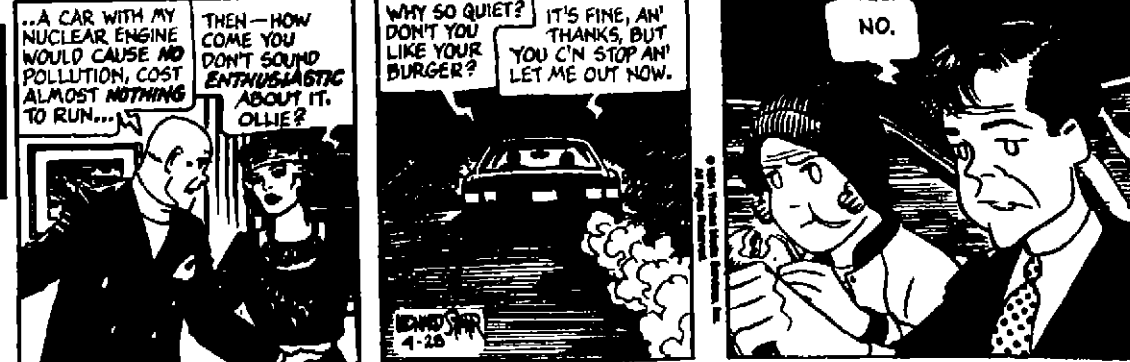
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SHOE



ANNIE



GASOLINE ALLEY



GIL THORP



Underprepared Students Helped By Cazenovia Resource Center

This story may sound familiar. Your twins, Kim and Kevin, have entered college. And are they ready? "Yes," you say. "They graduated from high school."

But Kim and Kevin may be classified as underprepared when they are tested on campus. How could this be?

"On campuses everywhere, the number of underprepared students entering college is growing," Professor Carol Radin of Cazenovia College said.

"At Cazenovia, we have an award-winning program to meet the problems, our Learning Resources Center, but it is a problem growing bigger all over the state and nation.

"I believe that as colleges try to meet the needs of these students that this challenge will change the traditional college experience, that the traditional large lecture class will no longer be an effective classroom technique.

"Increasingly, students will require more interaction in class and increased individual attention from faculty."

Who are these students? Why are they underprepared?

"There are many reasons that the student may be underprepared for the course in which he or she is enrolled," the professor said.

He may have been a school athlete, dedicated to his sport, who



CAROL RADIN Reading program coordinator

never took time to learn how to study. Or there may have been family or personal problems that interfered with studying.

Physical handicaps, learning disabilities and English as a second language may have created patterns of learning that need widening."

Nearly everyone knows a young person who has slanted his high school training toward one discipline, then changed his mind.

A friend's daughter planned to become a veterinarian and took many science courses, only to change her mind and decide she wants a career in fashion, where design is a key course.

The new form of education practiced at the Cazenovia resource

center focuses on students who need extra help in their college work.

Radin, coordinator of the reading program at the college, also is president of the New York College Learning Skills Association.

About 600 educators and administrators from two- and four-year colleges who work with underprepared college students, helping them improve reading, writing and mathematical skills, are members.

The professor says the world today is very competitive, that the students need to sharpen their skills.

Radin came into this specialty of developmental education "by chance."

She said, "My first love was literature." She received a bachelor's degree in English at American University, Washington, D.C. Her major was world literature. She spent her junior year at University College, Dublin, Ireland.

After graduation, she taught at Harker Preparatory School, Potomac, Md. Later, she received a master of science degree in reading education from Syracuse University and began teaching part-time at Onondaga Community College.

The SU and OCC experience triggered her interest in developmental education. She became a reading coordinator at Cazenovia College.

"This was a career move for me. I still have my love for literature and have the opportunity to teach literature. It is a delight to find students in literature classes using the learning skills they learned at the Resources Center," she said.

ASK DR. LAMB

Antibody Attacks Cells in Anemia

DEAR DR. LAMB: Could you tell me what autoimmune hemolytic anemia is and what causes it?

A family member has been diagnosed with this. All I know is that an antibody is destroying the red blood cells.

The hematologist has tried prednisone, which was unsuccessful, then blood transfusions and gamma globulin.

At first, she seemed better after this, but now they have scheduled surgery to remove her spleen.

DEAR READER: One of the ways a person can develop an anemia is from excessive destruction of red blood cells. The normal red blood cell lives from about 110 to 120 days.

There is a rather long list of disorders that can lead to the destruction of red blood cells in a much shorter period. This includes toxins and some inherited defects such as sickle cell anemia.

You are correct that autoimmune hemolytic anemia means the body is producing antibodies against a person's red blood cells. In a sense, the body is allergic to its red blood cells.

The antibody attacks the red blood cell membrane. In most instances it is not clear why this happens.

The first approach is to treat the patient with prednisone. About one-fifth may respond and recover, requiring no further treatment.

Others require continuous prednisone treatment to counteract the antibodies. Gamma globulin, a blood protein, is also used.

The spleen is overly active in destroying the red blood cells, and that is often the site where most of the destruction occurs.

That is why it is removed in cases that do not respond to medical management.



DR. LAMB