## Residential from page 1G

"I think the attitude of the buyer is good," he said. "They probably realize that if they have a job now they will (cuntinue to) have a job. I think the economy has buttomed out.

think the economy has buttomed out.

"The housing conomy is strong because there's plenty of people out there still working who can afford to buy a house," Gileberrana said. Fred Capaldi Jr., a Rochester Hills builder and first vice president for BASM, also attributed the increase in residential permits to low interest rates.

"It seems to me we always have a

hig upsurge in spring," he said, "We have a home show, the weather breaks, people finally make up their minds. Then we go through a lull, then it picks up againin September."

Capaldi also offered an explana-tion as to why permits slipped a bit in May.

"When I talk to some competiwhen I talk to some competi-tors, they tell me they see some sof-tening. One problem they see is they have presold some houses with the expectation that Mr. and Mr. Purchaser could sell their homes

They can't ond this is dragging on."
Capaldi said his new housing starts so far this, year are on partith last, while his remodeling lusiness has increased.
Weather has little Impact on building permits pulled, Capabil and Gileberman agreed.
Rochester Hills was the only Observer & Eccentric growth community that experienced a sceline during the five-month period. At that, it was allght, slipping to 142 units from 162.
Troy exactly matched its five-month 1991 total with 147 units.
Wayne communities showing gains included Canton, 230 units from 118; Livania, 238 from 250, and Plymouth Township, 48 from 36.

Livonio and Canton placed one-two by a substantial margin in number of units permitted in the county.

Oakland communities showing gains included Farmington Hills, 178 units from 82; West Bloomfield, 120 from 77; and Bloomfield Town-

Novi, with 344 units permitted, led the way in Oakland.

While the year-to-date figures showed substantial galns, most communities issued permits for fewer residential units this May than last.

Canton, for instance slipped to 30 from 45, Rochester Hills to 37 from 53 and Parmington Hills to 18 from 28.

## \*hits. 66 from 38.

## Neiman Marcus

from page  $\mathbf{1G}$ 

On the first level, in men's sportswear, antique maps of Michigan provide a historical reference. Work studies and photo sketches of cars from the design staffs at Ford, chrysler and General Mutors are on view in the men's clothing fitting area. On the second level, there is work by local artists such as the Cranbrook 50th Anniversary Portion of 12 prints by Cranbrook students that ure displayed along with twa pointings by Michigan artist Valeria Parks. Block-and-white photography by Michigan photographer Dirk Hakker line the wolls of the 60-set, third-floor restaurant.

Just Feezko, vice president for visi-

Jue Feczlo, vice president for vis-sual planning for Neiman Marcus, said, "We want our customers to feel as though they are in a beauti-ful home filled with fine art. We be-lieve the art collection ridds warmth and sophistication to all areas of

the store and provides a global view as well as reflecting something of the community."

Nelman Marcus is an all-encompassing environment where the craft of fashion merchandising is enhanced by a rich interior hormonized with fine and decorative arrast that are neatly packaged in an identifiable exterior.

\*\*P — The biggest problem in kitchens often is nut a tack of store, such and the proper such that are neatly packaged in an identification of the space. But the interior is not a fact of store, such as the space is the space in the space with an electrical outlet in the back once and cabinet.

\*\*Convert the area between Someone once sold let the buyer study into storage for connect and the hard-to-reach corners of a cabinets.

tiliable exterior.

Someone once said let the buyer beware. But in the case of Nelman Marcus, it's let the buyer be "aware" of a total shopping experience. Herbert Marcus Sr., his slater Carrie Marcus Nelman and her husband A.L. Nelman sure knew what they were doing back in 1907. The new Nelman Marcus atore is one more successful example of their effents. their efforts.

Dale Northup is a professor of ar-chitectural history.

AP — The biggest problem in kitchens often is not a fack of storage space, but the inefficient use of the space. The following tips will help make every inch of space in the kitchen count:

• Convert the area between studs into storage for canned and packaged goods. If left open, the area can provide storage for cookware.

- Set cutting boards and marble pastry slabs on a wooden track in-side the top of cuttery drawers. Cut a marble slab to lit a refrigerator shelf so it can be stored, kept cool, and ready for pastry at the same time.
- Replace fixed shelves with pullout trays to make good use of the hard-to-resch coners of a cabinet. (The hardware needed to make these changes is readily available in hardware and home improvement stores.)
- U-shape shelves that hug the walls in a broom closet need be only 3½ inches deep to provide storage for cans. The wall surface in a back entry could hold a series of narrow L-shape shelves.

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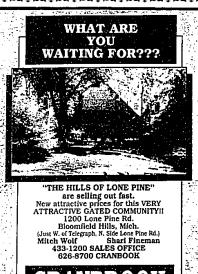












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