

Creative Living

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE



Mary Klomic editor/644-1100

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Art Beat

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.

Dance Gallery '92, a concert featuring the award-winning works of six Michigan women choreographers, will take place 8 p.m. Thursday and Saturday in the Smith Theatre at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus, on Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. The concert is part of the Women in Art Project, co-sponsored by Oakland County NOW and the OCC Womencenter. For ticket price and other information, call 471-7700.

Jeffrey Peterman, media manager of general accounting at DDB Needham Advertising in Troy, is the next guest host on WQRS-FM's "Guess Who's Playing the Classics?" program, 9-10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27. Peterman attended Michigan State University and received a bachelor of arts degree in communication arts/advertising. The accounts he manages at DDB Needham are Standard Federal Bank, Health Alliance Plan, the Detroit Tigers and Stanley Door.

An exhibit of Monte Nagler's photography is on display now through March 12 at Bloomfield Plaza's Mall Within the Plaza, on the corner of Telegraph and Maple. Nagler, a professional photographer based in Farmington Hills, writes a column on photography for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Nagler's photographs, which have won numerous awards, are found in many private and public collections including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, the Brooklyn Museum, Nikon, the Ford Motor Co. and IBM.

"Celebrating the creativity of the human spirit" is the theme of Winterfest, to take place 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 29, at Home's of Bloomfield, 2101 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills.

Jewelry, calligraphers, painters, potters and makers of wearable art will be among the area artists participating in the event. Readings from area psychics will be offered. Local harpist Kelly Youssoufian will perform in the chandelied ballroom throughout the day.

Winterfest is sponsored by phenomNEWS and Dream Catchers of Birmingham. Admission price is \$5 per person. Call 569-3888 for more information.

"Winterfest excites us because it is our first event with such an emphasis on the arts," said Cindy Saul, editor and publisher of phenomNEWS.

"It's well known that many artists of all kinds draw upon a higher expression of their inner wisdom. We're offering this event to celebrate the fullest expression of that individuality — something we all share as human beings."

"Yardening," Jeff and Liz Ball (Macmillan, \$24.95), explains the proper way for homeowners to create beautiful landscapes that are still pleasing, but don't require constant attention.

The most current information concerning lawns, trees and shrubs, flowers and vegetables, soils, mulches, species, attracting beneficial insects, composting and more, is written in a straightforward manner, using techniques they have practiced. This is a most comprehensive book about caring for the green space around the home. All subjects are covered.

Jeff, the "Today" show gardening expert, and Liz will be at the Home and Garden Show at Cobo Hall, where he will give workshops on perfect lawns 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday, March 14; noon and 4 p.m. Sunday, March 15; and 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 16. They will be happy to answer questions.

"Herbs for All Seasons: Growing and Gathering Herbs for Flavor,

His sculptures go on 'papier' chase

By Louise Okrutsky
staff writer

His people are weird, whimsical and papier-mache. Capturing people in everyday actions, Birmingham-based artist Grant Engard makes them look anything but mundane. Upstate New York lawyers rush to nowhere in particular, a symphony of fuss and bother. Brooklyn women are seen pitched forward in a headlong rush toward a sale at Bloomingdale's.

"The people he puts into his sculptures are real," said Helen Cunliff, owner of Cunliff Studio Gallery, 59 S. Broadway, Lake Orion. "Sometimes I'd come into the gallery in the morning and I would think people are in here."

Cunliff shows Engard's work in her gallery. It can also be seen through March 10 at the County Galleria in the Oakland County Executive Office Building, 1200 Telegraph, Pontiac.

ENGARD'S PEOPLE populate the Galleria's garden. The walls are given over to the display of 75 works by the Michigan Friends of Photography.

