

COMMUNITY LIFE

Open house

Artist molds 30 years of work, memories



SARA NEWMAN

Meeting with a movie producer

Robert K. Weiss is a big man who is also a big success in Hollywood. He has been producing feature films since 1977, when he produced Kentucky Fried Movie with Jerry and David Zucker and Jim Abrams. Since then he has produced big hits like Blues Brothers, Dragnet, Doctor Detroit and all three Naked Gun movies.

I had the chance to meet Bob Weiss in Toronto, Canada on the set of his new movie that may be called Tommy Boy. I think it should be called The Idiot, because the character played by Saturday Night Live's Chris Farley is a real idiot in the preview Bob showed my family and me.

My dad has known Bob Weiss since 1970 when they were both in college, and he has appeared in some movies that Bob made for the Los Angeles Police Department in the early 1970's.

While we were on the set of Bob's new movie, he told me about his experience as a movie producer and how he got started producing movies.

Bob first became interested in making movies when he was working at his college radio station at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. He graduated from Southern Illinois University, where he studied television and film. He made his first movie at Southern Illinois, but at that time he didn't think he would actually work in the movie industry. Bob said, "I really was interested then in television and television news."

Things changed when he met the Zucker brothers in Los Angeles and produced their first hit, Kentucky Fried Movie.

See NEWMAN, 14A

Potter John Glick will celebrate the 30 year anniversary since he founded Plum Tree Pottery in Farmington Hills. His ceramics can be found in 20 art museums including the Smithsonian Institution.

By DIANE GALE
STAFF WRITER

John Glick tells a rich story about a customer coming into his studio with a bowl. The man explained that he and his wife bought it from Glick years ago and when she died he believed she wanted Glick to have it back.

The bowl came at an opportune time. Glick had recently been invited to submit a piece to the Smithsonian.

It's that kind of emotion and commitment that goes behind all of his work.

"I don't do things for reasons of commercialism," Glick said, standing near a perennial garden in a courtyard where you can almost touch the 1865 farm house where he lives, his showroom where the public is always invited to view a sample of his pieces and his studio where he works.

The stump of the plum tree, for which he named the business, remains outside his studio window.

"If I'm not really interested in what I'm doing, it will show in my work," he said. "When they stop being interesting, I have to stop doing the piece."

"My interest is to follow my nose



BILLY LEMMON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In the spirit: Potter John Glick says he has to really care about what he makes, because if he loses interest it shows in his work.

and my instinct," Glick said, flicking the end of his nose. "If I didn't listen and react to my instincts, then I would be on that commercial track. If I had someone telling me what to do, it wouldn't work."

"I don't make as much as a

teacher would in my field," he added.

But what he doesn't make momentarily, he earns in respect.

"I have a very lovely reputation in my field," he said. "I'm very well thought of."

He makes a variety of objects in clay ranging from everyday useful pots and dinnerware, baking dishes, jars and pitchers. Most have strong Japanese influences and to a lesser

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