

CREATIVE LIVING

D

GARDEN SPOT



MARTY FIOLEY

Area witchhazels cast pleasant spell

Arbor Day is April 28, a good time to plant a tree or shrub and then enjoy its beauty for many years. Last month I saw two varieties of Hamamelis (Witchhazel) gracing the gardens of friends, Betty and Norman Trost and Arthur and Marguerite Kaufmann of Bloomfield Hills have been enjoying their very different witchhazels for several years.

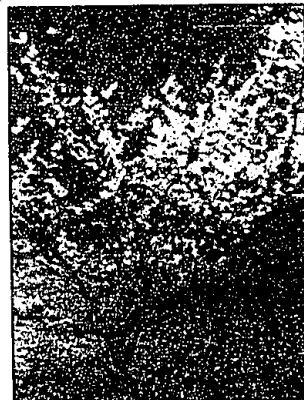
The Trost tree is a cross between H. japonica and H. mollis, "Arnold Promise" — the variety is also listed as H. x intermedia. They said they especially enjoy their plant when the sun shines through the narrow, wavy-petaled cluster flowers.

The Kaufmann tree is a variety of unknown origin, a seedling that had been grafted by Al Goldner of West Bloomfield onto a yellow-flowering plant. This witchhazel has deep reddish flower petals as well as red leaves, which hadn't dropped when the plant was in bloom. The "feel" of the tree then, with the leaves and petals the same color, is a full-bodied look, quite different from the yellow one that had lost all of its leaves.

Selections

Some witchhazels are the last to bloom in the autumn, while others bloom in late winter to early spring. Natives from Canada to Georgia and Missouri, the rounded leaves turn gold when autumn arrives. There are upright and spreading forms that can reach up to 15 feet in height and spread six to 10 feet in width. BUT rabbits consider witchhazel a delicate treat, so they will control the spread with their own appetites! The Trosts erect a wire cage around

See FIOLEY, 5E



MARTY FIOLEY

Bright bloom: The "Arnold Promise" Hamamelis is striking when the afternoon sun shines through.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Creative Living next week:

- A look at the textured dimensional structures of Suzanne Lifton and Barry Lebsen of Farmington Hills, which will be featured in the 27th annual Westlakes Artist Market in West Bloomfield.
- Naomi Stone Levy's Interior Motives column.
- Art exhibit openings and events.

Your guide to Community Classified

CLASSIFICATION	SECTION
AUTOS FOR SALE (300-434)	Q
EMPLOYMENT (300-434)	F, G
HELP WANTED (300-434)	F, G
HOME & SERVICE (300-434)	Q
MERCHANDISE FOR SALE (700-744)	Q
REAL ESTATE (200-372)	E, F
RENTALS (400-434)	E, F

For complete index, turn to page 6E.



'Hands of the Potter II': Bonnie Auten of Tecumseh was awarded third prize for this colored pencil work, featured in the 14th annual Michigan Fine Arts Competition at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association.

Artists celebrate in show

■ The Michigan Fine Arts Competition at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association presents exemplary examples of a variety of media.

By MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER



The Michigan Fine Arts Competition, continuing at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association to May 13, could be called the Michigan Fine Arts Celebration instead.

For participating artists in the 14th annual show at 1516 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham seem to have reveled in their respective media as they created their works. Each piece is an exemplary example of its medium.

The exhibit was juried by realistic painter James Del Grosso. It is as diverse in subjects as it is in media. Here are scenes of woods and

See EXHIBIT, 4E

Local volunteers show and tell kids about art

By LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Barbara Wojcik of Farmington Hills, along with 49 other Detroit Institute of Arts docents, can list dozens of reasons for volunteering their time to the Art To The Schools program.

"This is your chance to share in the satisfaction by joining their ranks to spread the knowledge of art and its history to elementary school children. The DIA is accepting applications until June 15. Training starts in September. For more information, call the education department at (313) 833-7886.

Using slides of art from the DIA's collection, docents speak to 30,000 fourth through sixth graders annually in the tri-county area. One year of intense training in art history and visual techniques by the museum's education staff teaches docents to use the visual thinking curriculum or "learning to look" whereby they relay knowledge by asking the children what they see, instead of memorize. They also learn to deal with untimely fire drills and lights that burn out in the projector. No one

said a volunteer's work is easy. Why do they do it?

