

Consumer Scene



Dear Consumer Scene...

I want to know if I'm using my dishwasher correctly. I thoroughly scrub dishes before putting them in the dishwasher, then wash them on "Light Soil" with only one of the detergent cups filled. Are the dishes being properly washed, or should I fill the second detergent cup also?

— J.M.F., California

Your dishes are being properly washed by using the Light Soil cycle and one detergent fill. The purposes of the two detergent cups is for heavily soiled dishes. It is not necessary to rinse the dishes before placing them in the dishwasher. Simply knock off excess food, select the Normal Soil cycle, use one detergent fill and your dishes should come out clean.

* * *

I own a GE automatic washer Model WWA8500. At the end of each spin cycle the machine makes a loud tapping noise. Is this abnormal? I don't want to call the repairman unless it is.

— W.G.D., New Hampshire

The sound you hear at the end of the spin cycle is the brake activating to bring the wash tub to a halt. This is a normal sound. However, if you feel it is excessive, have it checked by your local servicer.

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The pamphlet that came with my refrigerator advises against using any electrical device to help in defrosting. Why can't I use it on my new refrigerator?

— A.B., New York

Use of any high-wattage electrical device such as a hairdryer to speed up defrosting poses a potential safety hazard and is therefore not recommended by the General Electric Company.

* * *

I have purchased a GE Potscrubber II® dishwasher, Model GSD1050 and I'm delighted with its performance. One reason I bought it was because of the China and Crystal cycle. I have lead crystal and some of my friends have warned me it will cloud and spot in a dishwasher. Is this true or just a myth?

— J.D., California

You may wash lead crystal in your dishwasher using the China and Crystal setting. You will note on page 12 of your Use and Care Manual, however, that using too much detergent in soft water can result in etching of stemware.

If you have a question for the Consumers Institute, write to Consumer Scene, General Electric Company, Appliance Park, WT618, Louisville, Ky. 40225.

Real Estate VA Loans

Because the high cost of real estate today may keep some married veterans from seeking GI home loans, the Veterans Administration wants these veterans to know that their spouse's salary can be counted in computing the loan amount for which they may qualify.

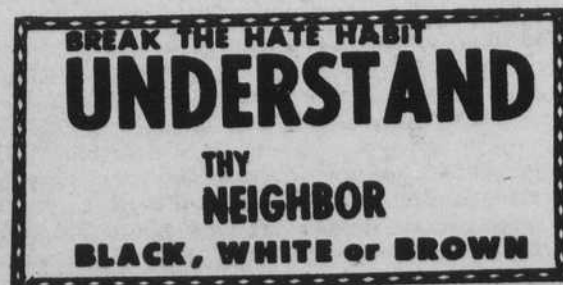
VA policy considers the full combined income of both the veteran and his wife (or in the case of a female veteran, her husband) when the income of the veteran alone is not sufficient to qualify him or her for the amount of the loan.

The same standards applied to the income of the veteran are applied to that of the spouse. The type and duration of employment will determine if the income of either or both can be considered reliable for the relatively long term of loan payments.

The VA exercises judgment and discretion based on facts in particular cases. No hard and fast rules apply.

Also, potential family growth is no longer considered by VA in determining income for loan purposes, and VA has been successful in discouraging lender solicitation from veterans or their wives regarding child bearing capability.

Complete information on GI loans can be obtained at VA regional offices or from local veterans service organization representatives.



NEW BOARD MEMBER

Ida Mae Crockett of Las Vegas has been appointed to a new term as a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners, Gov. Mike O'Callaghan announced today.

The new term will be for four years. She is one of two general public representatives added to the board by the 1977 legislature.

Mrs. Crockett is a senior clerk in research at Reynolds Electric. She formerly served as a member of the State Parole Board from 1971 through 1977. During the 16 years she has lived in Nevada, she attended courses at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

New Community Center Open

The city of Las Vegas Department of Recreation and Leisure Activities announces the opening of the new Gibson Community Center, 3900 W. Washington. Activities for youth ages 13-18 include city-wide tournaments, an over-the-line baseball league, volleyball and basketball games. Instruction is available. There are also movies and special events. Programs are also available for adults. Center hours are Monday through Friday from 1 to 9 p.m. Registration is free at the Gibson gymnasium. Call 386-6296 for further details.