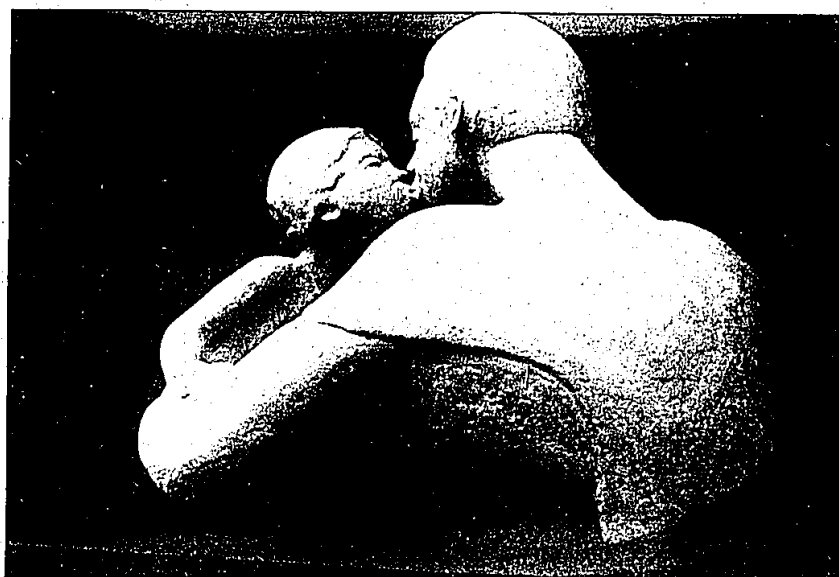
The garden is so large that Engard literally cleaned his house to fill the space.

"I went to his home to see his work and these wonderful characters were part of his living area," said Virginia Debenham Rodgers, Oakland County director of cultural affairs. "They were seated on his couch and in the dining area."

Visitors to the County Galleria relate to the sculptures as if the works were real people.

"We can hear them talking to them. They relate to them as people they know. People say things like 'Doesn't that look like Aunt Mary?'" Rodgers said. "People get very involved in those pieces."

SINCE HE graduated with a master of fine arts degree from Wayne State University in 1967, Engard has kept the same style but it has matured.



This work of a woman and child is one of the pieces by Grant Engard of Birmingham in a current exhibit at the County Galleria in Pontiac. Engard makes papier-mache figures in a variety of sizes.

"I hope I have a wider vision, now," he said. "I went right into art school as one of suburbia's coddled kids."

Although collectors in Canada and Michigan are beginning to buy his work, his newest pieces are non-figurative.

"I feel the need to have a stronger message — to say a little more. I

want to be seen as deeper than doing cute people all my life."

"People do see more going on in my things. Some see whimsy. Some see the strength of form in my drawings. It shows that there's more to me than the papier-mache series which has attracted more attention."

Miller said.

ENGARD'S SCULPTURES aren't

portraits of real people.

His more recent works at the Galleria, such as a bag lady kneeling amid her belongings, are larger than life. Instead of exuding pathos, the work gives the woman dignity. There's a sense that she had seen a life other than the one she has on the street.

"I didn't have any desire to depict

human misery."

His model for the work is a former Alvin Ailey dancer who once choreographed a dance about a bag lady.

"She used slow movements."

It's that sense of slowness, a life in which time doesn't hold the same meaning as for the rest of the world,

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Poignant exhibit notes Black History Month

Exhibitions, 4D

By M.B. Dillon
staff writer

With help from Bishop Moses Anderson, Livonia's Madonna University is commemorating Black History Month in a memorable and poignant way.

Auxiliary bishop for more than 60 parishes in the Detroit archdiocese's northwest area and pastor of the Church of the Precious Blood, Anderson has loaned 50 works of artist Frank Hayden and John Scott for a special exhibit.

The sculptures and paintings from Anderson's personal collection will be displayed in the Madonna library art gallery, at 196 and Levan, through Feb. 29.

Anderson was present to open the Taste and See Exhibit of African-American Art at a program and reception attended by more than 70 students, faculty and

friends Feb. 6. In a brief address, he spoke of his friendship with Scott and Hayden and the reasons why he treasures and appreciates their pieces.

Powerfully evoking the themes of religion and African-American culture, the exhibit is open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. No guided tours are planned, but leaflets are available listing the names of all 50 pieces in the show.

SISTER NANCY Marie, head of Student Life at Madonna, said, "You can really have meditations as you look at each piece."

And somber ones at that, although humor, levity and the joys of music and athletics also reveal themselves in the works of Hayden and Scott, black artists once on staff together at Xavier University in Louisiana.

Marlene Miller, a post-graduate pre-med student from Lathrup Village, said, "I really looked at some

pieces in particular. In 'The Bomb' (a sculpture by Hayden), you can see people in a mushroom cloud. It really dramatizes the end of life on earth."

Miller also is partial to Hayden's "The Family" and "Marriage." Both are large, polished pieces gracefully carved from wood. "I like them because the unity of family really comes out in those pieces," Miller said.

