

Suburban Life



Thursday, February 6, 1992 O&F

(F1C)

New methods relieve chronic sinus pain

By Sue Mason
staff writer

Dr. Warren Brandes is a realist. He is, he says, the end of the road for most of his patients. He is the last physician who can help them with a problem endemic to southeast Michigan.

Oh, you know the problem — runny nose, nasal stuffiness, headaches, sometimes a sore throat due to postnasal drip. You even know the common name for it — "sinus."

What you don't know is that new technology has opened the door to a more focused, less radical treatment of sinus disease, changes that have prompted Brandes to open the Michigan Sinus Institute in Farmington Hills.

"It used to be a shot-in-the-dark treatment of sinus disease, but with this new technology, we can focus on and address the causes," he said. "With this we're now able to treat people whose doctors would say they had nothing wrong because they couldn't see anything. They'd have to live with the pain and now they don't."

The technology is the endoscope, the use of a 2.7-millimeter scope to view the interior of the osteomeatal complex, a small chamber between the eyes and nose through which the sinuses drain.

The fiberoptic scope was developed in Austria during the 1970s, but has only been used for the diagnosis and treatment of sinus disease in the United States during the last 3-4 years.

BRANDES IS not the only physician in the metropolitan area to use the endoscope in treatment of sinus disease, however, his sinus institute is the first of its kind in the state.

ures 1-2 millimeters in diameter and can be easily blocked by polyps, swollen tissue or infection. By passing the scope through the nostril and into the chamber, physicians can "see" and determine the cause of the sinus disease.

It also can be used as part of the treatment, providing doctors with a way of seeing in areas that was only accessible by "opening up the head," Brandes said.

"We can see what we're doing and we can see what areas are diseased," he explained. "We can be more surgically correct in our approach. That's why this is less radical. The traditional approach was more aggressive — open the skin, remove some bone. We don't have to do this with this scope."

Brandes sees the institute as the end of the road for people with sinus disease. He sees an average of 50 patients a week who, almost 80 percent of which are referrals from other doctors.

"By the time they see me they've seen a number of doctors and been treated with any number of things," he said. "And if you ask them what they think the cause is, most people are very accurate about the cause — the sinuses."

"Many people are happy to know that there is a physician that takes them and their problems seriously."

IN DIAGNOSING the problem, Brandes focuses on the areas that can't be seen with the naked eye. By using the endoscope, X-rays and CAT scans of the sinuses, he is able to pinpoint problems and formulate treatment.

The treatment can involve medications and can sometimes be as easy as taking the patient off cigarettes. About 80 percent of his pa-

Please turn to Page 5



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Medical assistant Pamela Ross watches as Dr. Warren Brandes uses an endoscope to check the results of surgery

that straightened the septum, shrunk polyps and drained the sinuses of patient Bruce Watt of Canton.

Designers set to share professional expertise

By Shirlee Rose Iden
staff writer

Barbi Goodman Krass of Colorworks Studio of Design will be a principal speaker at "Home Sweet Home," a home improvement expo scheduled for the Southfield Pavilion 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9.

Other scheduled speakers are Lon Grossman, home repair expert and columnist, who will speak on the "How To's of Home Improvement," architect Leo Stein, who will discuss "Planning Home Remodeling as Opposed to Buying a Different House" and Cynthia Richardson, landscape designer, whose topic is exterior design.

Krass, who founded Colorworks in her Southfield basement in 1977, will discuss "Renewing Spaces."

"Actually," she explained, "I'm going to talk about renewing, remodeling and working with a professional."

"THERE ARE a lot of myths about professional designers that need to be dispelled," she said. "Designers have a lot more going for them than 'good taste.'"

"They are well trained, knowledgeable and technically skilled."

Helping clients visualize a total concept rather than get stuck on details is a priority with Krass.

"My challenge is to know the market, be aware of what's available, and know how to use the resources. You can design anything on paper, but you have to be able to utilize the resources to make it happen."

Though her own preference is for new residential construction, she has designed offices, medical buildings and more. She has also worked on renewing homes for families who don't care to move.

BORN IN Poughkeepsie, New York, she lived there until age five when she went to live in Germany with her mother and serviceman father for eight months. Later, they moved to Scranton, Pa., and she lived there until starting college at Boston University.

"I'm going to talk about renewing, remodeling and working with a professional."

