

For that Beautiful Holiday Glow...

- Hair Styling
- Individual Make-Up
- Electrolysis
- Facials
- Manicures
- Pedicures

Full line of Lancaster Skin Care Products

Elite Salon Haute Coiffure

3655 W. Maple Rd. • Bloomfield Commons
Birmingham • 644-7710

Coming to town

Training to play Santa's role

An Army sergeant tried on his red suit and wig. A father-to-be painted his eyebrows. And a computer systems manager experimented with his ho-ho-hos.

Learning the tricks of the trade of department store Santas, 10 potential Clauses and 15 of their elves attended a training session at a California shopping mall.

Being Santa Claus isn't all Christmas cookies and milk. The men learned how to deal with impatient parents, irreverent children who kick shins and yank on beards, terrified toddlers who vomit in laps and even armed robbers who escape with the day's sales.

Santas must be actors, salesmen and child psychologists, said Kathy Cates of Studio Inc., a Massachusetts firm with nearly 40 years of experience in creating Santas.

"Santas, when you're walking out into the mall, you're on stage," Cates said. "If you're a crummy Santa, that spreads throughout the mall like fire on tumbleweed."

CATES POSED some of the tough questions children typically ask Santa, advising them to rehearse answers.

"When a child asks you for a baby brother or sister for Christmas, don't say, 'Let me take your mother home and see what I can do.' We had a Santa say that once," Cates said.

Jim Lavigne, an administrator in the U.S. Army and the father of two, has a fantasy of becoming Santa Claus. Encouraged by his love for children, Lavigne will use vacation time and free hours to dress up as Santa Claus.

Jody Hart said his wife is expecting a baby in May and he thought posing as Santa would give him a quick introduction to the perils and pleasures of parenthood.

Dave Gerow always has wanted to be a Santa, too, but with a twist. Gerow, a self-employed salesman, is Jewish.

"Whoever heard of a Jewish Santa Claus? It'll be a first," he said laughing.

"I think we should all celebrate Christmas together. It doesn't matter what your religion is," he said.

MOST of the men being trained were portly, with no need for stuffing to round out their bellies. But some bore no resemblance to the red-cheeked, chubby image of Santa.

Dale Willumson, a slender, blond 29-



The Finishing Touch...

We'll make your holiday look complete, right down to your fingertips, with beautifully shaped nails.

- Men's & Women's Manicures
- Sculptured Nails
- Nail Tips
- Nailwrapping
- Pedicures • Facials
- Nail Artwork
- Body Waxing
- Linen Extensions
- Men's & Women's Massages
- Arching • Lashes
- Nail Jewelry
- Cosmetics • Cosmetic Application
- Non-Surgical Face Lifts

Myra's
NAIL STUDIO

Gift Certificates Available
647-7997 Walk-Ins Welcome

251 Merrill • 2nd Level Merrillwood Mall • Birmingham

THE TRAIN CENTER OF BIRMINGHAM

We Remember Helping Dad Set-Up The Train at Christmas, We'd Like To Help You, Too

LEGB Large Scale Trains for inside or out

LIONEL Traditional Christmas Train Sets

BACHMANN HO & N Scale Train Sets including the DeWitt Clinton & John Bull Sets

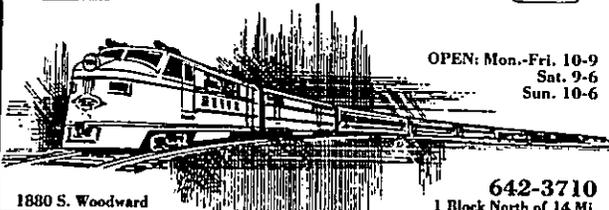
Also: Hobby Tools, Paints & Glues, Buildings, Track, Scenery Items & Accessories. Repairs for all sizes & makes.



Gift Certificates Available



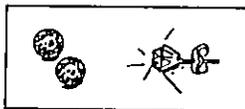
OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 10-9
Sat. 9-6
Sun. 10-6



1880 S. Woodward

642-3710
1 Block North of 14 Mi.

holiday specials



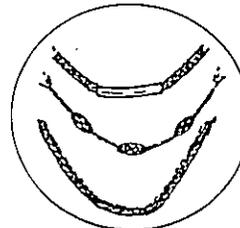
Diamond Stud Earrings

Example: 1/2 carat total

Reg. \$450.00 NOW \$247.50

Gold Chains Begin at \$20.

Gold by weight: Example 1 Gram



14K Gold Chains

Many styles to choose from

Reg. \$25 NOW \$14.



Bloomfield Jewelers

Village Knoll Shopping Center, Next to A&P

Maple at Lahser • Birmingham

642-2293

Beginning Nov. 15 - Dec. 24th

Christmas Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-8 pm, Sat. 10-6



Birmingham

