

Potter mixes form, function

By Lisa Simon
special writer

"My work is very sculptural, even though it's very functional," potter Elizabeth Lurie said as she stood in her recently completed studio. "I make things that can be used in the home."

Lurie's studio, a skylighted, airy work space is a recent addition to her Farmington Hills home. The architecture of the studio, designed by a friend and fellow potter, fosters feelings of inspiration and elevation.

Lurie explained that her personal approach to pottery is, "sometimes intellectual, sometimes human." Her refined creations, a combination of sculpture and pottery, indicate a strong sensitivity to form.

"When I think of something, I think of form first, color and texture are secondary," Lurie stressed. "I was a potter first before I was a sculptor and that's my natural tendency. Though most of my work is meant to be functional, I like to think it transcends that."

Lurie said her functional pieces are

items that are really meant to be used, as opposed to fragile objects that are safely packed away, out of sight. It gives her great pleasure to know that people use and enjoy her work in an everyday capacity.

Porcelain is the material Lurie has been working exclusively with for the past 11 years. The blend she prefers, which is mixed by Robins Clay of Chicago, is dense, fine-grained, shock resistant, translucent at certain temperatures and oven-safe.

A concept Lurie has been working on for the past five or six years is that of a flattened sphere. Each sphere is "a very strong form with something interesting going on inside that you can get a glimpse of."

In most cases, on the inside, there is a delicate center protected, on the outside, by some greater structure.

These interior, more delicate forms are built by hand with a clay that is the consistency of soft putty. The greater structure or sphere is created by wheel throwing.

Please turn to Page 18

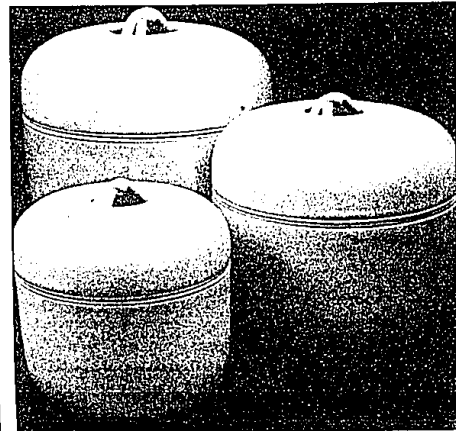
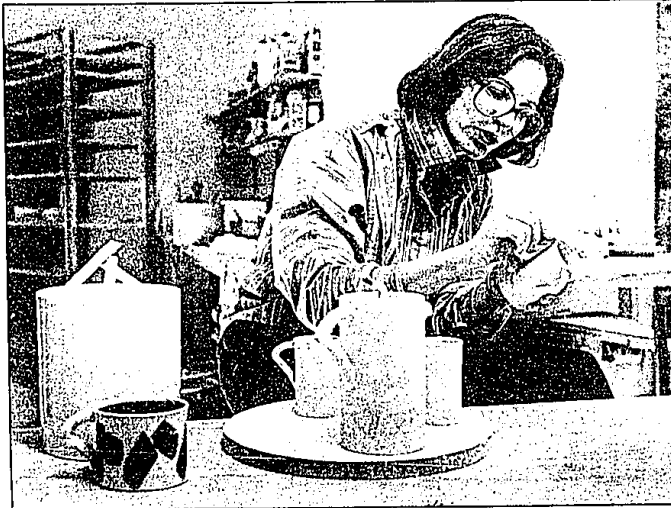


RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Her studio is a recent addition to Elizabeth Lurie's Farmington Hills home.

'When I think of something, I think of form first, color and texture are secondary. I was a potter first before I was a sculptor and that's my natural tendency. Though most of my work is meant to be functional, I like to think it transcends that.'

— Elizabeth Lurie
artist



Artist Elizabeth Lurie produces works that are both functional and pleasing to the eye.

Farmington Observer to host open house

The Farmington Observer has been going through a lot of changes lately — and we want to share them with you.

We're still bringing you the same hard-hitting news stories and entertaining feature stories you enjoy reading twice a week, but they are originating from a new location.

The staff of the Farmington Observer has a new home. We've moved from our cramped Farmington Road office in order to make room for our expanded operations.

To celebrate our move, we would like to invite you, our readers, to join us at our open house from 1-5 p.m. Wednesday, June 19.

OUR ADDRESS is 33203 Grand River Ave. in downtown Farmington. We're in the back of the Metro Bank building, and our entrance is off the

downtown Farmington Center parking lot. Just look for our familiar old English sign above the doorway.

We are proud of our new home and anxious to show it to you. At the open house, you will be able to meet and talk with the entire Farmington Observer staff.

You can experience firsthand how stories are created on our video display terminals. Demonstrations will be given on how the Farmington Observer is created, from laying out the individual pages to the processing and printing of photographs.

Refreshments will be served along with interesting conversation and a chance for you, the reader, to see exactly what makes the Farmington Observer tick.

We are looking forward to this day and the chance to meet with our readers. See you there.



Members of the Farmington Observer staff, from left to right, are: Joanne Malczewski, Rose Butler, Jean Adamczak (seated), Loraine McClish, Randy Borst, Julie Brown and Steve Bernaby.

AAA to offer program on home security, safety

A consumer-oriented program offering advice on home and fire safety and inexpensive security protection will be offered to residents 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at AAA Michigan's Farmington office, 33133 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills.

"Burglary costs homeowners \$3 billion annually, and we want to educate them on how to further secure their homes with minimal effort at a low cost," said Robert V. Cullen, AAA Michigan safety and traffic manager.

A large, eight-panel display prepared by AAA will illustrate home security measures, potential

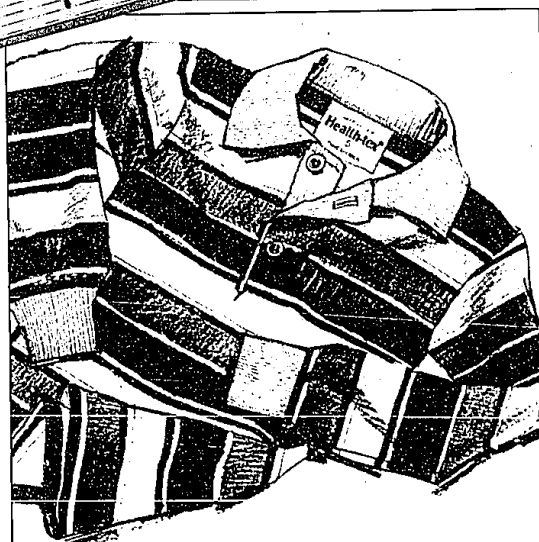
causes of fires, fire extinguisher use, precautions when installing a wood stove and home exit drill planning.

Security and fire prevention hardware, such as dead-bolt locks, various types of doors and windows and smoke detectors, will be available for inspection. In addition, experts will demonstrate how to use a fire extinguisher.

"Persons at the demonstrations also will receive free, AAA's new home security packet which includes an up-to-date pamphlet on how better to burglar-proof a house," Cullen said.



All Health-tex® is now at our everyday low prices.



No more waiting for sales to come around while your kids get bigger and bigger. Hudson's and Health-tex® have joined forces to bring you first-rate quality kids' clothes at the same low prices every day. That's what we mean by Value Plus! Health-tex® clothing is available in all size ranges for kids. You'll find a large selection of styles and colors, from the basics to the newest trends. In Children's and Hudson's Rainbow stores.

hudson's

USE YOUR HUDSON'S SHOPPING CARD, VISA, MasterCard, or the American Express® Card.