

CONTINUED IN
SECTION 2

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1994

CREATIVE LIVING

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PERSPECTIVES



MARY KLEMIC

Calligraphers are
write on in display

The writing's on the wall in "Carpe Annum: A Challenge Met with Pen in Hand," a calligraphy show at the Oakland County Galleria this month.

The Galleria is in the Executive Office Building at 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac. Call (810) 853-0415 for more information.

Presented are pieces from a yearlong class with Chicago calligrapher Reggie Ezell. The class was offered jointly by the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association and the Michigan Association of Calligraphers. None of the creative work was produced in class or under supervision.

The works in the exhibit include literary and biblical quotes, inspirational and political messages. Different media and materials besides ink are used. The alphabet comes to life in a variety of ways.

Beading, torn paper segments, cutout letters and collages are among the artistic features on display. Dark and light may be contrasted, words may be arranged to resemble a full moon. Paper isn't the only medium for the message: letters may be carved in chunks of alabaster and sandblasted onto glass - and some works are three-dimensional - taking the form of boxes and books.

"Good Advice" by Elaine Borruso of Bloomfield Hills declares "Set Your Own Patterns" and "Follow Your Own Star" amid a variety of quilt-like designs. "Circle Game" by Cheryl Slyter of Franklin presents the lyrics in a wheel arrangement surrounding a carousel horse.

Jan Andrews of Troy uses photos and handmade paper, without words or letters, in one work. Edie Veenstra of Walled Lake applies gold leaf. Jo Falk of Union Lake adds a feather and embossing. Mary Fritz of Troy creates a three-dimensional effect. Dale Frankel of Bloomfield Village arranges words in a way that conveys rage. Norma Zemke of Farmington Hills presents soft colors in one work that convey both melting winter and budding spring.

For information about classes or about the MAC, call Cheryl Slyter at (810) 737-1932 or attend the next MAC meeting, scheduled 7 p.m. Monday at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, Lone Pine Road and Telegraph.

Outdoor observations

Look up, get down, view from all around.

That's what to do when you visit

"Installments," an outdoor display at Municipal Park in Rochester continuing to Sept. 18.

The park is on Ludlow, north of University and west of Main. "Installments" was juried by Matthew Holland, assistant professor of fine arts at the Center for Creative Studies. It features works by Robert Bielst of Ferndale, Matthew Hanna of Redford, Al Hebert of Mount Clemens, Sharon Skuband of Ann Arbor, Catherine Smith of Flint and David Torgoff of East Lansing.

"Boulders in the Trees" by Bielst hangs five boulders from cable. The suspended boulders play with perception of reality, as boulders are usually on the ground instead of overhead.

"Baints and Sinners" by Hanna has an American Indian or medieval feeling. It consists of totem-like pieces. They have such 20th century influences as a Fred Flintstone silhouette and rubber or welded steel forms.

"Come Fishing" by Hebert emphasizes permanence and temporality. An old Cadillac is stripped of wheels, doors and interior trim. Wooden benches become the interior furnishings. The car is placed near a creek, inviting viewers to relax.

"Vertical Act: A Prairie Displacement" by Skuband brings fire to mind. The piece consists of burned cattails collected after a prairie fire and recycled bicycle spokes. The items are placed on a mound. Viewing them from ground level as well as from above reveals a slightly shifting pattern. Fire's power for reclamation as well as for destruction is evoked.

The untitled work by Smith resembles a giant mattress. It is made up of diaphanous weighed down by pans. The racks will be given to charitable organizations.

"Reflections" by Torgoff features cement slabs hanging from steel tubes, surrounded by small, water-filled basins. Different sights, both actual and reflected, are shown as the viewer moves around the piece.

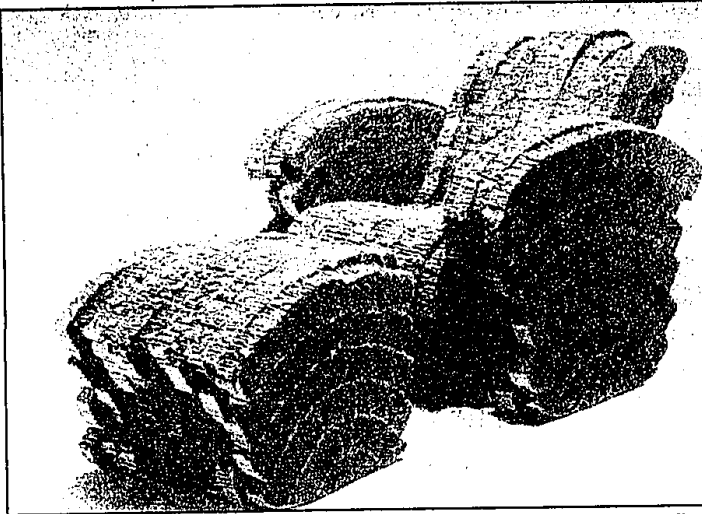
See PERSPECTIVES, 10D

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Creative Living next week

■ Marty Figley's Garden Spot column

■ Exhibitions, art gallery event listings



Experimental Edges: This chair and ottoman set, part of the Frank Gehry cardboard furniture display at The Wetman Collection in Birmingham, looks as though the segments could be shifted by hand. These pieces and other cardboard furniture works actually are durable, with a lifespan of 50 to 100 years.

Cardboard furniture
contains elegance

■ Architect Frank Gehry saw the strength and style of cardboard, and designed furniture made of that material. An exhibit of his furniture designs is at The Wetman Collection in Birmingham.

BY MARTY FIGLEY
STAFF WRITER

Architect Frank Gehry wasn't boxed in by cardboard.

