

# Creative Living

Mario McGee editor/591-2300



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## briefly speaking

### BASKET BOUTIQUE

Special sesquicentennial events continue at the Hillside Inn in Plymouth with the presentation of Basket Boutique next week. Featured will be arrangements by some of the state's finest artisans of gourmet products packaged in handcrafted baskets.

The Hillside is also continuing with its series spotlighting unknown Michigan designers. Next to be featured is former Livonia resident Harriet Kozyn, now an Ann Arbor resident. Her work will be on display from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, May 6-8.

### MORE BASKETS

The Association of Michigan Basketmakers will hold the second annual Basketmakers Market from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 26 in the Community Arts Building of the Michigan State Fairgrounds on Woodward Ave., just south of Eight Mile Road. There will be demonstrations, hands-on workshops, and basket weaving materials for sale.

### FRIEDMAN-KOVALSKY CONCERT

An afternoon of violin and piano music will be performed by violinist Lev Friedman and pianist Vladislav Kovalsky at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Faith Community United Presbyterian Church of Novi, 4400 Ten Mile Road.

### QUILT SHOW

The General Henry Dearborn Quilting Association will sponsor a quilt show Friday and Saturday, May 8-9 in the commandant's quarters, Michigan Avenue at Monroe in Dearborn. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

The show, fourth in the group's history, will feature the work of 25 members. Several antique quilts will be shown, including an Ocean Wave pattern which was constructed in the 18th century. Other quilts from the early 20th century will also be displayed. Another feature will be a white-on-white quilt completed by members.

### HERBS WORKSHOP

Ann McAndrews, noted area herbalist, will conduct a program on herbs at the Detroit Historical Society from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 16. The morning program will focus on herbs used by early American settlers, including slides of herb gardens. A demonstration of preserving fresh herbs in honey and vinegars will be covered in the afternoon session.

Culinary recipes, directions for a colonial room fresher and a potted herb plant will be included in the registration fee. Rose geranium tea and thyme cookies will be served. All ages are welcome. Fee is \$10.

### ANTIQUE BUYERS BEWARE

Earl Bryant of Northville will have some words of advice for prospective antique collectors when he speaks from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 23 in the New School Church, in Mill Race Historical Village, Northville, as part of the Northville Historical Society's "Spring Potpourri" of classes.

Please turn to Page 4

## Upcoming

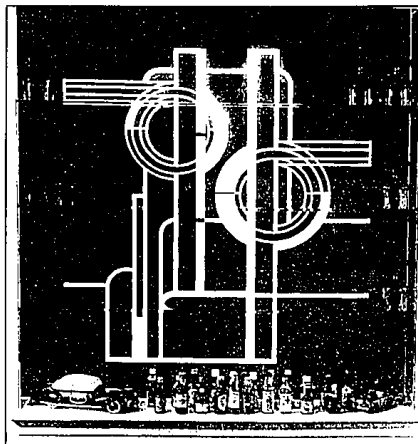
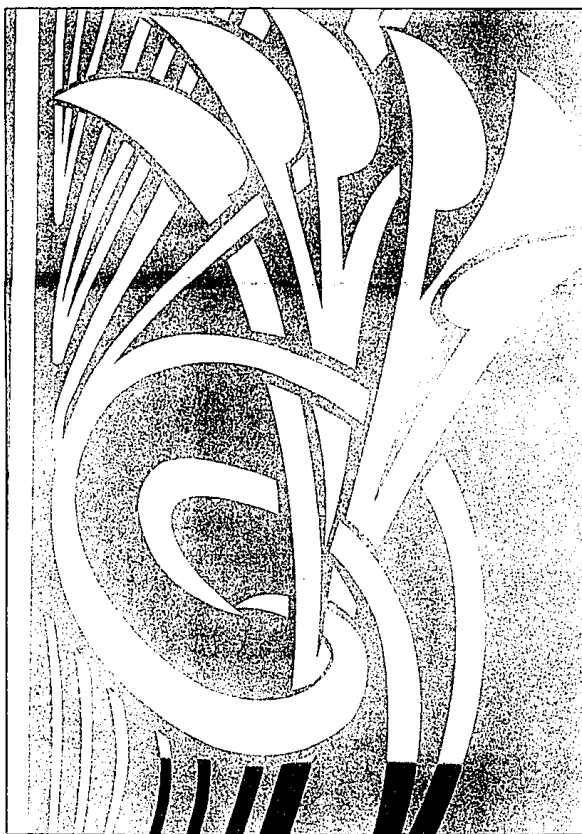
WORKS FOR THE organ will be featured when the Scandinavian Symphony Orchestra presents its final concert of the season at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in Ward Presbyterian Church, Six Mile at Farmington Road in Livonia.

