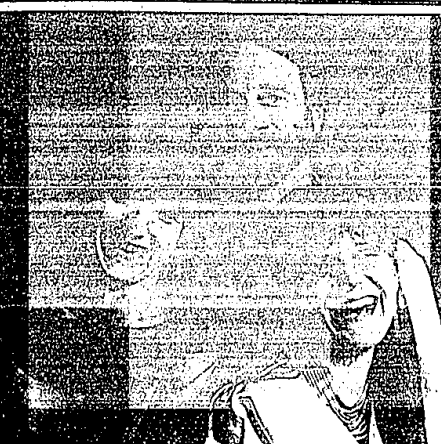




# Banish Misfortune

The singing group Banish Misfortune is Susan Gilbreath (left), Rusty Sabella and Lauren Pelen, who will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday at Southfield's Folktown coffeehouse at the Southfield Civic Center. They have played before audiences not only in the United States but also in England, New Zealand and Australia. For more information, see the Upcoming calendar on the Entertainment pages in today's newspaper.

# Michigan quilt history gets patched together

By Corinne Abett  
staff writer

There was a time when quilting was regarded as a pleasant, harmless activity for the ladies that produced a welcome, functional product.

Now, quilters, and quilts past and present, are steadily gaining a status position.

Dr. Marsha MacDowell, curator of Folk Arts, Michigan State University Museum, heads a huge project, to inventory historic and contemporary Michigan-made quilts, gather information on the quilters and materials related to the work. He said, "The project is going very, very well. We have information on 2,000 quilts on file. We've had tremendous response."

The data gathering will culminate in a three-museum exhibition in Lansing in 1987, as part of Michigan's sesquicentennial celebration, a book and the creation of a special Michigan quilt research collection at Michigan State University Museum.

WHILE THERE has been some surprise and dismay at the length of the form and the detail required, by some who have filled out the Quilters Questionnaire on quilts in their collections or in the family linen closet, MacDowell, said, "We're beginning to pick up some trends from the information in the forms."

She said that unlike other studies done on quilts, she and her committee are looking at both historical and contemporary. "One of the surprises is the amount of quilt work still going on. No one can say it's a dying art."

One of the oldest she has come upon so far was donated to the museum, it belonged to the household of the second mayor of Detroit, making it mid-19th century.

One of the projects which MacDowell wants to see come out of the research are traveling educational loan suitcase exhibits. These would be small packaged exhibits on quilting, suitable for libraries and schools.

"Each," said MacDowell, "would have 30 enlarged quilt blocks."

These could be accompanied by explanatory material, slides or tapes, on the Michigan quilts and quilting, the history of the design and how it was used.

But the blocks need to be made. MacDowell is hoping some volunteer groups will come forward to help with the sewing, working from the design patterns she has just finished drafting.

Those interested in filling out a Quilters Questionnaire, helping with the blocks, or wishing to find out about quilts or quilt-related items (letters, photographs or diaries) should write: Michigan Quilt Project, Michigan State University, Michigan State University, East Lansing 48824.

# second runs Hugh Gallagher

"Dial M for Murder" (1954), 3 p.m. Sunday on Ch. 50. Originally 105 minutes. TV time slot: 120 minutes.

The always-inventive Alfred Hitchcock used this stage play to experiment with 3-D. Some claim that the 3-D version has rich psychological nuances missing in the flat version shown on television. Certainly few directors have shown a better sense of in-frame staging than Hitchcock and the extra dimension gave him a chance to use that understanding to the fullest.

The non-3-D version is not top-drawer Hitchcock, but it is still a respectable thriller, especially if you haven't seen it before. The outcome is always in doubt and Hitchcock plays all the keys just the right way. Robert Cummings and the cool but sweet Grace Kelly turn in their usually fine work.

Rating: 4.3.

| WHAT'S IT WORTH?              |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| A ratings guide to the movies |          |
| Bad                           | .....\$1 |
| Fair                          | .....\$2 |
| Good                          | .....\$3 |
| Excellent                     | .....\$4 |

Macy's one year and changed a lonely little girl's life. As was typical of the better movies of that time, the film is rich in character parts from star Edmund Gwenn's Kris Kringle to such stalwarts as Gene Lockhart, William Frawley, Franklin Pangborn and a young Jack Albertson.

John Payne, Maureen O'Hara and the child Natalie Wood are also fine. Maybe the coloring here will add something to the parade scenes.

Rating: \$3.25.

"Seasons Greetings from the Homeymooers" 8 p.m. Tuesday on Ch. 50.

Ralphman continues. This special, hosted by "the Great One," Jackie

Gleason, is a compilation of Homeymooer Christmas sketches from the original Jackie Gleason show. They have not been shown on television in more than 30 years. Gleason, Audrey Meadows, Art Carney and Joyce Randolph created in the Kramdens and Nortons an exaggerated but deeply affectionate comic portrait of working-class America. Ralph Kramden was Archie Bunker without the bigotry. He was often obnoxious, loud, unfeeling and desperately in search of the elusive American dream to strike it rich. But he was also, underneath it all, a good-natured and loving man who had a hard time expressing that side of himself. Carney's

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