

Creative Living

Marie McGee editor/644-1100



Thursday, April 24, 1986 O&E

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cultural cues

• KIENZLE TO SPEAK

Mystery writer William Kienzle will talk about his new book "Deathbed" at 8 p.m. Friday, May 2 in Alfred Noble Library, 32201 Plymouth Road, Livonia. The meeting is sponsored by the Friends of the Livonia Library and is open to the public. There is no admission.

• DEARBORN CHORAL

Maestro Douglas Morrison of Livonia will conduct the Dearborn Choral Art Society in an all-Beethoven concert featuring internationally known concert pianist Flavio Varani at 8 p.m. Saturday in Edsel Ford High School, Dearborn. Tickets are \$7 (\$5 for students and senior citizens) and will be available at the door. For more information, call 943-2354.

• POLISH DANCERS

The Polish Centennial Dancers of Plymouth will be performing their sixth annual recital at Churchill High School in Livonia at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 4. They will feature a Krakowak wedding and will demonstrate their Polish heritage through lively polkas from around the world. For more information, call 261-9016 or 453-2388.

• ART EXHIBIT

Fourteen area artists will be featured in "A Mother's Love," a juried arts and handicrafts exhibit and sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 27 at Bonnie Brook Golf Club, Telegraph and Eight Mile roads. Admission is 50 cents. Senior citizens and children under 17 admitted without charge. For more information, call 565-6735.

• BASKET MARKET

Baskets will abound at the State Fair Community Arts Building from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 27 at the Association of Michigan Basketmakers, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, presents its first Basketmaker's Market. Admission and parking are free. The public is welcome. For more information, call 898-6341.

• WATERCOLORS EXHIBIT

Baker Street Interiors-The Renaissance Room Gallery presents watercolors by Shelley Malec, Peggy Weir, Leonard and Michael Prairie Neal at the gallery, 16320 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 421-6909.

• ENTRIES SOUGHT

Artists and craftspeople are being sought to participate in a small, quality craft fair at Abbott School in Ann Arbor. This is the sixth year of the event. Only original work will be displayed. Demonstrations are especially welcome. The show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25. Entry fee is \$20 prior to June 1, \$30 June 2 until Sept. 7. For more information, call Nancy Hedberg at 662-4081 or Mary Gallagher, 68-0038.

• CALLIGRAPHIC IMAGES

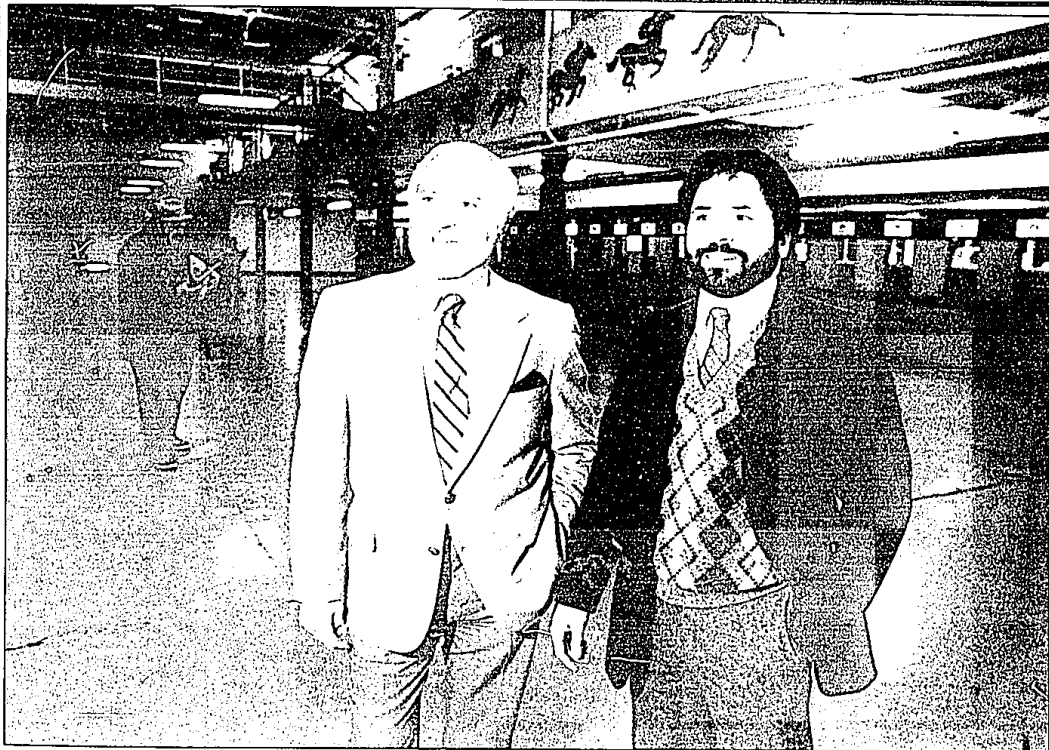
The Michigan Association of Calligraphers' seventh annual exhibit, "Calligraphic Images," will be held Saturday-Sunday, May 3-4 at the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, call 644-5635 or 855-3791.

