

Modern facades hide old-time holiday

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Hand-made holiday ornaments, specially decorated, freshly baked cookies and old-fashioned trimmings just like Granny used to own are lost in the mad mall shuffle of the season.

For the holiday stroller who wants to emerge from the covered mall and take a stroll down an open sidewalk, the old-fashioned holiday trimmings still exist.

They're a little harder to find, but for the determined stroller, they'll show their still unfaded glory.

Remember the smell of freshly baked holiday cakes? Remember when they were hand-decorated with brightly colored sugar?

Walking down Grand River in Farmington and stopping by the Farmington Bakery about 5 p.m. on a weekday will give that memory a jolt.

In the kitchen of the bakery, owner Joe Garufi and four other bakers use old-fashioned stone ovens to make the store's cookies and cakes.

Most of the store looks the way older residents will remember bakeries from their younger days. Look up at the high ceiling and a shopper will discover a line of string leading from a ball in the corner and coming down where the sales crew uses it to wrap packages.

FROM DEEP within the old-fashioned sloping wood display cases, the sales staff, headed by co-owner Hazel Garufi pull out decorated cakes, breads and cookies.

A Swedish rye bread with fruit flavoring and nutmeg is cut into the shape of a Christmas tree and decorated accordingly.

More conventional breads are cut on a machine that Mrs. Garufi estimates to be about 30 years old.

"It's an antique but it still works," she said with pride.

In the back of the large kitchen area, amid such clutter as an old but eminently usable copper pot, Jacquie Lyons decorates cakes with skill. Among her orders are a collection of cakes for December brides who want a bit of pizzazz on their wedding day.

Mrs. Lyons obliges by decorating wedding cakes with the red leaves.

The work she has finished by 5 p.m. will be taken up by more cakes baked during two holiday shifts of bakers.

The customers can relax a bit when they buy their holiday sweets, but the pace increases in the kitchen until January.

"THEN THINGS slow down and we're glad for the change of pace," said Mrs. Garufi. She and her husband have owned the bakery since 1970.

After satisfying the olfactory senses, the holiday stroller can turn to ooh-ing and aah-ing the hand-made ornaments down the street in the Village Mall's That Something Special.

The stained glass shop owned by James and Edna Wofford is decked out for the holidays. On the macrame Christmas tree made by Mrs. Wofford, Wofford has hung his stained glass sun catchers. Bulb-cheeked Santas compete for attention with angels and representations of Mary riding a donkey into Bethlehem.

Christmas is a time to indulge in some fantasy and for the Woffords the shop is a dream come true. They began exhibiting in shows until two years ago when they rented their first shop in the Village Mall basement. When a room on the main level became vacant earlier this year, the Woffords moved their shop.

Peeking around the stained-glass inset swinging doors, the shop's customers can see the owners at work on two long large tables. If shoppers can't find what they want, they're invited to help design their own glass ornament.

TO COMPLIMENT pastries made without preservatives and ornaments which are individually crafted, the holiday stroller might want to leave the corner of Grand River and Farmington Road and set off for a brisk walk to Lucy's Oldies but Goodies on Grand River between Cass and Wilmarth.

There, shoppers can eye dolls that don't have pseudo designer wardrobes and aren't manufactured to do anything but sit still and look appealing.

Some of them are far from being classed as antiques yet are old enough to be the object of interest to collectors. These collectable dolls include walking dolls the size of an average three-year-old. Sold about 25 years ago, the dolls, which still fit into size three children's clothing, are now added to collections instead of toy boxes.

Rubbing shoulders with dolls from



Victorian days are dolls which imitate older styles. The two Bi-Lo baby dolls which represent new born infants are recent products. If they were made near the turn of the century, they would be worth \$350 today.

For those who prefer to remember the elegance of 50 years ago, there is Forstoria glassware. A set of the company's Wisteria pattern can be had for about \$250.

THE PALE GREEN dining set includes separate glasses for water, wine and champagne.

If everyday use is more appealing in dinner ware than occasional elegance, there's a set of Bavarian stew plates with a matching covered server.

For holiday mornings, there's a Victorian carved bedstead with matching marble topped vanity and commode. The bed is strictly for high ceilings rooms since the head of the bed arches its carved woodwork about three feet above mattress level.

While the chrome and glass world rushes on, the slower paced era most would like to remember still peeks out from behind modern facades. It's just a matter of knowing where to look.



