

Opinions "Out And About"

What Are The Secrets For A Good Marriage?

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

Although the divorce rate may have stabilized in recent years, marriages are still far more likely to end in divorce now than they were at an earlier time.

Undoubtedly, various sociological factors come into play that bring an early demise to many marriages. But what keeps some marriages going while other flounder, even though the problems facing one do not seem all that different from the problems facing another? In short, what makes for a good marriage?

Several area ministers and others were asked, "What makes a marriage work?" Here are their responses. Oh, and if you know of a couple who seems to have an especially strong marriage, let us know. Maybe they'd be willing to share their secret!

REV. C. E. DEWBERRY, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church on Dr. Carver Drive, has been married nearly 34 years. "I think that when two people are in love, and join together with God, and trust each other, then they work together to make a good marriage."

MARGARET DEWBERRY is Rev. Dewberry's wife. "The main thing is love and trust, and then it takes patience. You must understand each other and share each other's troubles, sorrows, happiness, and joy. If you're married to a person, you know they're there when you need them. All marriages have their ups and downs, but make sure you love a person dearly. You have to give and you have to take. Marriage is no bed of roses, but I wouldn't give anything for my marriage."

BONNIE ALLEN has been married to minister Larry Allen for 13 years. For her, a good marriage is based on "a stable relationship in Jesus Christ. If Jesus is head of your life, He'll be head of your home and allow a stable marriage to take place. Outside of Christ, I don't see how a marriage can exist. There's been quite a big change since we became Christians. There are always problems that arise, but now we take different avenues. You have to stand on God's word. If you're in a relationship and see no way out, then you become duty bound to make it work. God has set marriage to be a permanent bond."

DR. CLIFFORD JONES, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, 3301 Beatties Ford Rd., has been married to his wife, Brenda, for 18 years. In his experience, "time to grow together and understand each



Rev. A. B. Sutton
....."Chemistry"



Rev. C. E. Dewberry
....."Trust each other"

"is essential in making a marriage work. Also needed is mutual understanding for each other as individual persons, and yet not allowing one's individuality to create a source of excessive con-

flikt for the marriage." Dr. Jones also cites "mutual sharing of ourselves and our possessions, willingness to talk during the tough situations, and being able to apologize and say 'I'm sorry.'"

Arthritis Group Session Set

Arthritis Patient Services will be offering arthritis group sessions each Monday morning at 10:00 and each Tuesday evening at 7 at the Community Health Services Building, 1401 E. 7th St. Psychotherapist, Barbara Senter and Dr. R. Gordon Senter will conduct the seminar.

On Wednesday, November 13 at noon there will be an Arthritis Interact Luncheon Session at the Community Health building. Parti-

cipants are asked to bring a bag lunch and pre-registration is required.

The Arthritis Patient Services Adult Support Group will meet on Thursday, November 21 at the CHS building. Ann Schaumburg will present a program entitled "What Does Occupational Therapy Mean To the Person With Arthritis?"

For information on any of these activities contact Shirley Rodgers at 375-0172.

MDA To Offer Free Flu Shots

The Southern Piedmont Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) is offering free anti-influenza inoculations again this year to patients who have muscular dystrophy or related neuromuscular diseases covered by the Association's programs, District Director, Stephanie Phillips, announced. Children and adults with neuromuscular disorders are considered at high risk of serious illness of infected with influenza viruses and should receive flu shots annually as medically prescribed, she added.

The Southern Piedmont Chapter of the Association will pay for flu shots

for all patients it serves, whether shots are administered by patients' personal physicians or by physicians at MDA clinics.

MDA supports some 240 hospital-affiliated clinics throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico. In the Southern Piedmont area of the MDA clinic is located at Charlotte Rehabilitation Hospital, 1100 Blythe Blvd., Charlotte, North Carolina.

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Small Business Big In USA

"Small Business Is Big In The U.S.A." is the theme for National Small Business Week designated by President Reagan from May 18 through May 25, 1985. "Each year the President designates this week to note the contributions of the nation's 14 million small businesses and especially to honor small business persons who have excelled in their enterprises and who have made significant contributions to their communities," Gary A. Keel, Director of the SBA Office in Charlotte said.

