

## briefly speaking

● **FAMILY MAGIC SHOW**  
"The Magical Matt Jacobson Show" will be held at the Livonia Civic Center Library at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22. Tickets, which are free, are available at the library, on Five Mile. Because of limited seating in the library auditorium, admission will be by ticket only. There is a limit of four tickets per family. The event is sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission. For more information, call 421-2000, Ext. 351.

● **PALETTE AND BRUSH EXHIBIT**  
"The Palette and Brush Club annual fall art show will be held at the Livonia City Hall now through Friday, Oct. 28. The exhibit, in the City Hall lobby, is open to the public during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no admission. The event is sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission.

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● **EMANUELE EXHIBIT**  
Madonna College Exhibit Gallery will present a photography exhibit by Art Emanuele, Observer & Eccentric photographer, now through Friday, Oct. 14. There is no admission charge. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

● **OUR TOWN EXHIBIT**  
Michigan comes alive this month at the Juried Our Town art exhibition and sale opening Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the Community House in Birmingham. Approximately 250 works of art by 140 Michigan artists will be on display during the five-day exhibition. The event is open to the public and there is no admission charge. The Community House is located at 380 S. Bates.

● **ART GALLERY WALK**  
Oakland Community College is one of seven designated stops throughout the city on the Royal Oak Art Gallery Walk from 7:10 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19. Potters from OCC's ceramics program, the largest in Michigan, will demonstrate the craft. In addition, there will be a fine arts and photography exhibit, and walkers will be able to tour various arts, dance and humanities classes.

There is no charge for the walk and refreshments will be served. Brochures with a map and details are available from the Royal Oak Parks and Recreation Department, the library and the Chamber of Commerce.

● **GRAPHICS EXHIBIT**  
Eastern Michigan University will present the exhibit, "Design for the Public Good," through Wednesday,

Oct. 28, in Ford Gallery on EMU's campus in Ypsilanti.

The 95-piece exhibit features exceptional graphic work relating to the advocacy of public causes, non-profit or public-spirited events and works designed to raise and promote non-profit and public institutions. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Ford Gallery, which is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, is in Ford Hall on EMU's campus.

● **PLATE ARTIST APPEARING**  
Sandra Kuck, plate artist, will make a guest appearance at Georgia's Gift Gallery, 576 Forest Avenue, Plymouth, on Saturday, Oct. 8. In addition to autographing her children's series, Kuck will show the limited-edition silk fan that is making its debut in the collectible market. There is no admission charge.

## In praise of libraries

Continued from Page 2

muring, an imperceptible dialogue between one parchment and another, a living thing, a receptacle of powers not to be ruled by a human mind, a treasure of secrets emanated by many minds, surviving the death of those who had produced them or had been their conveyors."

FROM MY experience as both a librarian and a writer, I know now that libraries are that and much more.

There is hardly a question of fact or information that a good library cannot answer, or at least point the question in the proper direction to find an answer.

As a librarian, I have found answers to questions like: Have there been any studies done on the efficacy of raising self-esteem as a treatment for teen-age drug users? And: How much does a snow leopard weigh?

For my own writing, I have learned in my local library how to identify oneself over the phone to the keepers of one's numbered Swiss bank account, as well as how, when in the desert, to use the delicate shadings of the sand to determine which areas are soft or unstable and should be avoided.

TO PUT oneself in contact with art and the artist, libraries are special.

One can attend a concert and hear a performance, but one is limited to going at the time that the concert is given, and sitting in a hall full of other listeners listening to whatever the artist chooses to perform.

One can indeed go to a gallery or a museum at one's own convenience and wander at one's own pace, skipping pieces of lesser interest and lingering before those found more fulfilling.

But one cannot take a genuine

Rembrandt or Klee or Brose home for further study and contemplation without significantly lightening one's pocketbook.

But any day of the week, one can take home a genuine Shakespeare or Clancy or Welty or Lynch. And keep it for three weeks!

IN MY local library I see parents holding children in to select books to take home. There are toys and games that can be borrowed. What fun! What a marvel!

But sometimes those parents are in such a hurry that the children barely have time to settle in and find a good book, even less to begin to discover what a library can do for them.

Once or twice I have come around the corner of a bookshelf and found a parent reading to a child, as if the book is so good that neither of them can ever wait to get home to read it. That's promising.

But what I like to see best of all is the child who has been given the time to wander and explore, to become familiar enough with this astonishing and wonderful place that he or she begins to hear that long, centuries-old murmuring, that imperceptible dialogue, and begins to sense that treasure of secrets.

NOW, WHEN I walk into a library, I sometimes go to the shelf and look for my own book.

If I don't find it, I'm pleased, because that means that someone is right now in the process of reading what I've written, a real communication between us, though we've probably never met.

If I do find it, I'm somewhat disappointed that it's there and not in circulation. But I shouldn't be, because, sitting on the shelf, my voice has now joined in the murmuring of that magical place.

Imagine if you had to ask for blood to save the life of someone you love. Next time the American Red Cross asks, give blood, please.

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US HOMES

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In accessorizing your home, I have always encouraged you to visit local art galleries and exhibits around the greater metropolitan Detroit area for ideas.

One of those opportunities was at the Scarab Club in Detroit recently and featured the work of Edgar Yeager.

As one of the earliest abstract artists in Michigan, Yeager was influenced by Picasso and Giorgio De Chirico, the Italian forerunner of surrealism. Beyond these styles, Yeager established an interpretive form of current art unique unto himself — a form that employs his trademark use of color in unusual combinations and with striking brilliance in tone.

This 85-year-old man grinds and rubs his paints, makes the stretchers and even hand carves the frames.

He attended Eastern High School, the University of Detroit, Robert Herzberg's Detroit School of Fine

and Applied Arts, and the John Wicker School of Fine Art.

In 1932, YAEGER received two honors that helped assure his future in the arts: the Founders Society Purchase Prize awarded by the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Anna Scripps Whitcomb award.

While on scholarship in Paris he attended the Academie Andre L'Hote and Ecole Scandinave, receiving instructions by Marcel Gromaire and Ethon Pries.

Returning to Detroit in 1935, he worked as an artist for the Federal Works Program Administration, producing murals for the Broadhead Naval Armory and the Public Lighting Commission Building in Detroit. That mural was torn down when the building was demolished to make way for the Renaissance Center.

However, Yeager, along with Kai Skotarczyk, have painstakingly restored the mural, which will make its final home in Cobo Hall.

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