Featured will be Saint-Saens' Organ Symphony No. 3 and the Stokowski transcription of Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor.

Ward organist Carole Halmekangas will be the organ soloist. Timothy Cheek of Ann Arbor will be the featured pianist.

A donation will be accepted at the door. For more information, call 535-1330 or 644-9203.

Tim and Christine Gillingham remove masking tape from a glass panel after it has been etched. The panel will be installed adjacent to a door.



## GLASS WITH CLASS

By Victoria Diaz  
Special writer

IT WAS A long-distance call from Baltimore, Md. and the news was not so good. Somehow, one of the large, etched-glass panels especially designed for the city's new Federal Reserve Bank had cracked on installation.

Could the company in Farmington Hills, who had designed and executed the original panel, possibly make another? And could they rush it out to Baltimore right away? The building inspector was expected soon, it seemed, and the building could not pass inspection without the panel.

NOT TO WORRY. Tim Gillingham and his wife, Christine, owners and sole employees of T. Gill Inc., would save the day. Hardly missing a beat, they put aside other projects, fired up their heavy-duty compressors, and painstakingly began to re-create the same intricate design on another piece of glass.

That night, after winding up the job, they decided to load the 12-by-60 foot panel onto their specially-equipped silver-gray "glass van," and drive it to Baltimore themselves where, hours later, they would personally oversee the successful completion of its installation.

IT WAS SIMPLY all in a day's work for the young Farmington

Hills couple whose striking, etched-glass designs can be seen in restaurants, public buildings, and private homes throughout the eastern United States these days.

"We learned the business through trial-and-error," said Tim Gillingham, explaining the couple's completely self-taught craftsmanship. "I broke a lot of glass. I think I have about 10 lifetimes of bad luck coming. But it's just something we developed. Patience is important, because working with glass is not like working with wood, where you can just shave off your mistakes. It's something you must be very accurate with — or else."

Tim started the company 14 years ago in the old winery building at Grand River and Orchard Lake in Farmington Hills, as a firm specializing in custom-made, mirrored tables (previously, he'd spent almost 10 years in advertising).

Then about seven years ago, he, along with Christine, began entertaining ideas of designing and manufacturing etched-glass work, after spotting some examples of it in interior design magazines and viewing the real thing at an innovative company in Florida.

"MY WIFE, WHO was a hairdresser at the time, also needed a release for her artistic talents."

Please turn to Page 4

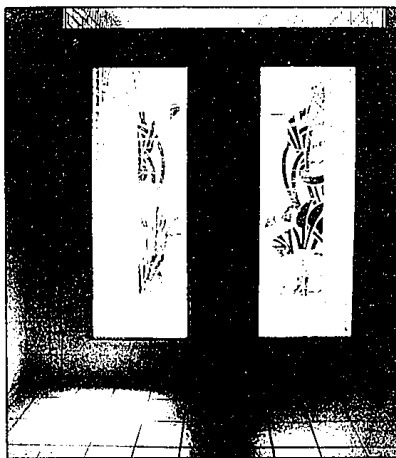


Photo at the top far left is a closeup view of an etched glass doorway shown in full view above at the West Bloomfield home of George and Carol Jankovich. Bottom far left shows a glass piece in the lower level recreation room of the same home. At the immediate left, Christine Gillingham holds an etched glass panel designed to be illuminated from the back.

Staff photos  
by Rancy Borst  
and Dan Dean