

BURLESQUE QUEEN

Stripper turns tailor

CALGARY (CP) — She has starred in shows with singer Vikki Carr and drummer Gene Krupa, worked with the late veteran costume designer Edith Head at Paramount Studios' design department and was a headline stripper tagged "The Gaza Strip."

Needless to say, Elizabeth (Liz) Thomas-Carmack, the tall, outgoing proprietor of Calgary's Carmack Tailors is not your

Home and family

average tailor.

In her teens she began a lengthy career as a burlesque stripper when she went on as a replacement for Blaze Starr at the Black Cat Club in Philadelphia. Columnist and broadcaster Walter Winchell tagged her

The Gaza Strip after finding it was near where she was born in Israel.

It stuck and during a part-time dancing career that lasted into the 1970s she was Mishka the Gaza Strip. "I became one of the 10 top strippers in the U.S.,"

says Thomas-Carmack. "But it wasn't like it is now, you didn't take all your clothes off."

Her career has taken some fascinating twists.

While stripping at night, she attended the Parsons School of Design in New York. She followed her late husband to the Orient during his naval career and danced in Japan and Hong Kong. She also attended the University of Hawaii; played a nurse in the 1965 John Wayne movie, *In Harm's Way*; danced or worked in about 40 of the 50 U.S. states and once taught theatre costume design in the fine arts faculty at Webber College in Utah.

Now she is taking correspondence courses from the National School of Dress Design near Chicago.

She opened Carmack Tailors last July, after another proprietor suggested she start her own business.

Dear Ann Landers: I am a member of the deaf community and would like to share a recent experience in the hope that it may give insight to members of the medical profession.

Last week I injured my leg in a fall and made an appointment with an orthopedic surgeon. At the physician's office I informed his nurse (with pen and paper) that although I am deaf, I can read lips if the person will speak normally and face me.

Shortly the physician came into the examining room and he didn't even say hello. He proceeded to examine my leg in silence and ordered X-rays.

After the films were developed he returned and informed me that the injury was not severe. I wrote down a few questions. He nodded the answers.

Obviously he was in a hurry to get rid of me, but he paused to speak to the nurse. His comment: "It's so hard when they're inarticulate."

I was stunned. This state-

ment by a member of the most highly respected profession in the world—a profession dedicated to serve human needs.

After sharing this experience with other deaf people at the university where I teach I learned it was not uncommon.

I realize that a deaf patient means extra effort to a busy doctor. But what doctors don't know is that most deaf people have been educated in communication skills and can make their needs clearly known. If a person says he can read

lips, the doctor should speak normally and not hesitate to ask questions. He will get answers. If the examination takes a few extra minutes, so what? They are minutes well spent.

We, the unhearing, desire no more than the hearing patient, and we deserve the same respect and care. We can forgive a little impatience, but not ignorance. Print my letter, please. I speak for millions. — D. T., Ph. D., Professor Of Manual Communication.

Dear D.T.: Thank you for a letter that deserves to be dis-

cussed in every medical school in the world. For many practicing physicians it may be too late, but you are just in time for the new crop.

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VOLUNTEER HELP LINE

Local branches of the Canadian Diabetes Association and the Canadian Cancer Society are looking for volunteer help.

The Diabetes Association needs canvassers to help them raise money for their national appeal campaign, March 22 to March 26. One of the services the association provides to diabetics in Prince George is supplying literature to the diabetic daycare clinic at the regional hospital. For more in-

formation call 563-7057 days and evening or 962-6058 after 6 p.m.

The Canadian Cancer Society wants to hear from anyone interested in the education program of their organization. Call 564-3255 for more information.

Coverage in this column is provided free to all non-profit organizations who need volunteer workers to

carry out their program.

To arrange for your group's needs to be advertised in this space send a brief resume of your requirements to The Citizen. Include a description of the type of work the volunteer will be asked to do, any training offered and the hours and days a volunteer may work.

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COMING EVENTS

GISCOMEDANCE: The Willow River Recreational Association sponsors a dance at the Giscome school gym Saturday. Tickets, \$20 per couple, must be bought in advance by calling 568-2347 or 568-2355. Lunch is served at 7:30 p.m. and dancing to the Westerners begins at 9 p.m.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The Prince George Toastmasters Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the auditorium of the B.C. Hydro Building. Developing confidence and communication skills through participation is the goal of Toastmasters. New Members and guests are welcome. For more information call Anne Sniderman at 562-4920 or Allan Lund at 563-2409.

LEGION: The general meeting of legionnaires and associate members of branch 43, Royal Canadian Legion, is held at 8 p.m. Feb. 15 in the legion auditorium.

FIRST AID: St. John Ambulance and Levitt-Safety Ltd. present an emergency care seminar on prevention and care of cardiac emergencies from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Inn of the North. Guest speakers are Dr. D.I. Peretz and Dr. D.M. MacRitchie. Tickets are \$12 and available in advance from Levitt-Safety Ltd., 847 Second Ave. and St. John Ambulance, 849 Second Ave. Please make checks payable to St. John Ambulance.

BRIDGE CLUB: The Sapphire Social Bridge Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Friday upstairs at 1780 Ninth Ave. For more information call Lorraine at 562-5394 or Eileen at 964-8498. New members welcome.

REBEKAH LODGE: Northern Rebekah Lodge 34 meets at 7 p.m. Thursday upstairs in Odd Fellows Hall, 1360 Fifth Ave. Members are reminded to bring food for the pot luck supper.

COIN CLUB: The Prince George Coin Club meets at 7 p.m. Thursday at Studio 2880, 2880 15th Ave. Everyone is welcome.

FAMILY PLANNING: A free, confidential family planning clinic is held from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at Northern Interior Health Centre, 1444 Edmonton St. Appointments must be made in advance. Call 563-1631.

UKRAINIAN BAZAAR: The Ukrainian Women's Association sponsors an art show and sale from noon to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday at St. Michaels Ukrainian Orthodox Church on the cor-

ner of Range Road and Westwood Drive. Cabbage rolls and perogies are also on sale. For more information call Mary Tarnowski at 562-2966.

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