

Kids and business can lead to sticky billings

A small business operating out of the home can have a lot of advantages and one big disadvantage—children in the office.

It is casual, at best, having the hub of a business operate off the same counter that jelly sandwiches are prepared on, but if the telephone is located on a kitchen wall, that's where the papers will pile up.

I would have preferred a room set aside just for my office, the files within an arm's reach, and a fully equipped desk. The soundproof room would have a door impenetrable by children complimented by a sign reading "No Minors Allowed on the Premises."

But what I want and what I got are two different things.

My filing system is spread out over more territory than the American frontier. I have tax papers under the bed, receipts in a tin box under the bathroom sink, cancelled checks in a tackle box on the closet shelf and check stubs in a flour can in the kitchen.

Job descriptions and invoices are on a magnetic clip-

board attached to the side of the refrigerator. This clipboard also attracts notices from school, drawings from pre-school, shoestrings, odd socks and the television



Margaret Schmale's

Bits
and pieces

guide.

I have to have at least a day-and-a-half advance notice if my husband wants something I have "filed" away.

General correspondence is loosely corralled on the end of the counter closest to the phone. Incoming bills are weighted down by the toaster and all outgoing mail is jammed into the cookbook rack for anyone to snatch that will be passing the mail box. Once in a while, a small envelope will get sidetracked into the recipe card index, but as slow as the mail system is, the delay is rarely noticed.

I adopted my system for phone numbers from the public restrooms. Phone numbers work their way up the wall on the bulletin board according to importance. The emergency numbers are written as high as I can each and therefore can easily be seen by anyone over five feet tall.

At this moment, the poison center, the vet and the trucking line are all running neck and neck for first place. Where the phone meets the wall, I have made a great business card index. The little cards fan out all around the phone giving it a halo of efficiency.

But the handiest thing about the counter is that a felt pen can write all over it. The one drawback is that when I roll out my pie crust, the dough lifts the message off

like putty.

An office located in the middle of the kitchen has charm. It also has sticky billings. The power company wrote me a special note asking me in addition to not folding, stapling or spindling their bills, would I please not spread them with peanut butter. I apparently did a great deal of damage to their computer.

A lady in the office of a welding supply company wrote me a nice note saying the recipe I had jotted down on the back of her billing was a new treat. Now that was real friendly.

The girls are a big threat to my supplies. If I put out too much paper, it has a way of drifting into their room. More than one pencil and the extra slips into the girls' room. Scotch tape has to be chained to the counter, but I have found a new way to combat the filtration of my supplies.

I write little notes and slip them into my supplies that read, "If you can read this note, you are in big trouble. Put my things back!"

When I find my eraser, I'll put a note on it, too.



Pattie TenEyck, left, receives award as outstanding extemporaneous speaker.

TenEyck captures title for public speaking

Pattie TenEyck of Sandy took first place in the Future Farmers of America's sectional public speaking competition.

TenEyck, a junior at Sandy High School, won the Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest held recently in Albany. The win qualified her for the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo. this November.

Contestants were given

three categories — production, current events and agribusiness — then asked to present a four to six minute speech on their chosen topic. After the presentation, a three minute question and answer period was held to further determine the contestants' knowledge.

The sectionals involved students from northwest Oregon.

Aid deadline nears

If you plan to attend Mt. Hood Community College between July 1, 1981 and June 30, 1980, now is the time to apply for financial aid.

Aid requests at MHCC are processed beginning April 1, according to financial aid coordinator Jerry Fast. But before the college can process an aid application, prospective students must fill out a Financial Aid Form and send it to Berkeley, Calif. for evaluation.

"First priority will be given applications completed, evaluated and returned to MHCC by April 1," Fast said. "This means the FAF should be mailed to Berkeley early so that it can be returned to us before the deadline."

Applications are prioritized by month of receipt at MHCC. Later in the year, when aid funds are nearly exhausted, priorities are established by the day of the month received.

All potential or current students are applying for several forms of financial

aid when the complete the form. Basic Educational Opportunity Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Oregon State Need Grants, Oregon State Scholarship Cash Awards, Nursing Scholarships, National Direct Student Loans and the College Work Study Program are all covered by the FAF. Guaranteed Student Loans and specific scholarships require separate applications.

If students do not meet the requirements for one form of aid, they still may be considered for others. MHCC financial aid office personnel are trained to help applicants find alternative that will help them afford the cost of an education.

Financial Aid Forms are available from high school counselors or from the financial aid office on the Mt. Hood Community College campus. For further information, contact the MHCC financial aid office at 667-7262.

Water worries farmers

Nearly 1.3 million acres of wheat have been planted by Oregon growers for the 1981 season.

Winter wheat, a 1.2 million acres, is eight percent under last year's total. Spring wheat, at 140,000 acres, is down 12 percent from last year.

The winter has been exceptionally mild this year and little, if any, winter kill has been reported. Moisture is adequate at present. However, there are concerns

about water supplies for the summer.

Other crop acreages reportedly planned by Oregon farmers include 45,000 acres of field corn for all purposes, the same as last year; 130,000 acres of oats, four percent more than last year; 210,000 acres of barley, 24 percent more than last year; 11,000 acres of sugar beets, 51 percent more than last year; and 1.1 million acres of all hay, two percent less than last year.

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