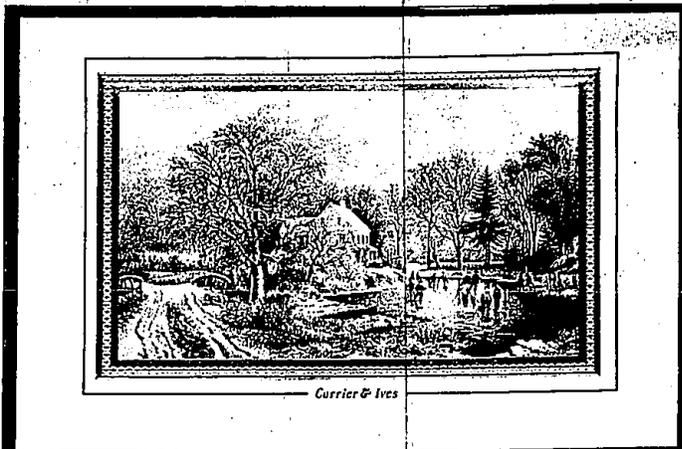




Snowmen decorate the cover of the Foundation for the Mentally Ill Inc.'s annual Christmas card. The card was designed by a youngster at Fairtown Center, a psychiatric facility for children and youngsters. The cards sell for \$7 for a box of 25 and there is a \$1.75 mailing charge. Cards can be ordered from FMIC, 6478 Red Oak Lane, Troy 48068.



The Michigan Cancer Foundation is offering six styles of greeting cards and note cards, ranging in price from \$9 to \$18 per box of 25. Imprinting is available and requires four weeks for delivery. The cards are available at the MCF's Dearborn Office, 15001 Commerce Dr. North, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call the MCF at 338-4110, or Sandy Spearman at 3-0710.

Wishing you the very best this year . . .

Charities' cards spread yule cheer

The American Cancer Society is doing it. So is the American Heart Association of Michigan. Ditto for the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation, Michigan Humane Society and a whole lot more.

The "it" making Christmas card orders. Yep, the first snowflake has yet to fall, and it's already time to start thinking about Christmas. Just a few more weeks and the shopping malls will begin decking the halls in anticipation of Santa Claus' arrival.

Whether you like to mail your cards weeks before Christmas or you leave it to the last minute, dropping your cards off at a post office on Christmas Eve, now is the time to order your supply of holiday greetings from your favorite charity.

The cards are just one way the non-profit organizations raise money for their many activities like research, public education programs and patient services.

The card selection is as varied as the causes the charities work for — nostalgic holiday scenes, Currier and Ives reproductions, whimsical Santa scenes, cards adorned with a multitude of musical instruments.

Many of the cards can be imprinted, but like most things, there's a decline for ordering them. That's why now is the time to get your order in.

So why spread your holiday cheer this year while helping charitable groups keep up their good work.



New Horizons of Oakland County Inc., an agency that services physically and mentally handicapped adults and has goals of community or supported employment, has one style of Christmas card available. Designed by a New Horizons client, the cards sell for \$20 per box of 20. They can be ordered by contacting Ron Storing or Monica Zielinski at 117 Turk, Pontiac 48053, or by calling 338-6178.



The Spina Bifida Association of Southeastern Michigan has two designs available this year. They cards cost \$8 per box of 25 and there is a mailing charge of \$1.75 for the first box and \$1 for each additional box. To place an order, call Vincetta Nicosia at 689-9858.



The American Heart Association statewide holiday greeting card program features six nostalgic, religious and humorous card selections with matching envelopes. Prices range from \$12 to \$17 per box of 25, a \$2 delivery charge for the first box and 50 cents for each additional box. Cards are available at AHA offices or by mail order (allow two to three weeks delivery.) The cards are available at the AHA Western Wayne Office in the Whitman Center, 32235 W. Chicao, Livonia (425-2333), and at the Southeast Region Office, 16310 W. 12th Road, Lathrup Village (557-8500).



"Wishing You a Purrrfect Christmas" is one of two cards available from the Michigan Animal Rescue League. The cards sell for \$10.40 (including postage) per box of 25. Cards can be ordered from the Michigan Animal Rescue League, P.O. Box 923, Sterling Heights 48311. Cards also are being sold at the league's animal shelter, 790 Featherstone, Pontiac, at \$8 per box during business hours — 10 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



"At the Mill Pond" is one of 10 holiday cards available from the Nardin Park Braille Transcribers. Prices ranging from \$4 to \$7.50 per box of 20 and shipping is available via UPS at a charge of \$1.50 for the first box and 20 cents for each additional box. For ordering or more information, call Marilyn Wegienka at 591-2387 or Fran Hoetger at 476-4973.