R.S.V.P.

By Marie Fletcher - Cooke
AFRO Women's Editor

There's a family reunion here this weekend that's making all black folk proud. It's the Holt family clan — 200 strong — here from six states (Ill., Mich., Pa., Ga., Fla., Md.) and the District of Columbia. Reunion headquarters is the Holiday Inn.

On our desk early this week was a complete itinerary, listing each of the many activities for the four-day gathering. Yesterday, Thursday, there was a boat tour aboard the M.V. Port Welcome, among other things, which included hospitality night with cards and games.

Today, Friday, the group went to the Baltimore Zoo. Later the women and children visited the model city, Columbia for shopping and sightseeing, while the men stayed at the hotel for a slag party. Later this evening there's going to be an oyster-bull roast followed by disco dancing and game wheels.

But that's not all.

On tomorrow the clan will tour the nation's capital, and when they return to the hotel, another exciting activity — a banquet and disco. It will be there that family members will give a formal presentation of the occasion, presentation of the family tree, gifts and awards, a toast of love and musical salute.

Sunday will be a time of worship and thanksgiving with singing by the Holt Family Choir and others and an inspirational message by the Rev. Tom Gaither.

Trade members of the Baltimore delegation responsible for all the arrangements are: Naomi Hayes, Albert and Barbara Holt, Lee and Ann Holt, Barbara and Willie Banks, Dorethea and Bill Gilcoey, Rose Henry, Ann Holt of Washington; Cynthia Lewis, Lee and Gert Lewis, Semmie Lewis, Joyce Morris of Landover; Roddey and Gail Sanders, Roddey and Willie Mae Sanders and Ann and Crossell Spencer.

Travel Notes

Travel notes: **Bernice McDaniels** and **Harriet Trader** are vacationing in Greece, Turkey and Israel.

The **Wendell Suttons (Essie)**, are vacationing in Hawaii.

Henry N. Freeman, the Coppin State prof, is on an opera tour in Europe.

Dr. Leonie Greene and **Dr. Joel Collins**, the dentists, are back from Birmingham, where they attended their elementary school reunion. Some 500 graduates of the Council Elementary gathered at the Holiday Inn Civic Center for four days of reminiscences. Graduates from all over the country who finished the school between 1890 and 1950 were in attendance.

Visiting Prince Hall Masonic lodges in England and Germany are Maryland's grand master, **Samuel T. Daniels** and **Mrs. Daniels (Gladys)**; **Ruth Faunteroy**, assistant grand lecturer; **Ruth Perry**, grand matron; and **Richard White**, grand lecturer, all of Baltimore; and these Maryland Prince Hall leaders, **Theodosia Wilson**, Port Deposit; **Dorothy Campher**, Chestertown; **Bernice Boggs**, Salisbury, and **Charlie Smith**, the grand patron of Havre de Grace.

The **A.L. Snowdens** and **Bob Johnsons** are representing the Baltimore chapter of the Freeholders, Inc. at the national convention this week in Springfield, Ill.

Oops, we goofed

An oops in column last week about Baltimoreans attending Carats national convention in Atlanta: A line was dropped, and the name Helen Birt was inadvertently omitted. She was there. Sorry.

Sundae calories

One of the most interesting calls received in the office of the Maryland Diet Workshop came from a concerned mother. Her son had been engaged in a banana split eating contest at a local ice cream shop.

He'd downed one of the biggest confections offered in 2 minutes 35 seconds. To make it worse, he was on a 1500 calorie per day reducing diet.

"The question she posed," says Helen K. Fleischer, area director of the Maryland Diet Workshop, was how many calories were left in his day.

"After we all had vicarious bellyaches listening to the make - up of the banana split, we figured it out as follows:

1 banana — 114 calories
1-4 ounce scoop vanilla — 170 calories
1-4ounce chocolate — 176 - calories
1-4 ounce scoop strawberry — 168 calories
¼ cup chocolate syrup — 180 calories
¼ cup strawberry topping — 208 calories
¼ cup pineapple topping — 212 calories
¼ cup whipped cream — 204 calories
¼ cup nuts — 154 calories
Grand Total . . . 1,586 calories

"When last heard from, the young man was muttering, I can't believe I ate the whole day!" concludes Mrs. Fleischer. For diet information call 484 - 3438.

