



Vince Sadovsky teaches folk music students, including his daughter Jennifer. A stairway in the back room of the shop leads to his home.

## They string music together

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"I loved my science, but I loved my music," she admitted. "I'd leave work, sing at choirs in Ann Arbor, perform at coffee houses or tour with a group called Friends.

"When Vince asked if I'd be interested in working with him at the store, I said yes. I really believe in team work. We both love the same thing."

Vince had purchased the 75-year-old house in 1973 to set up his store. He abandoned premed studies for music in the late 1960s and had been

giving lessons to nearly 80 students a week.

They met at a coffee house in St. Andrew Catholic Church, Rochester, managed by Karen.

"Someone told me to hire this banjo player so I did. He was phenomenal. He sold out the house. We were friends a long time before we got married," she said.

They're still partners. Sometimes, they switch roles. "If it gets real busy and Sarah's crying or squirming, I come out (of the lesson booth) and take care of customers," Vince said.

The kids play in a family room ad-

joined to the front office. When they're upstairs and they need mom or dad, they shout through the floor vent.

"I'm like a baby sitter," Jenny said. "The only time I get to do things I want is when mom changes the baby's pants."

Jenny enjoys helping out in the store, however. "I like the customers and I love music," she said. "But when it's busy I get crabby."

"Sometimes at night, I'll be trying to sleep and the doorbell rings." There are other drawbacks. Because they live downtown, the Sadovskys won't allow their children to ride bikes on the streets. There are no other kids on the block for them to play with.

And, since it's a mom-'n'-pop operation, the family seldom escapes. "Everyone wants to get away from their job," Vince said. "I've been working 15 years and only in the last four years have we allowed ourselves to take a vacation."

In the busy times, Karen entertains thoughts of moving to the quiet, peaceful countryside. "My dream home is a log cabin," she said.

## Garage is their gallery

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"I was earning \$16,000 a year (gross, not net) and I had to pay the bills with that.

"I was great at art, but I didn't know anything about business. I still have to count with my fingers."

Jason and Barbara first became friends, then husband and wife. They were married July 26, 1980.

Jason, who worked full-time helping businesses solve accounting problems with computers, took her fledgling firm and transformed it into a thriving enterprise.

"I set a direction for the compa-

ny," he said. "We improved the quality and consistency of her work. It ended up being tremendously more successful than we dreamed."

The business expanded so much that they set up a production studio in Livonia in 1984. They moved out of the Birmingham gallery in January 1986.

When they decided to adopt twins in December 1986, they wanted to work out an arrangement that would allow Barbara to stay home.

"I never expected to be working

and giving my babies to day care," she said. "I really wasn't interested in the retail end. I just wanted to work in my little cubby hole."

Now she wears two hats — as a consultant/designer for the production studio and artist who shows one-of-a-kind pieces in her garage/gallery.

"I'm amazed at how much work I can get done," she said. "I don't have to commute. There's no boss telling me what time to check in or out."

"And I get to be with my babies."

## New officers elected for institute

Diane Steifox, a resident of Farmington Hills, has been elected treasurer of the Friends of the International Institute. The organization provides financial assistance to International Institute, a Torch Drive agency that serves the foreign-born community and promotes cross-cultural understanding.

The newly elected president is Daniel F. Stella of Detroit. His vice president is Robert Harty of Dearborn. Helen Schara of Livonia was elected secretary.

## DAR urges history study

John Adams was born Oct. 30, 1735, in Braintree (which later became Quincy), Mass. He believed that colonies should govern themselves and helped to draft the Declaration of Independence, which was adopted July 4, 1776, and which announced the birth of a new nation.

The Quakertown Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution urges us all to read and study this important document.

## He cleans up in the maintenance 'biz'

WHEN MIKE Decker graduated from college, he wanted to clean up corporate images with his pen.

Instead, he ended up scrubbing corporate floors with his industrial sweeper.

Decker, 30, graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in public relations.

"After interviewing at a number of places, I couldn't find a job that compensated me enough so I decided to open up a building maintenance company (in 1981). I had experience as a janitor during my college days."

Decker runs Decco Industries from his Troy home. He also rents a small warehouse to store equipment and a room to keep supplies.

grown so quickly that he's thinking about moving out of his home into an office. He contracts with 65-70 employees and services nearly 40 buildings in the Detroit area.

"From a financial standpoint, you can't beat the cost of a home office," he admitted. "There's no overhead."

"But, it has become necessary for us to move."

There's another problem, too. When Decker started his business, he didn't have children, and his wife worked. Now, she stays home to take care of their two kids, ages 3 and six months.

"At first, a home office was ideal. I had the luxury of having my own cafeteria, private bath and couch.

"Now, things have changed. My kids want to play with Dad all day long. It's very distracting."

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