

Best of show

Habsburg takes club's top award

Jerrine Habsburg took Best of Show in Farmington Artists Club's pre-holiday exhibit for her still life called "Nutcracker." Juror Igor Beginin called the piece "a satisfying composition of aspects and complexity of shapes the artist selected for their interesting contrast."

Known mostly for her portraits, Habsburg switched subjects this time, and also took fourth place for another oil painting called "Zinnias and Cosmos." Among her portrait commissions of note are those of Wayne Circuit Court Judge Joseph Rashid and one-time Michigan Lt. Gov. Clarence A. Reid.

Habsburg also won awards for paintings voted on by the show-goers as their favorites in the show. In that category, "Zinnias" was the third highest vote-getter and "Salt Marsh" the 10th.

The first place award went to Tom

Hale, named artist-in-residence in 1983 by Farmington Area Arts Commission, for "Rocking Chair." The work of acrylic also took the number one spot in the popular vote, garnering the most votes from visitors who attended the three-day show. And his work called "Drapery" took the number four spot in that category.

Second place award went to Jeanne Ozment for her collage, "Time Stands Still." Third place award was taken by Corinne Weissman for her water color "Sunday Ride."

A TRADITION in each Farmington Artists Club show is the Artists' Choice Award, initiated so the artists may honor their own, and this year club members honored Marcie Kitch two-fold. The members' favorites were two of Kitch's watercolors, "A Private Collection" and "Weeds and Wildflowers."

"Weeds and Wildflowers" also took an honorable mention, along with

works submitted by artists Marjorie Cuelstorp, Ellen Wallis, Walter Reddig, Connie Lucas, Kiki Styke, and Habsburg.

Other works that came in for awards in the popular vote category were "Golden Eye Gathering" by Edee Joplich; "Natures Magic" by Margie Matovina; "Peach Tree Valley" by Martha Barnes; "Serenity" by Jane Rochelneau; "Laughing Dog" by Ken Lockwood; and "A Private Collection" by Kitch.

Beginin, an art professor from Eastern Michigan University who served as juror, selected 101 paintings from the 173 that were submitted to be hung in the prestigious juried section of the show.

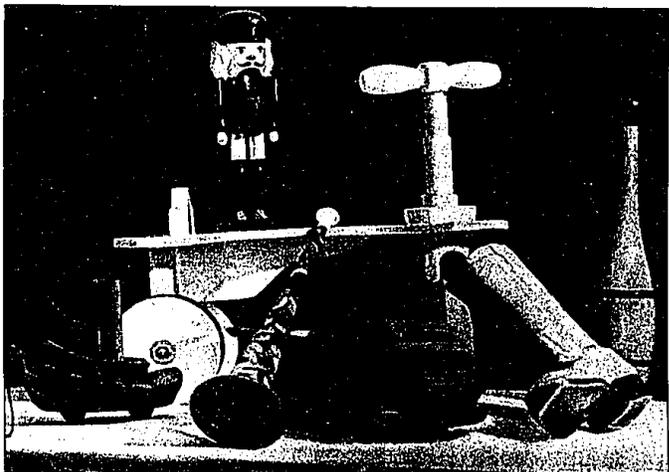
"To have your painting accepted is an honor in itself," said Jert Fellwood, a member of the show's committee.

"To win a prize is an extra bonus." The exhibit is made possible through a grant from Farmington Area Arts Commission.



photos by RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Tom Hale won first place with his work titled "Rocking Chair".



Best of Show honors at the Farmington Artists Club went to Jerrine Habsburg for her painting "Still Life with Nutcracker."



Jeanne Ozment (left) and Jerrine Habsburg view Ozment's "Time Stands Still" which won second place.

Hospital radiant over new X-ray

By Tom Henderson
staff writer

Henry Ford Hospital-West Bloomfield Center is taking some of the scare out of cancer.

One way of doing that is by up-to-date treatment in the form of a brand-new \$2-million linear accelerator, which means more cures. Another way is with a decidedly non-hospital atmosphere — warm colors, hot coffee, a waiting room with a view, beautiful mauve rug, plants and cushy chairs; soothing quiet and nary a stretcher in sight.

Even the linear accelerator reflects a bit of warmth — at least as much as a huge machine can whose job is to zap the seeds of death with radiation generated by six-million volts of electricity.

The accelerator, unlike early generations of X-ray devices with their sharp edges, gleaming metal and stark coldness (both to the touch and the eye), is molded plastic, in earth tones of beige and brown and with something like an orange racing stripe running around its girth.

"The machine isn't experimental, but it is unique in that it is in a clinic environment," said Lynn Gentner, supervisor of West Bloomfield's radiology therapy technologists and a graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and Wayne State University. "We try to make it a comfortable environment."

PATIENTS ARE treated there on an out-patient basis, with a typical program calling for 10 minutes of treatment a day, five days a week, for six weeks.

"Hopefully, we're just part of the patient's day," said Kimberly Spohn, a radiology technologist. "They get their treatment and they're on their way. The more normal the life they lead, the better they respond to treatment. They'll say, 'Hey, can you hurry up today, I've got an appointment?' or 'Can I come in a little early, I've got to play golf later?' And that's the way we want them to look at it — as just part of their day."

The accelerator has been in operation for more than a month, following the construction of a special building with extra thick walls to contain the radiation.

Currently there is just one patient, but officials expect to treat up to 35 a day once the wait gets out in the area that such treatment is available.

The machine itself is housed in its own room. To administer treatment, technologists — extra schooling and tougher certification standards distinguish them from technicians — must go to a separate control room, complete with two TV monitors and computer console.

"When doctors realized they were being irradiated and their fingers were falling off, at the turn of the century, they started to realize they had to protect the personnel," said Spohn. "We're not exposed to any radiation."

THERE ARE more than 200 tumor types, said Gentner, most of which can be treated by the machine, either by it alone or in conjunction with chemotherapy, surgery and radiation-pellet implants.

Patients are treated individually, meaning the size of the area to be X-rayed (the field size) and the amount of radiation (measured in rads, or radiation-absorbed dosage) varies depending on the age of the patient, the stage of the illness and the type of cancer. The forward half of the accelerator rotates to get precisely at the right spot on the patient, who lies prone on a table that can be raised or lowered. The field size is measured in millimeters and is extremely precise.

A typical treatment consists of 200 rads a day, though the amount can be as high as 400 rads and as low as 10. Generally, the more serious the illness, the higher the dosage and the shorter the length of the program.

ONE OF THE benefits of the linear accelerator is that the more precise the radiation, the fewer the side effects. With chemotherapy, for example, the drugs course through the system and affect healthy and non-healthy parts of the body alike. With radiation, side-effects are limited to the area of treatment.

For example, if the head is X-rayed, hair will fall out. If the pelvic region is X-rayed, diarrhea may result. The side effects usually begin several weeks after treatment begins and go away following the end of the treatment program.

The patient, Spohn stressed, does not remain radioactive after the beam is shut down. "You get all kinds of calls. 'Is my dad radioactive? What if he breathes on me?' It sounds stupid, but it's not. They just don't know. And that's another thing we're here for: to answer questions, to keep them informed."

Though the cancer facility is run by Henry Ford, it is open to patients whose doctors are affiliated with other hospitals. Anyone is eligible for treatment, with the only requirement being that the patient must be referred to the center by a physician.

Doctors in the area who wish to refer patients to the facility, or area residents who don't have doctors, think they may have cancer and need information, can call the cancer center at 661-4100, Ext. 355, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

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