Inspirational Albums

1. Mirror
   Evie Tournquist
2. For Him Who Has Ears
   to Hear
   Keith Green
3. Music Machine
   Candle
4. A Little Song of Joy For My Little Friends
   Evie Tournquist
5. Gentle Moments
   Evie Tournquist
6. Have You Kissed Any
   Frogs Today?
   Joe Reed
7. Emerging
   Phil Kaeggy Band
8. Mansion Builders
   The 2nd Chapter of Acts
9. This Is Not A Dream
   Pam Mark
10. Pilgrims Progress
    The Bill Gaither Trio

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PLAN PROVIDENT EXTRAORDINAIRE — Mrs. Rosetta Sands, Provident Hospital Board president, and Ms. Geraldine V. Barbour, president of the Provident Hospital Auxiliary, share ideas with Mrs. Vashti Christmas, chairman Benefit Extraordinaire, as they discuss plans for the hospital's fund-raising dinner-dance to be held September 9 at the Baltimore Hilton.

—Burton-Ross

(Continued from Page 17)

On Friday following the wedding rehearsal, Mrs. Viola Backus, aunt and godmother of the bridegroom hosted dinner for some 100 guests.

On Sunday morning some of the Burton - Ross wedding party attended 10 a.m. morning worship service at Grace Presbyterian Church. There they witnessed the message and baptism of three family children by the Rev. William L. Burton Jr., eldest son of the Burton family.

Immediately after the service some 100 guests met for lunch at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Gould Jr., cousin of the bridegroom.

The weekend festivities ended with a trip to Arundel on the Bay and the home of Dr. Delores Hunt where approximately 50 guests of the Burtons, Hunts and Murrays celebrated the first wedding anniversary of Dr. and Mrs. Gareth Murray of Los Angeles, Calif.

Out - of - town guests included Matthew Bailey, Adelphi, Md., James Bobian, Lima, Ohio, Marcia Boyd, Westminster, Md., Mrs. Emma Burton, Elizabeth City, N.C., grandmother of the bridegroom; Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Cannady, Larry Carter, Linda Carter, Mrs. Nannie Carter, bride's grandmother, all of Reidsville, N.C.;

William Crawford, Lancaster, S.C., Mr. and Mrs. David Eccles, Columbia, Md., Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Fields, Seabrook, Md.; E. Z. Fletcher, Limpoc, Calif., Darcel Gibbs, Ossinging, N.Y., Babette and Bettye Gladden, Washington, D.C., Edward and Patricia Hamilton, South Amboy, N.J., Deidre Jones, Ridgefield, Conn., Polly and Tyrone Jumper, Reidsville, N.C.;

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Law, president and first lady, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va., Barbara Linthicum, Brooklyn, N.Y., Eddie McCafftly, Kim and Monique McCaffity, Elizabeth City, N.C., Nina Medlock, Gaithersburg, Md.; Mildred F. Moore, Norfolk, Va.;

Eric Morris, Winterville, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Motley, Elizabeth City, N.J., Dr. and Mrs. Gareth Murray, Los Angeles, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Naughton, East Orange, N.J., Miss Darcalle Nixon, Mrs. Diane Pratt, Tarrytown, N.Y., Tony Sweeney, Washington, D.C.;

Jesse Tippett, Pine Bluff, Ark., Mary Tipton, Bladensburg, Md., Mr. and Mrs. Earl Tractenberg, Silver Spring, Md., Dr. Glenda Webb, Rockville, Md., Linda Williams, Reidsville, N.C., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winslow, New York, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Winslow, Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Raphael Woods, St. Albans, N.Y., Stefanie Woolridge, Oak Park, Mich., John Wrightson, Prince George's County, Md.

