



At Home

INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

Chair Affair

Accents

Grand openings

Gradiella Ltd. will host a grand opening gala - with tours of the store, door prizes, finger foods, champagne, wine and pop - 4-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, at 203 Pierce in downtown Birmingham (phone (248) 723-5650).

The store will offer fine linens, china, crystal and silver. For the first full week of operation, Sept. 26 to Oct. 3, it will donate 10 percent of all proceeds to Oakland County Family Services, a Pontiac-based organization that helps families in need.

Menagerie began five years ago when four friends from Birmingham (Bloomfield Hills) Jane Jones, Julie Leonard, Carol Black and Eileen Marsh had a backyard showing of the unusual home furnishings and accessories they found on their travels. Demand for the items led to the business conducting two public shows a year at The Community House in Birmingham.

Now Menagerie has a permanent store/studio, on the second floor of The Heritage Co., Architectural Antiques, 116 E. Seventh in Royal Oak (phone (248) 544-2955). Its grand opening gala will take place Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 26-28. Gala hours are 5-8 p.m. Thursday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

WoodWorks 2002

WoodWorks 2002 will take place Friday-Sunday, Sept. 27-29, at the Novi Expo



Center, 1-96 and Novi Road. Hours are 1-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

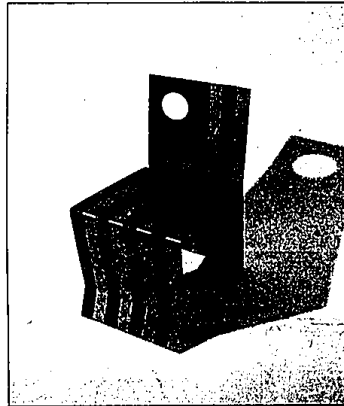
Admission is \$10 per adult, free for under age 12. One day pass is good for the entire weekend. Sept. 29 is Sunday Discount Day, when \$20 admits the whole family. Lectures are \$55, hands-on workshops are \$80. Woodworking experts from around the world will present lectures, hands-on workshops and demonstrations. Attendees can stop by the Saw Dust Cafe, a hospitality area, to visit with well-known woodworking experts and authors.

Leading manufacturers and retailers will demonstrate tools, accessories and supplies, and have special discounts and giveaways.

Youngsters and adults can make a scroll saw project together at the Make-A-Memory workshop. Cost is \$2 for each project. Proceeds will benefit local charities.

The world's largest bowl, 7 feet 9 inches in diameter, will be on display. Visitors are asked to bring a can of food or a small toy to fill the bowl. The items will be given to less fortunate families and children in area communities.

For information, call toll-free (877) 967-4480 or visit www.woodworks2002.com.



PHOTOS BY GENE MEADOWS | MEADOWS & CO. PHOTOGRAPHY

Clockwise from top left: As its name suggests, By the Bay, by Margaret's - The Upholstery Shop, features views of a beach. La Petite Chaise, by Shawn Veselovich, is dressed in tassels and tulle. Proceeds from the auction benefit the Furniture Resource Center. Old Glory, by Michael Kellenbach, strikes a patriotic stance. Sinia Divan, by Andrea Mitra, is named for a Himalayan hill station in India. The artistic chairs will be auctioned at the eighth annual Chair Affair Saturday, Oct. 5. The chairs are displayed through Oct. 4 at businesses in downtown Birmingham.

Furnishings for benefit show flair, care

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

If you would like to get something special for your home while doing something special, have a seat - or a table, desk or any of the fabulous, fun furnishings available at Chair Affair.

Chair Affair is the annual fundraiser for the not-for-profit Furniture Resource Center, which collects usable furniture and appliances and distributes them at no charge to needy families and individuals on a referral basis. The FRC is able to assist more than 1,500 families each year.

Interior designers, architects and artists are among the notable personalities who take ordinary household furniture pieces and make them into works of art. These items are then auctioned at Chair Affair, and the proceeds go to the FRC.

"Every year there are some really fun and some very beautiful things," said Ruth Neff, founding member of the FRC.

The eighth annual Chair Affair will take place Saturday, Oct. 5 (see related story).

New participants are the Designers of Tomorrow, 11 high school students: Loran Moyer, Shannon Fink and Dawn Balhorn of Andover High School; Amanda Fisher, Sara Connelly, Susan Bihler, Ingrid Miskinis, Ariel Theodoroff and Kate Avesium of Detroit Country Day; Diane Heath of Rochester Adams; and Ryan O'Meara, an international/national ice dancer. The chairs they

designed will be featured in a silent auction at the event.

This year's furnishings are on display through Oct. 4 at businesses around downtown Birmingham.

"We're excited to help promote the fund-raiser for the Furniture Resource Center," said Kirk Kuchukian, president of the Birmingham Merchants Association.

"It's a win-win opportunity for both parties. The Furniture Resource Center will benefit, and the

PLEASE SEE BENEFIT, C2

Leelanau Furniture Show opens Oct. 4

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

The Leelanau Furniture Show has become almost as much a part of autumn in Michigan as the beautiful, changing leaves.

This year's show will take place Friday-Sunday, Oct. 4-13, at the Grand Traverse Cultural Heritage Center in Traverse City.

The event has grown since the first show in 1995. At that time, 20 artists displayed furnishings they designed.

This year, more than 30 fine woodworkers and metal sculptors will exhibit a wide range of pieces, from rustic to modern, all artist designed and studio built. The show has become nationally known.



"(Participants) try to do something more than traditional copies of what they had done," said Bill Perkins, one of the exhibitors. The event returns to the expanded site of the Grand Traverse Cultural Center.

"I think the location and the time of the year (contribute to its popularity)," said Ann Hooper, director

of the center. "(The artists) just have a reputation."

Other participants will include Larry Fox, Dave Elmgren, Bob Purvis, Paul Paradis, Paul Czamanske, Chip Gadek, Donna Popke, Joe Stearns and Joe Butryn.

Their works will offer the charm of twig and bark, the sophistication of sleek metal and wood, bright colors and soft shades.

Perkins said the show came about after some area artists had pieces in a furniture show in Philadelphia.

"We said, 'This is a good idea. We should do that,'" he said.

The artists come from northwest Michigan and an area including Grand Rapids and Lansing, Perkins

PLEASE SEE SHOW, C4



These pieces from last year's Leelanau Furniture Show suggest the wide variety of styles available at the event. Artisans will display their studio-designed furnishings Oct. 4-13 in Traverse City.

If you have one, they will come.

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