

**Consumer Mailbag**

**CONCERN INC.**  
ONE Northfield Plaza  
Troy, Michigan 48098  
879-1333

Do you have any last minute gift suggestions with good ecological ideas in mind?

Nothing could be nicer than giving a gift that lasts the whole year long. There are many publications that are available through subscription that will help keep the environmental ethic alive and well past

the holiday season and give support to the many worthy organizations that publish them.

At the top of the list is our national office which publishes Eco-Tips on environmental topics. Write to Concern, Inc., 223 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington 20007. Membership and Eco-Tips are \$10 a year. East Michigan Envi-

ronmental Action Council, 5600 Crooks Road, Troy, offers Target Earth, nine issues and a membership for \$5 a year.

A magazine published locally is Doing More with Less, which offers practical ideas for the individual, eight issues. \$4. Write to Bill Griffin, 626 Heatherheath, West Bloomfield 48033.

## The lively needle

# Class brings unexpected gift

By MARY KAY DAVIS

Let me tell you a story that happened far away and years ago. It was full and there was nothing Christmas-y about what we did, except that to me it's a story that should be told at Christmas time.

The needlepoint class that I was teaching was a group of 12 women. There were professionals, homemakers and working women, all looking for achievement and fun. And there was Olga.

I don't know which category she fit into or if, in fact, she fitted into any of them. She must have weighed 200 pounds and even in November was dressed in a baggy cotton housedress. She was a pale mountain of a woman

with light hair, white skin and pudgy fingers.

I realize now that Olga was scared. She spoke with an accent, though of what variety I never knew, and her voice rarely rose above a whisper. Those swollen fingers were not clever. If ever someone seemed fated not to succeed at embroidery, Olga was it.

The class was designed to take everyone's personal dream of what she'd like to do, and make it come true. Chairs were upholstered, family trees were designed, one woman stitched her Christmas card to be photographed and sent out in December. Among all this busy creativity, Olga remained silent as a stone. If she knew what she wanted to do, and I began to doubt it, she wasn't letting on. But finally I found out.



By MARY KAY DAVIS

Olga wanted to needlepoint an Easter Bunny. As we chose her yarn colors, I knew that this would be a rabbit to remember. Only the brightest of colors were picked. My recommendations of soft grays and muted fawns fell on deaf ears.

As the work progressed, it became all too clear that Olga couldn't draw. Furthermore, she wouldn't trace someone else's work and kept repeating, "It must be all mine."  
The rabbit finally did become recognizable, but in a rather drunken way. He leered out from the canvas, as far from any Easter bunny I'd ever seen as he could get. To myself, I called him the "marijuana bunny."

Weeks passed, projects were finished, and the last class meeting was fun. Everyone was pleased with their accomplishments, though I preferred not to dwell on the bunny. He was completed and looked more lurid than ever before.

But Olga was delighted. Her eyes shone, her cheeks were pink and she was talking, not in a scared whisper but in a regular voice. The rest of the class rallied round and congratulated her. And Olga glowed.

"Class ended at nine. About five minutes before the hour a dark, bearded man in a Navy pea jacket appeared hesitantly at the door. Olga's glow became a blush and her pale eyes actually sparkled.

With a dignity that I'd never suspected, she introduced me to her husband. And he told me how long he'd argued and bullied before finally persuading Olga to get out of the house and take my course. He smiled proudly at the needlepoint, and his parting words will stay with me for a long, long time.

"Thank you, lady, for helping her make this beautiful picture."

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## Jewish fund drive chairmen named

Phillip Stollman of Southfield and Philip T. Warren of Farmington Hills will serve as general chairmen of the 1978 Allied Jewish Campaign-Israel Emergency Fund.

Co-chairmen will be Irving R. Seligman of Farmington, Marvin H. Goldman of Franklin and David Handelman of Bloomfield Hills. All appointments were announced by Marvin Citrin, Jewish Welfare Federation president.

Stollman and Warren succeed Daniel M. Honigman, general chairman of the 1977 campaign benefiting 60 local, national and overseas humanitarian agencies.

The new chairmen were co-chairmen of the 1977 campaign and have long been active in Jewish communal affairs.

Stollman is a member of federation's board of governors, its national agencies budget and planning division, and of the boards of Sinai Hospital and Siffman Clinic and United Israel Appeal. He is honorary president of Akiva Day School in Southfield, which he helped found.

He was recently re-elected global chairman of the board of trustees of

Bar-Ilan University in Israel, an institution which Stollman, his brother Max and his sister-in-law Frieda helped organize.

A nationally-known leader in the Zionist movement, he has served as president of the Mizrahi Organization of America and chairman of its board, chairman of the Israel Bond Organization and president of Young Israel of Oak Woods. He is secretary-treasurer of Dover Homes in Troy.

Warren has been active in the industrial and automotive division of the campaign, having served as steel section chairman and division chairman. He was pre-campaign chairman in 1975 and campaign associate chairman in 1976.

A director of the Jewish Home for Aged and a member of the community relations committee of the Jewish Vocational Service, he also is vice president of the Adat Shalom Synagogue.

He is co-founder and president of Paragon Steel Corp. in Detroit and serves on the boards of Liberty State Bank and Trust and the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

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D. "Wabash" Wall Clock. Cable wind clock with gong strike, 8-day weight-driven movement. Ash solids and veneers. 40" h. \$359.

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