

# Architects' works being cataloged

Cranbrook Educational Community will begin cataloging nearly 10,000 architectural, engineering and landscape architecture drawings with the support of a \$45,000 grant from the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust. Mark Coir, Cranbrook director of archives, expects work to begin late this summer.

The collection includes drawings and renderings by noted Finnish architects Eliel and Eero Saarinen, Albert Kahn, Samuel Yellin and other architects and designers associated

with the development of Cranbrook. Most of the drawings were produced by Eliel Saarinen and draftsmen working under him in the Cranbrook Architectural Office, established in 1926. The collection was assembled from the late 1920s through the early 1940s.

The drawings will be cataloged on Cranbrook Educational Community's QUIXIS system, computer software designed specifically for handling museum collections. After cataloging, the drawings will be stored in acid-free folders in the Cranbrook

Archives vault. Long-range plans call for transferring the documents to microfilm for easier access.

The plans have been invaluable to architects and contractors working on the Cranbrook property. In addition, the Archives receive several requests for specific plans each month from museum curators, campus planners, landscape architects, historians, and students.

"Cataloging the collection will al-

low us to easily locate specific documents," Coir said. "We will be able to maintain the collection better and plan to report our holdings to national computer databases. That will open the collection to even greater scholarly use."

Cranbrook's designation as a National Historic Landmark adds to the significance of this project. Cataloging the collection is expected to take one year.

# Leonard to sign books

Elmore Leonard, Birmingham-based novelist, will autograph copies of his newest bestseller, "Maximum Bob," 7-8 p.m. Friday at Birmingham Bookstore.

Leonard, often described as the

best living crime fiction writer, has written more than 30 novels. His most recent include "Get Shorty," "Killshot" and "Glitz."

Birmingham Bookstore is at 263 Pierce, Birmingham.

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