Local guests

Other local guests included Estella F. Austin, Sophronia Backus, Viola Backus, Delores F. Baden, Wallace Baden, Calvin Babian, the Rev. and Mrs. King S. Babian, Collette Bosworth, Patricia and Monica Briggs, Delores Bullock, J. Randall Carroll, Samuel Carter;

Bishop and Mrs. C. R. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. M. Cornish Jr. and family, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Cook and daughters, George and Charlotte Davenport, Kim Demps, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Drayton, Jennifer Drayton, Terri Drenier, Nancy Dunn,

Cynthia A. Eyln, Alecia and Kim Fisher, Polly and Robert Flippen, Dorita Forehand, Beth Gill, the Rev. and Mrs. John Golden, Kay Gooden, Mrs. Hazel Gooden, Vivian Gordon, June Gould, Veronica Grafton,

Sylvester Greene, Jane Hamlet, Gale Henderson, Larry and Maybell Hesh, Wayne C. Howard, Jon Hughes, Bernard Jackson, Pearline Johnson, Sam Jumper, Barbara Key, Pecolia Killman, Mr. and Mrs. J. Drexel Knight, Mrs. Denise Lee,

Jay Lee, Shirley Maclin, Carl L. Mason, Norman and Joseth Mays, Eddie B. McCaffety, Susie McCoy, the Rev. and Mrs. William Mc Coy, Mr. and Mrs. John Merritt, Wil Miles, Mary Miller, Anthony Moore, Esther Morris, John and Augusta Murray, Randolph, Anita and Patrice Myers, Victor Myrick, Mrs. Lilllian Owings,

The Rev. William Peters Jr., William Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Brown Pinkney, Oglatha S. Pinkney, Annie C. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rich Jr., Gertrude Richardson, Reginald M. Roberts, Latricia Robinson, Gloria Savoy, Vernon, Ruthie and Renata Sheffey,

Robert and Geraldine Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Singleton, the Honorable Paul Smith, Sandin Smith, Milton and Marian Spencer, Vivian Stewart, Gracie Tisdale, Mr. and Mrs. John Turpin, the Turner family, Catherine Todd, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin C. Washington, Pat Wheeler, Ramona Williams, Margaret E. Wilson and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Woolridge.

Miss Ruffin, Mr. Cooke

Miss Margaret Ruffin, the daughter of Mrs. Ethel Ruffin Jones of Flowerton Road and the late Thomas Jones recently repeated wedding vows with Paul Clifford Cooke Jr. of Washington, D.C. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Paul C. Cooke Sr. also of Washington.

The couple were married here in Baltimore at Union Memorial United Methodist Church, 2500 Harlime Ave. by the Reverends N.B. Carrington and Leslie B. Dyson.

The bride was attended by Mrs. Yolanda Manlow, as maid of honor, Jerome Dean of Raleigh, N.C. was best man.

Both the bride and bridegroom are employed by the IBM Data Processing Division in Raleigh, N.C. where they will make their home.

Women in management conference

A conference for women in the Management of Maryland State Service, sponsored by the Management Development Center of the Maryland Department of Personnel and the Office of Developmental Projects of the Maryland Department of Education, will be held on Friday, September 8, at the Baltimore Hilton, Downtown.

Strategies for addressing issues and problems confronting women in management will be the focus of this conference. Scheduled to convene at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m., the conference will be followed by a social hour.

Women in Maryland State Service employed as managers or aspiring to be managers are invited to attend the conference. Registration is being accepted by Ms. Ellen Thompson, Registration chairperson, Office of the Comptroller, Central Payroll Bureau, P.O. Box 1751, Annapolis, Md. 21404. Her telephone number is (301) 269 - 3405. The fee is fifteen dollars.

Interested persons are urged to register early as the conference is limited to seven hundred participants. Deadline for registration is August 25.

Questions pertaining to the conference may be addressed to Ms. Julia Davidson - Randall, publicity chairperson. Her tlephone number is (301) 383 - 6781.

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Columbia Capers

By Pinnie L. Ross

Miss Toni Celeste McKinley became the bride of James Kelvin Futrell in an impressive ceremony recently at the Rouse Building. More than two hundred guests witnessed the ceremony.

Mrs. Brenda Robinson of New York, gave the invocation with the rendition of Kum - Bah - Ya.

