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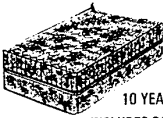
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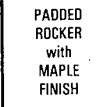
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Santa In Ad Inspires Decor

By MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

A perky Santa Claus that headed a shopping flyer provided inspiration for one of the most unusual outdoor home decorations you'll find in Overland this Christmas.

Mrs. Arne Syversen of 15669 Edington, Livonia, spotted St. Nick peeking over the top of some printed shopping specials in the flyer.

Wouldn't he look good peering over the roof of the house? she suggested to her family.

THAT WAS less than two weeks before Christmas. But by last weekend, in plenty of time for the judging in Coventry Gardens Improvement Association's second annual outdoor decorating and lighting contest, Santa was in place, looking a bit ruefully at several brightly-colored packages cascading down the roof.

He was perched there in spite of some most un-Christmasy high winds that blew him away and scattered most of the packages.

The Syversens, like many of their neighbors in Coventry Gardens, have a tradition of lighting up their house for Christmas.

"We like to keep it simple," Mrs. Syversen explained, but added that there has been some lights strung up during most of the 20 years they've lived in their Edington home.

A large wreath with blinking lights on the picture window is their trademark, and it's on hand this year, along with the spotlighted Santa.

ONE NEIGHBOR'S description of outdoor decorations - "female inspiration and masculine sweat" - held at least partly true on the Syversen scene.

After Mrs. Syversen spotted Santa, it was the family's older daughter, Kris, who took

time out from studying for finals at Western Michigan University to design an adaptation.

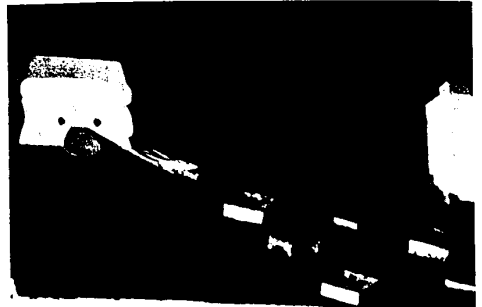
"Then I started hacking up plywood," said Syversen, adding that he was glad to do so because "we wanted something a little different from lights."

BY MONDAY, DEC. 13, the family was ready for a wiring

session and had most of the decorations and lights in place.

Wednesday the winds came in great gusts and knocked down most of their creations. But Arne Syversen was right back on the roof when the wind subsided, wiring things more substantially.

"His enthusiasm kept us all



SANTA ON THE ROOF is the surprise decoration on the Arne Syversen home in Livonia's Coventry Gardens subdivision. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Park Has 3 Skating Ponds

Just like a Currier & Ives winter scene! This is the best way to describe the three natural skating ponds at Lower Huron Metropolitan Park near Belleville. These are open, "weather permitting." For details phone 697-9181 (Belleville).

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Goodwill Unit Plans Meeting

The Women's Association of Goodwill Industries will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the Goodwill Building, Brush and East Grand Boulevard, Detroit.

Following a 10:30 a.m. board meeting, a sandwich luncheon will be served at 11:45 a.m.

The Rev. David Eberhard, a member of the Detroit Common Council, and pastor of Riverside Lutheran Church will give a talk at 12:45 p.m. He will discuss some of the problems facing the citizens of Detroit and will detail some of the ways government and private citizens can help solve these problems.

During a business meeting Mrs. William Schneider will report on the success of the Christmas "show" of more than \$600 to be used for personal services to handicapped clients and employees of Goodwill.

Mrs. A. Warren Brock will discuss plans for an "Anonymous Sweetheart" benefit card party scheduled for Feb. 9.

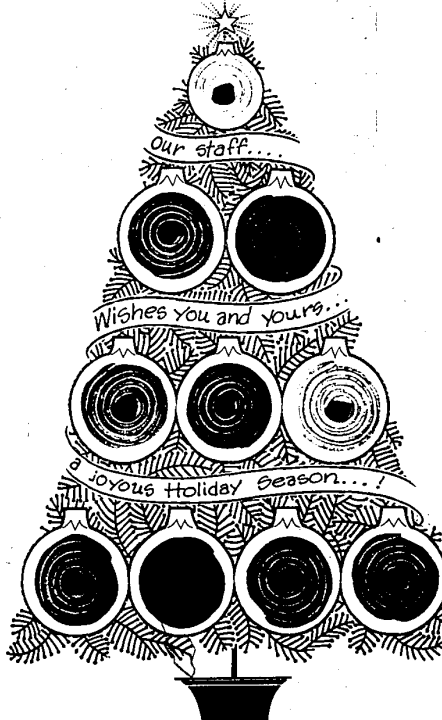


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