

FRIDAY



Guest soloist soprano Jeanne Bourget joins the Rochester Symphony Orchestra to perform "Carmina Burana" with the Rochester Community Choir; DeHaven Chorale, Choirs of Michigan Christian College, and other soloists. (810) 651-4181.

SATURDAY



Singer/comedian Al Simmons will bring his zany one-liners, crazy costumes, and out-of-this-world props to Meadow Brook Theatre. Call (810) 377-3300 for tickets.

SUNDAY



Farmington Players present "Isn't It Romantic" at the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Call (810) 553-2955.



Theodore Bikel stars as Tevye in the classic musical "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Fisher Theatre. Call (810) 625-6898 or (319) 872-1000, extension 0.

## EXHIBITION

# Festival features Farmington Artists Club

The annual spring exhibit of the Farmington Artists Club will take place at the Farmington Hills Activities Center as part of Farmington's first Festival of the Arts, April 28 through May 5.

This is the 31st anniversary year of the exhibit. It offers works in watercolor, oils, pastels, prints, mixed media and more, in a wide variety of styles.

In addition to the framed art work available for sale, the show includes a selection of

affordable unframed pieces.

About 20 area cultural organizations will participate in the arts festival. Hours for the display and festival are 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April 28; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 5; and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday. The Farmington Hills Activities Center is at 28800 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt. Admission is free.

Winners of the juried exhibit are Evelyn Henry of Redford (first place) for "Pathways," acrylic; Gwen Tomkow of

Farmington Hills (second place) for "Sunglow/Wells Bay," watercolor; and Susan Vitali of Farmington Hills (third place) for "Another Man's Treasure," watercolor.

The Grumbacher Award for Best Use of Color went to Marsha Weigand of Farmington Hills for "Fruition," oil.

Honorable mentions went to Farmington Hills residents Danguole Jurgutis, "Summer Shadows," acrylic; Monica Lees, "Fault Line," mixed media; Helen Lewicki, "Green

Apples," oil; and Henryka Olbrat, "Meadow Flowers," watercolor. Honorable mentions also went to Dorothy Lawson of Southfield, "Bouquet of Flowers," monoprint; Irene Kallas of Dearborn Heights, "Oranges," oil; and Jerrine Hababurg of Brighton, "Lake Leelanau," oil on paper.

The juror was Mary Aro, an instructor at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. The Farmington Area Arts Commission provided funding awards.

Winners: Juried exhibit winners include (left to right) Susan Vitali (third place) middle painting; Marsha Weigand (Grumbacher Award) top painting; Gwen Tomkow (2nd place) bottom. All are from Farmington Hills.

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

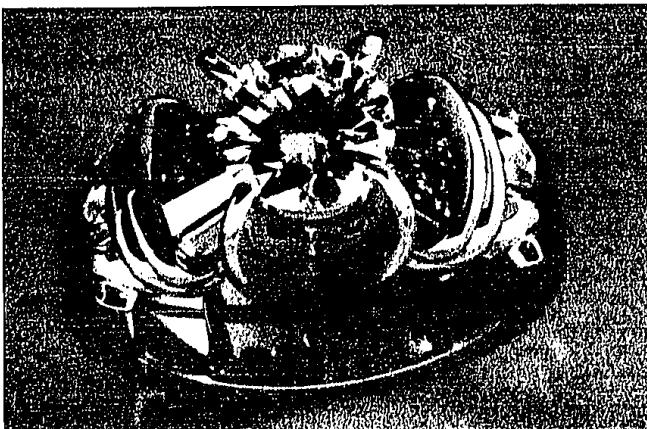
KEELY WYDONIK, EDITOR • 313-983-2105

THE  
Observer  
NEWSPAPERS

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1996 • PAGE 1 SECTION B

## AN ARTISTS JEWEL:



**Award Winning Jewelry:** Yanke Designs won First Place in the 1996 National JCK Jewelry Design Competition for this platinum and 18K gold diamond ring. One of their latest designs, which will be on hand at the Westacres Artists Market, is the rhodolite and garnet Eurowire earrings with interchangeable charm sets.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN • SPECIAL WRITER

**T**on inches of snow forced the postponement of the first Westacres Artists Market featuring 23 exhibitors in 1995. The juried event has come a long way since then. On April 27, more than 60 painters, potters, jewelers, print makers, photographers, glass and fiber artists from Michigan, Ohio, Ontario and Illinois will sell their wares at the artists market produced by a group of volunteers living in the West Bloomfield neighborhood of Middle Straits Lake. Show proceeds will go toward scholarships for Westacres graduating seniors.

The Artists Market is a multi-media show we like to think of as a mini Ann Arbor Art Fair. It's familiar friends and faces and there's an opportunity to talk with the artists about their work," said public relations director Jan Freeman, who did publicity for the first event.

"Our first show was a definite experiment. Scheduled in March, we had to reschedule it for the following week. After that we sold, never again in March. We've been getting bigger and better ever since and to think this is an volunteer show, I think, we're unique. How many subdivisions do this? We put so much of ourselves into it. It's community pride."

Frank and Kim Yanke participate in the show because it showcases their Yanke Designs jewelry store in Franklin. The husband and wife jewelers, as well as members of their design team including Rudy VanWel and Kirk Elterlein, will exhibit rings, bracelets, necklaces, pendants and earrings at the Westacres Artists Market. They will also bring loose stones including a ruby which won the 1995 AGTA gem cutting award, and

## Westacres Artists Market

**What:** The 28th annual Westacres art fair featuring 62 exhibitors working in a variety of mediums including painting, pottery, photography, glass, jewelry, fiber art, wood, and intaglio print making. **Lunch:** is available. For more information, call (810) 363-7957.

**When:** Saturday, April 27. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Where:** 3700 Westacres Drive in West Bloomfield. Follow the signs to the Westacres Clubhouse off Commerce Road, one mile east of Union Lake Road.

**Cost:** A donation of \$1 is requested.

platinum and 18K gold diamond ring. Last year, Kim won First Place and Best of Show in the Michigan Jewelry Design Competition. Not bad for a couple of jewelers who began selling their work back in the basement of church. The Yankees will do about six art shows a year including Art in the Park in Birmingham. They are anxious to have public's comments on their latest design, Eurowire earrings with interchangeable charm sets.

"The earring move. Anytime you have an earring that moves it attracts the eye," said Yanke. "All our jewelry has an understated or simple elegance that's a cross between classic and contemporary."

Among the other area artists exhibiting are George Landino, whimsical wood sculptures; West Bloomfield; Dee Warren, pottery; Bloomfield Hills; Charles Hall, wood, Birmingham; Richard Salay, clay birdhouses, Troy; Greg Lederman, photography, Orchard Lake; Sandy Lentz, pottery and porcelain, Birmingham; Raenette Franklin, acrylic painting, Birmingham Farms; Rita Leeds, silk painted fibers; Keego Harbor, and Molly Baran, hand painted clothing, Bloomfield Hills. In addition to Freeman is most excited about the haunting intaglio prints of Ugandan born Mathias Mulemo and the sun-drenched colorful acrylic paintings of Manfred Heino Baux of Cambridge, Ontario.

Flavoring the show is the fact that Westacres is a community with an interesting history. Developed in 1926 as a low-income project by Oakland Housing Inc., Westacres provided affordable housing to the seasonally unem-



ployed. As a requisite for purchasing the \$4,400 cinder block homes, buyers had to sign an agreement to cultivate their one acre sites so when times were tough they could live off the land.

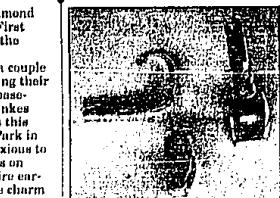
Excess produce was sold at the community co-op. The clubhouse, where the art shows are held, was an amenity included in the purchase price.

That same community pride that produces the Westacres Artists Market was responsible for volunteers staffing their own fire department and a new branch of the West Bloomfield Public Library housed in the neighborhood's clubhouse. They also founded their own credit union after banks turned down their request for financing to update their structures and build additions. In the 1970s when the state of Michigan annexed Oakland Hills, the town decided to divest its holding in Westacres, that same credit union enabled homeowners to buy the holdings. Through its 60-year history, the Westacres Weekly, a volunteer staffed newspaper, documented all the changes and encouraged the neighborhood's come together spirit.

## WESTACRES ARTISTS MARKET CELEBRATES

28  
YEARS

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN • SPECIAL WRITER



ployed. As a requisite for purchasing the \$4,400 cinder block homes, buyers had to sign an agreement to cultivate their one acre sites so when times were tough they could live off the land.

Excess produce was sold at the community co-op. The clubhouse, where the art shows are held, was an amenity included in the purchase price.

That same community pride that produces the Westacres Artists Market was responsible for volunteers staffing their own fire department and a new branch of the West Bloomfield Public Library housed in the neighborhood's clubhouse. They also founded their own credit union after banks turned down their request for financing to update their structures and build additions. In the 1970s when the state of Michigan annexed Oakland Hills, the town decided to divest its holding in Westacres, that same credit union enabled homeowners to buy the holdings. Through its 60-year history, the Westacres Weekly, a volunteer staffed newspaper, documented all the changes and encouraged the neighborhood's come together spirit.

Winners: Juried exhibit winners include (left to right) Susan Vitali (third place) middle painting; Marsha Weigand (Grumbacher Award) top painting; Gwen Tomkow (2nd place) bottom. All are from Farmington Hills.



SHAWN LEEMAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS