

Mother's Day

New mom sees value in special day

I often wondered why so many special days graced the calendar each year. Every month one group, or other, is celebrating a day in their honor, from secretaries to grandparents. I figured that these holidays were invented by companies hoping to break their banks by selling greeting cards to a population that's a sucker for cute sayings.

Only now, after having given birth to my first child, can I fully appreciate why Mother's Day was added to the calendar 80 years ago.

There certainly weren't any books or classes that could have prepared me for motherhood. I wouldn't have believed that your entire outlook on life changes when you become responsible for another human being.



VIEWPOINT

Nancy Hoskin

As a mother myself, I can now look upon this special holiday and appreciate everything that my own mother did for me, from the time she spent with her children to the love she shared.

Mother's Day should be a time of reflection for children.

I feel that I am a member of a sorority, a club that endears one another to it, a bonding membership that only another

mother can relate to.

I can finally be sympathetic to those mothers who never seem to accomplish much during the day, other than caring for their offspring, which is the biggest responsibility of all. And of those mothers who greet their husbands exhausted, but fulfilled, their days taken up with preparing bottles, changing diapers, washing clothes and en-

tertaining their captive audience.

Being a mother is a full-time, 24-hour a day job. While there are mothers who choose to work in the business community during the day, and those who decide to stay home, each is working and working hard. I admire all mothers, especially single mothers who handle their responsibility alone.

And what a wonderful feeling to know that you are moulding the life of another person, that each day presents a new challenge in their development.

If a child only knew how many sleepless nights a mom goes through, how much she worries about her children, because she cares so much about them, and how she has postponed chapters in her own life, they would never misbehave.

But, I suppose, like myself, they will never fully appreciate

what a mother or father does until they become a parent themselves.

When a child is born it is a helpless human being, totally

reliant on a parent for direction, education and most importantly, love.

A new life is truly a miracle one that should be cherished.

Sew an heirloom

As Mother's Day approaches, consider spending the day increasing your bond with your mom, rather than purchasing a conventional gift. Working together on a project is the perfect way to show mom how important she is.

Consider making something which will become a family heirloom, perhaps a tablecloth or christening gown that can be passed down from generation to generation.

Beginner and intermediate sewers need not be frightened of detailed, lacy-looking projects. Lace and other fancy details may be added last, allowing the project to be as simple or complex as desired.

There are many patterns which require only basic sewing skills, yet the results are lasting heirlooms that any family would be proud to show off.

A tablecloth is a family project that can be used over and over for family gatherings. Either chintz finished with a self fabric ruffle, or a linen-like fabric accented with lace edging, would be an excellent choice for a classy, yet durable, tablecloth.

First, carefully measure the length and width of the tabletop, then add the "drop length" required (the length the tablecloth should be from the table's edge to the chair seat). Add an extra inch for a narrow hem.

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