Among the special activities coordinated by the SBA Office of Advocacy, the nation recognizes outstanding small business owners and operators for their personal achievements and contributions to the nation by nominating candidates for State small business persons of the year. These entrepreneurs are then eligible for consideration for the National Small Business Person of the Year Award presented in Washington, DC during Small Business Week. State advocates of the year are also recognized by each State and considered for national recognition in six areas of importance to small business. These advocacy categories include accounting, financial services, media, minority entrepreneurship, veterans and women business ownership. Special awards are also presented to a small business exporter, a large business that has supported small business, a successful young entrepreneur and an individual or a small business owner who has promoted innovative technologies.

business men and women or individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts to promote the interest of small business, you are encouraged to be a sponsor. Entrance for state outstanding small business awards will be judged on employment growth, sales increase, financial improvements, innovative of product or service, response to adversity, community contributions, and the farms "staying power." Nominations for North Carolina awards should be submitted to the Charlotte District Office of SBA by November 15, 1985.

The SBA's Office of Advocacy is also supporting a contest to select the 1986 National Small Business Week poster. Students and professional designers with graphic, printing and advertising experience are encouraged to enter the contest. The \$2,000 contract for final preparation and design of the winning poster will be awarded to the winning entry. Poster entries must be submitted by December 20th to the Office of Information Office of Advocacy, U.S. Small Business Administration, 1725 "I" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20416.

For more information, contact the Charlotte District office at 704-371-6567.

REV. A. B. SUTTON pastors Ebenezer Baptist Church at 733 E. Trade St. He and his wife Martha have been married 25 years. He explains what he thinks makes a marriage work. "I think chemistry is one thing. This produces compatibility, which gives two individuals the ability to give and take, and to relate with understanding. Somewhere in compatibility, communication, and give and take, love is found. Love packages all of this and, like a computer, works it out for the two individuals.

Student In Play

Greensboro - Robin L. Monteith of Charlotte has a major role in the tragi-comedy, "Mourning," which is being presented November 13-17 by the Theatre of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Directed by Karma Ibsen-Riley, a UNC-G assistant professor of drama, "Mourning" was written by UNC-G drama graduate student Carolyn Cole of Goldsboro. The play focuses on the Fletchers, a fifth generation black family living in Newton Grove, N.C.

A sophomore majoring in drama at UNC-G, Miss Monteith will portray Eula in the presentation.

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Pot Luck Supper

Women-Helping-Women: The WomanReach Monthly Networking Pot Luck Supper will be held November 12 (Tues.) from 6-8:30 p.m. at the WomanReach Center. Bring a dish and beverage to share, and a friend!

June Kimmel will be sharing her story of struggle and triumph. The WomanReach Center is a United Way Agency. The facilities are handicapped accessible and services are freely given and freely received. For more information, call a WomanReach peer counselor Mon-Sat from 10-4 p.m. at 334-3614.

Damon Stinson

Damon Stinson, tenor, won the North Carolina Music Teachers' Association's Collegiate Artist Award in Singing at the organization's annual competition October 18 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Stinson, who is a senior psychology major, minoring in music, is a voice student of Performing Arts associate professor Jane Dillard. He lives at 8554-A Idlewild Road, Charlotte.

Youth Appreciation

The Boulevard Homes Community will be sponsoring a Youth Appreciation night for the youth who have given their time and talent to work in the neighborhood on Thursday, November 14 at 7 p.m. All activities which will include presentations of certificates will occur at the center.

Second Ward Meeting

The Second Ward High School national Alumni foundation-Charlotte chapter will hold their monthly meeting at the Excelsior Club, 921 Beatties Ford Rd. on Sunday, November 10 at 6 p.m.

Health Career

A Health career awareness program will be held at Johnson C. Smith University on Tuesday, November 12, in room 107 of the Rufus Perry Science Hall, beginning at 9 a.m.

Guest speaker for the program will be Mrs. Julia Simmons, director of the Post Baccalaureate Liberal Arts at Wayne State University.

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