

tesides collecting antique dolls, Mary Hall also says she is adept in repairing her clients' tressured

Shop is all dolled up and ready for business

Mary Hall is bringing her antiques out of the basement.

The Redford Township mother of flive, who includes quitting, painting, dolimaking and collecting and restoring antiques among her hobbics, is bringing her talents to market.

On Saturday, she will open the Old Country Crib, an antique store and doll hospital at 25531 W, Six Mile. Daughters Kelly, Leslic and Belinda will work in their mother's shop, a 20-foot by-70-foot storefront just west of Beech Daly.

Daly.

"I've been working since I was 12½
years old," said Hall, a Tennessee na-tive who has lived in the township for

tive who has lived in the township for 25 years.

In the past eight years since she closed her Fine House of Ceramics on Grand River, she has been teaching dollmaking in her home and buying and restoring antiques from flea markets and household auctions down south and in Michlean.

In Michigan.

PRIMPING HER STORE for openIng day, Hall has hung wicker baskets
and stuffed animals from the ceiling,
stocked the shelves with antique china
and lamps, covered the walls with antique paintings and her own works, and
converted a back area into a doll hospital, with an assortment of dolls from
the 19th and early 20th century hanging from a pegboard wall.

"Five kids and a 100 neighborhood
kids get me into making dolls," Hall
reminisced. "I always had a request to
fix this or that.

"Twe done work for clients from Rechester to Garden City as well as down
south."

south.*

She's fixed porcelain faces cracked from moisture, restored eyes, lashed

and hair, put teeth back in mouths and cleaned leather bodies worn from generations of use. She has also made porcelain doils based on antique models and has created molds of her grandels and has created molds of her grandels have been at the doil hospital," said Hail, who still teaches dollmaking table hail, who still teaches dollmaking test in her home Monday-Thursday.

Doils awaiting restoration include a turn-of-the-century baby, Shirley Temple model from the '30s and several models from 180s and early 1800s. "Shirley is always a top selfer and will go for anywhere between \$300 and \$700, depending on how badly a collector wants her," Hall said. "I've seen an-

ing a modern soil sculpture doil for \$30.

Some of the other antiques on display in the store include a Regina music box, Gone-with-the-Wind lamp, Queen Mary's Palace power lantern, portrait of George and Martha Washington from the era of President James Monroe (circa 1817), handmade quitts and even wooden wagon wheels, Several of the items have been authenticated by the Detroit Historical Museum, she said.

The store will be open six days a week 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. It will be closed Thursdays.



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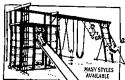
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