— Barbi Goodman Krass

to Detroit about 20 years ago, and stayed.

Today Krass runs her design studio, is married to Southfield teacher, Ed Reid of local public speaking. "The business keeps me very busy. We moved here 18 months ago from an office complex and it has worked out great. This past year was my best business year in a long time."

Krass believes that many people are intimidated by working with a professional designer. "They need to be enlightened. It isn't more expensive because a designer can save the client lots of money. They can also help prevent costly mistakes."

"I TRY to make us (designers) more approachable when I do my consumer education workshops and talks."

"People should know they will get their money's worth out of a well trained professional." For the Feb. 9 home remodeling expo, Krass will touch upon the options of remodeling a present home or buying a new one, and will distribute hand-outs on kitchen redesign and other prospective jobs.

"Even if you are only doing your kitchen and bathroom, a professional can save a considerable amount. Even in the rip-out stage of home remodeling, you can destroy things accidentally."

Krass said she thinks the people coming to the Pavilion for information on what to do about their living space are very serious. "We see a trend toward people curtailing their travel and luxury buying and putting it into a luxurious masterbath, an entertainment room, an elaborate kitchen, or a finished lower level."

She suggests that the beginning of a major change in residential space should be a master plan. "The client has to work out priorities and goals

and work out a budget. Then they have to choose what things are most important to them."

MANY CLIENTS don't comprehend that there is "no such thing as a color scheme," said Krass. "The designer has to know where to put it as well as what to put."

Colorworks clients get a personal contract that spells out all the services available to them, and much more. How to write contracts and marketing skills are some of the topics at Krass' seminars.

Krass suggests that clients seeking a designer should use the referral service at the Design Center in Troy, should assure themselves of the professional's qualifications, and should also ask friends and acquaintances.

"Nothing speaks as well as a satisfied customer," she said.

Residential remodeling considered a valid step

By Shirlee Rose Iden
staff writer

A designer must have totally different experience for new construction and for remodeling, said David Weiss, designer for Color Works Studio of Interior Design.

"You have to know interior architecture and understand the elements of design, just for beginners," he said.

Weiss cautioned that "a retail furniture store is not usually the place to go to remodel your home. He explained that a designer is equipped to show samples of plumbing and electrical fixtures, wall moldings, wall paper and every kind of item that goes into interior design.

For Weiss, a resident of Oak Park, the notion of remodeling and

Please turn to Page 5

SUPER BUYS YOU CANT AFFORD TO MISS!

FEBRUARY

SKI

SALE

Prices Good Thru February 9, 1992

SKIS • BOOTS • BINDINGS • POLES • SKIWEAR • OUTERWEAR
ACCESSORIES — FOR DOWNHILL & CROSS COUNTRY

YOU'LL GET YOUR BEST SKI DEAL THIS WEEK AT

Bavarian Village

FULL-LINE FULL-SERVICE SKI SHOPS

OPEN	• BLOOMFIELD HILLS.....2540 WOODWARD at Square Lake Road.....338-6803
	• BIRMINGHAM.....101 TOWNSEND corner of Park.....344-8950
	• NOV.....NOV TOWN CENTER South of 196 on Novi Road.....347-3323
	• FARMINGTON HILLS.....27847 ORCHARD LAKE RD. at 12 Mile.....833-8543
	• MT. CLEMENS.....1218 S. GRATIOT 1/2 mile North of 18 Mile.....483-3120
	• SUGAR LOAF SKI AREA.....18 miles NW of Traverse City.....616-228-8700
	• ANN ARBOR.....107 E. FRONT ST. (Bay Side Entrance).....616-941-1999
	• ANN ARBOR.....3330 WASHTEENAW West of U.S. 23.....973-6240
	• FLINT.....4261 MILLER RD. across from Gansssee Valley Mall.....313-732-6550
	• DEARBORN HEIGHTS.....25312 FORD RD. 1/2 mile W. of Telegraph.....362-8560
	• EAST LANSING.....246 E. SAGINAW at Abbott.....517-337-6696
	• GRAND RAPIDS.....2033 26th Street S.E. between Drelon & Kalamazoo.....616-432-1199
	• GROSSE POINTE.....19433 MACK just North Of Moros.....858-0300

• VISA • MASTERCARD • DISCOVER • DINERS • AMERICAN EXPRESS

WE'RE THE PLACE FOR SKIERS