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BUILDING SCENE

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BUILDING SCENE'S NAMES & PLACES

SH&G changes

Swiech

Randal E. Swiech, senior vice president, will assume the duties of director of the professional staff at Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, the Detroit architecture, engineering and planning firm. A Livonia resident, he is a member of SH&G's board of directors. He has been corporate director of electrical engineering for the past eight years.

Klein featured

Jeffrey Klein and Klein Construction Inc. II, Rochester Hills, were featured in the cover story of the March issue of Builder/Architect magazine. The company is currently building in the Paint Creek Ridge subdivision in Lake Orion.

Fraser joins Gibbs

Fraser

Robert A. Fraser of Bloomfield Hills will assume the supervision of day-to-day operations at Gibbs Planning Group, Birmingham. He joins the company, after having served as partner at Landscape Architecture Resources. Gibbs specializes in site planning, retail consulting and urban design.

Dealership opens

The latest in car dealership architecture will be unveiled at the opening of Meadowbrook Dodge, 3050 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills, on Tuesday.

Sussman joins Integrated

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Stephen Sussman has been named director of architectural design at Integrated Design Group, the Birmingham architecture, planning and interior design firm. He had been assistant director of interior architecture and an associate at Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates.

Prison in Dailey's future

R.E. Dailey & Co. of Southfield has been awarded the construction contract for the Federal Correctional Institution and Prison Camp in Greenville, Ill. It is a 14-building complex including a 500-bed medium security and 250-bed minimum security facilities.

New duties at Manhattan

Manhattan Co., a Troy-based brokerage company, has formed an office/commercial brokerage operation and recently formed an appraisal division. Mark L. Walley will head the office/commercial brokerage. He was formerly vice president and director of Lambrecht Co.'s commercial brokerage department. Manhattan is located at 850 Stephenson Highway.

NO PANE no gain

At Homearama it's a glass act

Ideas are the main commodity of Homearama, a showcase of the latest in architecure, landscape and decor. Doors will be open through May 25.

BY MARILYN FITCHETT
STAFF WRITER

This month's Homearama is enough to make a Windex salesman beam.

Huge windows in non-traditonal shapes and sizes abound in the Homearama houses, which are open now through May 25 in the Meadows at Oakland Farms subdivision in Oakland Township. Consider:

- A two-story family room in the Franklin accommodates French doors leading outside to the deck. The French doors are flanked on each side by windows the size of a single door with additional glass above, all of which is topped by a centering semi-circular window. The Franklin was built by Pinnacle Residential Homes of Rochester Hills, architecture by Bryce & Palazzolo, West Bloomfield.
- Seven skylights brighten the master suite, second floor and exercise room of the Albertville, a house by Classic Custom Homes of Bloomfield Hills, Jannis Vann & Associates architect.
- Two-story, floor-to-ceiling bay windows in the living room and dining room and half-round top windows in the family room and breakfast room in the Knorrwood, a house by Robert R. Jones Associates of West Bloomfield, architecture done in-house.
- Triple-glazed, argon-filled Weathershield windows in the Smart House by Wake-Pratt Construction Co., Troy, architecture by Bowers & Rein Associates.
- A huge transom window above the entry in the two-story foyer of the Sussex by S.R. Jacobson Development Corp., Birmingham, Bryce & Palazzola architects. The kitchen is accented by walls of windows.

In other fentures, visitors are likely to notice the shrinking of the formal areas of the home such as the living and dining rooms, and the expansion of the informal: the kitchen and family room. Architects seemed to favor positioning the formal rooms in the front of the house, and the informal in the back. But they were split in placement of the master suite, with some on the first floor, others on the second.

To help with the traffic, builders have installed double staircases so family members have access from either the formal or non-formal areas from both the front and back of the house.

Interior pillars or columns are also in vogue, adding some decorating flair while serving to isolate an otherwise open room.

Decorating colors lean toward the dark, with forest green and deep hues of pink favorite colors of the designers.

Homearama hours are 3:30-10:30 p.m. weekdays, noon to 10:30 p.m. weekends and on Monday, May 25. Meadows at Oakland subdivision is on Gunn Road west of Rochester Road, four miles north of downtown Rochester. Tickets are $6.

STAFF PHOTO BY GARY WARNER

On a clear day . . . : *The Knorrwood, a Robert R. Jones house, features two-story bay windows in the living and dining room areas.*

Room with a view: *A corner window graces the kitchen of the Franklin by Pinnacle Residential Homes of Rochester Hills.*

Housing begins to hum

TERRIE GUNTER/STAFF ARTIST

Last year was a mixed bag for O&E communities in terms of residential building permits issued, according to an annual survey compiled by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

Troy, Bloomfield Township, Livonia and Westland were up substantially from 1990 figures. Rochester Hills and Farmington Hills were down substantially. Canton, West Bloomfield and Plymouth Township remained about the same.

This year is shaping up to be a good one, several building officials have reported.

"Single family was up at the end of March about 11 percent," said William Dinnan, director of planning for Rochester Hills.

"I'm not an economist. I can only tell what I hear from builders. They're getting a lot of traffic. It appears that things are stabilizing," Dinnan said.

Permits were pulled for 66 single-family detached units and cluster units in West Bloomfield during the first quarter of this year. That's more than double processed during the same period in 1991, said JoAnn Kochanowski, office coordinator for the township building department.

"Builders feel the economy is on an upswing," she said. "Interest rates are holding."

Room for growth

John Weyer, building official in Canton, predicted that more than 500 permits will be issued for single-family detached units there

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