

Jewelers' have talent, are a gem of a match, too

BY DIANE HANSON
Special Writer

Nestled on a shady corner in Franklin Village is a simple little shop laden with treasure that would not only make a pirate proud but would put the gleam in an artist's eye.

Frank and Kim Yanke, of Yanke Designs in Franklin, have been creating beautiful jewelry together for nearly 15 years. Fashioned from gold, silver, precious and semi-precious stones, their creations are anything but ordinary; from Corvette cufflinks to hearts of rose gold to sterling silver zipper pulls and everything in between.

"The unique thing is, 98 percent of everything you see, we make ourselves," noted Frank Yanke. "You're dealing not only

with the owners, you're dealing with the people who make the jewelry, who designed it. You tell us what you want and we'll put it together."

Some of the Yanke designs have earned distinguished awards for the pair. The couple won first place for a ring design in the designer-manufacturer category at the 1989 Greater Great Lakes Jewelry Exposition. Another ring design captured a first place in the professional goldsmith category for Kim at the 1993 Exposition.

This year's exposition brought a second place in the designer-manufacturer category for Frank Yanke and employee, Rudy Van Wel, for an earring/pendant set they designed.

Kim Yanke was distinguished by winning not only the first place award in the professional goldsmith category for a stunning and innovative pair of diamond and gold earrings, she also captured the "Best of Show" with that entry. Her artistic creations will now be entered into competition at the Jewelers of America show to be held in February, 1996.

Artistic creativity appears to be genetically linked in both the Yanke, 15 year residents of Farmington. Art classes were a favorite for Frank in high school program at Case Tech when she took jewelry making as an elective and loved it.

"It just kind of fell in my lap," Kim said about her occupation as

a jeweler. "I would have never looked for it but I would never think of doing anything else now. I firmly believe it was my destiny."

That destiny led her to an apprenticeship at a Detroit jewelry store where Frank worked. They were a matched set and married in 1979. Two years later they started their jewelry design business out of their home. Their clientele grew by appointment, word of mouth and through art shows until they opened their Franklin store in 1983. The Yanke has two sons, Matthew is 12 and Kyle is nine.

While their place of business changed, their method of doing business did not. Initially, they might sit with a customer for a

half hour to an hour to determine what is wanted. They may do a sketch or a wax mold, painted to simulate the real thing. Gems can even be temporarily added to closely resemble the finished product. If the customer has a problem with what the finished product will look like, Kim explained that they keep making changes until it's what they want.

From the sketches to the wax molds to the molten metal to the stone mounting, everything is done in the Franklin studio. Jewelers, Lisa Nixon, Kim's sister, Ruud van Wel and Kirk Ellertsen complete the team.

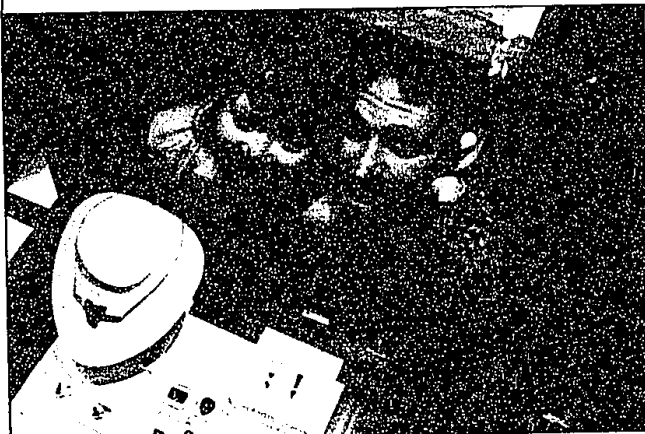
It takes an average of about two weeks to create a piece of artistic jewelry but the hours involved could be eight to 15 or more. The Yanke find that many

people shy away from coming in to have a piece of jewelry designed because they believe the process will be too difficult or complicated. The customers may only have vague ideas of what they want or may come in with a design from a note card or a photograph.

The Yanke are also big on recycling. They will enhance or completely redesign an old or outdated piece of jewelry into a one-of-a-kind piece.

For Kim Yanke, the best thing is: "You get instant satisfaction from creating something and you see it as it evolves and you see the finished product and then to have someone just love it. It makes you feel good."

Yanke Designs is located in Franklin Village at 32611 Franklin Road. Phone: (810) 855-5525.



