Good things can come in small packages

SINCE THIS is the time of year that we all start thinking about presents and packages. I would like to talk about packages too — small packages. The first thing that comes to mind is the TV remote channel selector. We live in Livonia and enjoy the many channels available on cable TV. That remote selector is what I call a "too-small package."

Now, I am sure that many dollars worth of technology were spent in making that selector as compact as it is. But I wish it was about six inches square, weighed two pounds and was painted fluorescent orange. Why? Because as soon as we all nestle down to watch TV, someone will any "Where's the changer" promping us to jump in unition apriling enhibits of the painter of the painter

FOR MOST OF 1936, that little changer has been lost inside our furniture, under throw pillows, once in a tennis she, five times on top of the refrigerator, three times in the family car, once in someone's robe pocket, in with Lego blocks, under a box of Pac-Man cereal — and I could go on and on.

Upshot of all is that as long as there are familites like mine, there will always be a need for a two-pound changer.

But there are some great new little the state of the sta



artifacts David Messing

smooth pure white paper made expressly for pens, tech pens and feltitip pens priced around \$4.50 per 9-by-12-inch pad. It is a real treat for an artist's quick line drawing.

Standrite has a new little casel that is so strong you park a car on it — granted maybe a small car. This mighty little model is about three feet tall, is a great table easel and a nice carrier/holder for wet oils. It's called the "180" and it sells for \$25.

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The ultimate perfect gift for an artist is the smallest of the small packages! have mentioned here. It guarantees the giver that their artist/loved one is getting exactly what they want. And that is, of course, the ever-famous gift certificate.

Christmas time is also the best time to indulge in a box of over-priced chocolates, too expensive

knickknacks or showy little sundries that you would never buy any other time of the year.

For me, that kind of item is a three-inch badger fan blender. I said, "I will probably never use it (although I do) but it looks so artsy in there with my other brushes" — and it does. So I spent \$16 for purely reasons of artistic vanity — big deal. It's Christmas time lan't it?

David Messing has been an art teacher for 10 years. He is the owner of Art Store and More in Livonia and Plymouth. He welcomes comments and questions from readers. These can be discreted to him in care of this newspaper, at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



Northern's Nutcracker

Heather Stants is the Sugar Plum Fairy and Jim Duncan is the cavalier in the Nutcracker Ballet to be performed by the Northern Ballet Theater this weekend in Plymouth Salem High School suditorium. Saturday's performance will be at 8 p.m. and Sunday's will be at 2 p.m. Tickets are 37 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and children under 12. For further information, call 455-7970.

briefly speaking

• NEW BAB DIRECTORY

A greatly expanded "Bed and Breakfast North America." published by Betsy Ross Publications and written by Norma Stephens Buzan, is available by contacting the publishing house at 3657 Betsy Ross Drive, Bloomfield Hills 48013. The book sells for \$31.35, including postage and handling Michigan residents should add by properties and the state of the should be sell and the state of the should be should

THINK SPRING
Makielski Berry Farms and Nursery announce the release of its
Spring 1987 small fruit plant catalog. The 24-page catalog features
such sweetles as Chester thorniess
blackberry and cherry red currant,
both ideal for home gardeners as
well as commercial growers. A free
catalog may be obtained by calling
572-006 or writing: Makielski Berry
Farms and Nursery, 7130 PR Platt
Road, Ypsilanii 48197.

ELECTED PRESIDENT
 Anno-Jane Harbison of Westland has been elected the first president of the P. Buckley Moss Society. The society has been formed to foster awareness and enjoyment of the art of P. Buckley Moss and to support her artistic endeavors.
 Moss uses her unique and appealing style of painting to depict scenes of the Amish and Mennonite peoples. For more information on the national society, call Harbison at 721-9198.

● NEW BOARD MEMBER

Concerned Citizens for the Arts in Michigan has elected 11 new mem-bers of the board of directors. In-

cluded are Louis Redstone of Livo-nia and Marlowe Belanger of South-field.

ROWENS' COLLECTIONS
 Fans of Marlyn Rowens will be happy to learn that the Livonia residents has published her fourth cartoon collection, titled "Beyond the Middle Years."
 For the last years, Rowens has worked as a volunteer with the elderly in the metropolitan area. Some of her experiences with the elderly are reflected in her philosophic earthous and delightful site figures.

The cartoon book is available at Borders Book Store and Pages and Pages in Tally Hall. It can be ordered by mail from Mini-Lectures Press, 2650 Pargo, Livonia 48152.

HISTORIC HAME TOLIS.

HISTORIC HAME TOLIS.

◆ HISTORIC HOME TOUR On Sunday, Dec. 21, the 12th Annu-al Historic Boston-Edison Holiday Home Tour will be held. Tours will be from 11 am. to 4 pm. with shut-tle bus departures from Sacred Heart Seminary, at Chicago Boule-vard and Linwood Avenue every 30 releasts.

tour will take participants back to the turn of the century to view the fine exterior and interior residential architecture of the early 1909s. Resident four guides will accompany groups throughout, providing interesting histories of the five houses included on the four. Tickets are 36 by advance sale only. Mall checks to Historic Boston-Edison Holiday Home Tour, P.O. Box 06666, Detroit 48206. For more information, call 358-1990.

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358-4590.

OCC CHORALE

The Oakland Community College
Chorale, under the direction of Larry
Simmons, will perform a variety of
holiday selections at the Orchard
Ridge Campus at 8 p.m. Tuesday,
Dec. 16 in the Smith Performing
Arts Theater.

ATS JUDENT PHOTOGRAPHY
Student photography, featuring
black and white photos, will be on
display Dec. 9-16 in the Madonna
College exhibit gallery, Livonia. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1-4 p.m. on Sattarday and Sunday, Admission is free.
Madonna is at 1-96 and Levan, Livonia.



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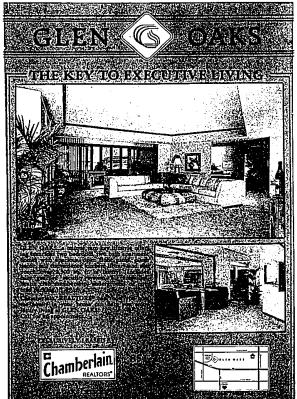


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