

Art brings warmth to 'second homes'

By MARSHA LEWIS

Making offices and commercial buildings more comfortable and more visually appealing is a business for Bill DeYonker.

His Birmingham-based Art Encounter is one of the few shops in the country that caters to the art needs of business people, DeYonker said.

This art retailer and his two art coordinators visit clients with catalogs and samples of art they think will look good in an individual office.

DeYonker finds his art in various places—some of it is local, some comes from art groups around the country that specialize in specific kinds of art and some prints are by well-known artists.

SILKSCREENS, posters, originals, photography, weaving, prints, etchings and a new supergraphic on Plexiglas are many types of art sold by Art Encounter.

Christine Holth and Nancy Kott do much of the coordinating. Both are interior designers and have fine arts degrees.

The first appointment is to acquaint a client with the company. The coordinators return with ideas. A last call is usually to install the work.

"Most of the clients are not well versed in art. But they do know art or

can identify pieces after talking for about 10 minutes," said DeYonker.

He said most people go toward the impressionist prints—realism is out.

"PEOPLE HAVE a strong feeling for what they don't like," said Ms. Kott. "We have to determine their budget and decide what will work within it." "Sometimes work is chosen for color," said Ms. Holth, "but sometimes people pick something atrocious just because the colors go with the office."

DeYonker wants people to like what they buy so the office becomes a "second home."

The art has to go with the environment by being color-coordinated and also by being appropriate for the business and its clientele, agreed DeYonker and the coordinators.

The coordinators frequently work with office managers or architects. Sometimes the staff is allowed to help if the art is being hung in their area of the office.

"The morale of the employees zooms when they help choose the art purchased," said DeYonker.

Ms. Kott said it's the finishing touch to the office.

DeYonker, who has been doing exclusively office work for 2½ years, said, "I'm always listening for new ideas."



Bill DeYonker and Christine Holth prepare to add some cheer to an office on a cold winter day.

Lectures set on Saturday

While youngsters are attending Super Saturday classes in the Birmingham Schools, parents and other community members will be able to spend a part or all of the morning attending one of the lectures planned at the Birmingham Center for Continuing Education (BCEE, 746 Purdy).

A different topic is planned each week. Discussion will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There is no charge. Coffee will be available.

Programs each Saturday from Feb. 11 through March 18 are: Diet, weight, exercise and nutrition by Lynda Perring; tax informa-

tion by Tony Caputo; community education in the Birmingham Schools by Shirley Bryant; the gifted and talented child by Janet Koepke; energy conservation by Winifred Kelly; and real estate by Joan Walsh.

Registration for children attending Super Saturday classes is

underway at the BCEE. Further information is available from the department of community services, 642-4810.

Programs are available for preschoolers through sixth graders in the areas of arts-crafts, language arts, music-dance, science and sports.

NOTICE

This notice is to allow patients to note my telephone listings. They have been omitted in practically all telephone directories by error of Michigan Bell Telephone.

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