The processional was a traditional one with the ushers escorting guests and bridesmaids to their selected areas. The groomsmen wore peach tuxedos. They were Michael McKinley, Gary Futrell, Arthur Frances, Peter Jackson.

Officiating at the ceremony was the Rev. Elias Minor, New York, uncle of the bridegroom.

The matron of honor was Miss Debra Toomer, along with bridesmaids, Mesdames Jacqueline Comba, Lori McKinley, Ruth Futrell and Dietrich Humphrey, junior bridesmaid. The bridesmaids were all attired in peach colored gowns of chiffon bodices. Each carried a single rose.

Miss Toomer, maid of honor, along with cute little Imani Sharon Coleman, flower girl, chose printed chiffon gowns. Ringbearer was Stephen Coley Jr., who wore a white tuxedo.

Best man was Larry Patterson. Both Mr. Patterson and the bridegroom wore pink tuxedos.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride was simply elegant in a pure silk T-strap gown covered with dainty white chiffon. It had a long chapel train. The three quarter length sleeves and bodice were made of white lace and accented with a pink satin band around the waist with a bow that had a streamer cascading down the front of the gown. The lovely bride also wore a turban made of lace which had a short train that flowed as she walked. She carried a bouquet of peach rose buds. She presented her mother and mother-in-law with a single flower.

The bride and bridegroom wrote their own vows. They were so impressive I wanted to share part of it with you.

The couple: "Witness, two hands, two hearts, two rings to exchange. The ever merging of two holds not to unfinish love. We, send before God and man our spirit free once to promise."

Words from the bridegroom:

"To first be friends
holding sacred the
other's needs
Desires and thoughts
which they look at
differently,
Encouraging personal
growth and tolerating
personal weakness
Honoring trust, love, and
fidelity promise
Nourishing the seeds and
friendships and
whatever life holds.
For us we will remain
friends who have come
to know each other."

Words from the bride:

"We take a vow to give
respect and private and
personalhood
That each seek his own
fulfillment
That special happiness
that each, alone must
come to know and find
Then share as new
treasure together.
Bringing the gold and
silver by ourselves
together
That each may shine
together and laugh, we
vow to love
Without a specific
promise.
Love has its own dictate
and cannot be defined
It simply is, and where it
starts and ends, God
alone knows
But marriage once made
and kept and worked on
— we vow to try
And loving makes it
possible to try
So witness, two hands,
two hearts, two rings
exchanged . . ."

The lovely Mrs. Maurine McKinley, mother of the bride was absolutely stunning. She chose a peach high mid - calf dress. It had three quarter - length puff sleeves and a scooped neckline. The fitted bodice was complemented with miniature bonds that hugged her tiny waistline. The skirt had yards of material that flowed as she walked down the aisle.

Mrs. Futrell, mother of the bridegroom was very pretty also in a deep pink chiffon gown. It had an over V - shaped cape trimmed with feathers around the hem.

Guests came from all over to witness the ceremony. Many came from Virginia, Texas, California, New York, Indiana, North Carolina and Mississippi.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt McKinley, Columbia, Md. She is an honor graduate of Spellman College in Atlanta, Ga. She is a member of the AKA sorority.

The new Mrs. Futrell is a group manager at the Hecht Company in Hyattsville, Md.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Futrell, St. Albans, N.Y. He is a graduate of Austin College in Texas, and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. He is employed as a sales representative for IT and T, covering the states of Delaware, Maryland and D.C.

A reception followed the ceremony with a full buffet style table of a variety of foods. The remainder of the evening was left for chit - chatting and dancing.

Others participating in the ceremony were Mrs. Carolyn Sohtly who furnished the music at the organ and the beautiful voice of the Rev. Evora Robinson who sang the Lord's Prayer.

Thought for Today: A loving heart is the truest Wisdom.

