

Say happy holiday with Michigan goodies

By Janice Tigar-Kramer
special writer

WHAT BETTER way to say happy holidays to friends, relatives and employees than with a gift that's Michigan-made. This year, holiday gift-givers won't have to look far for gourmet food, art and novelties, all designed or made by Michiganders.

Don't miss Michigania Inc., 205 Pierce St., Birmingham, for a grand selection of art, food and giftware representing the best Michigan has to offer. You'll find everything from American Spoon jam and plum and cranberry ketchup from Petoskey to Zender noodles and seasonings from Frankenmuth, said Nancy Tarr, store manager.

For gifts of arts and crafts, there's Detroit's Pewabic Pottery tiles starting at \$25 (fairy tale series from \$54) or plates and vases from \$42.

Always popular at holiday time are ornaments from Hope Glass, Hope, from \$6.25-\$11. Or choose from a selection of glassware from Boyer Glass, Harbor Springs. Boyer's decorative paperweights are \$45-\$50, ornaments, \$18, vases, \$50, and one-of-a-kind suncatchers, \$32 and up.

There are also bronze and brass sculptures by Scott Nelles, Rapid City. Don Stiles figures made of Petoskey stone and pottery from Freeland and Vestaburg.

MICHIGANIA ALSO carries a selection of books about Michigan and by many of the state's renowned authors. There are also gift baskets with Michigan products starting at \$20. Bored cards and notes by Gwen Frostie, Benzonia, are \$3.50-\$5.

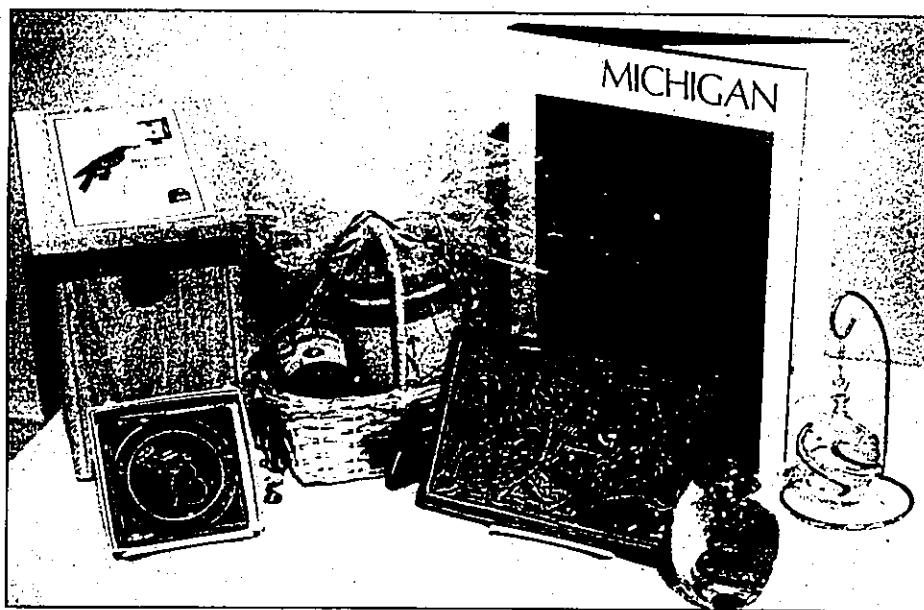
"People buy Michigan-made gifts because they love the state and want to promote it with a special gift. A lot of people want their gifts to be made at home," Tarr said.

Try Basket Boutique, 24782 Hathaway, Farmington Hills, for gift baskets heaped with gourmet foods and art products made in Michigan. Baskets start at \$22.

"Best of Michigan Baskets" may include Mucky Duck mustard made in Sylvan Lake, al dente pasta from Whitmore Lake, Clancy's hot sauce from Ann Arbor, Monica's Cookies from Kalamazoo and gourmet pretzels from Bay City. There are also preserves, soup, mugs, fudge, peanuts, tea, barbecue sauce, relish, Verner's and dozens of other products, all Michigan-made.

Besides food, choose a basket with candles shaped like birds, apples, hearts or flowers from Harmony Candle Co., Elsie. There's a copper maple leaf from Calumet, note pads from Dexter, aprons, totes and oven mitt maps of Michigan from Traverse City. Choose from 15 prepared baskets (even one for the health conscious) or visit Basket Boutique to select products for a custom basket.

"So many people are proud of Michigan and want to send an assortment of the state's products to relatives or friends who've moved



JERRY ZOLYNSKY/staff photographer

Michigania Inc. in downtown Birmingham has a wide selection of food, home accessories and gifts all made by Michigan artists and businesses. From top left, one of several Dale Anderson bird feeders, Stephenson; Americana Spoon jelly, Petoskey, packaged with Olis Pottery, East Jordan; "Michigan," a photo essay by Stan Osolinski; a handblown ornament from Hope Glass, Hope. From bottom left, small tile and large lary tale tile from Pewabic Tile, Detroit; Boyer paperweight, Harbor Springs.

relatives or friends who've moved away," said Judy Thomas, owner. "We have a customer who comes in every year to select the products for her husband's basket. It gets larger every Christmas."

Call Basket Boutique at 474-7788.

YOU WON'T have far to go for placemats, napkins, aprons and tailgate runners appliqued with local college logos.

Ruth Huber of Troy started Coordinated Products 25 years ago when she needed a job but wanted to stay home with the kids. Today, her products are sold nationwide. Besides college logo products, Huber designs Christmas stockings made of pillow ticking, quilted fabric, or white cotton with enough space to paint your own design. Stockings are \$3-\$10 at Bronners, Frankenmuth.

Kids' bulletin boards in 15 designs (including soccer, baseball and ballet) are \$12 and up at local Hallmark stores.

Reversible totes appliqued with geese and hunt scenes are \$20 at Gail's Office Supply, Birmingham.

FOR THE cat who has everything, consider UltraMouse, a 4 1/2-inch mouse. Please turn to Page 17

Petwear keeps your pooch warm in winter

THE HUMANE Society of the United States and the American Humane Association recommend that small, short-hair, older or infirm dogs use a coat during winter. Pets cannot tolerate prolonged exposure to cold.

While the most important reason for petwear is to help maintain a pet's good health by providing warmth and dryness, there are other reasons: Cleanliness and timesaving.

Time spent cleaning outdoor debris dragged into homes by pets can be reduced by using petwear. Why not confine the mess to a washable garment rather than let it be dropped from the pet's coat throughout the home?

Can our pets be protected and at the same time be fashionably clothed?

Custom Cover-Up, Inc., a Farmington-based business, designs and manufactures quality products for people and their pets.

Owners Karen Kiefler and Trisha Krutlin, a mother/daughter team with complimenting backgrounds in fashion and business, are dedicated to providing products with style, proper fit, quality fabric and color.

THE TWO, owners of long-haired Lhasa Apsos, said they couldn't buy quality garments that actually fit their pets. Most garments on the market were "one-size-fits-all" and didn't cover their legs.

So what do creative people do? They design and make their own garments. Krutlin designed a four-legged coat that provided warmth, cleanliness, dryness and looked great. That was the beginning of Custom Cover-Up, she said.

Custom Cover-Up's product line includes matching weather-resistant jackets and pants for adults and children. They are sold nationally through a color catalog. Call 478-9674.

Do pets really like wearing clothing? "If the coat fits comfortably, they forget they are wearing it. Just praise them a little and they soon know something special is happening and react positively," Krutlin said.