

Editor's Mail

Reverend's ideas disturb reader

Dear Editor:
I was shocked by the destructiveness of Rev. Michael Goheen's "From the Pulpit" column in the Weekender of September 19, 1987 (There's no need to spare the rod").

Of course, Mr. Goheen's column is a classical example of how the bible quotes by rote can be used to prove any case, no matter how horrendous. The church did this to justify the cruelty of the Inquisition and more modern demagogues have done it to justify the inhumanity of genocide.

Each week I see adults who have been psychologically scarred by "corporal punishment" during childhood. I also see adults (far fewer) who have grown up frustrated and directionless as a result of parental indifference or overindulgence. Loving and effective parents realize that neither "the rod" nor "lack of discipline" are satisfactory.

The obvious point which any commensensical adult knows — and which Mr. Goheen seems to have missed — is that a truly loving parent provides guidelines and expectations and discipline, based on compassion and caring, not on intimidation and fear.

This is hardly the "unprincipled sentimentality" which Mr. Goheen would have us believe. The 13-year old who said "I've never been spanked" is really making a pathetic cry for help. "I've never been guided by people who care".

Nowhere in my reading of child psychology have I found any suggestion that "leniency was love". Either Mr. Goheen has not taken the time to read any books written since Freud, or he demonstrates an abysmal ignorance of their content.

May I suggest to the Editor that for future "From the Pulpit" columns, he choose contributors who show some insight and relevance

in approaching the complex and heartbreaking problems of modern living. A column like this one is not just overly simplistic, it is utterly misleading and harmful.

For Mr. Goheen's part, I do not wish to engage in games of "biblical ping pong". But if he does not deign to read any of the findings of modern psychology, then perhaps he might care to take a refresher course in the New Testament (which interestingly is ignored in all his quotations). How about starting with the message of caring and compassion in 1 Corinthians XIII or Matthew V:3-11?

Dr. E.R. Langford
Stouffville

Spanking "archaic"

Dear Editor,
Re: From the Pulpit, by Rev. Michael Goheen, Weekender, Sept. 19, 1987.

How very disappointing to see a minister of the church advocating the spanking of our children.

Indeed, he even encourages us to do so, quoting the Scriptures at length by way of legitimizing his archaic theories. We teach our children not to hit others. What right, then, do we have, to do the same to them? The answer, quite simply, is none.

We have no right to spank our children, and any parent who does so is simply devoid of any means of constructive discipline.

Unfortunately, Rev. Goheen's hypothesis of Love thy neighbor, but beat the daylights out of thy children, does not do much to augment my respect for his position as a man of the cloth.

Elaine Rowan
Unionville

"I was tired of living in a tent."



"At 256 pounds, the only thing I could wear was a tent dress. I was so depressed! Then my doctor sent me to Diet Center. That's where I met Merrely. She's more than a counselor, she's a very good friend. With her help, I lost 126 pounds and 126 inches in 14 months. Now I have a whole new wardrobe and I feel great."

Whether you need to lose 20 pounds or 200, Diet Center has a program that can work for you. Call today.



Eric Fleming and counselor Merrely, Russell

Diet Center
We can change your life.

©Diet Center, Inc., 1987

FALL SPECIAL — 10-15-20% OFF!

