



Alice Curtis holds Missy, the 13-year old cat pictured in her book.

Cat houses

Making a castle out of Tabby's home

"Every Cat Should Have A House," by Alice Partlow Curtis, \$6.50, 1983

It's a question of who will have more fun — the person who builds a house for a cat or the future resident.

Alice Partlow Curtis, Michigan writer/pet photographer and newspaper cat lover, makes the most of every feline's weakness — empty boxes.

The dismal aesthetics of a cardboard box permanently installed in the living room or family room turn some people off. And they never know the pleasure of watching their pet cozy up to the box, lounge at it, stalk it and eventually settle down inside in what seems to be a kind of serene security.

CURTIS TURNS box beautification into a catchy, step-by-step art form that culminates in a cat house to suit any architectural taste from simple cottage to castle.

If the cottage looks a mite plain and the castle too ostentatious for Tabby, cat house builders have a choice of colonial, ranch or townhouse, with or without garage, porch, windowboxes and cornices.

Curtis's no-nonsense, easy to follow directions, accompanied by lots of photographs for how to do the project are deceptively simple. She's already de-

bugged the cat house by doing all the measuring, testing of construction materials and arranging the whole project in understandable, logical order.

The cottage can be made in about three hours — the castle, a little longer.

A Grosse Pointe for 20 years, Curtis published her first book, "Is Your Publicity Showing" shortly after moving

from newspapering to public relations. Several years ago she decided to devote full time to writing and photography.

She called the publishing of this book by herself, "One of the most interesting experiences I've ever had."

Fortunately, Charlie Dennis of Typocraft, the company which did the print-

ing, is a cat owner, too, "so, we got along real well."

Her longtime friend and a former journalist, Jeanne Duran Harris of Bingham Farms, edited the book. Nona Nerzog did the drawings.

Curtis will be at B. Dalton, Twelve Mile, Southfield 3-4 p.m. Saturday to autograph books and swap pet stories.

Nightcap sets fall schedule

The schedule for the next Nightcap with Mozart Friday concert at Birmingham Unitarian Church, Telegraph at Lone Pine, Bloomfield is:

Sept. 30 — Jill Gelber, flute, Jane Rosenzweig, harp, and Michelle Cooker, piano, Oct. 7 — Misha Rachlevsky, violin, Linda Sveden-Smith, violin, Vincent Liont, viola, and Betty Musser, cello, Oct. 14 — no concert; Oct. 21, Pauline Martin, piano, and Oct. 28 — annual Halloween party with the DSO Bassoon Quartet.

Doors open at 10:30 p.m., music starts at 11 p.m. Tickets available at the door. For information, call 62-MUSIC.



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GLEN OAKS SUBDIVISION of Farmington Hills presents attractive brick Ranch with neutral decor, leveler blinds, energy efficient insulation, more! Assume! 626-9100, \$89,500.



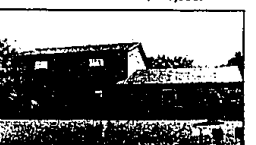
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TREED LOT with pond and stream finds custom built brick Ranch filled with quality appointments! Slate foyer, wet plaster, circular drive, West Bloomfield schools. 626-9100, \$79,900.



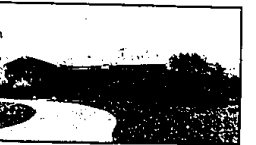
SHARP COLONIAL in popular Cherokee Hill! Move-in condition is featured. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room, rec room, deck too! 851-8100, \$98,500.



DYNAMIC CALIFORNIA RANCH offers cathedral ceilings, beautiful wood paneling, brick fireplace and large covered patio. All on large treed lot in prime Normandy Hills. 626-9100, \$84,900.



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grand opening



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