Garden club member turns professional

By LORAINE McCLISH

One of the busiest women at the Founders Festival last month was Julia Darian who was 30 pushed she had to give two of her teenage daughters a crash course in making corn husk dolls in an effort to keep pace with the demand.

The husks, soaked in water to make them pliable, were twirled into little figures by Mrs. Darian, Linda and Denice at the rented booth and "some of the,n were even sold still wet, we had su'h a hard time keeping up." she said.

It was the first commercial venture for Mrs. Darian, a Hill and Dale Carden Club member, whose booth was filled with three dimensional wall hangings, dried flower arrangement and wreaths as well as the popular dolls, some sold by themselves, others encased in glass boxes in a variety of settings.

The upshot of her first few days in business is that she has been asked to place some of her pieces for sale in a craft shop in Livonia and she has enough orders for custom made pieces to keep her busy until Thanksgiving.

SHE WORKS FOR the most part with natural materials, "has a basement full of weeds and field flowers drying gut on a clothes line" and "is constantly on the lookout for a pretty piece of wood or an unusual looking branch."

She's used osage oranges sliced to resemble a flower or a petal, and she's used herbs and spices to scent a

The accessories in her home at 14605 Glen Orchard are almost all the results of her own handiwork, and prior to the time her daughters convinced her she should try her hand at

Mrs. Darian has been a member of the Hill and Dale Garden Club for about 16 years, a club she joined to help her cultivate her own outdoor garden. Interim speakers, club workshops on flower arranging, lore she picked up on dried flowers and working to contribute tof-club fund-raising boutques brough ther to creating the variety of things she now turns out.

She said she attended most of the workshops offered by the club, attended a few classes offered by the Farmington Community Center and "then went home and put my own ideas to work."

"I'VE ALWAYS LOVED flowers," she said, "and it was so satisfying to watch them learn to love them too."

Her tenure in the garden club has also earned her a respectable number of blue ribbons from shows for fresh flower arrangements, and Christmas decorations made of natural mate-rials.

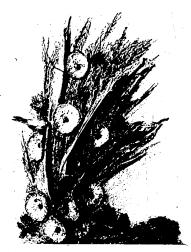
The orders for custom-made items she has waiting for her now are for the three-dimensional wall hangings sometimes called jesso pictures, that are dried natural materials arranged on a board enhanced with aerylics or stains. In addition to these, she has a number of orders for door wreaths to be completed by fall in fall colors.

Throughout this time she worked as a volunteer, through the garden club, as an instructor in garden therapy for the multiply handicapped in Begle School, which has been a long-time service project of Hill and Dale.









Program teams at-home day-care with school

Two Birmingham women are pio-neering a day-care program billed as 'the best of two worlds' for pre-schoolers.



Hours at school offer playground equipment

According to Carolyn LaSovage of Birmingham and Nell Phillips, director of the Beverly Hills Early School, Beverly Hills, pre-schoolers benefit from both the personal attention provided by the day-care mother and the orthocational, personnel and equipment advantages available through the school structure.

Along with day-care centers, par-ents have had the option of utilizing the services of day-care mothers li-censed by county social services de-partments. Children are brought into the home and cared for consistently

by one woman.

SINCE MS. PHILLIPS and fulltime, day-care mother, Ms. LaSovage,
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which the school can give," Ms. Prulips commented.
"But then they can come home and rest." Ms. LaSovage added.
The program, initiated by Ms. LaSovage, has been operating informally for a year. It will be continued in September when the school session recon-

advantages available turoug...

school structure.

We're geared to families who need all-day care for their children, such as single parents or working pare, seems, explained Ms. Phillips.
Everyday Lget calls from parents looking for allday care. It's a dream formite that we don't have to parent all day in one building, added the former director of a day-care center. Emphasizing that she was not criticizing day-care centers, Ms. Phillips said, "Trying to effectively meet the needs of 40 kids from 8:30 to 5, five days a week, was overwhelming."

Along with day-care centers, parents of always having child care available. If one day-care mothers it was a seen to criticate the country training programs and the coun

Parents, Ms. LaSovage suggested, would also have access to more infor-mation about their children's devel-

mation about their children's devel-opment.
"They will have input on his behav-ior in both large and small groups." she said, explaining that both the day-care mother and the school personnel will be available to parents for con-sultation.

"THEORETICALLY, the program sounds like a good solution but it bast" been used extensively yet." said Doris Sponseller of Rochester, instructor in early childhood education at Oakland University. "I'm supportive of it as a pilot kind program because I thank there should be alternatives available to parents and I think this is one alternative many be sought for the program.



School sessions are added to at-home day-care