

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1992



MARY KLEMIC

## Books make exciting gifts for crafters

Three books for gift crafters are new and exciting. "Christmas Naturals: Ornaments, Wreaths and Decorations," Carol Taylor (Sterling/Lark, \$21.95), shows innovative ideas for these crafts. To see some ornaments from the book, enjoy the creations of the Southern Michigan Unit of the Herb Society of America. I like the creativeness of Taylor. For instance, dried sprigs of blue salvin simulate icicles on a small tree; a tiny bird, surrounded by flowers, placed atop gold-painted eucalyptus pods. A good one.

"Gifts from the Herb Garden," Tolley and Mead (Clarkson Potter, \$18), is a small book filled with ideas from this talented team.

Strings of rosebuds to decorate a moss-covered cone or sphere for a formal look, ideas for dried topiaries (red peppers for the kitchen) will please. Includes drying information and live topiary instructions.

"From My House to Yours," John Hadamucin (Harmony, \$17), can be used every season of the year. Gifts of food are always appreciated, and this author suggests many unusual recipes. Tutti-Frutti Strawberry Jam, Bourbon Barbecue Sauce and October Cake are a few.

Basically a "from the kitchen" ideas book, a few crafts are included. His explanations and personal experiences add a homey touch.

### Taste of adventure

"Hints and Pinches" has been prepared by renowned food writer Eugene Walter (Longstreet Press, \$18.95), and will bring a chuckle and perhaps a belly laugh as the cook learns legends and more about many herbs, spices and aromatics, some well-known, others unusual.

This witty author shares some favorite recipes and will lead the cook on a merry adventure in the kitchen. A great gift idea.

### Global view

"Gardening With Friends," George Schenk (Houghton Mifflin, \$19.95), relates his gardening experiences in three distinct climates of the world — the Canadian Pacific Northwest, the Philippines and New Zealand, all done for friends.

This lyrical writer describes the plants and how he cares for them, gently teaching along the way. He has decided opinions on this art of gardening and expresses them succinctly. This book can be picked up at any time for short reading periods and makes learning enjoyable.

### Simple samples

"Lee Bailey's Small Bouquets" (Potter, \$12.95) is a little picture book of flowers arranged simply.

The text relates legends, historical facts and ideas (gather all the pink flowers you can find in your garden). Wonderful! This will inspire readers to enjoy flowers not only in the garden but also close up, indoors.

Samples of my Dillyllicious and Mustardicious mixes will be offered 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 19, at Brown Street Market, 407 W. Brown in Birmingham.

### Holiday help

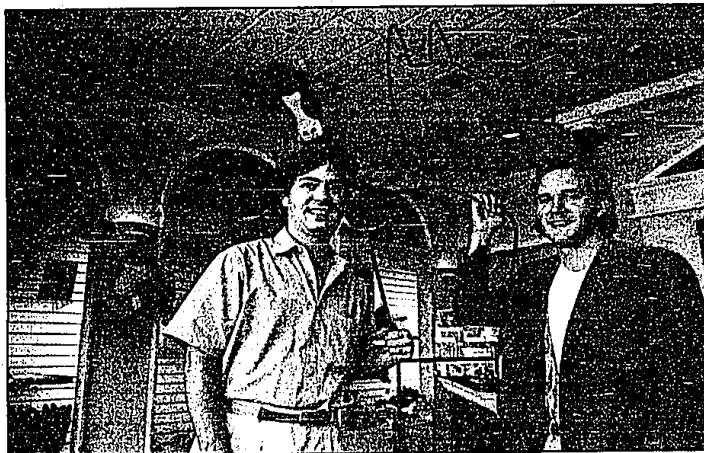
English Gardens is continuing a holiday tradition: Anyone who brings a fresh-cut Christmas tree to one of the three English Gardens locations (in West Bloomfield, Clinton Township and Dearborn Heights) after the holidays for recycling will receive a coupon worth \$5 off the purchase of a new ornamental, evergreen or shade tree next spring.