CHARLES DICKENS

MR. AND MRS. JAMES K. FUTRELL
(the former Miss Toni C. McKinley)

We were happy to hear this week that Miss Helen V. Benton, a retired Social Security employee, is at home recuperating nicely from a recent illness. A group of her close friends and co - workers in the United Baptist Missionary Convention, the Hiram Grand Lodge, Memorial Baptist Church and other organizations with which she is affiliated are planning a tribute in her honor at Martin's West on Friday, August 18. Subscriptions are $12.50.

Everyone is invited and anyone interested in additional information can call Mrs. Betty L. Johnson at 462 - 4800, 383 - 0746 or Mrs. Chessie Brailey, 523 - 5205.

Also recuperating at home from a recent illness is former SSA employee, Mrs. Charlotte Johnson. Charlotte is feeling well enough to coordinate plans for an October vacation trip to Las Vegas.

Pleasant surprise this week was seeing our friend and former co - worker, Mrs. Clara West. Retirement certainly seems to agree with Clara. She looked years younger and was bubbling with excitement about the volunteer work she is doing with the Red Cross. Clara was a guest at the 45th Anniversary Banquet of Pleasant Hope Baptist Church. The Rev. Howard Queen is pastor of the church.

The All Saints Catholic Church Choir will be presented in concert at 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 5 and Sunday, August 6. The concert will be held in celebration of the Choir's Fifth Anniversary. The choir is under the direction of William W. Cummings II. The Rev. Ronald W. Belschner is pastor of the church located at 4406 Liberty Heights Avenue.

Williard and Forriest Ayers entertained Les Tam club members and their husbands at their Elba Drive Home this past Saturday afternoon. Moving about the spacious grounds were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Weems, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Green, Mrs. Jenny McCoy, and Mrs. Hortense Henry.

The retirement luncheon for Mrs. Cecelia Washington will be held in the 707 Calvert St. Building cafeteria at noon on Friday, July 28. Ms. Doris Stevenson and Mrs. Raymona Robinson are in charge of reservations.

Miss Hairston to compete in finals

Miss Vernita Daniels Hairston, 17, daughter of Attorney and Mrs. Alonzo P. Hairston of Baltimore, has been selected to be a finalist in the 1978 Maryland United Teenager Pageant to be held at Hunt Valley Inn, July 22. The pageant is the official statewide finals of the Miss United Teenager Pageant to be held in Washington, D.C. in December, 1978. Vernita is a senior at the Bryn Mawr School.

Contestants from all over the state will be competing for the title. All contestants are between the ages of 14 and 18 and must have a "B" or better school grade average. They are requested to participate in the Volunteer Community Service Program of the United Teenager Pageant. Through this program many youngsters are becoming involved in community activities by contributing a minimum of 8 - hours time to a Civic or Volunteer Service.

Among the prizes the winner of the Maryland United Teenager pageant will receive is an all - expense paid trip to compete in the national finals to be held New Year's Eve in Washington, D.C. a total of $15,000 in cash scholarships will be awarded at the National Pageant.

Contestants will be judged on scholastic and civic achievements, beauty, poise and personality. No swimsuit or talent competition is required. Each contestant will write and recite on stage a 100 - word "ESSAY" on the subject, "My Country."

Miss Hairston is sponsored by Herman Carter of the Carter Clinical Laboratories. Her hobbies include reading, hockey and swimming.

Vernita Hairston has received the following awards from the Bryn Mawr School: the Julia McHenry Howard Award — for excellence in citizenship and leadership, (1976); the Evelyn Esley Sanders Latin Prize, for excellence in Latin, (1977); and in June, 1978, an award for honors standing.

Vernita is currently attending Georgetown University for six weeks as a participant in the Student Science Training Program in Mathematical Modeling. Her ambition is to become a medical researcher in the area of prevention and cures of heart diseases or to be a heart surgeon.

Miss Vernita Hairston

Plums coming to market

From now until early September Maryland produced plums will be coming to market.

Plums come in an array of colors — blues, purples, yellows, red and greens. There are hundreds of varieties of plums but only a few are of importance. The Beauty is usually the earliest. It is medium - sized, heart shaped with a bright crimson exterior. The flesh is amber, streaked with scarlet. The Santa Rosa is often called the "Queen of plums." This fruit is large, cone shaped, and the color is a purplish - crimson. It has a long season and is the leading variety for fresh use. The Santa Rosa has a rich, sweet - tart flavor and is usually very juicy.