Frank and Kim Yanke

Writer is focused on the present

GRAPHOLOGY PROFILES
LORENE GREEN
Dear Lorene
I am a 28-year-old female. I am right-handed. I have a specialist in school psychology degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. I would like to have my handwriting analyzed for

I am a 28 year old female. I am right handed. I have a specialist in school psychology degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. I would like to have my handwriting

both professional and personal reasons. I am interested in finding out what can be known about a person through his or her writing.
Thank you.

Concealment or protection of her own interests also is seen here. Perhaps only a limited number of people know her intimately. This probably makes her a good listener. It can also be an asset in her career.

A tendency to repress her feelings also is observed. When she feels the need for protection, she seeks it within her family.

A tad of humor runs through this handwriting. While providing fun, it also can be helpful in keeping things in perspective.

Our writer has a need to be in control. Her behavior often conforms to a rather strict pattern she has developed for herself. She wants to be understood, but may not always make this easy for people to do.

There is a fine sense of order to this handwriting; organization is one of her strong points. Her organized mind is a definite asset in making daily plans and carrying them out.

She has learned the importance

of using her time wisely. Efficiency characterizes her work. In repetitive tasks, she can furnish quick results. Although details may not be her favorite things, she can handle them.

Decision making comes quite naturally to our writer. She appears to have the ability to make decisions and the determination and resolve to carry them through with action. On occasion, however, she may lose interest before her aim is reached.

Relaxation may come from her love of beauty. Seemingly, she finds pleasure in the grand displays which Mother Nature paints at this time of the year.

If you would like your handwriting analyzed in this newspaper, write to Lorene C. Green, a certified graphologist, at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please use a full sheet of white, unlined paper, writing in the first person singular. Age, handedness and daily signature are all helpful. And objective feedback is welcome.

E.L., Farmington Hills
At the present time most of our writer's attention is focused in the here and the now. Each and every aspect of her daily life holds a significant place. She has a strong need to be someone important and is eager to impress others, possibly by taking the spotlight. This young woman has a strong personality and can take in everything that is going on around her. She is outgoing, friendly and extends the hand of friendship to others. Her manner is often upbeat and she sometimes gets carried away with it. While sociability plays an important role in her life, an element of caution is often present. She is careful never to reveal too much about herself.

Graduating class



Professional leadership: Farmington resident Rosemary Shaw (seated, middle) was among recent graduates from the Michigan Association of Nurse Anesthetists at Oakland University-Beaumont graduate program. Also pictured are: Walter Suorst of Sterling Heights; Karen McCarthy of Royal Oak; Michelle Seely of Sterling Heights; Kathryn Swendner of Mt. Clemens; Lori Szydlowski of Warren; Laura Schneider of Sterling Heights; Shannon Kern of Port Huron and Vicki Strubing of Chesterfield Township.

WICKER WORKS

31st ANNUAL SALE

50% OFF - JULY 8-21
60% OFF - JULY 22-28
70% OFF - JULY 29-AUG.5
LAST BIG DAY AUG.6
80% OFF

STARTS SATURDAY

OPEN 7 DAYS 9-6 FRI. 9-9 CALL FOR DIRECTIONS (517) 439-9313

CHaise LOUNGES HAMPERs DAVIEZES
ARMOR CHESTS PLANTERS
SINKS CHAIRS VANITIES
NIGHT STANDS ROCKERS
HEADARDS SWINGS
DUPETTE SETS TRUNKS
FURNITURE GROUPS LAUNDS
STAIRCASES DESKS
CLAY POTS
DRESSERS

SPOT THE DOT SALE

MON., JULY 10 THROUGH SUN., JULY 16

Spot the dot and save a lot at Oakland Mall's semi-annual clearance sale! Save at these fine stores...

MERLE NORMAN
Hot Escapes Travel Kit, reg. \$16, now \$11.
Full set of tips with acrylic, reg. \$55, now \$49.

NATURALIZER
Select Naturalizer sandals, reg. \$25-30, now \$19.99.

DONNA SACS
Leather jackets from \$69.99,
ladies' leather full length coats from \$99.99.
Vests from \$9.99.

OAKLAND MALL

10000 W. 13 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Hours: Sat. 10 am - 6 pm • Sun. 11 am - 6 pm