

Grasp fine points of sizing up antique finds

Schoolcraft College is offering "Treasures From Yesterday," a program series that can help identify and evaluate antiques, whether the pieces are at an auction, in a gallery or tucked away in an attic or basement.

Prominent professionals will discuss what's "out there" in the marketplace as well as what items to look for. Art work, furniture

and accessories and fine jewelry (antique and new) will be discussed.

The four-session series will begin Wednesday, Nov. 3, and continue through Wednesday, Dec. 1. The classes will meet 6-8 p.m. at the college, Haggerty and Seven Mile in Livonia. For a descriptive brochure or registration information, call the college at 402-4448.

Those attending the program may bring handheld items for the instructors to evaluate. The sessions may be attended individually or as a series. Prices are \$64 for the series and \$21 for individual sessions. Registration is being accepted now.

Instructors are Frank H. Boas, owner of the Frank H. Boas Gallery in Bloomfield Hills, and James Krol, owner of an appraisal service in Birmingham. Boas was the first U.S. agent

for London's famous Christie's Gallery and handles appraisals for local, national and international markets. He will lead sessions on "Antique Furniture," "Silver, China and Objets d'art" and "Art, Paintings and Prints."

Krol He is a graduate of the Geological Institute of America, a member of the Canadian Geological Association and a fellow of the Great Britain Geological Association.

Giffels Associates' aim: 'lean, flexible'

Giffels Associates Inc. is taking a hard look at its workforce and will restructure, creating a "lean and flexible" organization that the company says is needed to meet the needs of present and future clients.

The 68-year-old Southfield-based architecture-engineering firm will replace layers of management with three primary production groups headed by project managers: Planning and Architecture, Systems Engineering and Structures.

Restructuring brought some management layoffs.

Giffels' president Richard Blitzer said the new structure will result in immediate benefit to

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customers and will put company executives in direct contact with clients.

"It's really very simple," he said. "Our restructured operations dedicates fewer key resources to the administrative areas of the company and more resources to serving clients and their projects."

Workshop on culture

Within all work environments, issues of cultural diversity create human differences.

The Oakland University Continuum Center will host a workshop that looks at the "Dimensions of Cultural Diversity" 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26 in the Hampton Inn, Auburn Hills.

Workshop presenter Sandra Hageman will look at effective business management in an increasingly globalized society.

Participants will learn more about demographics and the basic concepts of intercultural communication.

Make nest egg grow

Livonia-based PaineWebber Inc. will sponsor a free seminar on how the decisions you make now could determine your standard of living later.

The seminar will be held 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, at the PaineWebber Conference Center, 38701 W. Seven Mile, Suite 455, Livonia.

Retirement planning consultant Gregory R. Wright will be the speaker. He'll talk on such areas as retirement planning to pension distributions.

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