

Only dad knew how to solve 'fighting cakes' problem

Some Sunday's, our rural roads are busier than others. Look out this weekend as rural routers go far and wide to visit dad on his special day. If any of you were like me as a teen, your dad would deserve a week for surviving those wild years!

Dads deserve this one day a year to be treated like a king. When we look back on our childhood, most of us are lucky enough to have some great memories of dear old dad. It's funny and corny, but it does seem to be the little things in life that we remember and that matter the most.

As a child, there were five kids in the family, a real handful for any dad. With mom at home and my father

supporting our rambunctious brood, treats were rare and saved for only the most special occasions.

When dad's cheque came in once a month, he would bring home "fighting cakes." Six decadent cupcakes and assorted pastries were purchased and brought home to be shared.

In that white cardboard box was a raspberry concoction that was topped with whipped cream and smothered in coconut. As a chubby child with a gleam in my eye for sweets, this became serious business.

Like a swarm of sharks in a feeding frenzy, that box was quickly cleaned out, with the slowest person getting whatever was left—usually along with a bad attitude.

Dad, seeing the problem, devised a plan. Each of us drew a number and you took your turn. The fighting stopped, but the memory of us huddled around the

kitchen table arguing and laughing remains to this day. Memories like this, are one of the reasons to remember Dad this Sunday.



Rural Route Ruth

Ruth LeBlanc

Luckily, life in the country has it's advantages. Ideas abound for outdoor enthusiasts. Little fishermen could pack a lunch for themselves and dad, and head to any of our little kettle lakes, or any fishing hole.

There are parks and fields to play catch, and golf courses are everywhere to go and hit a few balls.

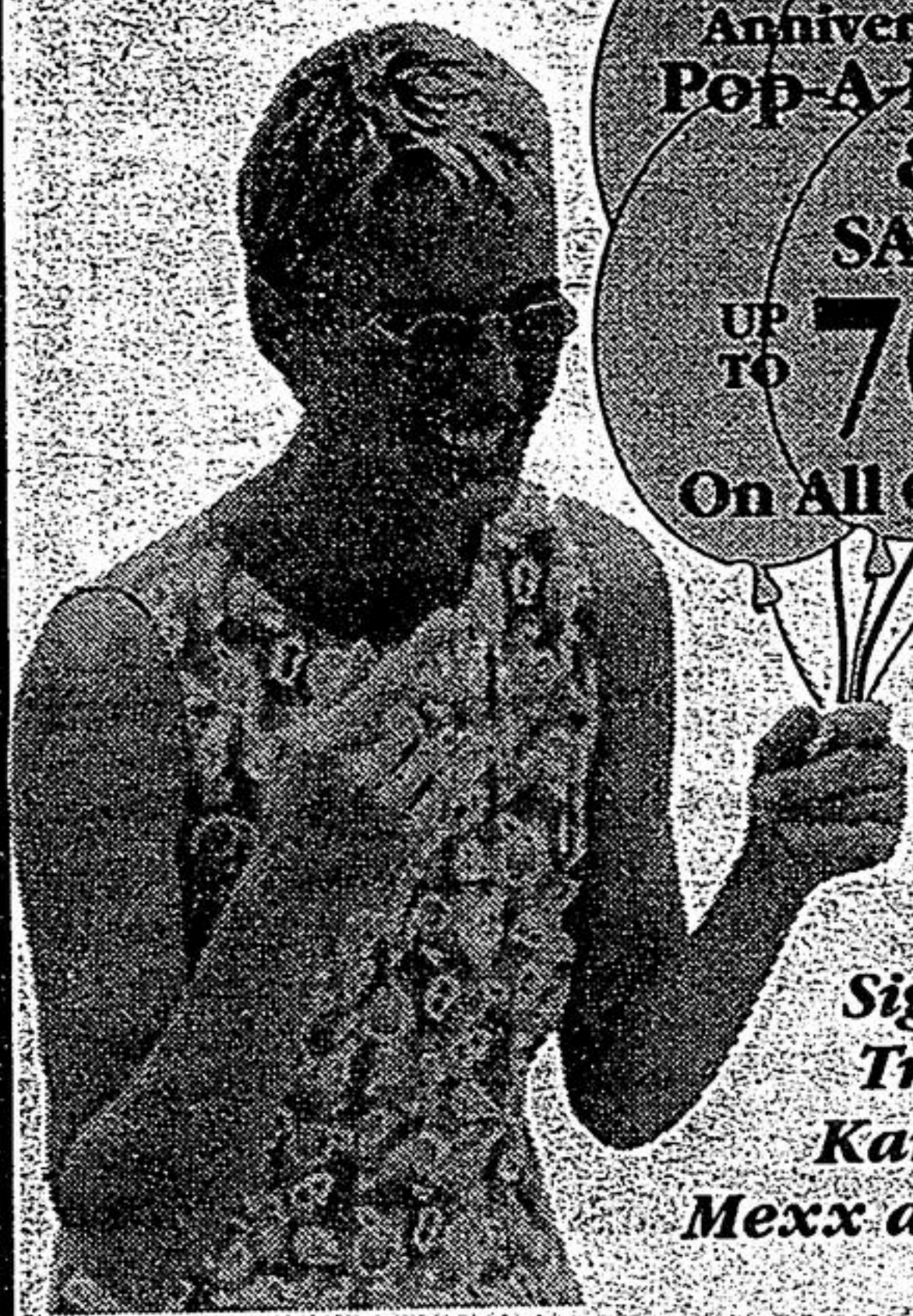
We all know that the most direct route to a man's heart is his stomach. Why not bake up those favorite brownies or gooey treats, or take dad to any of our great rural restaurants.

