Art- chitecture

Redstone firm marks milestone

By Brian Lysaght
staff writer

LOUIS REDSTONE remembers the first office. It was a second floor walkup on Woodward Avenue. Rent was $25 a month. Riva, his sister, was bookkeeper and brother Solomon handled contracting.

"It was a family business," said Louis Redstone.

Redstone is celebrating 50 years as an architect. He is a man worth celebrating.

More than 700 people did just that last Fridaynight at a reception at Louis G. Redstone's Associates handsome and modern Livonia office.

The new office is larger and more modern than the Woodward walkup but his is still a family business. Son Daniel Redstone is president, and nephew Samuel Redstone is secretary. Another son, Ellel, is an architect in San Francisco.

Louis, 84, says he works now more as a consultant for his firm.

"I still think we are on the threshold of new things," Louis said of the firm.

He is a painter and sculptor and has always mixed art and architecture. He is supporter and organizer of the arts. He has written five books, some with his wife Ruth.

Their comprehensive book called "Public Art" describes works from across the world. Redstone has traveled to nearly every country in the world.

His building designs are many in Detroit: The Manufacturers National Bank building on Fort Street and Cass Avenue with its extensive exterior stone carvings; the Berry International Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport; and Somerset and Westland malls.

He has designed dozens of schools and about 100 bank branches. The first bank was a drive up on Vernor. His latest bank building, also for Manufacturers, is at Six Mile and Haggerty in Livonia.

"We are very proud that our customers stayed with us."

REDSTONE WAS BORN in Grodno, Poland. He came to America in 1923 and graduated from the University of Michigan architecture school in 1929, the year the stock market crashed. He worked for a year for architect Albert Kahn's firm in Detroit.

In 1934 he went to Palestine and opened an office in Tel Aviv. He knew many American architects who were forced to leave their profession during the depression. Redstone says he was lucky to keep working.

"I felt if you interrupt your career, you really lose it," he said.

In Palestine he built settlements, doing everything from designing to cutting stone and digging ditches. He helped build the Palestine Pavilion for the 1937 World's Fair in Paris.

He returned to Detroit that year to continue his career. By then he had learned all facets of the building and design business.

He tells a story: Once when checking the construction of a building he designed in Highland Park, he spotted a bricklayer doing sloppy work on an archway. The man challenged Redstone to do better. Redstone climbed the scaffold and set the bricks properly.

The worker could not believe an architect could lay bricks, Redstone said.

"He was so mad, he took off his overalls and stormed off to a bar to get drunk."

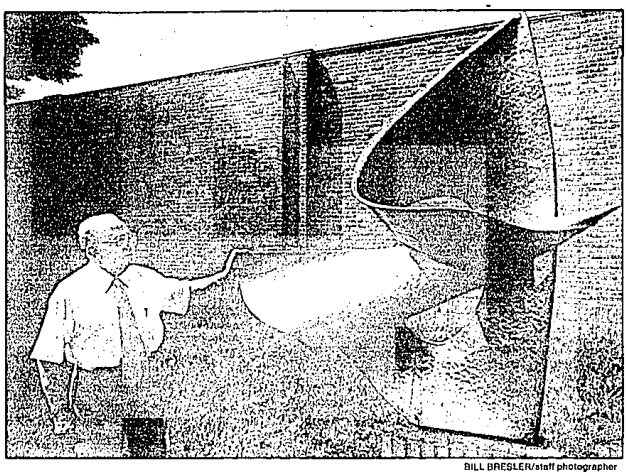
BUT ART HAS been his passion through the years. He has spread art liberally through his designs from schools to shopping malls. "As far as buildings were concerned, I was always in touch with artists," he said.

In 1927, he met sculptor Samuel Cashwan at the Detroit School for Arts and Crafts, predecessor of Center for Creative Studies. Cashwan offered Redstone space in his studio and helped him with his sculpting. The two have been friends for 60 years now.

Cashwan sculptures were done for Redstone's buildings. Cashwan's sculpture, "Noah and the Bird" was done for Redstone's 50-year career anniversary. The piece was dedicated in a ceremony last Friday.