The trees, free of all ornaments, tinsel and hooks, will be accepted 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily from Monday, Dec. 28, through Sunday, Jan. 10. The West Bloomfield business is at 5370 Orchard Lake Road. Call Mike Bovio at 861-7606 for more information.

"This program is open to everyone, regardless of where the tree was purchased," said John Darin Jr., vice president and chief operating officer of English Gardens.

"This year we owe special thanks to West Bloomfield Township and Clinton Township. Both communities are lending us the use of their chippers to help recycle the trees."

Marty Fingley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave a message by dialing 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DAN DEAN

Tracking art: David Munson (left) and Jeffrey Jucewicz, both of Southfield, offer decorative arts for the animal lover in groomingtails, their West Bloomfield business.

## Animal magnetism

### Shop goes wild over art

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Entering groomingtails in West Bloomfield, you notice something has changed. Mounted on the right wall, the life-size head of a zebra greets you.

Owners David Munson and Jeffrey Jucewicz, both of Southfield, have redesigned their original business plan for groomingtails to spotlight decorative arts for the animal art lover. It opened two years ago as a pet grooming shop.

"It started out with pet supplies two years ago. As of November (1991) we expanded into a specialty shop featuring animal art," Munson said.

Whimsical clay fish-shaped teapots and bowls decorated with dogs, furniture and floor art, brightly colored bird houses, handpainted silk scarves with Dalmatians romping across the surface, and large sculptural bowls with whales comprise a sampling of delights awaiting animal lovers at groomingtails.

"We have everything from pigs, cows, fish, giraffes not to mention dogs and cats on teapots, bowls, pillows and scarves all handcrafted by artists across the country, including locals like Renee Wasserman and Elaine

"We have everything from pigs, cows, fish, giraffes not to mention dogs and cats on teapots, bowls, pillows and scarves all handcrafted by artists. A lot of people collect teapots."

Jeffery Jucewicz  
owner

Sumow of West Bloomfield, Debbie Malek of Livonia and Kelly Ross of Ann Arbor.

"We go all around the country looking for artists — New York, San Francisco, Chicago," Jucewicz said.

"We're pretty selective," Munson said. "We want our artwork to be quality merchandise, things we would like for ourselves to have in our homes."

Munson and Jucewicz live with artists. A lot of people collect teapots," Jucewicz said.

Tucked in a shopping mall at 6720 Orchard Lake Road, groomingtails features more than 50 artists from

"George was born on the day the shop opened. Children, whose mothers shop at the stores here, come in asking to see George," Munson said.

Munson, while working as a hair

stylist nine years ago, became involved with showing dogs. Besides the three at home, Munson co-owns three Old English sheepdogs. George, a sheepdog with a shaggy pure white head and paws, sleeps under the desk of the private office inside groomingtails. Munson kids that George is their official greeter and mascot, and shows seven others. Blue ribbons fill the walls of the tiny office.

Munson, George and Jucewicz lie at the heart of the open, friendly atmosphere at groomingtails.

"When we first got the idea to open, there was no place to take our dogs for grooming," Munson said. "We have an open door policy at groomingtails. We invite owners to drop by while their pet's being groomed."

The idea to carry decorative arts sprang from an original item they stock for pets, custom bowls. Some of the special bowls are created by artists in clay and painted with abstract dogs or animals, inside and outside.

"I'm always creating and thinking of ideas," said Jucewicz, a hair stylist at Bellissime Two in West Bloomfield.

"We sort of applied the idea of having handcrafted bowls for dogs and cats to people."

"It's a wonderful idea. A lot of people are willing to buy things with their pets on them," said Malek who, with husband Ken creates hand-painted furniture, and mailboxes customized to represent your dog. "Everything is unique."

groomingtails, of course, makes most of its money by grooming tails on dogs as small as Chihuahuas to gentle giants like Irish Wolfhounds.

"When we first opened, people would look in and think, it's upscale, it must be expensive, but we wanted to keep our prices competitive," Munson said.

