

Creative Living



Monday, July 11, 1988 O&E

(OIE)



designing
ways
**Eve
Garvin**

LOVED THINGS become a sort of signature. The pleasure you find in the objects you care for lend them a special quality others sense and share.

No home is ever finally completely furnished. The furniture and window dressing are really backgrounds for your personal appointments. People remember houses in terms of details and touches as well as general impressions. These touches say something about the people who live in the house. Be it an heirloom piece or a porcelain box, a large bowl of flowers — though not artistically remarkable or expensive, it creates a certain atmosphere.

In my own home, I have a collection of memorabilia sitting on a Queen Anne gateleg table. The collection of letters and photographs say something about us. Personally I enjoy reading and rereading letters that bring back to mind events gone by.

I LOVE TO SEARCH and browse when we travel. On a recent trip to New Orleans, I found a lovely antique washstand with an onyx top. I placed this in a living room where it functions as a bar.

The way to train yourself to see all the possibilities out there is to look and look. Ask questions and then look some more. At first it is bewildering. You can't see the trees for the forest. But soon you will find yourself acquiring an eye and the feeling that you can do it and that the piece is right or not.

On the whole, I am eclectic. I don't have the discipline to be a true collector. I am drawn to many kinds of beauty. I don't follow any rules. I buy things because I love them and know I can make a place for them. I don't limit myself to one kind of object. If you do, sooner or later, you will find yourself collecting pieces not for their charm and beauty but for their significance. I don't care for a "house museum."

I FIND DISPLAY CASES unappealing. I prefer to scatter and group my collectables. I use odd rather than even numbers of things. Three candles rather than four clumped together. A collection of snuff bottles or paperweights on a table is interesting.

Paintings should be bought for the pleasure they give rather than an investment. Your time and money yield a much more satisfying return when they are invested in searching out an unknown work you find exactly right for a particular spot.

Eve Garvin has been an interior designer in the area for many years. She welcomes comments and questions from readers. Send those to her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

organizing



**Dorothy
Lehmkuhl**

Q. I have a carpentry workshop in my garage I know will take weeks to clean out. It is such an irritant I have to get it done, but I don't have that kind of time.

A. It's normal to feel overwhelmed when you have a big task on your horizon but dreaded jobs seldom take as long as you think.

The husband of one of my students happily announced after work one day that "I'll be playing his cards right" they could probably get transferred to Europe within two years. His wife panicked as she thought, "I'll never be ready on time."

People tend to overestimate the time it takes to do what they dislike and underestimate the time to do what they enjoy.

Think about what you enjoy doing. Isn't it amazing how quickly time flies by when you are relaxed and reading, talking, shopping, or involved in hobbies like building model airplanes, working on a computer or painting pictures?

Conversely, cleaning out junk areas, doing paperwork or other dreaded tasks pile up because 1) we don't like to do them and 2) we overestimate the time to do them.

One man proudly proclaimed he had helped clean out the garage one Saturday (obviously a real event in their house). His wife later whispered he had spent a total of 20 minutes, but in his mind it seemed like most of the day.

Try taking baby steps. Tell yourself surely you can stand working on your shop for five or 10 minutes. If at the end of that time you are not "into" the project, allow yourself to quit, but schedule it for another specific time.

One of two things will probably result: 1) You'll learn the chore is not so bad and you will complete the task more quickly than you imagined, or 2) you may begin to understand why the task has not been done before.

If you attack your workshop with the appropriate information and stick with organizing only — without getting distracted into side jobs — you can probably get it done in a short time.

Grand retreat Area developer offers U.P. condos

By Marie McGee
staff writer

ATROY dental lab owner has his own version of the classic "How Green Was My Valley."

For Ira Green, a valley is home for his "Bay View Condominium project" in the pristine area of Grand Marais on the shores of Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula.

The valley is an important detail in his story of how he came to the decision to build condominiums on the Lake Superior shoreline.

"Your first look at Grand Marais comes when you come over the crest of the hill off Highway 17 — 200 feet straight down. There it is. The view of the bay is breathtaking. You're hooked after that," said Green, who admits being "hooked" on the area since he was 17 and first went camping there.

GREEN'S ENTHUSIASM for the area and hence the condo project is shared by his wife, Barbara, who currently is managing the sales office in Grand Marais for their company, Bay View Management. Green is holding down the homefront in West Bloomfield and commutes just about every weekend.

Green's plans call for the construction of 18 year-round, one- and two-bedroom units. The units will be clustered in groups of six with each having its own private entrance and deck and walk-out to the beach. The units will be staggered so to get full benefit of a view that most often includes that of a glorious sunrise over the harbor and Lake Superior.

The units face inward on the Grand Marais Bay and thus are protected from the passing storms of Lake Superior, but still offer a full view of the lake in its calm presence. A white sand beach runs the full stretch of the property for swimming.

The one-bedroom lower unit will average about 682 square feet and sell for around

\$47,900. The two-bedroom upper unit will feature a loft and will have around 1,100 square for a \$57,900 price tag.

All the units will have one-by-six tongue-and-groove cedar siding with cedar shake accents, wood windows with insulated glass, steel insulated entrance doors and solid wood interior doors. Superior insulation will make them usable in the winter as well, Green noted. Or owners may choose to rent them out during that period.

"This is the area for some of the best snowmobiling or skiing in the country," Green said.

