

Effective cropping may enhance photos

"Years ago, I remember seeing a mattress tag that spelled out in no uncertain terms, 'do not remove under penalty of law.'"

"How ridiculous, I thought, yet I bet there are people who wouldn't think of snipping off that sacred tag."

In numerous photography judgments and critiques over the years, I've noticed a similar reverence. That is, people hesitate altering the size of their finished prints and slides.

"They feel either they can't cut down that 8 by 10 enlargement or they're not aware of the improvements that can be made by slight cropping."

"Yes, cropping your photograph when needed can dramatically improve the impact and strength of your final image."

I've seen many a gorgeous, well-composed and well-executed print that suffers, for example, only from that distracting bright patch of sky in the upper corner. Cropping just a half inch or so off the top of the shot, eliminating the "hot spot," will make a noticeable improvement in your shot.

HOW ABOUT your special sunset



photography

Monte Nagler

picture that has just too much sky and too much foreground? Cropping some off top and bottom will produce a much more striking panorama sunset. Or your favorite zoo shot of the giraffe stretching his neck upward to reach the berries on the branch. Wouldn't a vertical crop enhance this picture? You bet.

A cropped print may preclude you from using pre-cut mats available in many stores. But for just a couple dollars more, any frame shop can custom tailor mats to your cropped print.

Slides can be cropped, too. In fact, a slide presentation can be made much more interesting by cropping some of the images for greater variety of size slides. Your local photo dealer stocks Gepe brand slide mounts, easy to assemble and avail-

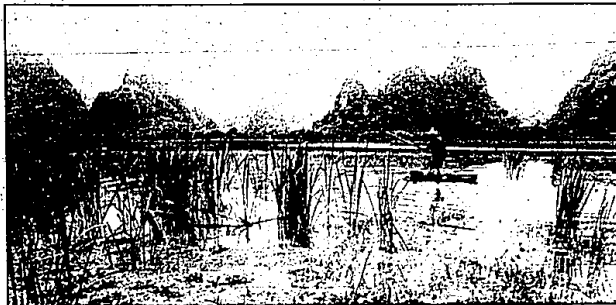
Yes, cropping your photograph when needed can dramatically improve the impact and strength of your final image.

able in many pre-cropped shapes.

In discussing cropping, I am not suggesting photographing the whole scene and then deciding later what parts to crop out. I believe in cropping through the camera to obtain the best possible negative or slide. Then, if necessary, crop to enhance your photograph.

Cropping can dramatically improve your pictures. But think, if you begin to crop your photographs, you might just trim off that mattress tag.

Monte Nagler is a professional photographer based in Farmington Hills.



There was too much sky and too much foreground in the initial picture. Effective cropping produced this photograph with greater impact. Monte Nagler took this fisherman near Gullin, China. Nagler, who teaches many photography classes in the area, isn't saying, photograph

the whole scene, then decide later what parts to crop out. He's saying, crop through the camera to obtain the best possible negative or slide. Then, if necessary, crop to enhance your photograph.

Color slides of hometowns sought for state exhibit

Amateur photographers from around Michigan will have the chance to exhibit their work in the new Michigan Historical Museum in downtown Lansing.

As part of its temporary exhibit, "Still Memories: A Century of Michigan Photography," which opens Sept. 21, the museum is holding a photo contest to locate outstanding color slides of contemporary life in Michigan hometowns.

"This exhibit will feature Michigan hometowns as seen today by am-

ateur photographers, both young and old," said Secretary of State Richard Austin, Michigan's official historian.

"This is an excellent opportunity to view different interpretations of what reminds Michigan residents of their local town or city."

"While we may receive photographic entries of city parks and downtown streets, we are sure to receive snapshots of families and individuals enjoying everyday activities," Austin added.

"We want to show Michigan through a photographer's eye and who better to help us than Michiganders who have captured that spirit on film."

In addition to the 80 photographs being selected for "Hometown Reflections," the exhibit will feature photographs from the State Archives of Michigan taken between 1857 and 1957, as well as period artifacts.

THE SLIDES may feature any aspect of hometown life in Michigan

and must be submitted in 35mm format no later than Aug. 16. Entries are limited to one per person and become the property of the Michigan Historical Museum. Therefore, duplicate slides, rather than originals, should be submitted.

The 80 individuals whose slides are chosen for the exhibit will be recognized in the "Hometown Reflections" section of the exhibit. All will be given certificates of recognition, with the top five entries receiving prizes donated by Kodak.

Entry forms may be obtained from up to 1,000 Kodak dealers, Secretary of State branch offices or by sending a self-addressed, stamped No. 10-size envelope to "My Michigan Hometown" Photography Contest, Michigan Historical Museum, 171 W. Allegan St., Lansing 48918.

The Michigan Historical Museum is operated by the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of History, the official state agency responsible for preserving and protecting Michigan history.

