

Child Custody Mediations Program Places Burden On Family

A child custody visitation and mediation pilot program involving the Mecklenburg District Court, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the United Family Services is designed to put the burden of resolving family problems back on the family.

The contract for this pilot program was signed in

courtroom 301 at the Mecklenburg County Courthouse by Chief District Court Judge James Kanning and Franklin Freeman, director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The agreement was witnessed by Representative Louise Brennan, who sponsored the program in the General Assembly.

Under provisions of the 18-month pilot program, principals in child custody and visitation cases will be required to mediate the dispute before the Court will try the case.

"There is a pronounced limitation to the traditional adversarial approach," says Lanning. "Courts and supportive services have

assumed responsibility for decision-making in these cases without any real meaningful attempt to evaluate the ability of the parents to make such decisions for themselves."

Lanning says most responsible parents are capable of mutually determining the post-divorce parenting arrangement best

for their children. The goal of mediation, he says, is to leave the responsibility for making those decisions where it belongs - with the family.

"Getting the parents actively involved in this decision-making process is effective in promoting positive and lasting results for the parents and child-

ren," says Lanning. "Parents who invest time and energy developing a plan for the children are more likely to adhere to the plan and are less likely to undermine it than parents who have had a plan imposed upon them by the Court."

"Disputes concerning parenting are emotional, not

legal issues, and this mediation plan will provide a way to address child custody without going to court."

It is hoped that the Mecklenburg program can demonstrate an effective, non-judicial way to work out child custody and visitation problems.

Ron Leeper Is Guest Speaker

Ron Leeper, City Councilman, will be the guest speaker Sunday, February 19, at the 11 a.m. service at Memorial Presbyterian Church, USA, 2600 Beatties Ford Road.

The Social Action Committee of the church will sponsor this program in observance of Black History Month. The public is warmly invited.

STATESVILLE AVENUE Presbyterian Church will have a Black Heritage Celebration Sunday, February 26, beginning at 9:45 a.m.

This celebration will be presented jointly by the Sunday School class of the church.

Topics discussed will include The Black Preacher, Black Music, Black Politicians, Black Businesses, Jobs and Other Phases of Black Heritage.

The public is cordially invited. Rev. Wilburn Sanders is pastor. Statesville Avenue Church is located at 2006 Statesville Ave.

FIRST ASSEMBLY The First Assembly of God Church, 2633 Eastway Drive, will hold a spaghetti dinner February 17. Cost will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. The dinner will begin at 5 p.m. and will continue until 8 p.m. Proceeds will go to the Royal Rangers Boys Program.

MEMORIAL Memorial Presbyterian Church (USA), 2600 Beatties Ford Road, will hold its Evangelism Service Sunday, February 22, during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Rev. St. Paul Epps will be the guest speaker.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Rev. E. D. Newberry is pastor.

PLAZA UNITED The 1983 World 600 blue-ribbon barbecue team of Plaza United Methodist Church will be cooking the pork for the annual barbecue at the church, 5600 The Plaza, on Friday, March 2, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Barbecue plates, which include baked beans, coleslaw, pickles, chips and bread, will be available for \$4 each. Three sandwiches or 10 oz. of bull's barbecue also will be sold for \$4.

Drinks and desserts will be served with plates eaten at the church.

Deliveries can be made for orders of five or more if requested by March 1. Call 537-7302 or 568-5744 to order.

CARMEL Michael Brantley will give a slide lecture on "The Image of Woman in Western Art" Friday morning, February 17, at Carmel Presbyterian Church at the intersection of Carmel and Fairview Roads.

The talk begins at 10:30 a.m. and is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Friends of the Mint.

Brantley, formerly head of the Educational Services Branch of the North Carolina Museum of Art, is a travel consultant with Circle Tours, Inc. in Raleigh, N.C.

Club Meeting

Mrs. Betty Gean Funderburk of 4028 Beatties Ford Road was hostess to the Washington Height Garden Club on Tuesday, February 7. Mrs. Beatrice Williams was chosen queen of the club.

Plans are underway for a bazaar, State Convention and workshop in April. The March meeting will be held in the home of Mrs. Cora Galther of 1601 Beatties Ford Road.

Others members present were Mrs. Lois Scott, Mrs. Edena Williams, Mrs. Willette Patterson, Mrs. Lilhe-Mae Carter, Mrs. Jessie Lee Hamlin and Mrs. Mary Ervin.

STORE HOURS:
MON.-SAT. 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun.-9 a.m.-9 p.m.



Sirloin Tips \$1.68 Lb.

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68¢ Lb. 4-8 Lbs. Average

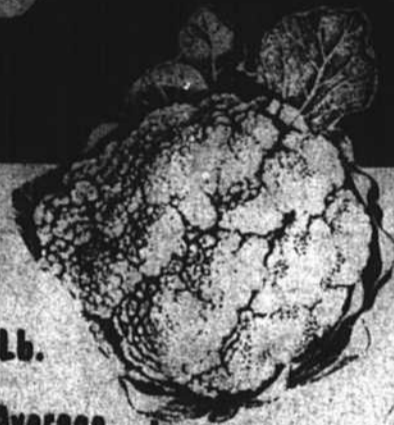
Smoked Picnics



\$2.28 Lb.

Whole Boneless - 7-9 Lbs. Average

Pork Loins



99¢ Head Snow

White Cauliflower

95¢ 2 Liter - Diet Pepsi/Pepsi Light/Pepsi-Free/Diet Pepsi-Free

Pepsi Cola

\$5.79 3 Liter - Burgundy, Chablis, Rhine, Rose

Paul Masson

\$1.99 Pkg. of 6 - 12 Oz. Cans

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Fresh - Rib Or Loin Lamb Chops Lb. \$3.99

\$1.99 48 Oz. 30" Oil

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Stouffer's Lean Cuisine

Chicken/Vegetable	12.75 Oz.	\$1.79
Meatball Stew	10 Oz.	\$1.69
Spaghetti/Beef	11.5 Oz.	\$1.49
Cannelloni	10 Oz.	\$1.49
Beef/Pork Cannelloni	10 Oz.	\$1.89
Salisbury Steak	9.5 Oz.	\$1.89

\$1.29 Half Gallon White House

Apple Juice

Why Pay 1.69

89¢ 6.5 Oz. - Cheddar Bites/Cheddar Curds/Corn Chips/Pretzel Twists

Planter's Snacks

Why Pay 11.19

69¢ 16 Oz. - Sunshine

Krispy Crackers

3/\$1.09 10.75 Oz. - Chicken Noodle

Campbell's Soup

99¢ 7 Oz. - Wisco

Natural Ridgies

\$1.09 6.5 Oz. - Sour Cream & Onion/BBQ

Wise Ridgies

\$5.99 25 Lb. Bag - \$1.00 OFF

Alpo Beef Dog Food

Why Pay 18.99

\$1.79 49 Ounces

Cold Power

Why Pay 12.53



99¢ 4 Pack - Cottonelle

Toilet Tissue

Why Pay 11.19



99¢ 22 Oz. - Detergent

Palmolive Liquid

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