

# Mother of eight chooses family, profession, too

Associated Press  
NEW YORK — "I went through it. I knew I was talented, but I didn't know where or how," says Marjorie Rubacky, a mother of eight who became a successful career consultant.

"I didn't want to choose," she said. "I knew I wanted a professional job, and I wanted my family. I didn't want to choose, and I didn't want to choose."

Marjorie began her career three years ago as a consumer affairs director at a bank. She was promoted to sales manager in the marketing department. "I'm graceful and poised," she says. "I'm a senior associate here for Management Associates, and I counsel people seeking professional jobs and making career decisions."

Marjorie had her bachelor's degree in English and half the credits for a master's in theology. She had a career and worked as a congressional aide before marriage 23 years ago.

She did extensive volunteer work, from organizing charity balls to teaching high school sex education and developing curriculum for religious studies. "I had really wanted to raise a family," she says, "and I have no regrets. I'm deeply in love with my husband. But four years ago my last child was born, and I began to feel a need to feel more enthusiastic about my life. I knew I wanted a job but didn't have the vaguest idea what."

Marjorie discovered skills in career planning course she took at the company where she now works. She realized she had skills in research, analysis, organization and communication.

Many women acquire skills in volunteer work but don't give themselves credit because they aren't paid, she says. "When she first talked about going to work, her husband, Gerald, encouraged her but didn't think she was ambitious for a career. It wasn't easy," Marjorie says. "The first time I came home later than he did, he said we couldn't have that the home came first. At first it was difficult to grasp. I had to learn to live. I had to live. He may have wondered, 'What more do you want? Isn't this enough?'"

"I think it may have brought up resentment and fear in asking: 'Are you going to let a career come between us and our marriage?'"

They are adjusting, and Marjorie says their marriage is stronger for it. "I feel I am a peer."

"I feel for the first time in years I am a peer. I absolutely glory in the fact that I am an independent woman," she says.

"If I want to walk out, I can walk out. I think that's something every woman should feel."

"You wake up and you're suddenly financially independent. You don't need a husband to survive. I think our marriage is better."

Marjorie is usually up by 6 a.m., works long hours and occasional nights and weekends. She doesn't have much vacation. Gone are the days, she says, "when I was home at 6 p.m., perfumed and waiting."

Gone, also, are the days when her husband got out early from surgery and both went to New York for lunch and movies.

They don't have an active social life, maybe dinner out once a week and a rare dinner with friends.

Her eight children are used to looking after each other, and the six now at home, aged nine to 18, make a greater effort to make the household run.

But Marjorie worried at first whether she should leave them for work. At first, they greeted her plans with disbelief, she says. Now, they joke with her, saying, "Gee, Mom, nice of you to stop by. Nice to see you."

"Gee, Mom, nice to see you."

Her husband spends more time with the children and attends their school conferences.

He takes an interest in the house and new carpeting and makes sure he has clean socks.

"After all," Marjorie says, "this home isn't mine. It's ours. I'm not the chief of laundry services."

Even with a maid, Marjorie says, "the house is a mess. I've lost track of who owns what clothes."

"I'm just beginning my career. I feel ambitious," she says. "I don't know where I'll end up, but I know it will be a steady upward march. I thrive on the business world."

"My intention from the beginning was to have a career and not to give up anything, not my husband or my family life. I think we can have it all."



Symphony

Members of the Houston Symphony Orchestra, under the musical direction of Lawrence Foster, performed Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 last night.

The remainder of the orchestra joined them for other pieces in the concert in Rudder Auditorium.

## Consol committee to make decision about class space

The Citizen's Advisory Committee of the A&M Consolidated School Board will decide at its next meeting whether to propose to the school board to incorporate 5th and 6th grades in the old Middle School site or to build a new elementary school.

The Thursday night meeting, Feb. 5, will be at 7:00 p.m. at the old Middle School Board Room. It will also be open to the public.

At its meeting last night the committee, along with the superintendent and the architect, clarified questions among themselves concerning the cost of building classrooms or remodeling.

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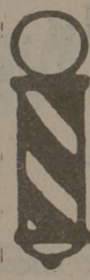
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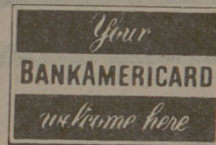
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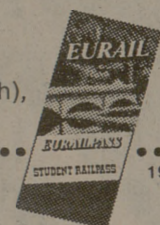
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