



condo queries

Robert M. Meisner

Q. I have heard that there is a series of courses being offered in Birmingham in regard to the operation of condos. I am a member of a board of directors, and I am wondering what kind of course is available in the near future. Can you help?

A. I have heard that there is a series of courses being offered in Birmingham in regard to the operation of condos. I am a member of a board of directors, and I am wondering what kind of course is available in the near future. Can you help?

A. An advanced course on condo operation entitled "Avoiding Legal Risks of the Community Association Director" is being presented by Wayne State University on four consecutive Tuesday nights 7:30 p.m. beginning March 8 at Groves High School, 13 Mile and Evergreen. I am also advised that future courses will be offered in the Sierling Heights area in regard to condo operation. For more information concerning the course, you should call Wayne State University at 577-4710 or write the College of Life Long Learning, 6801 Cass Avenue, Room 212, Detroit 48202.

Q. My condominium association is attempting to place a lien on my unit because I caused damage to the common areas. The condominium project is 15 years old, and I do not

see a basis why they can put a lien on my unit for this, nor do I feel I am responsible for the damages supposedly incurred by the association. What recourse do I have?

A. A condominium association, under your documents, has — more than likely — only the right to place a lien on your unit for non-payment of assessments. The fact that the association may have suffered damages and expenses because of your negligence does not give it the right to place a lien on your unit unless there is express authority in the documents to do so. Chances are there is not and the association has gone beyond its rights in legal rights, subjecting it to potential liability.

Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham attorney specializing in condominiums, real estate and corporate law. Questions should be directed to Robert Meisner, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 457, Birmingham 48010. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

briefly speaking

● CULTURAL LEAGUE BENEFIT

The Livonia Cultural League is inviting area residents to "Sall Into Spring" aboard the S. S. Jacobson — an evening at the Livonia department store. Proceeds will benefit the league's plans for an outdoor sculpture in the civic center area flanked by the city hall and the new library.

The event is set for 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, in Jacobson's Laurel Park store and will feature fashions shows, entertainment, sports and culinary demonstrations. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be included in the admission price of \$35. For more information, call 422-0710 or 522-8272.

cluded in the admission price of \$35. For more information, call 422-0710 or 522-8272.

● SCULPTORS GUILD

Livonia artist Nancy Hurd will be one of the Sculptors Guild of Michigan members featured in the organization's biannual exhibition at Somerset Mall in Troy Feb. 18-28.

The show will be a mixed media show featuring a variety of styles from realistic to abstract in stone, fired clay, wood, glass, metal and concrete.

Hurd's popular, imaginative animal sculpture will be on display. Hurd recently had a successful show at the BBAA as artist of the month.

● PASTEL/WATERCOLOR WORKSHOPS

Three workshops are being offered by the Visual Arts Association of Livonia, all to be held on Saturdays in February.

The first will be in pastels 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. Also offered will be a two-session Create-a-Painting workshop 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 20 and 27; and Carol in Cos-

● TANGLEWOOD AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held in Detroit for musicians interested in attending the Boston University School of Music or the 1988 summer season of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute 2-5 p.m. Saturday, March 5, in the Detroit Community Music School, 200 E. Kirby.

For an appointment, call Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Clark at 273-6716. For more information, including application and scholarship material, write to Boston University School for the Arts, 555 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215. Students unable to audition in person may send audition tapes. Deadline for taped auditions is March 14.

● POSTER WINNERS

Winners as well as other entries in the Livonia Human Relations Commission's Brotherhood Week poster contest will be on display in the Livonia City Hall lobby until Monday, Feb. 22.

Details distracting in Plath biography

Continued from Page 2

credits in several major publications. Plath, suffering from depression and mental exhaustion, attempted suicide. After spending several months in mental institutions, she went on to continue a life of remarkable literary achievement, married English poet, Ted Hughes, and gave birth to two children. Then, in 1961, rejected by Hughes and beset with chronic physical illness, Plath, in the early hours of a cold February morning in London, made another attempt at ending her own life, this time succeeding.

toward sex, toward marriage, and toward the sacrifices she was expected to make in the name of motherhood.

Despite its strong points, though, serious Plath fans will still likely find this book coming up short. For one thing, there's just simply not a lot new in "Sylvia Plath: A Biography." Much of what is here has already been related in Edward Butcher's "Sylvia Plath: Method and Madness" (1976), "The Journals of Sylvia Plath" (1982), "Letters Home" (1976), or Plath's autobiographical "novel," "The Bell Jar," published in the United States in 1971.

TOO, THOUGH the author explains in her preface that this biography "emphasizes Plath's identity as a writer," there's disappointingly little inclusion or discussion of that writing, which was, for the most part, an intensely personal reflection of Sylvia herself.

