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■ The Detroit Symphony Orchestra Volunteer Council presents its 11th Designer Showhouse through Sunday, Dec. 9, at 2716 Turtle Ridge Drive in Bloomfield Township. Tickets to view the home are \$20 at the door. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (last entry 3 p.m.). To get to the showhouse, take Square Lake Road to Club Drive (west of Telegraph) and turn south on Club Drive; or take Franklin Road (north of Long Lake Road) and turn west on Club Drive to the Turtle Lake entrance. For more information, call (313) 576-5177. All proceeds benefit the DSO and its projects.

■ Stop by any Art Van Furniture store 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, to enjoy favorite holiday carols performed by a local high school choir.

■ Paterson Carney Florist, 239 Pierce in downtown Birmingham, has several exciting Holiday Floral Design Workshops scheduled for the upcoming weeks. Students will design their own gilded holiday wreath 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6. Carnation topiaries, a hot look for this season, will be the subject of the workshops 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13. Workshops are \$20, plus materials. To register and for more information, call (248) 647-7477.

■ Paterson Carney Florist, 239 Pierce in downtown Birmingham, is hosting a Holiday Wreath Design Workshop for children during Birmingham's Holiday Visions event Friday, Dec. 7. The workshop, geared for ages 7 to 11, will take place on an ongoing basis 6-9 p.m. Friday. Cost of the workshop is \$20 per person, which includes all materials. To register, call (248) 647-7477.

■ Great Greens!, a holiday workshop in which participants will create their own small space

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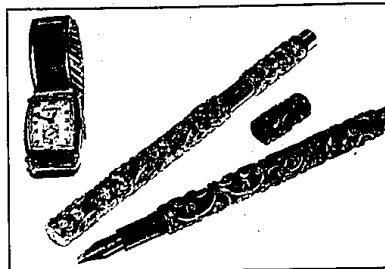
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CALENDAR

A timely note



Write on time: The 12th annual Michigan Pen and Watch Show will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 8-9, at the Westin Hotel, 1500 Southfield Town Center, 10 Mile and Evergreen in Southfield. Admission is \$6, free for under age 12. An auction is scheduled 4:30 p.m. Saturday. More than 100 exhibitors from around the United States, Canada and Europe will show, sell, buy, repair, trade and talk about pens and watches dating from the 1880s to 2001. The Conklin Pen Co. will give away a \$750 limited edition fountain pen both days (the admission ticket puts you in the drawing; you must be present to win). Shown here are a vintage wristwatch and Art Nouveau fountain pens from 1905 to 1918. The non-profit Michigan Pen Club is presenting the event and donating a portion of the proceeds to the Children's Miracle Network. For more information, call the Westin Hotel at (248) 827-4000.

holiday tree on a 42-inch metal topiary, using a variety of greens, will be offered 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, in the auditorium at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Diabolo, between Geddes and Plymouth Road in Ann Arbor. The greens will be fresh cut prior to the workshop. Cost is \$35 (\$30 for members); bring pruning shears and gloves. Space is limited and early registration is suggested. Call (734) 998-7061.

■ The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will have its Christmas meeting 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 Campbell in Royal Oak. The program, The

Year in Review, featuring travels and experiences of members during the year, will be presented. The public may attend. Admission is free. Call (248) 524-0227. ■ The Troy Garden Club will meet 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois, north of Big Beaver Road. Char Follis, owner of Gifted Eye Photography, will present Helpful Hints for Floral and Garden Photos, providing tips and techniques to the average photographer on taking photos in the garden.

Refreshments will be served 1 p.m. Guest donation \$3. Reservations aren't required. For more information, call Barb at (248) 952-5938.

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