exhibitions

This column runs weekly in Creative Living. Send news items about Oakland County events to The Eccentric, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. Send items about Wayne County events to The Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Attention: Creative Living editor.

● SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER
Monday, May 27 — "Creator," exhibition of paintings and drawings by Robert Francis Baker, continues through June 8. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday and until 5 p.m. Saturday, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield.

● NARDIN PARK METHODIST CHURCH
Wednesday, May 29 — Spring art exhibit by the Farmington Artists Club continues through Saturday, June 1. Hours are 3-9 p.m. Wednesday with a 7-9 p.m. Wednesday reception; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, 11 Mile, west of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

● JACOBSON'S STORE FOR THE HOME
Thursday, May 30 — Watercolors and lithographs by Julie Dawson, popular Birmingham-based artist, are on display through June 15. Dawson will be at the store to sign her lithos Thursday evening, May 30, and from 1-3 p.m. Thursday, June 13. Open during regular business hours, Woodward, two blocks north of Maple, Birmingham.

● FINNISH CULTURAL CENTER
Saturday, June 1 — Exhibit and sale of paintings by Yrjo Mustonen, landscape painter, whose paintings have been exhibited in Scandinavian and other European countries. Continues during Sunday, 1-6 p.m. both days, 35200 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

● HIRSCHL & ADLER MODERN
Thursday, May 30 — Acrylics on canvas by Elliott Green, former Birmingham area resident now living and working in New York City, are on display through July 3. Reception 6-8 p.m. Thursday, 851 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y.

● PEWABIC POTTERY
Friday, May 31 — Pewabic students, faculty and staff exhibition continues through July 6. Reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday. Public invited. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit.

● SWIDLER GALLERY
Saturday, June 1 — "On The Table/On The Wall: The Platter" continues through July 13. Reception 6-8:30 p.m. Saturday. Slide lecture by Paul Kotula, gallery director, "The State of Our Art: Our Philosophy and Our Artists," at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 10. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 308 W. Fourth, Royal Oak.

● DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER
Saturday, June 1 — Outdoor art fair complements the "Bloomin' Rochester" festival of art and flowers that runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The art will be on West Fourth where Walnut Street intersects.

● PAINT CREEK CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Saturday, June 1 — Multi-media show with flower emphasis in the first floor galleries through June 29. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 407 Pine, Rochester.

● CAROL HOOBERMAN GALLERY
Saturday, June 1 — "It's for the Birds," artist-decorated bird houses are on display through the month. Profits go to the American Wildlife Federation, 124 S. Woodward, Suite 12, Birmingham.

● WOODS GALLERY
Monday, June 3 — Mixed media show of works by JARC artists, a Jewish association for residential care for persons with developmental disabilities. "Meet the Artists" reception 7:30-9 p.nm. Monday. Continues through June 28. Lower level of the Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scotia, Huntington Woods.

● J. GIORDANO GALLERY
Pencil drawings by Jorge E. Galvez are on display through June 21. His works encompass a range of subjects blending reality and fantasy, 332 E. Main, Northville.

● HILL GALLERY
Paintings and sculpture by self-taught artists Eddie Arning and Willie Leroy Elliott, Jr. are on display through June 15. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 163 Townsend, Birmingham.

● GALERIE 454
New-to-Birmingham gallery exhibits contemporary, international 19th and 20th century artists, 176 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

● SCARAB CLUB
Annual works on paper exhibit, juried by Lorraine Chambers McCarty, will continue through June 10. Regular hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., until 8 p.m. Thursday and 2-6 p.m. Sunday, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit.

● EAST/WEST GALLERY
Ink and water paintings by Chinese artist Yu Shimei are on display to June 28, 23337 Woodward, Ferndale.

● DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
"Art in Israel Today," an exhibit of nine contemporary Israeli artists, is on display in the Farnsworth lobby galleries through Aug. 18. Sponsored by American-Israel Education Institute and Friends of Modern Art. Open during regular hours, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, 5200 Woodward, Detroit.

● O.K. HARRIS
Paintings by John Fawcett and Joseph Maresca along with electric sculpture by Mark Merline, are on display through June 22. Fawcett explores American pop culture, Maresca paints still lifes, 430 N. Woodward, Birmingham.

● DOS MANOS
"Faces of Strength," an exhibit of 22 photographs by Fons Kruger, will be on display through June 22. Kruger and her husband, Verlen, are world-record canoeists who completed a 21,000-mile trip from the Artic Ocean to Cape Horn at the tip of South America. Her photos are of the women in the many countries they traveled through. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, until 9 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, 210 W. Sixth, Royal Oak.

