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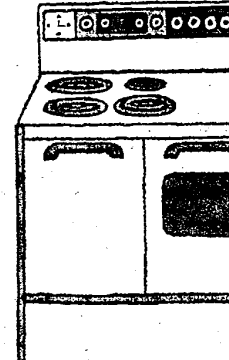
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MRS. EDWIN SCHRADER of Park Place, Plymouth, is known for her unique ability to create artistic designs. Her home is filled with eye-catching: a large welcome key of pine cones, a doorpiece with baskets of miniature

Mrs. Schrader Describes Yuletide Advent Wreath

(Editor's Note: Plymouth handcraft artist Myrilla (Mrs. Edwin A.) Schrader tells the story of the Advent Wreath with its religious symbolism in this special article for The Observer. She creates the symbolic wreath each Christmas.)

By MYRILLA SCHRADER

The Advent Wreath is believed to have originated during the Renaissance in the middle European countries in an area between Austria and Hungary.

Making the Advent wreath was an old family custom. Early in the fall the family would gather evergreen boughs and cones from the forests, nuts from the trees, berries from bushes, grains from the fields, and fruits from the orchards. These would be stored

away until the first Sunday of Advent (which is the fourth Sunday preceding Christmas) at which the family would gather around the table and prepare a wreath made from all the materials which had been gathered earlier in the fall.

After the wreath is completed a purple candle is placed in the wreath and lighted and from the Scripture is read of the coming of the Christ Child, after which prayers are offered and the family sing hymns.

On the second Sunday of Advent another purple candle is placed in the wreath. The two candles are lighted and again the Scripture is read, prayers are offered and hymns are sung.

On the third Sunday a rose colored candle is placed in the wreath. (The rose color denoting great joy and happiness—churches often use rose colored altar clothes or rose colored flowers on the Altar this Sunday). Again, the three candles are lighted, the Scripture read, prayers offered and hymns sung.

The fourth Sunday, another purple candle is again lighted the "Waiting period." The four candles are lighted, the prayers said, the Scripture is read and the hymns are sung.

Christmas morning! A day of great joy and happiness. The purple and rose colored candles are removed and replaced by four bright red candles, and in the center of the wreath is placed a tall white candle and from this candle the four red candles are lighted. The Scripture telling of the birth of the Christ Child are read, prayers are offered and the family all join in singing Christmas Carols.

There truly is a deeper and greater meaning to Christmas when a family completes the

Windows Also Lead Night Life

Have you ever taken a walk at night and noticed how some houses convey greater warmth and beauty than others?

If you decided the windows made some homes more attractive at night, you undoubtedly were right. Windows do make a difference.

For example, notice how the grills—those narrow vertical and horizontal bars that divide the panes of a window—catch the light from a lamp near the window and you'll know why grills have retained their popularity for centuries, even though the conditions responsible for their origin no longer exist.

Small window panes first came into use because it was difficult and expensive to make large glass panes for windows. Today, although glass can be made to fit any desired window size, divided panes are valued for their beauty.

They are even stimulated in stock windows of ponderous pine with removable grills that snap in and out for easy cleaning and painting.

Windows in most Colonial and many contemporary homes feature grills in six-over-six, eight-over-eight or one of the other popular grill patterns available in stock wood window units.

The numbers refer to the number of panes in each sash of a double hung window. The six-over-six pattern, for example, refers to the six panes on top and six on bottom used in many double hung units.

Diamond lights, a variation of the grill effect, are popular in provincial style homes.

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Learn How To Make Own Centerpiece

Would you like to create your own Christmas Centerpiece for your home? Perhaps the stimulant may be the "Christmas Workshop" offered by the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department.

The workshop conducted by Beverly Palmer, formerly with the Westland Crafts Co., will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16 in the Bryant Jr. High School cafeteria—that is, if enough interested people would call the Recreation Department, GA 1-2000, ext 291, and express interest.

There is no charge except for materials for the centerpieces and small gift projects.

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