In addition to the Michigan Historical Museum, its nine field sites and the state Archives of Michigan, the Bureau of History is responsible for historic preservation, archaeology, historical publications, including Michigan History Magazine, and the Michigan Historical Marker Program.

It also seeks advice from and provides staff support to the Michigan Historical Commission, an advisory board to the bureau.

The Prudential
Great Lakes Realty

*Have a safe and happy
Independence Day!*



NOVI. Unique passive/solar 3 bedroom home situated on 4.6 acres with meadows, ponds and trees. Highlights atrium with doorwall to deck. First floor master suite. Dramatic great room with fireplace and cathedral ceiling. \$375,000 626-9100 02-B-5673



FARMINGTON HILLS. Professionally decorated Contemporary home with every amenity. Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and master bedroom suite with jacuzzi soaker tub. Spacious with a formal dining area, library and great room. \$354,900 851-8100 06-B-5431



FARMINGTON HILLS. Impressive Ramblewood Contemporary on a cul-de-sac backing to commons. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, living room with Italian marble fireplace, formal dining room, library and 1st floor laundry. Chef's kitchen. \$289,900 851-8100



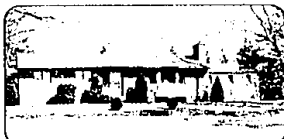
FRANKLIN. Super sharp Quad-level on a 2 acre ravine lot in Franklin. Interior has 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, family room with fireplace, rec room and dining room. Features hardwood floors, Pella windows, newer roof and 3 plus car garage. \$269,900 646-6000 01-B-5525



FARMINGTON HILLS. Meticulous 4 bedroom home backs to a commons area. Hardwood floors accent the den, living and dining rooms. Custom carpeting, bar and fireplace in the family room. Double doors lead to the deck with hot tub. \$204,500 626-9100



FARMINGTON. Completely remodeled 4 bedroom Colonial. Oversized country kitchen with ceramic tile counters and island stove. Features oak floors, a full wall fireplace, new hot tub and a spacious deck. Central air and 2 1/2 baths. \$179,888 626-9100 02-B-5819



FARMINGTON HILLS. This sharp Ranch sits on a large wooded lot. Many updates including the kitchen, furnace and central air. Spacious interior with 3 bedrooms, rec room, formal dining room, breakfast nook, slate foyer and fireplace. \$154,900 626-9100 02-B-5528



FARMINGTON HILLS. Clean Ranch on a beautiful lot. Offers 3 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half baths. Dining room with doorwall to 2 level deck overlooking pond. Living room with fireplace and newer carpeting. Walkout lower level. \$129,900 626-9100



LIVONIA. Attractive home in a popular neighborhood and close to expressways. Four bedrooms with hardwood floors. Newer furnace, kitchen floor and countertops. Private patio in fenced yard. Tiled basement and 1 1/2 baths. \$127,500 626-9100 02-D-5892



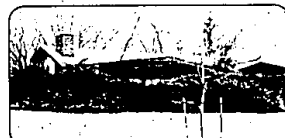
FARMINGTON HILLS. This Condo is priced below builder's model. Neutral decor with a first floor laundry, 2 bedrooms, each with their own baths, oversized living room with fireplace and a full basement. Private deck and central air. \$124,900 626-9100 02-B-5823



FARMINGTON HILLS. Clean and attractive home is an alternative to apartment or condo living. Offers 2 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths. Fireplace in family room. Kitchen with breakfast nook. First floor laundry. Deck and central air. \$110,000 626-9100 02-B-5639



FRANKLIN. Don't overlook this investment or condo alternative. Offers 2 bedrooms. Florida room, nice kitchen and living room with fireplace. Enjoy the porch on those lazy summer nights. One car attached garage. First floor laundry. \$107,000 646-6000 01-B-5638



SOUTHFIELD. Get away from it all in this Contemporary. Open floor plan and new paint. Offers 2-3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, great room and living room with fireplace. Walkout lower level to lot backing to a running stream. \$87,900 626-9100 02-B-5643



SOUTHFIELD. Well-maintained 3 bedroom Ranch. Newer furnace and roof. Features a dining room, spacious kitchen, living room and 1 1/2 baths. Nice fenced yard. Full basement. Maintenance free exterior. Close to schools, church and shopping. \$83,900 626-9100 02-B-5759



SOUTHFIELD. Updated 3 bedroom Ranch. Fresh paint and new carpeting. Spacious interior shows formal dining room and 1st floor laundry. Fireplaces in the living and family rooms. Solar heated hot water is just one of many extra features. \$79,900 626-9100



NOVI. Exciting 3 bedroom Condo in the best location in the complex. Beautifully remodeled kitchen with washed oak cabinets. Recently remodeled bath. Double entry doors to the large master bedroom. Lots of storage in utility room. \$77,900 626-9100 02-B-5850

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31000 Northwestern Hwy
(at 13 Mile)
626-9100
RELOCATION OFFICE
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