



Figuratively speaking: Artist Joyce Gottlieb of West Bloomfield works in both realism and abstract. Her sculpture here, "Swinging," gives a joyous feeling.

Sculptor from page 1D

Gottlieb's daughter frequently posed for her before leaving for college. The sight of deserted steps outside a theater inspired a dark relief work showing a lonely figure sitting on steps, a vague figure off to one side.

A photograph of bikes on a road sparked another work. And the haunting sight of a woman holding a sign that read "Hungry, Homeless and Pregnant" in a subway resulted in a touching sculpture of a woman inside a box. The title? "Hungry, Homeless and Pregnant."

"I sat with that image in my head."

Gottlieb's figures, realistic or abstract, can sing with joy as well as with sensitivity. A large plastic polyurethane wall piece she did for Bingham Farm Elementary School, in memory of an office worker there, shows a variety of fairy tale and folklore characters above two youngsters reading books.

"Swinging" is a sculpture of a young woman swinging a child in the air. The woman's hips are angled in a way they couldn't be in real life. But it works. The movement is fluid. In her abstract pieces, Gottlieb likes the features to work together.

"In realism I'm trying to get things as they're supposed to be. In an abstraction I don't want them as they're supposed to be."

Gottlieb earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Wayne State University and a master's degree from Eastern Michigan University. She also studied at the Center for Creative Studies.

"I do work all over the house," the artist doesn't have a favorite medium.

"I like 'em all. Glass is just new to me. I'm experimenting with it. I like working with my hands. I like watching it emerge, coming to life for me."

County bonsai club to meet

The Four Seasons Bonsai Club of Oakland County will meet 2:430 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at Summit Place Mall, on Telegraph in Pontiac.

The club will meet in the second level community room, with an entrance near Ruby Tuesday's restaurant. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call secretary Margo Clayton at 667-0185.

Rooms

from page 1D

geometric shapes of purple and yellow. On the wall is a huge wallhanging made of crunched canvas and painted in bright shades of gray, blue, yellow, red and jade.

"A family can really live in this room," Welch said. "You can enjoy the fireplace, the view out the windows. And you don't have to worry about having the kids in here."

In building the home, the woman served as the contractor and chose everything that went into it herself, adding many unusual touches. A set of interior glass doors beyond the front doors keep cold air out. A custom natural wood staircase with smoked, tempered glass sides leads up to the second floor. The house features two decks, one off the kitchen and one, octagonally shaped, off the master bedroom.

"She built this house from the ground up," Welch said. "There is not one basic cabinet in this house. Everything was selected with care."

The homeowner herself is very pleased with the results. "I put my heart and soul into it for years," she said. "It's my pride and joy, it really is. It makes me feel good when people appreciate it."

Country scene

Al and Pauly Myers spent two years trying to find a contemporary home in a country setting. When their Rochester Hills home, built in the middle of a woods and overlooks a pond, came on the



JOHN STORMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

market, they were delighted.

"It really grabbed us," Pauly said. "We were thrilled. The architect designed it so that everything faces the woods and you can enjoy the beauty of it all."

The house features a great room, which combines living and dining areas, and combination family room/kitchen, both of which are built along the back of the house and look out on the woods.

A fireplace column made of wood and brown ceramic tiles divides the great room into two areas. And the doorway that looks out on a deck and runs along the length of the room brings the outside in and makes the woods a part of the decor.

A sectional sofa in gray, jade and gold provides comfortable, flexible seating around the fireplace and the unusual glass coffee

table in front of it is supported by a brass and ceramic swan. Soft gray carpeting pulls the room together.

Interesting Oriental pieces turn up in unexpected places throughout the room. In one corner, an Oriental folding screen in gold, rust and moss green on a black background shows children playing in a village.

The dining area features a cherrywood dining set from Hong Kong with an Obi sash, worn by Japanese women around their waists, running down the middle of the table. At the far end of the dining room is a low lacquer and wood chest, intricately carved and decorated in blue, green, red and gold.

There are other interesting touches as well. A large fabric collage, which blends orange, purple,

white, gray and pink, dominates one wall.

And the Myers are particularly proud to own two pieces by one of the oldest living American artists. One is a watercolor of a home in Spain and the other is a series of three lithographs.

The Myers also get a lot of use and enjoy their combination kitchen/family room. The wood slat kitchen cupboards and unusual ceramic tile backsplash — in narrow pieces, with leaf shapes pressed into them — add warmth. Beyond the kitchen is room for a table and a spacious sitting area.

An off-white rug sits on the wood floor, and two loveseats, with peach, blue and gray cushions, are set at right angles. They look out on an airy screened-in porch, which the Myers recently recaptured.

Expressions from page 1D

McKnight's love of her work apparently shines through in person. After she demonstrated how to do paintings to students at Bemis Elementary School in Troy, they presented the artist with one of their own works, incorporating the lessons and comments she had made.

Art talk

The importance of public art was shown by noted artist, architect and writer Louis Redstone in a talk Oct. 14 in the Author's Luncheon Series of the Southfield Cultural Arts Division of Parks and Recreation.

In his talk at Burgh Church in Southfield, Redstone presented examples of public art in the area, including the Galleria Officentre in Southfield, the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield and the First Federal Bank in Troy.

Among its benefits, public art can lift the spirits and serve as a meeting place, Redstone said.

Pieces of history

Visitors at Thursday's dedication and opening of the Detroit Institute of Arts museum shop at the Somerset Collection, Big Beaver Road in Troy, saw history in the making.

Civic, economic and arts community representatives presented contributions to a time

capsule by Powable Pottery. The capsule will be opened in the year 2011 on the 125th anniversary of the DIA. Among the items presented was the front page of that morning's Troy Eccentric. After all, today's news is tomorrow's history.

It was a festive occasion, with guides in Elizabethan costumes showing the way to the upper level shop and refreshments. A blueprint was available for visitors to sign.

After the opening, visitors crowded the shop to browse and have posters and books autographed by Roy Lichtenstein, called the "Father of Pop Art." The artist sat pleasantly and quietly at a table as he signed the items. One woman said she planned on hanging up the cover of a box he autographed.

Ships ahoy

Tragedy and triumph are displayed in an exhibit continuing through Oct. 31 at the Woods Gallery, in the lower level of the Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scenic. The watercolor and mixed media paintings by marine artist Peter Mackay in the exhibit depict marine disasters on the Great Lakes.

Mackay comes from a seagoing family of Scotch-English heritage. Members have

served in the Royal Navy. For each of his paintings, the artist uses his knowledge of ships and research. He enjoys the challenge, said Mackay, who has built and sailed his own boats.

"Being an experienced sailor, I try to put myself in the place of the captain of each ship and attempt to determine what I would have done, had I been there," he said.

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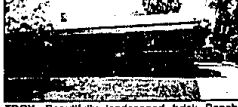
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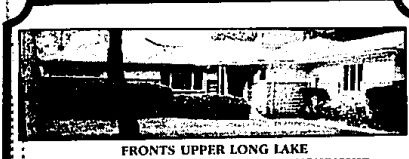
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