### Uncle Art and friends



Cable special: Community Access TV, Channel 12 on the Metrovision system and a service of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission, produces "Uncle Art's Halloween Special" featuring (clockwise from top right) Art Cervi, Mary Linda Calderone and Torey and Collin Fifer. It will be shown at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15; 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17; 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21; 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23; and 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. I.

# **True Proulx**

# Noted novelist charms listeners

BYESTHER LITTMANN
BYEGUL WERTES

An overflow crowd of about 400
enthusiastic fans greeted Pulitzer-Prize winning suthor E. Annie Prouk last Thurnday evening
at The Community House in Birmingham. Reading excerpts from
her award-winning novel "The
Shipping News" and fielding
questions from the audience, Ms.
Proulx (thymes with "blue")
charmed her listeners with the
humor and virtuosity of her performance.

"I was immediately struck by
the fact that very few writers can
read their work so well," said Heir
Guitard of Bloomfield Hills.

Maureen Zack, a Bloomfield
Township resident, agreed: "Her
reading conveyed meanings that In
yaself had not picked out."

"She's someone we'd love to
chat with for hours." admitted
hook club members Linda
Schnyder of Commerce Township
and Paye Menczer of Farmington
Hills.

During the question-and-answer session, the audience was
equally enchanted by the author's
suck with a displication of "The
Shipping
News" an "unusual personality,"
Prouls shot back, "Is he?"

A question about the lack of a
female protagonist in Ms.
Frouls's two novels edicided a
comment on literary theory: "The

story is everything," she replied.
"The characters are subservient to the story." The author went on to explain that role of female characters in "Shipping News" is not unlike the role of women in Newfoundland, the novel's setting. "The woman's place is in the bome, yet that does not mean she is an interior beling, and is a "trembling little creature" when he enters the house, the woman's "castle."

Asked about her reading preferences, Ma. Proulx was noncommittal. "I once tried to make a list," she confessed, "but when I got as far as the B's. I had 60 names on the page." When Proulx revealed that she rade, on average, a book a day, the audience gasped.

Although the author admitted that she had not written for the past 18 months, being a writer, she ways, is "a satisfying and pleasing kind of life." Engaged in extensive research for her books, she loves "roaming around North America ... cavesdropping, seeing what's going on." Story-telling is part of her family tradition, she said. An earlier generation passed stories on orally, she writes them down.

Proulx was born in 1935, the

down.

Proulx was born in 1935, the oldest of five girls, in Norwich, Connecticut. The family moved

See PROULX, 10A



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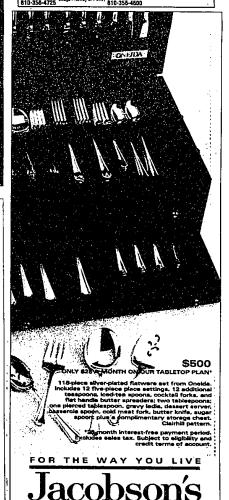
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