



Detroit's heritage is depicted in this colorful and much-traveled quilt. (Staff photo)

The lively needle

Tribute quilt is 'home'

By MARY KAY DAVIS

It's a good week for embroiderers to visit local libraries. Two delightful needlework displays are being exhibited among the books.

The first and by far the most magnificent is the wall-hanging/quilt entitled "A Tribute to Detroit" hung over the balcony at Birmingham's Baldwin Library. It celebrates the city of Detroit—past present and future. Quilt blocks honor ethnic groups, the automobile, international ties with Canada with a super stitchery of the International Bridge, the zoo with a penguin, and more.

This labor of love and skill is the work of 32 members of the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan, which meets the second Tuesday of each month in St. Dunstan's Playhouse in

Bloomfield Hills and is open to anyone interested in joining.

The quilt is embroidered with various types of needlework including gold thread work, needleweaving and blackwork, besides the applique, trapunto and quilting that went into its construction.

Phyllis Hill of Rochester was the designer and many local women stitched hard, beginning in 1976. It took two and one-half years to finish the 67-inch by 81-inch project. Only all cotton fabrics were used, including the red velvet border that represents Fort Detroit.

The quilt has led a rather busy life since its completion last year. It took first prize as a wall hanging in the Great Lakes Biannual Quilt Show last August.

It was displayed in downtown-Detroit in September and October, and then moved to the Grand Rapids Art Museum for November and December. Now it's in Birmingham and will soon move to the Country Day Needlework Show, April 5-6.

All in all, it's quite a quilt and well worth trudging through the snow to see.

Much smaller but nonetheless delightful is a display case of 19th century Italian domestic embroidery in the Troy Library. Most of the white-woven items are from trousseaus and layettes and the work is exquisite. It includes at least one stitch that I'd give my right arm to decipher.

An Italian trousseau apparently included lingerie and towels and table covers and lots of other household items, all of which were delicately monogrammed and embroidered. If the bride had to do it all herself before the wedding, I'd have stayed an old maid forever.

Many stitchers make a quilt

Area women who are members of the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan contributed much of the work on the Tribute to Detroit quilt now displayed in Birmingham.

Among them are Ruth Hartman, Claudia Ireland and Jean Riley of Birmingham; Ann Andrews, Becky Magnus, Watts of Troy and Phyllis Hill of Rochester.

and Barbara Gash of Bloomfield Hills and Gail Taylor of Farmington Hills.

Others are Lois Howell; Jeanne Moriarty, Helen Tilley, Sue Bergeron and Lorraine Fenster of West Bloomfield; Beverly Garside and Elizabeth Watts of Troy and Phyllis Hill of Rochester.

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Cook's Calendar

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KitchenAid Brunch Shirley Franzel, food authority, demonstrates how to make quick quiche, saucy homemade sausage, and superb salad. It's all done with the aid of KitchenAid techniques during this informative cooking session.

Rochester—Thurs., Feb. 15, 10 a.m., 1 & 7 p.m. Redford—Fri., Feb. 16, 10 a.m., 1 & 7 p.m.

Lesson on Bread Making Shirley Franzel shows the secrets of successful bread preparation to all our friends in "knead" Get the recipes for buttery brioche, Greek whole wheat, and basic sandwich white.

Rochester—Thurs., Feb. 22, 10 a.m., 1 & 7 p.m. Redford—Fri., Feb. 23, 10 a.m., 1 & 7 p.m. Redford—Mon., Feb. 26, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Rochester—Tues., Feb. 27, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

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Rochester Store: GREAT OAKS MALL, Livernois & Walton, Rochester. Phone: 682-6402. Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat., 10 a.m.—6 p.m.; Thurs., Fri., 10 a.m.—9 p.m.

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Consumer mailbag

Saving is 'appealing'

What do I do with all my fruit and vegetable peels that I use for my compost pile in seasons when ground is not covered by snow. Must I throw them away?

Marion A. Ferndale

Most vegetables need only to be scrubbed, not peeled, when used. If your recipe calls for peeling, then save the peels and freeze them to be used later in soup stock.

The same is true for most fruits. However, of the fruits you must peel, only banana skins need be thrown away. Citrus peels make wonderful room deodorizers when cut into thin strips and combined with spices such as whole cloves. Simply put this delightful mixture into a pretty glass or ceramic bowl and leave out on a table in any

room. As the peels dry they give off a lovely fresh fragrance as do the spices.

Other peellings can be pureed in a blender or cut into tiny-pieces and added to soil in small containers to create compost for your house plants. Directions for kitchen composting are available by sending 10 cents and a stamped self-addressed envelope to Concern, Inc., Det., 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy.

Can you recommend some good publications on food and nutrition that can subscribe to on a regular basis?

Dave N., Southfield

There are several good magazines on the subject of food and nutrition. A trip to the library will give you the opportunity to look at several and choose the ones that suit you best. I would be happy to recommend two that I find very helpful. One is "Nutrition Action" published by Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). For more information, write to Nutrition Action, 1755 Street, NW, Washington 20009.

Another one that is very good is Concern, Inc.'s "Points of View, A Nutrition Report." It is a quarterly newsletter that covers topics of contemporary interest and significance, such as food and behavior, food safety and processing, diet and disease. Four issues \$5. Write to Concern, Inc. 2233 Wisconsin, NW, Washington, 20007.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions on consumer and environmental issues. Address questions for this column to Concern, Inc., 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy, 48068 or call 873-1333 during business hours.

GRACE R. GLUSKIN
Executive Director

Volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of agencies needing volunteer services. Further information about these and over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau, 642-7272. Any non-profit agencies needing volunteer assistance may also call the Bureau.

CITIZEN ADVOCATE — Teens and adults are needed to serve as friends to mentally retarded citizens in this program sponsored by Oakland County Association for Retarded Citizens (OCARC). Volunteers are given extensive basic training and are required to attend periodic meetings. Duties include helping to meet community educational and job needs and to serve as a friend on a one-to-one basis. This would be primarily an evening or weekend commitment of two hours a week. The next training session will be March 9 and 12, evenings.

ONE-TO-ONE — Adults especially men, are needed by Farmington Youth Assistance to assist young people to develop positive feelings of self worth. A volunteer becomes a friend to a child by including him in social activities on a one-to-one basis. Training is provided.

ORGANIST — Cambridge Convalescent Center in Birmingham is looking for a volunteer to play a small organ for one hour from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday afternoons. Teens are welcome.

GROUPS — Marillac Hall, a Farmington home for unwed expectant mothers, can use groups interested in helping with sewing and knitting, arts and crafts, tutoring in math and religion or outside activities such as bowling or shopping.

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