● DANIELLE PELEG GALLERY
Oils on canvas by Moshe Michaan are being shown for the first time in this area. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, 4301 Orchard Lake, Suite 103, West Bloomfield.

● PRINT GALLERY
Paintings by Dorothy L. Broder, Detroit artist, are on display through June 29. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, until 9 p.m. Thursday, 29203 Northwestern, Southfield.

● BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART ASSOCIATION
"Picasso, Pop and Pizza" is the juried exhibit of the regional all-media competition for students in grades 9-12. This year's 650 entries was the largest in the history of this competition. Continues through May 29. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham.

● PARK WEST GALLERY
Paintings, sculptures and serigraphs by Jiang Tiefeng of People's Republic of China are on display. He came to the United States in 1983 and now lives and works in southern California. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, until 9 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 29469 Northwestern, Southfield.

● PARLOR FRAME WORKS AND GALLERY
"Transitions," oils, wood constructions and drawings by Carolyn S. Dennis of Clarkston, is on display through May. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, until 7 p.m. Friday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, 649 Broadway in downtown Davisburg.

Museum builds line of reproduction furniture

all about color

Helen Diane Vincent

Many Americans who have had a love affair with Early American furnishings will now have access to a new source familiar to us here in Michigan.

In April, the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village introduced the largest museum reproductions program ever launched at the International Home Furnishings Market at High Point, N.C.

The museum's American Life Collection was well received by both the press and buyers attending the show, foretelling a wide distribution of the line in October.

The collection includes reproductions, adaptations and interpretations of more than 100 18th and 19th century pieces from the museum's exhibition of nearly 90,000 objects.

Harold K. Skramstad Jr., president of the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, sees the collection as a "different kind of opportunity to share our treasures with the public."

TO CREATE the collection, the Dearborn-based museum carefully screened numerous companies as prospective licensees, chosen for their reputation to ensure accuracy and excellence in reproductions and adaptations of museum pieces.

"Integrity of design and superb quality are evident in every item," said Linda S. Lagerstrom, the museum's manager of product development and licensing.

She hinted at the potential for expansion of this and other collections given the museum's vast resources.

Among the companies that will create the merchandise for the American Life Collection are Century Furniture Industries for case goods and upholstered pieces, Chelsea House-Port Royal for oil paintings and decorative accessories, La Barge Mirrors for decorative wall mirrors, Sligh Furniture for tall clocks, Mountain Rug Mills for hooked rugs and Waverly for some of the textiles.

It was Century Furniture's dramatic display of the collection at the High Point market that elicited such a positive response.

THE ENTIRE American Life Collection will be permanently showcased in a 2,600-square-foot gallery in the Henry Ford Museum for the 1.2 million people who visit the historic complex annually.

This on-site gallery is scheduled to open in early fall. It will include information on participating dealers who will carry the lines throughout the United States.

Contributing to the overall cohesiveness of the furnishings and lending an aura of further authenticity is a collection of 36 Pratt and Lambert Early American paint colors made for both interior and exterior use.

For this collection, the 36 colors are offered in five color families: golds, tans and browns, blues and greens, reds and neutrals. Each of the colors is rendered in rich and subtle tones we all identify with our Early American legacy.

"THE FASCINATION of these artifacts lies in the feelings and insight they give us about the past," said Michael Ettema, a William Clay Ford curator of the Design History Collections Division.

"They connect us through the generations to the lives of our predecessors.

"Mostly, they were people of the 'middling sort,' farmers, merchants, entrepreneurs, artisans . . . people who served long apprenticeships at silversmithing, potting, weaving and, of course, cabinetmaking, not only supplying the practical needs of a nation but also, giving the emerging American culture a tangible and visible expression.

"They wanted furniture that was durable but not clumsy, utilitarian but not mundane, serviceable but not dull.

"But they also expected good design . . . furnishings that revealed a shared standard of taste and propriety, but still with an aura of distinction."

Helen Diane Vincent is a design writer based in Troy. Her column runs the fourth Monday of each month.

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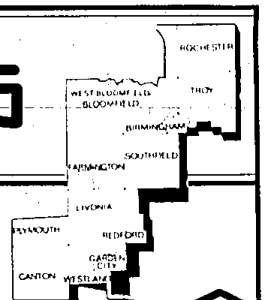

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THURSDAY ISSUE:	5 P.M. TUESDAY

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