According to Cyvia Snyder, she receives as much as she gets. Once a week for the last 22 years the 63-year-old West Bloomfield resident has trekked to schools from Plymouth to Detroit armed with her projector and a whole lot of energy.

"Art and literature and music are the three things we hand down from generation to generation. When I open their eyes and ears I love it. When you talk you're on a high. It's so exciting to catch their attention

and have them involved," Snyder said.

Linda Wells of Birmingham agrees with Snyder about how good it makes her feel when she makes that connection.

"Kids are so attuned to receiving information from the screen that it can be quite a challenge holding their interest but I believe the more you learn about art, the more you're attuned to things around you," said Wells, who became a volunteer do

See SCHOOLS, 5E

TREASURE SEARCH



BOBBY AND FRANK LOGG

Scrimshaw is whale of find

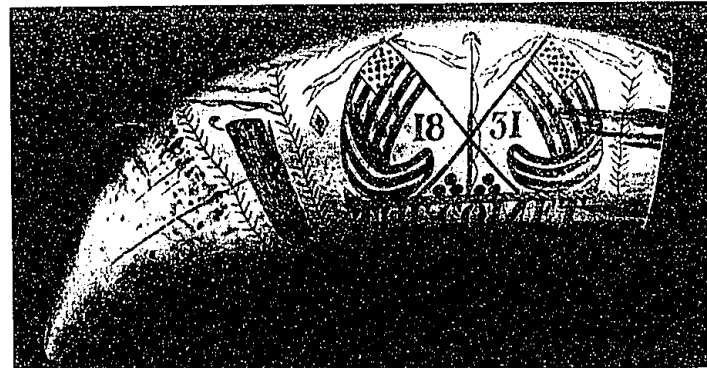
Dear Nancy and Frank:
My friend showed me a scrimshaw walrus tooth she has and would like to know more about it. The condition is good and it is about four to six inches long. Can you estimate the value and tell me where it came from?

Roewitha,
Farmington Hills

Dear Roewitha:

What your friend has is scrimshaw whale (not walrus) tooth, a true form of 18th and 19th century American folk art. Sailors on long whaling voyages had lots of leisure time on shipboard. Some filled that time by creating "scrimshaw," which is carving or engraving on whale ivory or bone, or walrus tusks. The

See WHALE, 2E



Whale of a find: Scrimshaw is rich in history and value.

BIRMINGHAM/BLOOMFIELD

Barnes and Noble
6675 Telegraph, (810) 540-4209
Singles Evening 8:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4.

Making personalized Mother's Day cards, for children of all ages, 2-3 p.m. Sunday, May 7. New clay marathon and demonstration 1-4 p.m. Saturday, May 13.

Elmore Leonard signing "Riding the Rap" 8-9:30 a.m. Thursday, May 18.
Borders Book Shop

Southfield Road at 19 Mile, (810) 644-1515
Jamie Harrison reading "At the Edge of the Crazy" with special guest Jim Harrison signing "Julip" 7 p.m. Friday, May 12.



BOOK-CENTRIC

Endorsed by bookstore owners
By Esther Littman

Children's event: Patricia Hooper reading "How the Sky's Housekeeper Wore Her Scarves" 11 a.m. Saturday, May 13.
Julia Boyd reading "Girlfriend to Girlfriend: Everyday Wisdom and Affirmations from the Sister Circle" 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 15.
Judy Leslie signing and talking on "Nine Chances to Feel Good About Yourself" 7 p.m. Thursday, May 18.
Clifton Taulbert reading "When We Were

Colored" and "Last Train North" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20.

IN FARMINGTON HILLS

Borders Books and Music
20995 Orchard Lake Road, (810) 737-0110
Music in the Cafe 8-10 p.m. Fridays: folk music with "George and Ma" May 12, Susan Calloway May 19, David Folks and His Trio May 26.

Jack Williams, folk guitarist and songwriter from South Carolina, performing his favorite tunes 8-10 p.m. Saturday, May 20.
Events for Kids 11 a.m. Saturdays: Join

See BOOK-CENTRIC, 3E