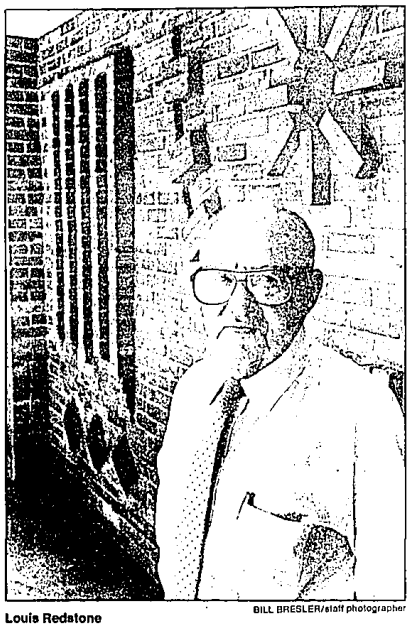
Redstone's design of shopping malls is especially infused with art. There is a reason. "What better place could there be to expose droves and multitudes of people to art?" Redstone asked.

Other Redstone designs include the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield, the new Metrovision building in Livonia, and the Buell Building on the Lawrence Institute of Technology campus.



BILL BRESLER/staff photographer

Louis Redstone stands alongside the metal sculpture "Noah and the Bird," done by his friend of 60 years noted sculptor Samuel Cashwan. The sculpture, near the entrance of Louis G. Redstone Associates offices in Livonia, was dedicated in ceremonies Friday, highlighting a reception honoring Redstone and his 50-year career as an architect.



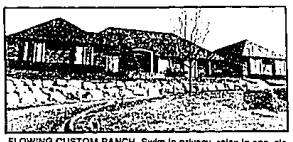
BILL BRESLER/staff photographer

Louis Redstone
still on the threshold of new things

ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

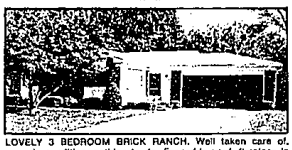
Louis Redstone (right) and his son Daniel greet guests at a reception Friday honoring the senior Redstone on his 50-year accomplishments as an architect.

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING is in this 1985 custom built contemporary ranch. Luxurious comfort with 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths and unique family room/kitchen with cathedral ceiling and natural fireplace. Also formal dining room. Ideal for living and entertaining. $199,900 477-1111



FLOWING CUSTOM RANCH. Swim in privacy, relax in spa, elegantly decorated ranch awaits your personal touch, gracious to entertain, easy to live, full basement, large kitchen. $325,000 851-1900 (RAM)

4 BEDROOM COLONIAL BRICK - 2 CAR. Luxurious lifestyle living on a corner lot. 2½ baths, 2½ car garage, suited for a family living in the lifestyle that will fit everyone's needs. Central air. $98,900 559-2300



LOVELY 3 BEDROOM BRICK RANCH. Well taken care of, move-in condition, nothing to do. Fenced-in yard, fireplace in family room. Bar in basement. Extra storage. Newer furnace. $67,900

EXECUTIVE COLONIAL. Quality abounds in this 4 bedroom home on cul-de-sac on commons. Formal dining room, library, gourmet kitchen and garden room. Manymore features. $249,900 477-1111

WELL MAINTAINED HOME. Original owners, shows tender loving care. Kitchen, breakfast area, first floorlaundry, paneled family room with fireplace, treed lot, new roof. $69,500 644-4700

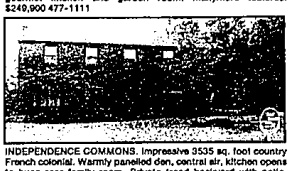
OPEN HOUSE

Extravaganza!

Check your Sunday newspaper or contact the Real Estate One office nearest you for a complete list of additional homes that will be held open this Sunday.

Real Estate One, INC. REALTORS

Real Estate One, Michigan's largest real estate company, is holding its largest open house ever. All homes listed in this ad are being held open this Sunday from 2 - 5 p.m.



INDEPENDENCE COMMONS. Impressive 3535 sq. foot country French colonial. Warmly panelled den, central air, kitchen opens to huge rear family room. Private treed backyard with patio. $179,900 477-1111

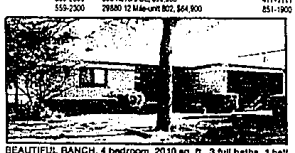
YOUR DREAM COME TRUE. 1 year old 5 bedroom Colonial in Lakes of Northville. Finished basement with bedroom, bath, living room or den. $194,900 348-6430

POPULAR FARMINGTON HILLS SUB. Sharp white 4 bedroom Quad on lovely lot in Farmington Green West. Central air, bay window in dining room, neutral colors. Move-in condition! $134,900 477-1111

MOVE RIGHT IN this spotless 3 bedroom Colonial in Simmons Orchard. Master bedroom has his and her walk-in closets. Living room has brick fireplace with heat exchanger. $107,900 348-6430

