

The good stuff (and the bad) line merchants' shelves

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

The good stuff was on sale. And the bad and the ugly also showed up on merchants' shelves during the Farmington Founders' Festival.

For shoppers whose little bargaining hearts lusted after rocking horses made from white pine, the Festival was the place to be.

More eclectic types who saw possibilities in a pair of lamps without shades or light bulbs had a niche in the outdoor sales at the festival.

But connoisseurs of junk were not forced to go home empty-handed. Those who always hankered over a tissue box cover with an unusual motif could have parted with \$3 at the festival and come back with a doll's head edged in elastic.

This little blond beauty covered the cardboard container while users pulled tissues from a slit in her wig.

IF WIG-FLIPPING tissue covers are excluded from the junk lover's list, Farmington merchants still provided an assortment of cast-offs.

For 50 cents, a thrifty homemaker could purchase an old-fashioned egg beater. If the homemaker was the do-it-yourself type, she could slap on a fresh coat of paint to replace the peeling red color of the egg beater's handle.

For those who want to learn firsthand how room made toast about 30 years ago, the festival sales were a godsend. A toaster which opened at

the sides to reveal its heating elements was on sale, complete with cord for \$10. Those who hate the sound of toast popping up in the morning might like this kitchen gadget's file away system of browning bread.

Nostalgia buffs also might have been attracted to this little number found sitting on a table along Grand River. The toaster came complete with bread crumbs and scorch marks.

Also in the odds-but-goodie kitchen department was a waffle iron that could be used even if a plug wasn't handy. The cast iron utensil, priced at \$10, was made to use on top of a stove.

Like its companion piece iron, the stove top waffle maker came complete with scorch marks to add character to the purchase.

A PURCHASER'S nostalgia quotient can't be judged in years, anymore, as witnessed by another item for sale. In the late 1960s, rock music lovers swooned over Cream and its album, "Disraeli Gears."

That musical highlight was available to bargain hunters for a mere 50 cents, just as long as they're willing to play a record that now is about 85 per cent scratch marks on expensive stereo equipment.

But junk lovers moved over sometimes to let the good stuff shine through.

Solid white pine rocking horses, handmade by Paul Hoffmeyer, were available for \$135. The wooden steeds were most in demand by childless couples and single women who use

them as part of the living room decor, according to Hoffmeyer.

"I've heard people say that they wouldn't allow a child to get on one," said Hoffmeyer, an assistant advertising director for Cunningham's drug stores.

In addition to wooden earring caddies and rocking horses, Hoffmeyer offered a white pine cradle to rock a baby to sleep for \$100. It takes him about six weeks to make one cradle.

To brighten up windows Craig Hane offered suncatchers in cheerful colors.

SWANS for \$19, birds for \$21 and grandfather clocks for \$13 were on display by Hane, 15, who runs the Glass

Menagerie from his Farmington home.

His most expensive creation, a partridge in a pear tree, sold for \$40 and contained faceted antique German glass. The bird and fruit were the product of Hane's imagination but some of his wares are made from pre-packaged patterns.

Under-the-sun-shopping wouldn't be complete without a tin of crocheted pot holders and toaster covers. The age of electronics has dawned in this craft as crocheters figure out ways to cover a microwave oven with a yarn chicken.

There were T-shirts emblazoned with the inevitable Kiss Me I'm Irish and a collection of buttons featuring

the likeness of Shawn Cassidy, pin-up for the younger-than-14 set.

No matter if the browser is a collector of sows' ears waiting to be silk

purses or plain old junk, there is one hazard that haunts the sales year after year—more feet and an overwhelming desire to sit in the shade.



One tired cowgirl is Angela Johnson, 19 months old, of Livonia. She tried out the white pine rocking horses sold at the Farmington Founders' Festival. (Photo by Allen Schlossberg)

League query draws response from Majoros

Farmington Hills City Mgr. George Majoros will attempt to end speculation as to why an undicted co-conspirator in an Oakland County investigation was hired by the city last April.

In response to a question posed by councilwoman Joanne Smith at Monday night's city council meeting, Majoros said he was preparing a letter to respond to similar questions asked by the Farmington-West Bloomfield League of Women Voters. Ms. Smith asked Majoros why Maureen Lowe, a Neighborhood Improvement Program consultant, was hired by Majoros and his assistant, Mike Dorman.

Majoros also said that he expected to receive a letter from the Oakland County Prosecutor's office as to "their involvement in the particular issue."