Human Resources

The Nevada Division for Aging Services of the Department of Human Resources is seeking applications from post secondary institutions and private and public non-profit organizations to provide gerontological training during fiscal 1979.

Training under the grants will be provided in Las Vegas, Reno, Elko, Ely, Carson City and possibly other rural communities.

There is \$24,000 available for the period of October 1, 1978 through September 30, 1979. The deadline to submit applications to the Division for Aging Services is August 15.

Application kits are available from the Division for Aging Services offices in Carson City and Las Vegas. The Carson City office is located at 505 E. King Street, Room 101, telephone 885-4210. The Las Vegas office is at 1055 E. Tropicana Avenue, Suite 690, telephone 386-5323.

CCCC Luncheon

The Clark County Community College would like to extend an invitation to all new students to attend a free luncheon, tour and information and advising session.

Visits will be scheduled during a four-week period, July 24 thru August 18. The day session will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. One evening session will be scheduled each week between 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Please phone 643-6060, ext. 261 or 262 not later than July 10.

Public Hearings

Public hearings to determine the needs of developmentally disabled persons in this state will be held in July in three locations, it was announced today.

Rosemary Clarke, chairman of the Nevada Developmental Disability Planning Council which will conduct the hearings, said their purpose was to determine what proposals and programs concerning the developmentally disabled should be presented to the 1979 Legislature.

At all three sites, the hearings will be held from 1 until 4 p.m., and 7 until 10 p.m. The first site is the Las Vegas City Council Chambers on July 10; Reno City Hall Council Chambers, July 11; Elko County Library Meeting Room 100, July 12.

Ms. Clarke said that "any gap in service or unmet need is of concern to the Council", and she urged consumers of the services, their relatives and friends, and public and private providers of services to attend the hearings.

The Council is concerned with prevention and early detection of developmental disabilities, guardianship, discrimination, gaps in services, the quality and quantity of existing services, etc.

Black Purchasing Power

Total black purchasing power today is estimated at \$70 billion, according to Parke Gibson, president of a minority consulting firm. Even after adjusting for inflation, that's an increase in spending power of about 50% in eight years.

"Yet blacks", he points out, "are not learning to save and accumulate capital."

Gibson urges "There is a need for us to understand equity, stocks, bonds, mutual funds."

Saving money midst inflation can be difficult, as we all know. However, it is wise not only to save but to try to find ways in which your savings will grow with time.

Once, it was mainly people with inherited wealth or in upper income brackets who used money to make more money. But today, this option is available to many working people as well. You will be surprised to find that you can invest even small amounts of money.

For many, though, the world of investing is still mysterious. All those heavy words -- exchange privileges, portfolio transactions, liquidity -- turn them off.

But if you think about it, every subject has its own buzz words. Consider baseball. Terms like a "one hitter," "two bagger," "two run homer," "pinch single", seem baffling to those who don't follow it. Yet those who take an interest can quickly become familiar with their meaning.

Investing is no different. Getting a grasp of the subject takes a willingness to devote some time and energy to it.

Information is available in many places: the business pages of your daily newspaper carry articles on investing. Basic books on the subject are as close as your library shelf. You can get prospectuses from mutual funds and annual reports from corporations by either calling or writing. Or, you can write to the Investment Company Institute, 1775 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006 for general information on mutual funds. All this information is free.

Once you get this literature, don't be intimidated by the unfamiliar words. Don't try to digest it all at one time.

Talk to friends who are investing. See a stockbroker, mutual fund representative or financial adviser. Don't hesitate to ask questions.

Use all these sources to educate yourself. Then the jargon will begin to lose its mystique. And you might find that for you investing now is one way of trying to accumulate capital.

K O Knudson Community Center

The K. O. Knudson Community Center, 2400 Atlantic Avenue, sponsored by the City of Las Vegas Recreation and Leisure Activities Department announces its summer schedule of activities for boys and girls ages 13 to 18.

Monday and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.: Free throw, Around the World basketball throw, dribble derby, jump rope, ping pong throw, frisbee throw, softball throw, soccer dribble, standing long jump and shuttle run.

Points will be awarded to the top 4 finishers of each event. At the end of summer here will be an overall champion selected from those with the most points at that time. Call 457-3572 for more information.

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