

# Suburban Life

Lorraine McClish editor/477-5450



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## Needlework

### Traveling teacher captures blue ribbon

By Lorraine McClish  
staff writer

**TEACHER'S AWARD**, a bright and shiny apple made of metal and silk threads, took the blue ribbon in a spring show of needlework sponsored by the Rochester Chapter of Embroiders Guild of America.

The piece is the work of Carlene Harwick, an original design executed with a technique called couching. "I was into my third year working toward certification (as a needleworker) before I tried couching," Harwick said. "I like all the stitches, but I keep leaning toward couching and a lot of the seminars I've given lately have been on this one technique."

As she talked, she had just gotten back from Indiana after heading up a three-day seminar there and was getting ready for another to be given in Ann Arbor.

In between her travels to give seminars, demonstrations, lectures and workshops, she teaches classes in Golden Fleece in downtown Farmington, Needlework in Birmingham, Fancywork in Sterling Heights, and heads up periodic workshops for Jacobson's. After "Teacher's Award" took a blue ribbon, she started producing kits of the design. A class for needleworkers to try their hand at emulating the award-winning piece will be on the spring roster of those offered by Golden Fleece.

TEACHER'S AWARD is not for sale.

"Any show of needlework — whether sponsored by a chapter of Embroiders Guild of America or American Needlepoint Guild — is a show, an exhibit, a competition. It's never a show and sale," said Harwick, who took her award in a field of about 1,300 juried entries from all over the country.

"I think any of those pieces would be very difficult to buy. Teacher's Award is five by five (inches) unframed. The time spent on it alone would put the price up to \$200-\$300. Fiber artists are pretty possessive about what they've created. It's their

habits. The needleworker gave birth to that particular piece and you don't give that up easily," she said.

Harwick described needlework as "anything produced with a needle that has an eye."

As a certified needlework instructor she will teach a class in Golden Fleece for beginners this spring "for anyone who has never picked up a needle before," she said.

Another series is called a project class, "where everyone works on the same project," she said. Another is called Potpourri, where students can work on any piece with any stitch or technique of their choice.

When she won an honors scholarship to complete her certification, it included money to complete two years of concentrated research in the field of her choice and she chose couching.

THE NOVI resident belongs to four needlework organizations. As a member of Farmington Area Chapter of Embroiders Guild of America, she is serving this year as the chapter's program chairperson.

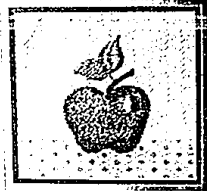
"I get the speakers, arrange for the demonstrations, arrange for the workshops, hire the teachers," she said. "There is always something new to learn and we have plenty of help for the beginner. Guests are always welcome."

The chapter meets at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of every month in Faith Church, on the corner of Drake and 14 Mile Road.

A complete listing of all classes offered in Golden Fleece this spring can be picked up in the shop at 33305 Grand River. All of Harwick's classes are limited in number.



THOMAS ARNETT



Carlene Harwick talks about the sessions she leads in Golden Fleece's classroom and the needlework technique she's perfected that won her a blue ribbon for 'Teacher's Award.'



RANDY BOST

### Year of the Young Child

Budding artists Caryn Glass (at left), Emily Drette, Sean Gough and Jessica Jennings all helped to create the quilt that will be part of Farmington YMCA's observance of Year of the Young Child. The walls of the Y's main building will be lined with children's art in readiness for Jerry Jacoby, a children's entertainer who will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Y, Farmington Road north of 12 Mile, as part of the observance. Admission is \$1 a person, or a maximum of \$5 for a family, at the door.



David Finney



Heather Phares



Sean LaHouse

## Quakertown nominees take 3 DAR state awards

Three of the people sponsored by Quakertown Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution took top honors during the state society's annual Awards Day.

David D. Finney, a historian who teaches at North Farmington High School and Oakland Community College, was given the title of "Outstanding American History Teacher in Michigan."

Heather Phares, an eighth grader at Warner Middle School, was declared Michigan's top winner in the American History Essay competition.

Sean LaHouse, a senior at Anderson High School in Southgate, was among the 10 Michigan "Good Citizen" finalists.

In addition Becky Davis, Quakertown's regent, accepted the first

place award for "Best Press Book" in the state among chapters with 50-100 members.

All of the winners and their families were entertained at a luncheon following the presentation.

Finney was given the DAR's History Award Medal. Heather, the daughter of Don and Penny Phares of Farmington Hills, was given the DAR's American History Month medal and a certificate declaring her the state winner.

FINNEY IS chairman of the social studies department and student teacher supervisor at North Farmington High and an instructor of American Civil War history on Orchard Ridge Campus, Oakland Community College.

He has served as supervisor and historian, directed "Living History" camp activities and performed first-

person interpretations for National Park Service, Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania County and Petersburg National Battlefields in Virginia.

He has held numerous committee positions and acted as consultant for both local and state historical events.

He has served as president and program chairman for Michigan Regimental Civil War Round Table and is a nationally known historian and authority on the American Civil War.

His articles have been published in Michigan History Magazine and American Civil War Arms Collectors' Journal.



He is currently serving as chairman of the Governor's Minute Man Awards for Greater Michigan Foundation.

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