Too had Wagner-Martin, a professor of English at Michigan State University, didn't choose to devote more space to comments on Plath's work, and a bit less to detailed information about each boyfriend, or the number of Girl Scout badges Plath earned as a fifth grader, or what she wore to her first Yale prom, or what she ate for dinner on Christmas day, 1961, or what kind of earrings she preferred to wear to class when she taught English to freshmen at her alma mater, Smith College, in 1957, etc., etc.

WAGNER-MARTIN'S book is highly readable — a real page-turner, as a matter of fact — and a balanced, honest portrayal of someone who, though she has become a kind of American legend, was, of course, ultimately as human as the rest of us. This is Sylvia, wars and all, from her persistent vanity, to her penchant for using people to further her own needs, to an occasional disturbing tendency toward real howling vengeance.

Here also, though, is Sylvia's admirable side: her remarkable capacity for hard work, her devotion to Hughes and her children, her courage, her personal charm, her magnificent dedication to her art.

In addition, Wagner-Martin has clearly sketched one of the most essential facets of Plath's enigmatic character: her ambivalence toward the traditional role of women,

Tinsmithing alive and well

Continued from Page 2

Coast, is growing in other regions, Schweppe believes.

Some customers ask Schweppe to design and craft wall sconces and chandeliers for their homes. Others seek hard-to-find items, such as Bible lanterns.

"I'm amazed at how many young people who have inherited family Bibles and buy these," Schweppe said.

SOME PIECES ARE treated with acid, because "everybody wants instant old," Schweppe said. Lanterns may range in price from \$65 to \$150, depending on the intricacy of the piece. A replica of a sconce used by George Washington during the 1790s costs around \$16.

"The most satisfaction is making something nice and see the face of the person who comes to get it," Schweppe said.

Schweppe, who teaches small groups his craft, has two friends, who share his passion for tinsmithing. Ted Douglas of Windsor is an editorial writer at the Detroit News. Bob Horwood of Superior Township is a recently retired teacher from the Plymouth-Canton school district.

"We call ourselves the 'tinsmiths three' and get together occasionally to swap patterns," Schweppe said. "There is a lot more than bashing tin. You get interested in knowing why people did this. That's a dividend."

Arbor Village CONDOMINIUM

Located in the Charter Township of Canton

Model Home Open Daily 11 to 6 (Closed Thurs.)

MODEL PHONE 397-8080

Sales by: MICHIGAN CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION

Build by: S.R. JOHNSON CO.

EARN MONEY!

And if you'd like to help us, call 981-0300 to find out about Observer & Eccentric carrier route

Here's the key ...

Creative Living

to finding your new home...

THE **Observer & Eccentric** NEWSPAPERS

Chamberlain REALTORS

Serving the area's finest communities since 1918

FARMINGTON HILLS JUST REDUCED

World class elegance in this 2 story TUDOR home. Cherry fireplace in family room, gourmet kitchen overlooks multi-level large park area. FOUR bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, nothing need be done. \$204,500 (L-358) 557-6700

FRANKLIN MINI-ESTATE

Almost 2 acre wooded lot with 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 fireplaces and first floor laundry room. Finished basement with game room, beautiful great room with woodburning stove and much more. \$259,900 (B-310) 547-2000

FARMINGTON HILLS

Sharp 4 bedroom colonial in Farmington Green offering 2 1/2 baths, family room, natural fireplace, formal dining room, newer windows, neutral decor and attached garage. \$142,900 (G-182) 851-4400

FARMINGTON HILLS

A real pleasure to see this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with remodeled kitchen, family room, natural fireplace, 1st floor laundry, attached garage and a very lovely yard. \$125,000 (B-288) 851-4400

BLOOMFIELD HILLS CONDO

Nice 1st floor unit, 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. Lovely courtyard view. Neutral decor throughout. Kitchen with all appliances. Walk-in closet and lav in master bedroom. Very convenient to shopping and transportation. \$60,500 (C-366) 647-6400

FARMINGTON HILLS

Custom, pillared colonial with 1st floor laundry, dining room, family room with fireplace, 4 bedrooms with walk-in closet, 400 sq. ft. rec room with wet bar, sprinkler system, carpeting and verticals installed in 1987. 2422 sq. ft. built 1976. \$145,000 (L-284) 851-6700

BIRMINGHAM 647-6400	ROYAL OAK 517-3000	ROCHESTER 651-1100	BLOOMFIELD 644-6788
SOUTHFIELD/LATHRUP 557-6700	TROY 648-8500	WEST BLOOMFIELD 851-4400	

For a career in real estate contact any of the offices above