

Novelist

Writer to appear at bookstore

Only two people know who murdered Ridley Groendal: the murderer and William X. Kienzie.

It's a sure bet that Groendal won't talk.

Kienzie, a Southfield resident and author of the newly released novel, "Deadline for a Critic," probably will have more to say when he appears at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Little Professor Book Center, 37115 Grand River, Farmington, to autograph copies of his ninth murder mystery.

But don't count on him to reveal the suspenseful tale.

As with each of Kienzie's earlier novels, "Deadline for a Critic" features Father Robert Koehler. In the book, Koehler has known Groendal since his early school days and can recall a number of incidents in which Groendal did not endear himself to others.

In his role as a newspaper per-

forming arts critic, Groendal's cutting reviews gave more than one actor or actress a motive to kill him, leading to speculation that his death was possibly an act of revenge.

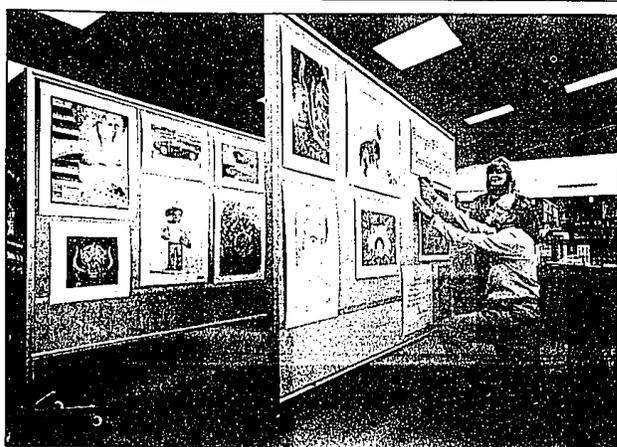
Kienzie is a native Detroit. After attending Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit and St. John's Seminary in Plymouth, he was ordained in 1954 and spent 20 years as a Roman Catholic priest for the Archdiocese of Detroit.

He left the priesthood in 1974 and moved to Minneapolis where he edited MPLS, the city magazine for Minneapolis/St. Paul. Subsequently, he became assistant director and the director of the Center for Contemporary Studies, first at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and later at the University of Dallas.

Kienzie returned to Michigan when his first novel, "The Rosary Murders," was published in 1978. The movie based on that book is soon to be released as a major motion picture starring Donald Sutherland as Father Koehler.

Since "The Rosary Murders," Kienzie has written a novel each year, each featuring parish priest Father Koehler who manages annually to get involved in and solve a murder mystery involving Detroit's Catholic community.

Kienzie and his wife, Javan, a former newspaper copy editor, have lived in Southfield since 1980 where they share their acre-and-a-half with two 100-pound dogs, an Irish wolfhound and a shepherd-husky, and other assorted wildlife.



RANDY BORS/Staff photographer

Art teachers Ralph Hancox of Power Middle School and Lynn Olson of North Farmington High School set up the district's annual spring art exhibit showing secondary student

works. Exhibits will be at both Farmington Community Library branches throughout the month.

Student art work on display

From pottery to printmaking, a variety of works by Farmington Public Schools secondary art students will be on display this month to the community.

This is the sixth year the district has exhibited for the public. It is the only combined effort between the schools' art departments.

The spring exhibit is sponsored annually and can be seen at both branches of the Farmington Com-

munity Library, according to East Middle School art teacher Ellen Walls. The showing includes works of both middle school and high school students.

Each art teacher selected 30 art works to display, which were divided between the two libraries, Walls said. Each work identifies the student artist, the art teacher, the school represented and the type of artwork.

The exhibit shows a "wide range of work and different styles," she added. "There's a lot of different kinds of works. It's just to show the public what we're doing in art in the schools."

Walls lauded the library for letting the art department use its space. "The library has been most gracious in letting us do it," she said. "We really wouldn't have any other place to exhibit."



William X. Kienzie
Former priest

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