Some other varieties that are well known and popular are: President, a late - purple with a firm, red flesh; Duarte, a large red variety; Green Gage, a mid to late season, small, yellow - green fruit; Damson, a small purplish black, tart plum that is suitable for preserves; and Italian Prune, medium to large with dark purple skin, having a plesing, tart flavor and firm flesh.

Choose plums that are plump, clean and fresh looking and soft enough to yield to slight pressure. A softening at the top of the fruit is generally a good indication that maturity was reached before being picked. Avoid plums that are shriveled, extra soft and leaky.

Plums are not good keepers. Once ripe, they deteriorate rapidly at room temperature. Store ripe fruit in the refrigerator. You can further ripen plums at room temperature and out of direct sunlight. Plan to use plums within 3 to 5 days after purchasing.

Plums are excellent for out-of-hand eating. They have a refreshing tart sweetness. This fruit makes good pies, stewed fruit, preserves, jellies, jams and are tasty in ice cream and puddings. Plums freeze well. Frozen properly they retain their firmness and do not discolor after thawing. The contrast between the tartness of the skin and the sweetness of the flesh is what distinguishes plums from other summer fruit. Plan to use them often for snacks and family meals.

Need a job

If you are 18 years or older and need a job, be at the Enoch Pratt Library, located near Reisterstown Plaza, July 22 at 2 p.m.

Angie Gibson, administrative assistant, Maryland State Legislature; Thelma Trogdon, Pikesville Nurses Registry and Pamela Epps, Olsten Temporaries will discuss "How to Apply for Jobs and Training Programs."

This program is sponsored by B.W.C.R.A. For further information call 539 - 3200.

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Woodlawn Highlights

By Marjorie Green

Sandy Nelson and Jan Kantorski are booking reservations for Mrs. Bera Hooper's retirement luncheon to be held on Wednesday, August 2, at Meushaws. Mrs. Hooper will join her husband, Otis Hooper, former SSA employee, in retirement. They are both members of Christian Community Church of God on West Baltimore Street.

Another retiree, Mrs. Ruth M. Woods, will be the honored guest at the Meushaws on Thursday, August 3 at 11:30 a.m. Hope Hager and Elizabeth Kelly are in charge of arrangements.

Over 34 million Social Security beneficiaries received an automatic cost - of - living increase in their July 3 check. With this increase, the average social security payment to a retired worker went from $239 a month to $254. The average social security payment to a disabled worker went from $268 to $285 a month.

Under the law, social security checks increase automatically each year if the Consumer Price Index rises by three percent or more. The amount of the increase is based on the rise in the cost of living from the first three months of 1977 through the first three months of 1978. The average monthly Consumer Price Index rose by 6.5 percent.

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And now a word

NEW YORK — The Back Street Flyers, a vaulting acrobatic team of six black youths are featured in The Big Apple Circus, which — in cooperation with Con Edison — is bringing on the clowns, acrobats and jugglers this summer in 20 free shows for 20,000 youngsters from NYC and Westchester County each Wednesday at the circus site, 50th Street and Eighth Ave. The youngsters are Steven Johnson, leader; Abel Shark, Chris Thomas, Darryl Hamilton, Nathaniel Suares and Wayne Jones. Kids filling tent at first show last week had a ball. The circus is public training school for students at the New York School For Circus Arts. Performances are twice daily, $5 for adults; $3 for kids.

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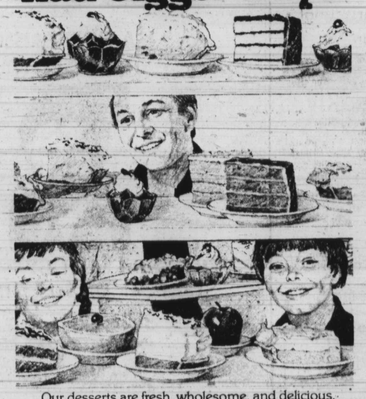

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