

## Cranbrook fest salutes winter

**W**HY IS THE Cranbrook Institute of Science buying 32,000 pounds of ice? The answer will seem obvious to anyone who visits the science center's Winterscape festival, held over four weekends during January and February.

Cranbrook is using the ice to create a display of ice sculptures by Roseville artist George Greenwell. The sculptures will include an ice castle measuring 34 feet long and 17 feet high; a 36-foot-long snake; a lifesize dinosaur; and a giant turtle.

Persons attending the Birmingham Winter Carnival will want to see the display, which will also include approximately 10 animals sculpted in snow. Cranbrook's Winterscape winds up on Feb. 13, the same weekend as the carnival, and there are a number of programs planned in conjunction.

Janet Johnson, of Cranbrook's community relations department, says that the snow sculptures will be completed whether there's snow on the ground or not because the institute has arranged to have snow trucked in from suppliers if need be.

"WE'RE HOPING for lots and lots of snow for the Winterscape but if we have to, we'll go on without it," she said. She

noted that there may be fewer snow sculptures if the weather doesn't cooperate.

Johnson said that the institute has been planning Winterscape since November in order to put some new life into the winter season. "In the past, winter has traditionally been a dull time and it needs some sparkle. We wanted to turn it into an advantage for people."

While some of Winterscape's events will have passed by the time Winter Carnival comes along, visitors will still be able to view the ice and snow sculptures as well as a display of Norwegian sweaters created by Johnson's 71-year-old mother, Marian Pletsch.

Twenty-five sweaters will be on display as well as a collection of ten Latvian mittens.

JOHNSON SAID that the institute will have a special program "Much Ado About Weather," from 1:30-4 p.m. on Feb. 13 in conjunction with the Winter Carnival. Assisting on the program will be Baldwin Public Library.

Admission to Cranbrook's Winterscape will be \$2.75 for adults; \$1.75 for seniors and students ages 5-17; and under 5 years old free.

## Meet the committee that put it all together

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as a display of Norwegian sweaters created by Johnson's 71-year-old mother, Marian Pletsch.

Twenty-five sweaters will be on display as well as a collection of ten Latvian mittens. Each item is handmade from wool imported from Norway and the elaborately designed sweaters are made to be worn outside under arctic conditions.

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THE PROGRAM will feature a number of ongoing activities as well as presentations by professional meteorologists. A puppet show entitled "Winter Carnival" will offer children some interesting facts about weather.

Among the presentations will be that of atmosphere physicist Dr. John R. Hummel, who will discuss the meaning of air pressure and its relationship to weather. Hummel will launch a weather balloon at 3 p.m. and discuss its use in forecasting.

Another presentation will be that of cryogenics expert Dr. Weston Capehart. Capehart will discuss "How Cold is Cold?" and will use liquid nitrogen to put various objects into a deep freeze. One of his demonstrations involves using a banana as a hammer to drive nails.

Mal Sillars of WDIV Weather Watch 4 will also be one of the featured speakers. Sillars will discuss the techniques of professional forecasting and will take questions from the audience.

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