



AMY'S APRON HOLDS HER HAMMER AND NAILS

By Ira Brock, Enquirer Reporter

When other girls in her high school junior class were talking law and medicine, Amy Brueggemeyer was thinking of woodworking.

Today, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brueggemeyer, 1037 Redway Ave, North Avondale, can hammer a nail straight.

"I'm a woodworker and also a bus person," she said "which means I clean tables when I'm not helping to install kitchen cabinets and the like."

Amy, who has long blond hair and blue eyes which flash like Christmas tree lights, said she didn't figure she was learning much at Walnut Hills High School that would help her earn a living in some field she had an interest in.

So in 1974, she transferred to the City-Wide Learning Community – part of Hughes High School, 2515 Clifton Ave. – in the Cincinnati Public Schools' alternative school program.

"I got into a class rehabilitating a house on Kemper Lane," she said. "It was an architect's project and he taught us for the free labor. But it was a fair trade."

Amy said the class of eight repaired the walls, put in a new kitchen and stairway and installed some heating vents to the upstairs.

"We just generally got the place in shape so somebody could live in it," she added. "Before school was out last May I had learned how to hammer a nail correctly.

"I got to design a cabinet for the kitchen and learned the basic things you don't think are important, but are. I learned how to make space more important to people."

After graduation, Amy couldn't locate a job in the construction industry. She settled for a job as a bus person at Mecklenburg's Garden.