

Creative Living

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE



Mary Klemic editor/644-1100

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(O1D)

Art Beat

She enjoys harmony, history at 100

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

For information and reviews of musical performances, please turn to the Entertainment section.

Registration is still on for the winter glassblowing classes at the Touch of Light Studio and Gallerie, 23426 Woodward in Ferndale. Classes meet one evening a week for 10 weeks. Beginners with no prior experience are welcome. Stop at the studio or call 543-1868 for more information.

Writer and photographer Nancy Good will present a program, "Beyond Reflections and Flowers - The Gardens of Gliverry," at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Franklin Community Church, 32473 Normandy in Franklin, sponsored by the Franklin Branch of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association.

The free program, open to the public, presents the unifying symbols of beauty and art as an international ground for human relations and understanding.

Cameron Duncan and Barbara Goldman of Birmingham will be among the participants in "Outlook Arts: Look Out," a series of three public discussions with state policy makers about the future of the arts in Michigan, presented by the Performance Network and the University of Michigan Department of Theater and Drama.

Attendance is free. Audience participation will be encouraged. All sessions will be at 7 p.m. in the Trueblood Theatre, 105 S. State in Ann Arbor. For more information, call 663-0508.

Duncan, president of Concerned Citizens for the Arts in Michigan, and other business and arts professionals will talk about "The Arts in a Market Economy" Monday, Feb. 10. Goldman, former executive director of the Michigan Council for the Arts, and others will discuss "Big Fish/Little Fish: Who Gets Fed?" Monday, Feb. 24.

The other topic in the series, "Art and Politics in Michigan," will be discussed Monday, Feb. 17. The project is produced with assistance from CCAM.

West Bloomfield piano teacher Betty Kowalski Stasson has been invited to give a lecture and workshop for the Kalamazoo Area Music Teachers Association on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

The subject of her lecture will be "Criteria for Judging Music Students." It will take place at Kalamazoo College.

The Detroit Chinese Culture Service Center, on the second floor at 1280 Big Beaver in Troy, is presenting a Chinese New Year art show through March 1. Proceeds from the art sale will benefit the charity work of the Michigan Chinese Women Association.

The center is between Rochester Road and John R. Hours are 2-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1-7 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call the center, 689-5667, or Dr. Robert Wong, 425-7888.



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Lucille Soutar of Troy, a member of the Birmingham Musicale, has shared her love of music and many other interests with family and friends. She will turn 100 years old Saturday.

By Mary Klemic staff writer

"It's the voice of the people calling from that tune far and near.

"Peace and plenty for future years."

Lucille Soutar sings the march with a strong voice and emphatic gestures.

"Oh my man I love him so,

"He'll never know."

Lucille Soutar offers the words to that song and those to an Italian aria tenderly, her hand gently touching her chest.

Soutar has plenty of melodies and memories to share. A member of the Birmingham Musicale, among other organizations, she will be 100 Saturday, Feb. 8.

The Troy resident has been drawing honors in recent weeks, including congratulations from U.S. Rep. William Broomfield, state Sen. Michael Douchard and the Birmingham Republican Women's Club. Family and friends are planning a special birthday celebration.

"It's wonderful to think that I'm 100 years old and have so many friends, new friends," she said. "It's been a wonderful life."

IT HAS been an active, dedicated

life, too; one that saw history in the making and made its own history as well.

"I was born at a good time."

Soutar can remember a potpourri of history: women wearing bloomers to the beach, just missing hearing Caruso perform, the sinking of the Titanic and the dedication of the Mackinac Bridge (at which Michigan Gov. G. Mennen Williams called Soutar a "champion of the people"). She donated a tea set from the Civil War to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History.

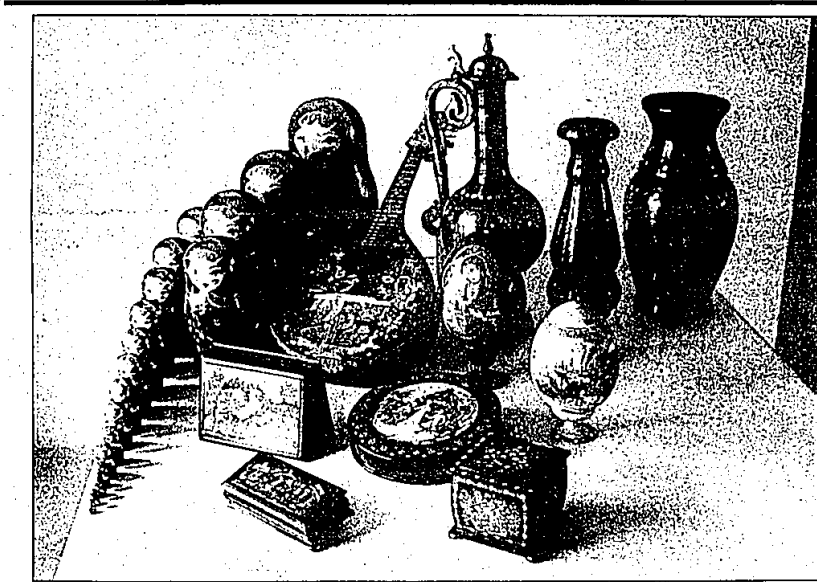
Soutar has been active with the Birmingham Republican Women's Club, School of Government Inc., Women's Association of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Women of St. Regis and American Cancer Society. She encourages young musicians.