THE UNITS "LOOK just like the condos you see in Charlevoix or Traverse — at about a third of the cost," Green added.

Green said he is not the first to build condominiums in the U.P. There are some units in Escanaba on Lake Michigan. But he is the first to build on Lake Superior, the largest and considered by many the most awesome of the Great Lakes.

"It's very Cape Cod-dy," Green said of Grand Marais, with its summer population of 1,200 and 400 year-round residents. "If you're into peace and quiet, walking the beach, fishing, and just enjoying nature, this is the place. I doubt if it will ever be the trendy, touristy spots Traverse City and Harbor Springs or the Leelanau area have become."

The reason for that, he believes, is because "people are just too lazy to cross the bridge and drive another 1½ hours. But we do have our little art colony. We also have five churches, two bars and some of the best fishing in the world."

"When it comes right down to it, we're not selling condominiums," Green said. "We're selling an area — a lifestyle. If you're not into this kind of living, you won't like it here no matter how much of a bargain the units are or how well they are constructed."

For more information on the development, call Green at 352-1282.



STAFF PHOTO

Bloomfield Hills residents Ira and Barbara Green are so enthusiastic about Grand Marais in the Upper Peninsula they decided to build condominiums there on a small parcel of land they owned that previously had rental cabins. In all, 18 units will be built on the protected bay side of Grand Marais historic Coast Guard Point. The units were designed by architect Barry Polzin, who specializes in environmentally sound projects. Units will sell for \$47,900-\$57,900.

HOMEARAMA details on Aug. 4

For the first time, the furniture and accessories in most of the HOMEARAMA — Summer "idea homes" will be put up for sale on the last day of its run, Aug. 28, in Autumn Ridge subdivision in West Bloomfield.

Complete details on HOMEARAMA — Summer — including more details on the furniture sale — will be included in the special section to be published by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and to be inserted in all editions on

Thursday, Aug. 4. A story here last week erroneously reported that the special section would appear in the July 22 edition.

The sixth annual showcase of homes by the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan is open to the public Aug. 4-Aug. 28, 7-11 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is \$4. Free parking is provided and refreshments are available for purchase.

ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS:

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, JULY 17th

Ice Cream Social - 2 until 5 p.m.

Good Times, Good Friends, and Good Feelings
all come together at

22800 Civic Center Drive
Between Telegraph and
Lahser Rds. in Southfield



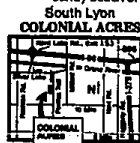
CALL 350-1777 or VISIT - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

COLONIAL ACRES Adult Communities



Come Share our dream, exclusive country living. For adults 50 and older.
No resident children under the age of 17 years.

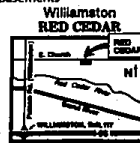
- 1 & 2 Bedroom Ranch Units
- Private Entries
- Clubhouse and Nature Area
- Sandy Beach or Pool
- Hot/Cold Appliances
- Full Basements
- Optional Fireplace, Family Room and Walkout Basements



From \$68,800
(313) 437-1159



From \$68,800
(313) 437-6887



From \$68,800
(313) 655-3448

MODELS OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 12-4 P.M./Sat. & Sun. 12-5 P.M.

ALSO OPEN THURSDAY 9/8/Red Cedar Closed Thurs.
CENTAUR CONTRACTORS, INC. • COLONIAL ACRES REALTY, INC.

The Meadows of Plymouth



MODELS OPEN: DAILY 12:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.
CLOSED THURSDAY
One block east of Main Three blocks south of
Ann Arbor Trail on Deer Street

- Approximately 1800 sq. ft. of Spacious Living Area
- Underground Heated Garage and Storage
- Fully Equipped GE Kitchen and Laundry
- 3 Bedrooms - 3 Full Baths
- Great Room, Fireplace, Formal Dining, Grand Hall - All Standard
- PRICES FROM \$17,900 to \$187,500

Sales by

K.C. Corle Real Estate
240 N. Main St., Ste. 101
Plymouth, MI 48150

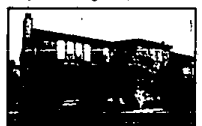
313-453-3939
Broker Cooperation Invited



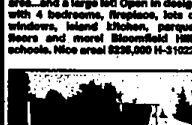
FOXGROVE CONTEMPORARY
Versatile open design allows for varied use of room! Dramatic two-story vaulted ceilings, upper loft area, decks and so very much more. This is a home to be seen. A very special home in a special setting! \$239,000 H-31029



PRIVATE CONTEMPORARY
Backed to a lovely heavily wooded area...and a large lot Open in design with 4 bedrooms, fireplace, lots of windows, island kitchen, parquet floors and more! Bloomfield Hills schools. Nice area! \$239,000 H-31022



CLOSTERS ON THE LAKE
End unit CONDO with quiet wooded setting and patio to enjoy! Open contemporary features with lots of built-in, recessed lighting, white Formica and solid wood cabinetry. Jacuzzi, service in complete! \$214,000 H-23844



LARGE FAMILY HOME
Savory Hills premier location with great schools. Spacious home in a part-lot setting with two-level deck and patio. Beautiful hardwood and parquet floors. Great floor laundry. \$189,000 H-31361



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
Lovely updated home...and in a great, Birmingham area of the home. Beautifully maintained with hardwood and solid wood cabinetry. Jacuzzi, service in complete! \$214,000 H-23844