

Artist's vision shines in Hanukkah celebration



Struggling against the wind to light the first "candle" of the giant menorah, three rabbis at the Lubavitch Center in Farmington Hills (top right) first must find a way to the top of the 10-foot-high tube. Climbing a bit to reach his goal is Rabbi Shemtov who stands on the shoulders of Rabbi Yarmush while Rabbi Polter prepares to hand up the lantern. After much perseverance, they succeed (above).



Alvin Spector had a vision.

It grew from the ground up and reached to the sky for Spector saw an arrangement of cold aluminum and steel which eventually became a Hanukkah sculpture on the grounds of the Lubavitch Center in Farmington Hills.

The sculpture, a giant menorah, will be lit by the center during the eight days of Hanukkah.

Late Tuesday afternoon, in spite of the cold and the wet flakes of snow which fell on the center's students, the first of eight lightings took place and Spector's vision became a reality.

"I see things to start with," said the Bloomfield Hills artist.

"Things come out of the ground for me. Then I put them on paper and build them."

Four weeks ago, he first saw the menorah surrounded by 12 tubular pieces representing the tribes of Israel. He offered to translate his dream into reality for the center.

"I did it because I'm close to Rabbi Poulter (who is associated with the center). I'm Jewish and I went to schools like this. It's something I saw happening."

The menorah is 10 feet high and the 12 tubes surrounding it soar up to 24 feet.

Spector, who's been an artist for 15 years, usually handles commissions from home owners who want something different in their backyard.

But earlier in the week, as he stood before his sculpture with one of its small lanterns lit, he was exultant.

"I bet we have the largest menorah in the state here," he said.

The sculpture became a part of the center's Hanukkah celebration as students sang songs and ran around the giant menorah.

The feast of lights, commemorating the rededication of the Temple after the Maccabees defeated the Syrians, had begun.



ALVIN SPECTOR



Singing as they run, students at Lubavitch Center help celebrate the first evening of Hanukkah.

Staff photos by Randy Borst

INSIDE ANGLES

BY LOUISE OKRUTSKY

THE WEATHER outside may be frightful but inside J-294 on the Orchard Ridge campus, the Cercle Francois group will present a series of French films ranging from comedy to tragedy with a smattering of historical subjects. The first of the full-length color films will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12. The film, "French Can-Can" is a musical directed by Jean Renoir with guest appearances by Edith Piaf and Patachou. Set in the Paris of 1888, the film focuses on a nightclub owner played by Jean Gabin who decides to revive the can can in his cabaret, the Moulin Rouge. The film is in French with English subtitles. Film critics will review the merits of each night's presentation. Tickets are \$1 for students with ID cards and \$2 for non-students.

Next month, the series will present "Devil by the Tail," billed as a comic fantasy in which the aristocratic owners of a crumbling chateau turn the building into the Hotel du Grand Siecle. The film stars Yves Montand, Madeleine Renaud, Maria Schell and Jean Rochefort. For more information, call the student activities office of the Orchard Ridge campus at 476-9400.

LAST MINUTE shoppers who want their packages to arrive on time for Christmas should send them via priority mail, suggests our friendly postmaster Ken Harris. Priority mail carries a higher price than parcel post but it offers next day delivery within a 150-mile radius from the originating post office. Delivery elsewhere in the U.S. takes three days during the Christmas season. (You're not the only one sending packages late.) Priority mail offers first class handling for packages weighing between 12 ounces and 70 pounds. The service can be used at any post office, station or branch or through rural carriers. Insurance, return receipts, COD, certificates of mailing and special delivery are available through the service.

REMEMBER, airmail letters and cards bound for Europe and the Far East carry a Dec. 12 mailing deadline if you want your card to be received by Christmas.

AT NORTH FARMINGTON High School, the National Honor Society conducts its annual drive to collect canned goods, good clothing and good toys and games for the Goodfellows. Last year the school-wide effort netted the Goodfellows 800 cans. This year, the canned good drive go-getters are trying to break the 1,000 mark with each class in competition for the Big Heart award. The is given to the class which brings in the most canned goods between Dec. 1-5. To all those holiday minded students at NFS, IA sends a salute: ♥♥♥♥♥

WONDER WHEN you'll see those jaunty holiday decorations on the lamp post of

Farmington? The city plans on putting up its decorations today. IA humbly thanks them for not joining in on the crowd of those who insisted on putting up their holiday decorations after Halloween.

THE NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY chapter of NOW will conduct a general membership meeting cum social gathering at 10 a.m. Dec. 14 in the Sweden House, 8525 North Telegraph, Dearborn Heights. The brunch, a departure for the group which clues away from social gatherings with its meetings, is open to the public.

ANGLES REALIZES we're in the middle of Hanukkah now and wants to send out its warmest greetings on this holiday.

FINANCIAL AID, almost every student's concern, will be the topic of discussion when Spencer Johnson, director of financial aid at St. Mary's College Orchard Lake, speaks at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in the school's Dobrowski Field House. The college is located at Commerce and Orchard Lake roads in Orchard Lake. For information call 213-652-1885 or write to the Director of Admissions, St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake 48063.

THIS WEEKEND at Orchard Ridge campus, the school's art group, "Art on the Ridge" presents an invitational exhibit and sale. In addition to student art, the work of area artists will be shown from 7-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday in J Building on the campus, Farmington Road near 12 Mile. For more information call 476-9400, extension 370.

LET'S THINK summer for a moment: The University of Detroit School of Law is planning a new summer pre-law program for college students and graduates who are considering careers in law but want to know more about the demands of law school before they begin to pay tuition. The program is scheduled to run from six to eight weeks beginning in late May at the law school's Renaissance Center campus. It will include two law school classes taught by members of the law faculty, participation in Moot Court and informal discussions with prominent attorneys practicing in various fields in law.

The law school admission test will be administered and individualized law school counseling offered. Undergraduates completing the pre-law study will receive academic credit transferable to most colleges and universities. College juniors, seniors and graduates can receive detailed information about the program by contacting the dean's office at the U of D School of Law, 981-5444.

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