A Victorian high chair and old-fashioned doll combine to evoke thoughts of earlier Christmases. The high chair converts into a stroller with metal wheels. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)



Kathy Dewar makes sure the cookies at the Farmington Bakery always grace the shelves. Here, she sorts out different colors of decorations before placing them inside a display case. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

WHILE THE HOLIDAY SEASON continues, Farmington Fire Marshal Norm Maddison wants Angles readers and residents to have a safe season. That includes a little work on the part of residents. Turn off the tree lights before retiring, keep the tree watered and away from sources of heat such as fireplaces or heating ducts. Candles look pretty on the tree but they also can spread their flame to the rest of the tree.

Hostesses, watch those long sleeves on holiday dresses when you're working around the stove or serving near candles.

Don't trim the tree with lights designed for outdoor use. They become too hot to safely rest on a tree. Angles wishes everyone who reads this will act safely so we will all see the New Year in together.

AS THE REST OF US smuggle back into our favorite chair and recuperate from the holiday, Angles wants to offer a special recognition to Gabriella Szamborski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Szamborski of Farmington. The Farmington High School graduate is touring Europe until Jan. 4 as a member of the Susquehanna University Symphonic Band. She is a senior in applied music and plays clarinet in the band.

She will tour London, the Netherlands and Paris. The tour repertoire consists of music appropriate to the season by such composers as Benjamin Britten, Francis Poulenc, J.S. Bach and Leroy Anderson.

THREE RESIDENTS have gained their CPA certificates by examination from the state board of accountancy. They are Ronald Antonishak, Mark G. Cherry and Janet G. Fichette.

CROSS COUNTRY skiing might be a nice way to work off some of those holiday pounds. The Jewish Community Center, 660 Maple, West Bloomfield is sponsoring a series of programs in the sport. Classes will be conducted from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sundays at San Marino Golf Course on Rialto, south of Twelve Mile in Farmington Hills. Teens and adults can take classes from Jan. 14-21. Family classes are conducted on Jan. 28-Feb. 11. Teens and adult classes will be offered again on Feb. 18-25.

Fees for the program are \$18 for members and \$21 for non-members. Families of two, who are members have a \$30 fee. Three person families pay \$45 and four pay \$55.

Non member families of two have a fee of \$35, of three, \$50 and four, \$60. For further information, call the physical education department of the center at 661-1000, ext 180 or 181.

DAVID TREUMUTH has been appointed a special agent in the Detroit area field territory for Auto-Owners Insurance of Lansing. He will be

serving Summit Agency, Inc. 31300 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Treumuth is a native of the Detroit area and graduated from the Detroit College of Business.

QUESTIONS ABOUT food stamps can be answered by the Michigan Department of Social Services through their toll free telephone number, 1-800-292-5590. The number will be in service from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.

Questions the service will deal with are those relating to the general program such as basic eligibility requirements and what is needed to establish such eligibility.

TWO FARMINGTON RESIDENTS earned their bachelors of business administration from Eastern Michigan University, this month. They are Wendy Virginia Brandt and James Russell Lawton. A fine sweeping bow from Angles goes out to them.

ANGLES also tips its hat to Chris DeMartini, a student at Beahan Junior High for winning the first place in the eighth grade category of the annual Autorama Automotive Design Competition. His drawing will be on display at the 1979 Autorama show Jan. 5-7.

THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF Social Services implemented in Nov. 1977 a complaint procedure for accepting and investigating reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of adults living in nursing homes, homes for the aged and adult foster care facilities. According to Luella Bingham, Adult Community Placement Coordinator for the local DSS office in Pontiac, her unit has investigated 32 complaints to date in Oakland County. A breakdown of these complaints show 19 related to nursing homes and 13 involved adult foster care facilities. Mrs. Bingham says that not all cases are reported because the public is unaware of whom to contact regarding these complaints. In addition, they may fear retaliation to the resident by the facility.

"The name of the complainant or other identifying information will be kept confidential," she said.

Any person wishing to file a complaint relating to a nursing home, home for the aged or adult foster care facility in Oakland County may contact Mrs. Bingham at 136 Oakland, Pontiac or call her at 658-4902.

DEADLINES

Material submitted for the Inside Angle, 22170 W Nine Mile, Southfield, 48034 should include the name and phone number of the sender and should be typewritten if possible. Items should be received at least one week before publication. Photographs can't be used. Material becomes property of the Farmington Observer.

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