"SHE'S A remarkable woman," said her daughter, Marjorie Benedict Schultz, who lives with her in Troy.

"She is so full of interest in everything that's going on in the world. She's politically oriented. She has a great American patriotism which spurs her interest in government and women participating in government.

"She's a very vital person. She's been very good to her family."

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staff photos by JIM RIDER/staff photographer

Items of Russian folk art show strong colors and fine detail. Nikolai Shemansky of Rochester is looking for a market for these and other works he brought to the United States.

Trading tradition

Art comes from Russia with love

By Mary Klemic staff writer

In many ways, the beautiful matryoshka (nesting) doll that Nikolai Shemansky shows a visitor is symbolic.

It stands for both the old and the new - old in that it is a traditional art, new in that it presents a part of Russia that some people may not know, containing many suc-

cessively smaller dolls within.

Shemansky, who now lives in Rochester, is from Moscow. There he was an entrepreneur or business owner, in partnership with boutiques around the city.

Now he is working to find a market for the art he brought with him when he came to the United States.

"Against all the gray you think of of Moscow (is this) explosion of folk art," said Southfield resident

Elissa Burda, who met Shemansky through her work with the annual International Institute at Southfield's Civic Center.

"The people interested in Russian folk art are very excited to see the products Nikolai brings in."

SAMPLE ITEMS bear vibrant colors and painstaking details

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Nikolai Shemansky displays art work

Elegant evening salutes maestro

By Mary Klemic staff writer

Grace and glamour, finery and variety, tuxedos and taffets - it all came together Saturday night at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester.

The gala occasion was "An Evening in Tribute to Maestro Enrico Cecchetti - Continuing the Ballet Tradition." Those in attendance, an estimated 210, paid \$200, \$125, \$100 or \$50 each to enjoy food, music, silent and live auctions and a chance to see actress/dancer Ruby Keeler and other celebrities.

Proceeds will go to the completion of a video documentary about the life and teachings of Cecchetti. The proceeds were still being tallied earlier this week.

The maestro, who lived 1850-1928, was a ballet master in the 1890s at the Russian Imperial Ballet and an instructor at its school in St. Petersburg. His students included ballet greats Vaslav Nijinsky and Anna Pavlova.

"IT'S EXCITING to see the people," said Rose Marie Floyd of Troy, director of the Contemporary Civic Ballet Company of Royal Oak. Floyd and Eva Powers of Bloomfield Hills are co-producers of the video.

"I think the greatest thing about the whole thing is how beautifully everybody worked together."

"We're excited," Powers, associate professor of dance at Wayne State University, said at the outset. "I think it's going to be a very nice evening."

State Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, and Bob Allison, host of "Ask Your Neighbor" on radio, played the piano as early arrivals checked in and mingled. Nearby was a long table filled with food and featuring a giant ice sculpture in the shape of a ballet dancer.

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Shows, events give added dimension to art, books

TO ENCOURAGE the appreciation of reading and art, you take books off the shelf and art off the wall and make them more personal.

And exhibits and activities at the Creative Arts Center in Pontiac this month are doing just that.

The second level of the center, 47 Williams, is embellished with works from the Elizabeth Stone Gallery, 580 N. Woodward in Birmingham.

The Birmingham gallery specializes in original art by internationally known children's book illustrators.

ADULTS AS well as children can



Mary Klemic

savor each work on its own. A stroll around the display takes you to a variety of subjects, styles and media.

Watercolor, gouache, etching generate both whimsical and more se-

rious moods. The lines may be thick and bold, or thin enough for the intricate details of a peacock's tail or a queen's finery. The picture may be a realistic scene, or a presentation soaring out of imagination. It's a multicultural display - you travel to the Orient or Europe and back again in a matter of steps.

You find yourself making up your own story for an illustration. And that's the reaction when schools visit during the week, executive director Ann Treadwell said.

"We talk to them about making

their own books, making up their own stories," she said.

MEANWHILE, ON the first level visitors can walk around and into "What's Going on Here?" Stacks of books are arranged on the floor in what at first appears to be a maze but then becomes a giant question mark.

A large, inflated question mark hovers on the stage beyond.

Young visitors make the connection that the books on the floor are real, just as the books upstairs are real. They come up with different

ideas about the display.

Both exhibits continue to Feb. 21. Different books will be read on the next two Saturdays, Feb. 8 and 15.

SPEAKING OF questions, some people may have one about where to find announcements and reviews of musical performances.

They are featured in our Entertainment section, which is listed in the Index on the front page. This way, all the music reviews are in one section of the paper, so it's easier to find them.