With groomingtails' pick up and delivery service, busy owners can have Muffy groomed, and browse for a handcrafted ceramic bird feeder in the shape of a cat.

## Images take shape

French artist Yvral gives a new look to such familiar faces as Mona Lisa and Marilyn Monroe. His works, exhibited at Circle Gallery in Troy, have a technological touch.

BY MARY KLEMIC  
STAFF WRITER



Yvral's art works are a play between science and illusion, portraiture and the abstract, perception and ambiguity.

An exhibition of the artist's works continues through Dec. 27 at Circle Gallery, in the Somerset Collection at 2801 W. Big Beaver Road in Troy.

In his art, images of Mona Lisa and Marilyn Monroe emerge from an arrangement of geometric shapes, such as squares and rectangles of varying sizes. It's as though you're looking at particles or atoms of the image, small elements that make up the whole.

"It's not the objective for me to give a photographic image," Yvral said at the recent opening of the exhibit.

Each work invites the viewer to find a geometric solution, transforming the abstract arrangement into a familiar face, either from a distance or up close.

"When the spectator moves the image changes."

In "Mona Lisa Synthetique," the woman with the famous smile seems to be looking through vertical blinds. "Marilyn Numerisee" depicts the actress as a series of different shaded rectangles. In another work, Monroe and Andy Warhol seem to blend together from their respective sides of the painting.

See ART, 8D

## Santas spark special sharing

BY MARY KLEMIC  
STAFF WRITER

With Julia Williams' porcelain clay figures, it isn't just their white beard and white hair that make them familiar.

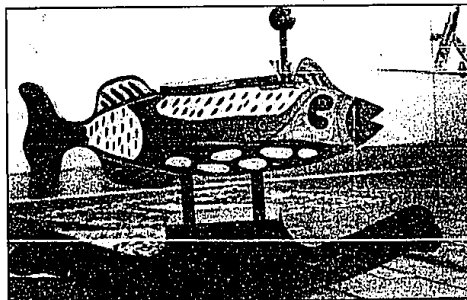
Yes, yes, it's Santa Claus, but each friendly fellow could remind you of someone else — a relative, a friend, maybe even yourself.

It's possible, as the artist borrows from a lot of people with whom she has interacted. She appreciates individual features, from the twinkle in one person's eyes to the shape of another person's hands.

"I carry a little something from everyone I meet," Williams said. "You never can tell."

The figures are on display through Dec. 31 at the Ariana Gallery, 385 E. Maple in Birmingham, along with glass ornaments, other holiday accessories and handcrafted gift items.

See SANTA, 8D



Fantastic fish: This colorful rocker by Wooden Ewe could hook a collector. The shop carries a variety of items, from bowls to furniture, all with an animal theme.

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

For information and reviews of musical performances, please turn to the Entertainment section.

### TEXTILE TALENT

Original textile designs of Suzanne Lalonde of Rochester Hills were displayed in Tokyo, Japan, where she attended a shibori symposium. Lalonde was one of five finalists in the Fashion Foundation's 1992 International Textile Design Contest.

A Rochester High School graduate, Lalonde

## Art Beat

studied art there and at the University of Michigan. Her contest entry was shibori (tie-dye/clamping). The silk noli material was dyed, resisted, discharged and redyed, creating a halo effect in earth tones of green, brown and gold. She incorporated African textiles, colors and uninhibited designs. The Selc-Shevel Gallery in Ann Arbor displays Lalonde's scarves and fabrics.

The United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, France and Germany each selected designs

from constructed fabrics and embellished fabrics. Finalists will be introduced in a full-color, bilingual, catalogue.

### MUGGING IT UP

This holiday season, John Glick and Susie Symons at Plum Tree Pottery, 30435 W. 10 Mile in Farmington Hills, are making a special effort to have a good supply of mugs, as well as small drinking cups and tumblers. Also available is a selection of small to large pots, from oven dishes to pitchers, teapots, bowls, plates and more. Regular business hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Extended hours (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) will be in effect Dec. 21-24, or special appointments will be made. Call 476-4876.