## career keeps him busy after retirement Second

By CORINNE ABATT
If Bill (W.P.) Lucas has retired as he claims, he's one of the few who believe it.
Closer to the truth is that he's simply shifted gears within his chosen field, art.
Lucas was a designer in stylling and

neid, art.

Lucas was a designer in styling and graphic arts for Chrysler for 27 years.

While with the company, he was portrait painter on call whenever one was needed for a special occasion or retirement celebration.

Now, with more leisure time, he is concentrating on commissioned por-traits. One of his biggest projects is a series of 15 portraits for Crittenton

Hospital—former board presidents, present and former ntaff.
His painting of K.T. Keller, former Chrysler board chahrman, hangs in the Keller Building in Highland Park.
Paintings of Lucas's wife. Betty, their daughter, Jan, and her husband Jack Stonecipher, hang in the Bloomfield Hills home along with others which serve as a portfolio.
LUCAS MAJORED IN ARTAL Ohio Wesleyan University and later attended classes in his hometown.
New York City, and at the National Art School in Washington D.C.
But, he credits the teacher he had when he came to Detroit, George

Rich, with being a major influence on his work and his continuing interest in

us work and his continuing interest in painting.

The couple treasure a Rich still life of a fish which hangs in their dining room. There are also a lot of Lucas still lifes about the house.

"I love to paint and I feel painting still lifes helps me with my portralts," Lucas said.

sum mes nerps ne with my portraits.
Lucas said.
Although he particularly enjoys
working with a live model, Lucas said
that in many instances he is limited to
working from photographs.
Ideally, he likes to meet his subject,

do a color rough in oil, take black and white photographs and work with the

subject once more before the portrait is complete.

Sometimes, as in a recent portrait, he likes the color rough well enough to take it past the basics. However, it remains a study rather than a finished portrait.

"IT'S A REAL joy to paint from life," Lucas said rather wistfully, but, most people don't have time these days to sit for a portrait.

When he isn't painting, there's a good chance that Lucas and his wife may be either bowling or involved in a Pranklin Players production.
Mrs. Lucas is a singer so musicals always tempt her. Lucas likes straight

ones, especially those calling for a dialect.

"Dilucts are my bag," he said resulting with a smile the reviewer resulting with a smile the reviewer control of the said of th

ene cress of the subject, but the differences are subtle and well-controlled.

THE ARTIST'S FAVORITE PORT.

THAT is the one he did of his son-in-law. Jack Stonecipher. Yet, the one which may capture the viewer's attention for the longest period of time, is a full length portrait of a child who lives may be a child in a world controlled by a child in a world controlled by adults.

Lucas is an energetic next, and the did not the child in a world controlled by adults.

adults.

Lucas is an energetic person and his energy seems to stem from a total enjoyment of life and being able to do something in which he finds satisfaction.

He puts it succinctly. "I just love to raint"



Behind Bill Lucas is a color rough in preparation for a portrait. (Staff photos by Stephen Cantrell)



Portrait of Jack Stonecipher is one of the artist's favorites.



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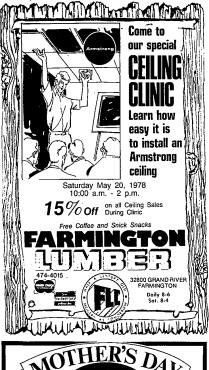
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