Call Today **471-4500** 254-A Main St. N. Markham

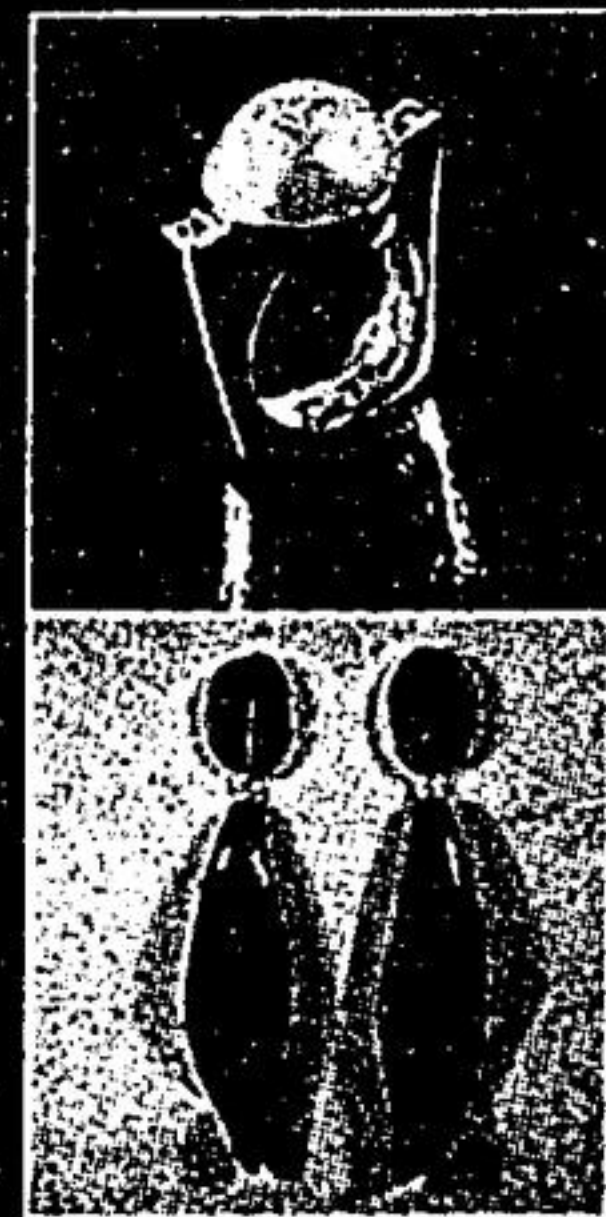
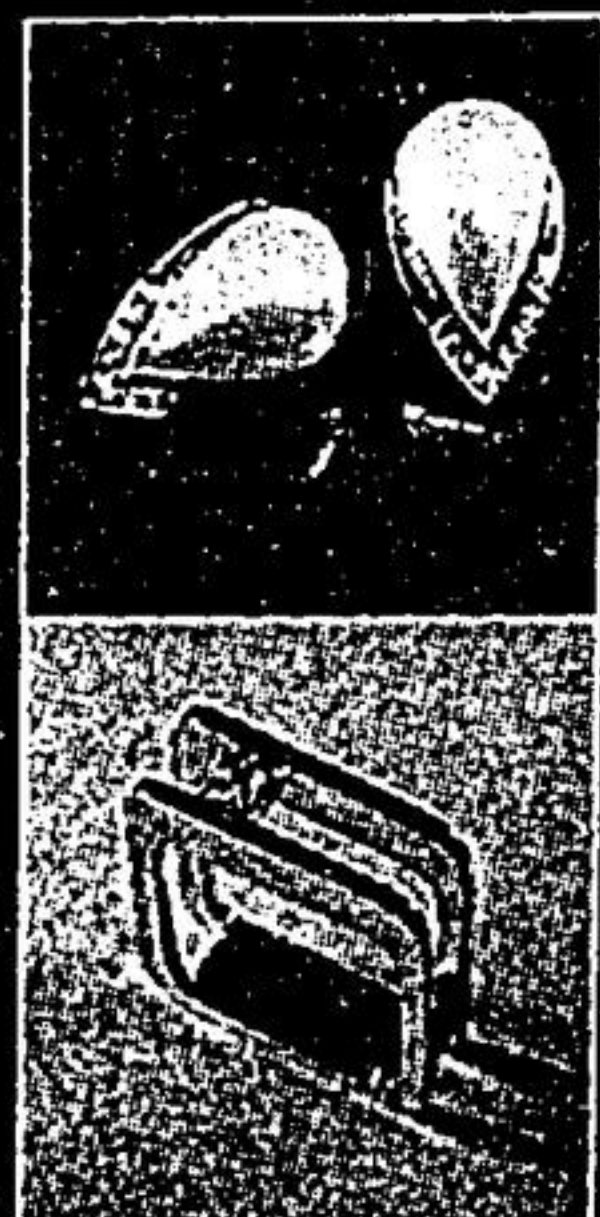
Come & see us at The Health Fair in Richmond Hill

EXTRAORDINAIRE

1ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

30-50% OFF

ENTIRE STOCK — AN EVENT TO ATTEND — SEPTEMBER 13-27



Jewellery by J

479-5673

159 Main Street, Unionville, Ont.
Designer and Goldsmith

EXTRAORDINAIRE SAVINGS

Last 2 Days

Village Box Meats

SEPTEMBER SAVINGS!

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Ready to Bake CABBAGE ROLLS</p> <p>2 1/4 LB. TRAY (11 ROLLS) 5.25</p> <p>4 1/2 LB. TRAY (21 ROLLS) 9.90</p> | <p>1/4 POUNDER BEEF BURGERS (40x4 OZ.)</p> <p>15.99</p> <p>10 LB. BOX (39¢ EACH)</p> | <p>VEAL SCALLOPINE (12x3 OZ.)</p> <p>13.99</p> |
| <p>Ready to Bake MUFFIN MIX Thaw, Scoop, Bake & Enjoy!</p> <p>• Carrot Walnut • Blueberry • Raisin Bran (Makes 24-30 Small or 16-20 large Muffins)</p> <p>REG. 6.49 4.99 4 LB. PAIL</p> | | |
| <p>NEW YORK STRIPLOIN STEAK (12x6 OZ.)</p> <p>23.99</p> | <p>BONELESS, SKINLESS HADDOCK FILLETS</p> <p>12.99</p> <p>3 LB. S</p> | <p>BACON WRAPPED FILET MIGNON (12x125g Approx. 4.5 oz.)</p> <p>21.99</p> <p>REG. 25.95</p> |

OFFER EXPIRES SEPT. 29/87 OR WHILE QUANTITIES LAST

8555 McCowan Rd., Markham 471-5260

HOURS: Mon-Fri 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

NEW: 5 Glen Cameron Place Thornhill 764-0698

HOURS: Mon-Fri 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm