

'The Charm of 7 Countries' told in one-woman art show

Muriel Linton, artist, art teacher, churchwoman and ventriloquist, displays her art work in a one-woman show through the month of March in the Quiet Room, Farmington Hills Community Library on 12 Mile Rd.

Ms. Linton has been painting for 32 years and teaching for 10 years, juggling her schedule to fit in time for traveling and time to perform with five ventriloquist figures.

Her exhibit, called "The Charm of Seven Countries," is the results of some of those travels, with each painting representing a different country she's visited.

"My life centers around creativity," said the associate member of Farmington Artists Club who is a self-taught ventriloquist.

That avocation began when she was on the lookout for new teaching tools in connection with a long standing involvement in Christian education. With the help of a library book and long hours of vocal exercises she had

mastered the art in four months.

Today she has a family of five dummies whom she takes to Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, clubs, schools, churches and home birthday parties.

A couple of summers ago she was a daily performer at the Michigan State Fair with Candy and Andy, the Talking Dolls, Sugar, Granny and Winky.

MS. LINTON has about 80 students in her classes now held in her home and several churches. One of those classes is given in her own church, Faith Covenant, on the corner of 14 Mile and Drake roads in Farmington Hills.

Every year she arranges for her students to have their own show, with pictures displayed and ribbons awarded. The next one is scheduled for May.

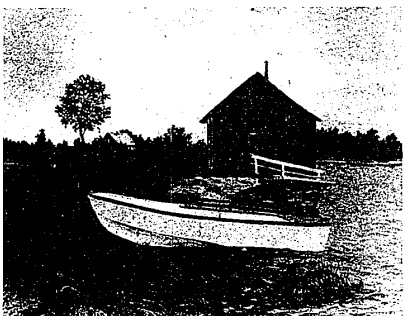
Visitors to the local library's rental service are familiar with Ms. Linton's work since as many as 40 of them have been out on loan at one time, and many of those were sold.

The former secretary for the Detroit Board of Education gave up her job

there a few years ago to make teaching and painting her full-time occupation.



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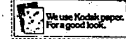


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