

Isolate detail for high impact



Monte Nagler

Often times a small area of a building such as an ornate doorknob or ivy-covered window ledge can create a photographic composition much stronger than the whole.

The intimacy of a flower petal or the patterns of a breaking wave on the beach are often missed in our desire to concentrate on the whole. Details of pattern, form, and texture can tell us much about a subject without the need to show its entirety. Isolating detail will give a new perspective and impact to your pictures not obtained by shooting the whole.

Any environment contains an inexhaustible supply of fascinating detail waiting for your attention.

For example, in nature photography,

try moving in close to isolate the texture of bark instead of shooting the whole cluster of trees. Photographing the lake in its entirety will give you a nice scenic picture, but don't overlook the delicate reeds and lilies at water's edge.

Overall winter scenes are beautiful, but isolating that one unique icicle will give you that special shot not obtainable by the whole.

In architecture, the supply of detail is endless. Isolate a pattern of unusual brickwork or look for colorful window shutters. Move in close on a section of peeling paint. Churches offer details in statues as well as the many colors and patterns of stained glass.

Can you isolate parts of people? Of

course! The hands of the elderly or the foot of an infant will produce photographs with special, personal impact.

Other than a keen eye, no elaborate equipment is needed to isolate detail although a viewing mask will prove invaluable as an aid in composing your shot.

At times, close-up filters will help you to move in close and a tripod should be used to maximize sharpness and depth-of-field.

But the important ingredients in isolating detail are your vision and insight. Your aim in photographing detail should be to obtain a complete picture in itself while at the same time maintaining the flavor of the whole.

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Photography exhibited at Somerset

An exhibit of photographs by Monte Nagler will be at Somerset Mall of Troy March 7-16.

Nagler, photography columnist for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, photography teacher in Farmington

Hills and freelance writer and photographer, is represented locally by Halsted Gallery of Birmingham and also has work in galleries in other states.

Nagler, who has a master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan, has had two previous careers, one as a car designer and another as owner of his own business. His interest in photography deepened after he studied in California with Ansel Adams.

"It was during that period of inten-

sive work that I realized making photographs is a way to experience beauty instead of just looking at it," said Nagler.

His work is in collections at Detroit Institute of Art, Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, Ariz., the Brooklyn Museum and Nikon, Inc.

There will be two receptions to meet the artist: 7-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 7 and 8.

The mall is at Coolidge and Big Beaver, Troy.

Cable health group invites public to meet

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission health access advisory committee has scheduled its next meeting at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 12 in Classroom C of Botsford Hospital.

The health access advisory committee has been encouraging individuals and agencies to develop cable-television programs to bring health information to residents of the Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi communities.

The March 12 meeting is open to the public. For additional information, contact Pat Tinney at 592-1496 or Lark Samuelsen, executive director of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission at 474-1017.

The featured speaker at this meeting

will be Pam Ashworth, community education coordinator at Providence Hospital and chairperson of HEALTHCOM.

HEALTHCOM is the health and medical cable communications coordinating committee of Oakland County. Since it was organized in June, 1981, the committee has been identifying health applications of cable communicating technology and recommending ways to organize health resources in Oakland County for the effective use of this technology.

The group welcomes the participation of all who are interested in health issues or who have ideas or skills to share, said Pat Tinney, the chairperson of SWOCC's health access advisory committee.

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