

## 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 Cerui, 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. 1.

# True Proulx

## Noted novelist charms listeners

BY ESTHER LITTMANN  
SPECIAL WRITER

An overflow crowd of about 400 enthusiastic fans greeted Pulitzer-Prize winning author E. Anne Proulx last Thursday 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 (rhymes 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 Helen Guillard of Bloomfield Hills. Maureen Zack, a Bloomfield Township resident, agreed: "Her reading conveyed meanings that I myself had not picked out."

"She's someone we'd love to chat with for hours," admitted book club members Linda Snyder of Commerce Township and Faye Mencer of Farmington Hills.

During the question-and-answer session, the audience was equally enchanted by the author's quick wit and insightful remarks. When one audience member called the quirky and vulnerable protagonist of "The Shipping News" an "unusual personality," Proulx shot back, "Is he?"

A question about the lack of a female protagonist in Ms. Proulx's two novels elicited 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 the 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 home, yet that does not mean she is an inferior being."

In this traditional society, the man, who spends his entire day on a fishing boat, is a "trembling little creature" when he enters the house, the woman's "castle."

Asked about her reading preferences, Ms. 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 reads, 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 says, is "a satisfying and pleasing kind of life." Engaged in extensive research for her books, she loves "roaming around North America . . . eavesdropping, 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 oldest of five girls, in Norwich, Connecticut. The family moved

See PROULX, 10A

**UWR**  
UNIVERSAL WATCH REPAIR  
THOUSANDS OF  
NEW WATCHES FOR SALE!  
**\$200**  
Starting at (retail value \$150-\$250)  
Trade in your old watch!  
(810) 358-2211  
28411 NORTHWESTERN HWY.  
SUITE 204, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48034

Visit the  
Land of  
Make Believe  
Puppet Theatres,  
Hard Puppets, Mar-  
ionettes, Ventriloquist  
Dolls & hundreds of  
creative, imagination  
providing toys & games  
**Year's Best Selection**  
**The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop**  
2847 W. 12 Mile Rd. • Berkley • (810) 543-3115  
Mon-Sat. 10-5:30, Fri. 10-4

**INSOMNIA?**  
**FREE**  
Evaluation & Research Medication  
plus up to \$100  
to qualified participants who complete this study to assess  
safety & effectiveness of an Insomnia medication.  
**1-800-682-MOOD**  
**MOOD DISORDERS INSTITUTE**  
Robert J. Bielski, M.D.  
Farmington Hills  
Brighter Tomorrows Through Integrational Research

**FINE PEN SHOW**  
THURSDAY, NOV. 17th 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.  
Enjoy **EXTRA SAVINGS** This Day Only  
Enter **FREE DRAWING** On Four Fine Pens  
Manufacturer Representatives will be here to assist you.  
**A stunning new addition.**  
  
Parker brings the look of precious gold and sterling silver to the beautiful design and craftsmanship of the Duofold. This luxury writing instrument line now features a 23K heavy gold plated and a solid sterling silver Duofold in a choice of five writing modes. Two sizes of fountain pens, a roller ball, ball pen and mechanical pencil. Each carries the Parker lifetime guarantee.  
Featuring Complete Selection of Waterman and Parker Fine Writing Instruments  
**Humidor One**  
  
20000 W. TEN MILE ROAD • SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075  
(NW corner of Evergreen/Ten Mile Road off the Lodge Freeway or I-96) 810-358-4600  
810-358-4725

**Jacobson's**  
Ann Arbor 313-769-7800 • Birmingham 810-644-8900  
Dearborn 313-565-9500 • Grosse Pointe 313-883-7000  
Livonia 313-881-7896 • Rochester 810-851-6000

**Fanny Farmer**  
**Hostess Gift**  
A delicious combination of our  
1 lb. Home - a deluxe assortment of our finest chocolates  
and a 1/2 lb. of fresh-roasted Assorted Nuts.  
(Regularly \$17.25)  
**ON SALE**  
**\$13.95**  
November 11 - 27  
Visit our stores at the following locations:  
Livonia Mall, Wonderland Mall, Eastland Mall,  
Macomb Mall, 80 City National Bank Building,  
Southland Mall, Twelve Oaks Mall  
To send candy through Mail Order call 1-800-422-6343.

**Now Open**  
**CeCe's**  
ARTS • ANTIQUES • AND • WONDERFUL THINGS  
  
335 East Maple Rd.  
Birmingham  
(810) 647-1069

**The Diamond Collection**  
Join us for The First  
Michigan showing  
**SPRING SUMMER 1995 COLLECTION**  
Meet designer  
**RANDI FENOLI**  
and let him assist you  
with your selections.  
Enjoy special savings on  
all trunk show orders.  
The complete collection  
will be in the store for  
3 days only.  
Thurs., Fri., Sat.  
November 17-19-20  
Approx. 10:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
**810-647-4999**  
**EXCLUSIVES**  
The N. Woodward  
Birmingham, AL

**NM**  
Presents  
**THE ART OF GLISTENING**  
Henry Dunay  
ELIZABETH LOCKE  
David Yurman  
JUDITH RIPIKA  
Steven Lagos  
SEIDENGANG  
la Nouvelle Bague  
CYNTHIA BACH  
Zolotas  
PAUL MORELLI  
View our expansive collection of designer  
jewelry Thursday through Saturday, November 17-19,  
in the Precious Jewels Salon.  
**Neiman Marcus**  
The Somerset Collection 2705 W. Big Beaver Road 810-643-3300