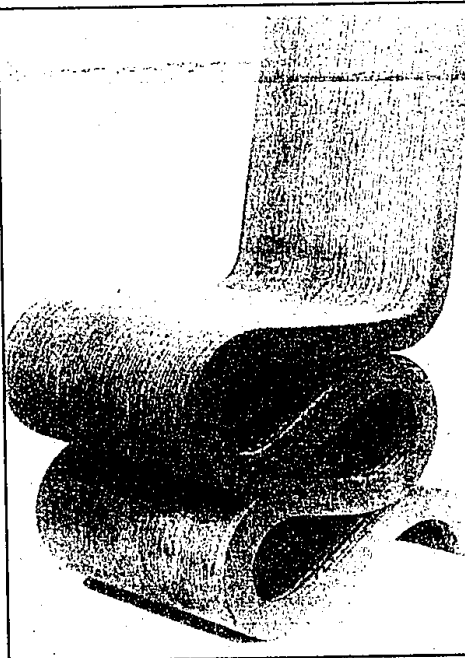
"I started experimenting with cardboard in all the ways one would think of it in terms of efficiency," he said. "Then one day I was looking at architectural contour models, which were layers of cardboard. I was looking at the end elevation with its combed look, and I got excited about it. I started to see it as an aesthetic opportunity."

Cardboard's corrugation and fluting gives it strength. The material is light, extremely strong and extremely easy to produce. Gehry started designing cardboard furniture in 1969. He glued layers together into a cardboard block, then cut out the furniture profile.

A range of Gehry's furniture designs is displayed at The Wetman Collection, 129 N. Woodward in Birmingham, through Oct. 16. They include works from his "Experimental Edges" and "Easy Edges" series.

The pieces combine Gehry's architectural and sculptural concerns. He wanted to get as close to the im-

See CARDBOARD, 2E



Easy Edges: Gehry's cardboard furniture may boast simple lines and shapes.

Charm
lives in
house
toursBY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Kathy Carroll describes the Birmingham neighborhood where she and husband Dan live as "a Norman Rockwell neighborhood."

Residents often take evening strolls on its quiet streets, and horse and carriage riders go by. Long ago, a resident in the Carroll house used to rent horses for rides to nearby Quantun Lake.

In decorating the house, Kathy wanted to convey this Rockwell feeling. She stayed true to the era of 1920, when the house was built.

"I just tried to bring it back to its original," said the Birmingham native, an artist with a studio in Royal Oak.

The house is one of six residences in or near downtown Birmingham to be presented in The Community House Downtown Living House Tour 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20. Tickets, \$20 each, can be ordered with MasterCard or Visa by calling the special events office at The Community House, (810) 644-5832.

The tour also features a tea "a la Provence" 1:30-4 p.m. at The Community House, 360 S. Bates in Birmingham.

Dan and Kathy have lived at the house for two years. Their renovating work included removing 12 layers of linoleum and 24 layers of paint in one room. As each layer was revealed, you could tell from what era it came, Kathy said. Every door in the house was replaced.

The work resulted in a bright and sunny residence. Its charm is both evocative of the past and contemporary.

See HOUSE, 2E

Roses star
in showBY MARTY FIGLEY
STAFF WRITER

All kinds of roses - Floribundas, Shrub, Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora, Old Garden Roses and Miniatures - will be on display when the Detroit Rose Society has its annual Fall Rose Show 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18.

The show will take place at Laurel Park Place Mall, Six Mile and Newburgh, just east of I-75 in Livonia. Admission is free. For information about the show, membership or speakers, call Art Oberlin at (313) 287-6142.

The Detroit Rose Society is conducted by and for all rose enthusiasts in the greater Detroit area, and is a non-profit organization, founded in 1930.

It is an affiliated chapter of the American Rose Society and has more than 300 members throughout the metropolitan Detroit area and from as far away as Traverse City, California and Florida. Some members live in Canada.

Tours, speakers, slide lectures, demonstrations and panel discussions are all part of the yearlong activities of the society, as well as two

See ROSES, 10D

ARTBEAT FEATURES various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling (810) 644-1314.

■ UPFRONT

When the Detroit Symphony Orchestra opens its season Saturday in Orchestra Hall, conductor Neeme Jarvi will be at the helm in a new podium designed by Bloomfield Hills resident Augusto Blot. Blot, a longtime DSO supporter, is an architect with the Troy firm of Roth and Associates. Saturday's opening night will include works by Shostakovich and Dvorak; Bradford Marshall will perform concerti by Ibert and Villa-Lobos.

■ **CRISTIANI POWER** The poster for the 1994 annual Birmingham Art

Art Beat

in the Park, which took place last weekend, was designed by former Birmingham resident and Cranbrook Academy of Art graduate Jim Houff. It was brought to printed life through Artstream, a computer system created by Birmingham resident Howard Luby's Mediascape company.

■ CLARIFICATION

Due to computer error, part of a paragraph in last week's story about Robert and Judy Norwick Ziegelman and their house project that is retaining wood from oaks on the site didn't ap-

pear. The paragraph should have read:

"For a homeowner (to reuse the trees) is highly unusual," said Don Quillen, a horticulturist with the Harrison Tree Service of Royal Oak, which is involved with the Ziegelman home project. "It's innovative."

■ VALUABLE PRESENTATION

"Turning Old Into Gold: Finding Value in Antique Art and Furniture" will be the subject of the next program in the Bank of Bloomfield Hills' 1994 Alternative Investment Series. Lawrence and Ernest Dubouché of Dubouché Galleries will be the featured speakers 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Admission is free but reservations are necessary. For more information or to make reservations, call the Bank of Bloomfield Hills at (810) 640-6224.