Ms. Lowe, who is expected to testify in the county's case against her former supervisor, Donald Mackenzie, former deputy director of community development for the county, was hired by the city on a consulting basis in April of this year. Her employment with the city was terminated on July 18.

Both Majoros and Dorman were aware of Ms. Lowe's involvement in alleged irregular practices in her former employment with the county before she was hired by Farmington Hills, they said a few weeks ago.

According to the prosecutor's office, when Ms. Lowe had applied for a job in the county's community development department, her application was backdated by county officials; false information was added to the form; and she was shown an employment test beforehand.

Ms. Lowe was fired by Oakland County earlier this year but won back her job after going to circuit court. She quit soon afterward and was hired by Farmington Hills.

Farmington Observer

Published every Monday and Thursday by the Observer & Evening News, 36261 Schomdorn Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48150. Second-class postage paid at Livonia, Michigan 48151. Address all mail to the Observer & Evening News, P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48151. Telephone 261-3890.

HOME DELIVERY SERVICE
Newspaper Carrier
per copy, 20¢
monthly, \$1.25



Nostalgia buffs might find this toaster appealing. For \$10, the purchaser would find the appliance is complete with bread crumbs.

Philip B. Thomas, Inc.
Specializing in Personalized Custom Designing & Creative Styling of Jewelry
Authorized Dealer, Citizen Watch
JEWELRY • REPAIR • REMOUNTING
WATCH • CLOCK REPAIR
478-9050
33425 Grand River Suite B1 SIDE ENTRANCE
Mon-Sat 9:30-5:30
CLOSED WEDNESDAY

FOOT SPECIALIST
and
FOOT SURGEON
Dr. Norman H. Brant, D.P.M.
Announces the opening of his office for disease & surgery of the foot at
38471 W. Ten Mile
Just west of Holiday Inn on Ten Mile at Grand River
Farmington Hills 476-0500

Let the sunshine in...
but keep heat, fabric fade
and glare out! save energy

MODERN-AIRE transparent sun shades and films
CUTS HEAT — by 75%. Saves on air conditioning. Keeps your home, office, etc. cooler.
STOPS FADE — Filters 95% of sun's ultraviolet rays. Stops sun damage to furniture, draperies, carpet, paneling.
REDUCES GLARE — Enjoy view without squinting, pulling draperies, or expensive awnings.
DAYTIME PRIVACY — You are out, no one sees in.
IN WINDOW shades or applied right on the glass.

Call for additional information and free estimate...
477-6262

INTRODUCTORY OFFER
SAVE 10% on any order placed by Sat., August 12, 1978.

SUN relief
solar control products co.
477-6262
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI. 48024

ENJOY THE SUBTLE AND TIMELESS APPEAL OF THOMASVILLE'S CONTEMPORARY OAK DINING ROOM COLLECTION

NOW ON SALE! **20% off**

Contemporary furniture is often noted for the casualness that it offers in its design approach. Thomasville designers have now created a collection of uncommon beauty which reflects this popular contemporary feeling. Each piece features contoured shapes for a new feeling of sophistication and elegance. And the bold, sculptured molding provides an interesting profile and main theme design. We have two outstanding groupings from this unique collection, offered at savings of 20%. Quantities are limited, please come early.



8-PIECE PEDESTAL TABLE DINING SET,
AN ELOQUENT EXPRESSION OF
TODAY'S CONTEMPORARY LIFESTYLE

Orig. \$3,217 **\$2,573**

Complete set includes: 45" x 45" handsome pedestal table with two 20" leaves (extends to 85"), 6 cane back side chairs and 60" lighted china with 4 doors, shelves and drop-in silver tray... an outstanding value.

7-PIECE DINING SET WITH 78-INCH
BRONZE GLASS TOP TABLE, CHINA,
3 UPHOLSTERED SIDE CHAIRS AND
ONE UPHOLSTERED ARM CHAIR

Orig. \$3,133 **\$2,506**

This magnificent grouping includes: 44" x 78" 1/2" thick bronze glass top table, 3 side chairs and one arm chair with upholstered seats and backs, 72" china deck with bronze glass doors, lights and adjustable shelves plus 4-door 72" china base with storage shelves and silver tray... save \$627.

Use our convenient charge plan, Visa or Master Charge

Towne & Country Interiors

Open daily 10-9 — Wed. & Sat. 10-6

Dearborn—23600 Michigan Ave.-East of Telegraph-565-3400
Bloomfield—4107 Telegraph Rd.-at Long Lake Rd.-642-8822
Rochester—1110 S. Rochester Rd.-In Winchester Mall 652-3500