

Bronze shows events of 1787

Visitors at Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. can see what the "Signing of the Constitution" looked like 200 years ago.

The Farmington Hills firm pur-

Atom lab site choice political—Blanchard

AP — Michigan will make a strong bid to become the home of a mammoth, multi-billion dollar federal atom smasher.

But the timetable for the project raises fears that politics will be a strong part in its location, Gov. James Blanchard said.

The U.S. Department of Energy project is officially known as the Superconducting Super Collider. It will cost between \$4 billion and \$5 billion. It is expected to employ some 2,500 scientists when it is completed in the mid-1990s.

THE ENERGY Department is scheduled to make its recommendation on the site to President Reagan in July 1988, just as the presidential campaign is heating up.

Reagan is to announce the final decision shortly before he leaves office in January 1989.

"If it becomes a political decision, it'll probably be in California, somewhere near the Reagan Library," said Blanchard, who was in Washington to meet with the state's congressmen.

Energy Department officials strongly deny that politics will play a role in the site selection.

THE SSC is the object of lobbying by many states hoping to land it. It will consist of a 52-mile underground oval tunnel through which subatomic particles will be propelled into each other at high speeds.

The resulting collision will produce an "energy shower" of smaller subatomic particles that is expected to shed data on a number of important scientific issues, such as the fundamental nature of matter.

Blanchard said Wednesday that the state probably will offer two sites for the facility. One will be south of Ann Arbor in Lenawee and Monroe counties. The other will be near Stockbridge in eastern Ingham County.

Kite festival is Saturday

Colorful kites of all shapes, textures and colors will dot the skies Saturday, May 16 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Oakland County Service Center in Pontiac.

The Oakland County Kite Flying Festival will include a kite-making seminar, flying demonstrations, prizes, clowns and more. Proceeds from donations at the festival will benefit the Easter Seals Society.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be held on Sunday, May 17. The Oakland County Service Center is at 1200 N. Telegraph, just north of Elizabeth Lake Road, in Pontiac.

chased a bronze casting by sculptor Dennis Smith for its home office, just south of 12 Mile Road at 33045 Hamilton Blvd. It's on the north side of I-696 between Orchard Lake Road and Farmington Road.

Vernon Lunn, senior vice-president, said, "The public is invited at no charge to see Smith's 14-inch bronze casting of six signers of the U.S. Constitution, including Alexander Hamilton, on permanent display in our lobby."

"We have crafted a special walnut base to help present this fitting tribute of Alexander Hamilton to all visitors during this bicentennial celebration year of the signing of the U.S. Constitution, and for years to come."

The company has bronze castings of five earlier works of sculptor Smith displayed throughout its headquarters.

Smith, 44, was born in Utah and graduated from Brigham Young University. He studied further at the Danish Royal Academy of Art in Copenhagen in 1967-68. His sculptures have earned him numerous awards. Major commissions are currently displayed in Salt Lake City, Havana, Ill., and Middletown, Ohio.



"Signing of the Constitution," a 14-inch-high bronze sculpture, is on display at the Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. headquarters. Signing is James Madison, later "Federalist Papers" co-author and fourth president, and standing to his rear is Hamilton, another "Federalist" co-author and first Treasury

secretary. At left, Gouverneur Morris stands behind seated elder statesman Benjamin Franklin. Standing at right is George Washington, president of the Constitutional Convention and first U.S. president. Seated at right is James Wilson.

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