• FRANKLIN HOUSE TOUR

A variety of homes will be included in the house tour of historical Franklin Village 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 9, sponsored by the Friends of the Franklin Library. Luncheon at the Franklin Community Church will be included in the ticket price of \$5 in advance and \$6 the day of the tour. Tours tickets may be obtained at the Franklin Library, the Market Basket, both on Franklin Road, or by contacting Kathy Marotta, 2534 Tweed, Franklin 48025. Proceeds will benefit the Franklin library.

• ANTIQUES SEMINAR

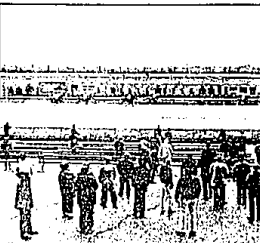
Dr. Robert Bishop, director of the Museum of American Folk Art in New York City, will be guest lecturer at the second annual Village Antiques Show, May 16-18 at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Bishop's lecture, "Collecting Folk Art: the Best of the Past for the Future," will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 17 in the Henry Ford Museum Theater. Tickets are \$5 per person and include a coffee and pastry reception preceding the program.



The father-son design team of Hank Gluckman (left) and Kerry Gluckman created a fresh new look for the Ladbroke Detroit Race Course in Livonia.



Sheila Roy, Turf Club receptionist, and Bob Raymond, DRC public relations director, exit from the upscale Turf Club.



Staff photos
by Steve Fecht

Flying colors DRC facelift is a winner

By Marie McGee
staff writer

AS INTERIOR designers, Hank Gluckman and his son Kerry welcome a challenge.

One of the biggest they've faced in awhile though came when they were awarded a contract last February to totally redesign Ladbroke Detroit Race Course in Livonia.

Make it attractive and keep it functional was the mandate from the Ladbroke management.

And, oh yes, do it within two months and keep within budgetary restraints.

It sounded simple enough. After all, the Gluckmans were used to working with large areas. The Southfield-based firm, Gluckman Designs Inc., has completed a number of projects throughout the country, including several shopping malls. One of them is

nearby Tully Hall. Another is Oakland Mall.

But it still didn't prepare them for the task that lay ahead of them when they took on the DRC facelift.

"Overwhelming" was how Hank Gluckman described his reaction at his first viewing of the cavernous interior of the Ladbroke Detroit Race Course at the corner of Schoolcraft and Middlebelt roads in Livonia.

"AND UGLY," he chuckled, in describing the clubhouse area with its 20-foot high walls with encircling walkways complete with iron railings. "It looked like a prison. The only thing missing were prison guards with machine guns."

Everything, he recalls, was painted yellow — a blah yellow at that.

The main dining room was almost as bad. One of the worst

features was the presence of battleship plate a half-inch thick partially covering the walls.

"Apparently the former owners had purchased stationary manure bins for the outside and were then informed by the city that they had to be movable. So the metal wound up on the dining room walls. You can't imagine how bad the room looked. It took a week to cut through the stuff to get it off," said Kerry Gluckman.

SWIFTLY, BUT surely the Gluckmans artistically swept through the huge property.

Obvious improvements to passersby was the rejuvenation of sagging entry gates which were shored up and repainted. It included all the signage inside as well as outside. Everything was redone to reflect the new ownership of Great Britain's

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Ed Mew, DRC director of marketing and operations, stands at the brass rail in the completely redone Turf Club.