At this time of year, the grass grows as quickly as it is cut. Grab that mower, show dad the lawnchair and cut the grass for him. Yard work, cleaning the car and doing that errand he has put off forever are all great gifts—and they're free!

A visit is worth a million bucks, so get on your mark, get set, get driving!

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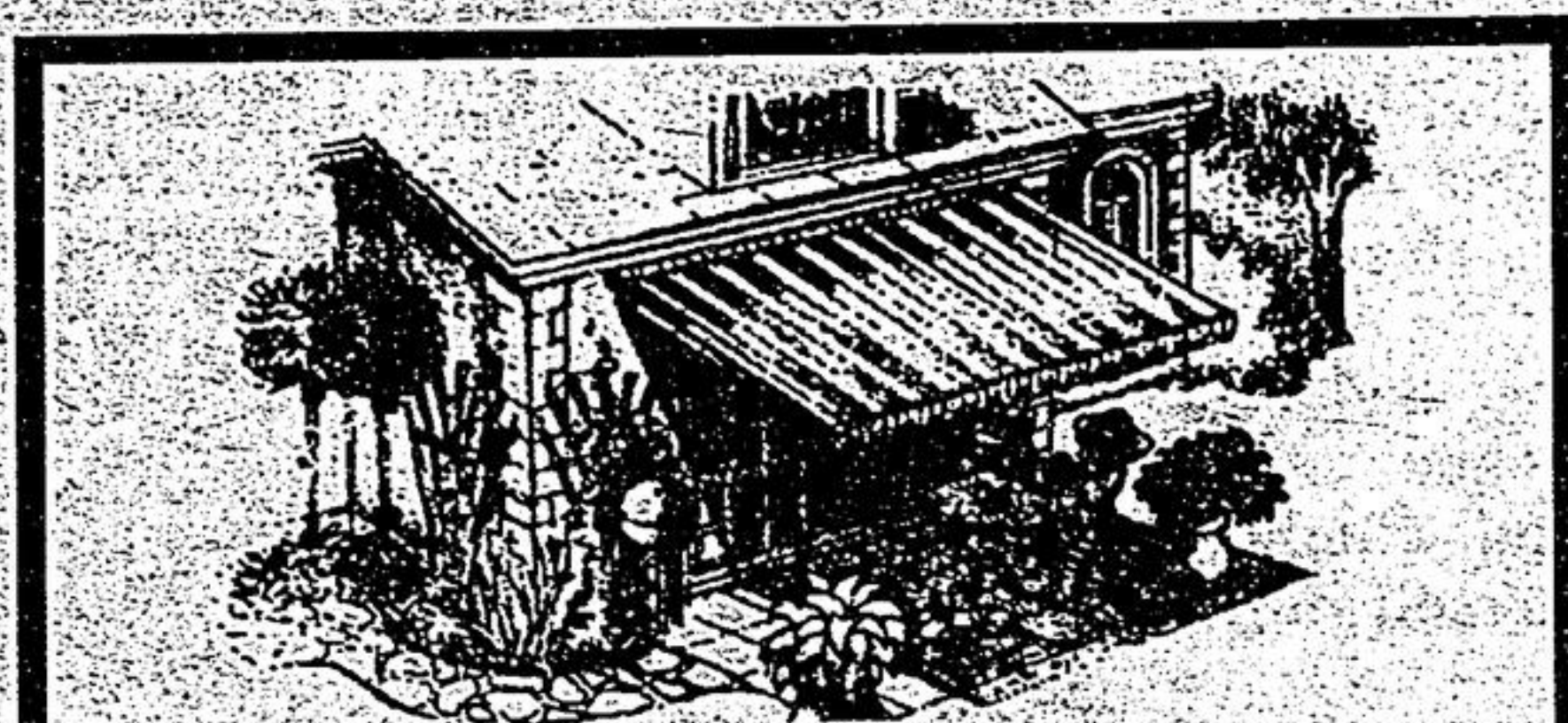


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