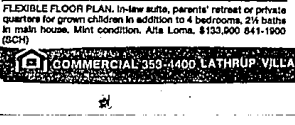
FLEXIBLE FLOOR PLAN. In-law suite, parents' retreat or private quarters for grown children in addition to 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths in main house. Mint condition. Alta Loma. $133,900 641-1900 (BCH)

ENGLISH TUDOR COLONIAL in prime Meadowbrook Park, all neutral tones, carpeting thruout. Central air, ceramic tile entry, professionally landscaped with beautiful deck. $224,900 851-1900 (HEA)



BEAUTIFUL RANCH. 4 bedroom, 2010 sq. ft., 3 full baths, 1 half bath. Family room with natural fireplace. Finished basement, bar. Central air, cedar closet, much more. $87,500 559-2300

CHARM with character describes this beautifully maintained bungalow with large front porch, interior features original oak trim throughout, formal dining room, possible 3rd bedroom on upper level, den/library now used as bedroom, X-Lent invest. Property - Tenants willing to sign 2 yr. lease, possible re-zone to OS-1/F.H. Master Plan. $98,900 851-1900



BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1645 Spotswood, $297,700	644-4700
2748 Aldgate, $184,900	644-4700

FARMINGTON HILLS

36945 Carla Ct., $249,900	477-1111
28907 Farmington Rd., $139,900	477-1111
36379 Fredericksburg, $134,900	477-1111
35557 Johnstown, $179,500	477-1111
29105 Oak Pointe, $152,500	477-1111
38954 Plumbrook, $199,900	477-1111
34116 Schultz, $129,900	477-1111
35674 Valley Creek, $194,900	477-1111
22241 Heatherdale, $224,900	851-1900
28308 New Castle, $106,850	851-1900
24750 Inwood, $122,000	851-1900
34164 Schultz, $133,900	851-1900
34341 Brittany, $184,900	851-1900
32133 12 Mile, $94,900	851-1900
33056 Bunker Hill, $128,500	851-1900
28510 Greening, $75,000	851-1900
29632 Club House Ln., $134,900	851-1900
35124 Lexington, $118,900	851-1900

NOVI

22603 Chestnut Tree, $119,900	477-1111

ORCHARD LAKE

4561 Cherry Hill, $329,900	644-4700
6019 Carmen Ct., $410,000	851-1900

REDFORD

12892 Wormer, $46,987	559-2300
13110 Columbia, $51,900	477-1111

SOUTHFIELD

21158 Poincuna, $34,650	559-2300
23587 Plumbrook, $93,900	559-2300
20220 Secluded Ln., $87,900	559-2300
18527 Maryland, $105,900	559-2300
24648 Lafayette, $142,900	559-2300
28078 Marshall, $43,500	559-2300
26298 Meadow Brook Way, $124,500	559-2300
17351 Rainbow Dr., $98,900	559-2300
21125 Stanelen, $38,000	559-2300
15539 Stratford, $69,900	559-2300
16024 Stratford, $73,900	559-2300
23695 Oak Glen, $84,500	559-2300
24795 Largos, $96,500	559-2300

18840 Jeanette, $87,500	559-2300
19215 Addison, $56,900	559-2300
21120 Hegquane, $38,900	477-1111
19757 Dorset, $63,900	477-1111
23970 Edinburgh, $86,900	477-1111
29considerable 3 Marmoor, $139,900	477-1111
21006 Wakedon, $43,500	477-1111
29125 Evergreen, $109,500	851-1900
18412 Stratford, $86,900	851-1900

TROY

1749 Freemont, $129,900	644-4700

WEST BLOOMFIELD

2482 Comfort, $358,000	644-4700
2263 Hammond H., $174,500	644-4700
5418 Greenbrier, $154,900	644-4700
6945 Beverly Crest, $158,500	644-4700
6178 St. James, $239,900	644-4700
7187 Westbury, $159,900	851-1900

CONDOMINIUMS

14 Mile & Drake, from $159,900	644-4700
806 Revere Ct., $99,900	477-1111
29880 12 Mile-unit 802, $64,900	851-1900

COMMERCIAL 353-4400 LATHRUP VILLAGE 559-2300 WESTLAND 326-2000 FARMINGTON 477-1111 FARMINGTON HILLS 851-1900 LIVONIA 261-0700 PLYMOUTH/CANTON 455-7000 NORTHVILLE 348-6430