There has been a soft spot in Madonna hearts for Hayden and Scott since 1987, when the artists visited the campus to conduct workshops and receive honorary doctor of arts degrees. Hayden died the following year.

"We became very good friends through Bishop Anderson," said Sister Nancy, adding that Anderson helped Scott and Hayden get their start.

THE ARTISTS both donated

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This wood sculpture by Frank Hayden is called "If I Be Lifted Up."

GUY WATKINS/staff photographer

Gardening tips, planning can help prevent growing pains

"Yardening," Jeff and Liz Ball (Macmillan, \$24.95), explains the proper way for homeowners to create beautiful landscapes that are still pleasing, but don't require constant attention.

The most current information concerning lawns, trees and shrubs, flowers and vegetables, soils, mulches, species, attracting beneficial insects, composting and more, is written in a straightforward manner, using techniques they have practiced. This is a most comprehensive book about caring for the green space around the home. All subjects are covered.

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"Herbs for All Seasons: Growing and Gathering Herbs for Flavor,

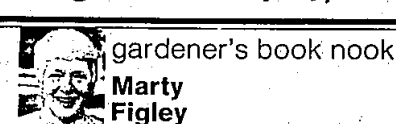
Health and Beauty," Sally Freeman (Plume, \$9.95 soft), explains how to grow herbs and use them in many ways, as the title indicates.

Although the information generally deals with modern medical care, the reader can learn how they were used long ago and how they are becoming valuable in modern medicine.

"PICTORIAL GUIDE to Hardy Perennials," M.J. Coleman Helmer and Karla S. Decker (Merchandise, \$12.95 soft, \$19.95 cloth), is full of good, reliable information. Design, soils, care and lists using these plants for special situations will guide the reader to a successful garden. More than 260 plants are shown. Cultural requirements, bloom time and propagation methods are included.

To order, contact Walters Gardens Inc., P.O. Box 137, Zeeland, Mich. 49464-0981, phone 1-800-421-0333.

Many people want to grow wildflowers and just don't know where or



gardener's book nook

Marty Figley

how to begin. "Gardening with Native Wildflowers," Samuel B. Jones Jr. and Leonard E. Foote (Tiger Press, \$32.95), will answer all questions.

Whether a small area is devoted to these plants, or an acre or more, abundant information includes how to plant, care for and propagate those best suited to any garden. Along with familiar plants, many others including grasses, sedges and water plants are described in detail.

AT LAST! A cookbook that even your dog will love! "For Goodness' Sake!" Terry Joyce Blonder (Camden House, \$14.95), contains re-

ciipes from soups to desserts that are low-fat, high-fiber and tasty.

We enjoyed a potato salad that contains yogurt, dill, apple juice and other healthy ingredients. The chef suggests accompaniments. Nutritional content such as calories, fat and cholesterol adds important information.

"The Small Garden Planner," Graham Rose (Simon & Schuster, Trade Paperbacks, \$14.95), is just great!

Sixty special gardens are featured and more than 200 photos and illustrations show how to create a garden to suit all types of situations from water gardens, multi-level, roof top

and those that give the illusion of more space. They will set the imagination on fire.

A must for those with small areas or who like a bit of drama.

A COMPANION to the Harrowmuth Perennial Garden book, "The Harrowmuth Annual Garden," Jennifer Bennett and Turid Forsyth (Camden House, \$19.95), is an account of the author's hands-on experiences with these plants.

Color harmonies, soil prep and seed sowing (indoors and out) are just some of the subjects. If annuals are new to you, or if space is limited, they suggest starting with containers. New possibilities of using familiar as well as lesser-known annuals makes interesting reading. They cover all the steps.

"Bonsai," edited by Victoria Jahn (Simon & Schuster's Guide to Nature Series, \$13.95), includes plant physiology, history and tools used in this ancient craft. More than 125 species are detailed along with instructions.

GARDEN CALENDAR

● Garden lovers will celebrate an early spring when District One of the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan Inc., and the National Council of State Garden Clubs present a standard flower show Thursday-Sunday, March 5-8, at the Pontiac Silverdome.

The show will take place in conjunction with the Michigan Home and Garden Show at the Silverdome. Tickets are \$5.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 6-14. Children 5 and under are admitted free. Discount coupons will be available at Elias Brothers Big Boy restaurants.

Show hours are 3-10 p.m. March 5, noon to 10 p.m. March 6, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. March 7 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 8.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham.