

CHAT ROOM



Lydia Rizzo

Good nursing home care is essential

Nearly half of all Americans who reach age 65 are expected to spend time in a nursing home. More than 1.5 million Americans live in nursing homes now. So it is important that all of us, young and old, take steps now to make sure that our loved ones (and possibly ourselves) receive good, compassionate care when they need it.

Although some Michigan nursing homes offer good care, many do not. Residents in these poor-quality homes lack basic personal care, good nutrition, and have little to look forward to. Perhaps this is why half of Michigan citizens contacted in a 1998 survey conducted by Michigan State University rated state nursing homes as poor or fair. Poor-quality care affects thousands of people every day.

There is a way to make things better. The Michigan Campaign for Quality Care is a new statewide effort to assure better choices and better quality of life for nursing home residents. Anyone can join the campaign.

The campaign seeks to improve standards of care, strengthen the monitoring of facilities and enforcement of care standards, increase care choices and competition, expand

Please See CHAT ROOM, B2

Gale Research houses art trove here

From tapestries to antiques, Gale Research's new headquarters is home to an eclectic art collection.

By MARY RODRIGUE
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It's unfortunate that the Gale Group's new headquarters in Farmington Hills is a private business.

Only the 650 workers who toil there daily are privy to a stunning collection of art that graces the three-story building on Drake south of 12 Mile.

Ted Hadfield and his company, Art-Pack Services of Farmington, were responsible for moving and restoring art from Gale's previous headquarters in Detroit's Penobscot Building. He also created interactive sculptures placed near the elevator area on each of the three floors in the new building.

Company spokeswoman Beth Dempsey says that art has always played an important role in Gale Research's work environment. In fact, hundreds of sculptures, statues, posters and miscellaneous art that didn't make the move were auctioned to Gale employees, raising more than \$16,000 for the Detroit Public Library.

"Our company founder, Fred Ruffner, was a great collector and much of his collection made its way into our offices," Dempsey said. "We have a very creative workforce who respond well to this environment. Our emphasis with the move was to honor our past but prepare for the future. Every piece you see in the Gale offices was chosen to help create a visual reflection of a company with a unique history, dedicated to the future and working in a setting that inspires creativity."

Founded in 1954, the company has

grown into one of the largest print-research conglomerates in the world. This fall, Gale Research merged with two other large research firms — one California-based and the other on the

East Coast — and is now known as the Gale Group, one of the world's largest print and electronic publishers of academic and business research for libraries, universities and schools.

were created specifically for Gale by a local batik artist.

A signature piece from downtown known as The Bookworm has found new life in the main entranceway.

"It's from Leary's Bookstore in Philadelphia originally," said Dempsey of the massive portable mural depicting a man in colonial dress climbing a ladder to reach for a book from stocked shelves.

"Leary's was the biggest bookstore in the country with 70,000 titles at one time. The Bookworm stood outside the store for 132 years. It was acquired by Gale in 1969."

Hadfield had to dismantle the massive oak panels which had been built into a wall downtown. The Bookworm had been abused and neglected. Art-Pack workers Kathleen Laufman and Ken Maurin were instrumental in giving the piece new life. Restoration brought back vibrant color and sheen. Now the restored piece is freestanding and features a bookcase on the reverse side.

"It's been a fun project," Hadfield said.

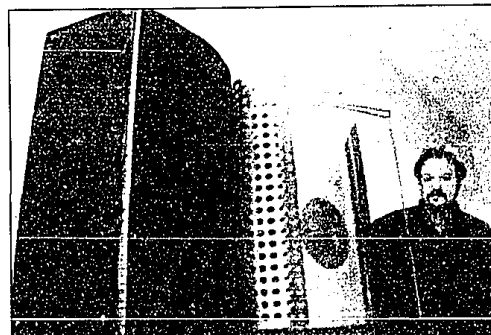
Hadfield built steel pedestals to hold other pieces displayed in the lobby area including two Cotgreave Library indicators. An intricate system designed by British librarian Alfred Cotgreave in 1877 to keep track of library books, the indicators list numbers by subject category to correspond with books. A blue number means the book is in; red signifies the book is checked out.

An antique book press and a mailbox from Victorian England are also on the main floor.

Abstract 'Open Books'

Hadfield, who has a master of fine arts degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art in sculpture, created interactive mixed media pieces he calls Opened Books that incorporate several materials including canvases, wood, Plexiglas and metal. His pieces mix nature with literary themes. At first glance, they

Please See GALE, B2



STAFF PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE



Bookish artwork: Ted Hadfield above with one of the Open Books sculptures he created for the new Gale Research headquarters in Farmington Hills. At left, Hadfield stretches across the Bookworm, a large piece his Farmington firm, Art-Pack, restored and moved from Gale's downtown headquarters.

From tapestries to antiques

From the center of the main lobby, visitors can view a series of beautiful hand-dyed tapestries in pale pastels hung on a wall along a stairway. The silk tapestries represent the Muses: music, literature and history. They

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