

SWOCC offers instruction for new access producers

BY MELISSA COHN
SOUTHWEST OAKLAND CABLE COMMISSION

CABLE CONNECTION

SWOCC Studio's doors have been officially open since July, but with the new technology, there's been a lot to learn before production could get up-to-speed. After hands-on training began in October for current access volunteers, it didn't take long for producers to start booking the studios and begin production.

Our very first Public Access show was taped in Studio "A" a few weeks ago: the ever popular, "Bagels and Talk with Art and Tracy" and "Movie Break", both produced by access producer Tracy Thompson. Less than a week later, access producer Jackie Pudelek taped her show, "Unique Celebrations", which was a Thanksgiving themed show demonstrating how you can have the nicest Thanksgiving dinner yet!

This show was taped in Studio B, making it the first Access production in that

studio. The show was also a success – be sure to catch both on INFO TV-12 now through mid-December.

The new workshops will begin in January. SWOCC Studios will be offering instruction for everything from camera and audio, to director training and editing workshops. Something new will be the option of learning the equipment in both or just one of the studios.

But first everyone must attend the one night, two-hour orientation to become certified to produce, volunteer or check out any of SWOCC Studio's equipment. For more information or to sign up, please call Melissa Cohn at (248) 473-2840.

Here are other events to watch for: The SWOCC Studios crew will be at the annual Holiday Expedition Ice Show at the Novi Ice Arena on Dec. 4, which airs throughout the month of

January on Novi's TV-13. Another holiday event to catch is Novi's "Ringling in the Holidays" on Thursday, Dec. 5 from 6:30-9:00 pm. This will include an "electric light parade" and a marching band welcoming Santa and his elves, as they make their way down Main Street in downtown Novi. If you can't see this live, be sure to check it out on Novi's Channel 13 throughout the month of December!

Hockey fan alert! You won't want to miss the action of the "Metro High School Hockey Invitational." See who "shoots and scores" as teams from Churchill High School, Divine Child, Farmington United and Novi High hockey compete in the championship playoffs at the Novi Ice Arena.

The consolation and championship games will be re-broadcast throughout December. If you would like a copy, call SWOCC at (248) 473-2834.

'His' and 'her' kitchens come with reminder of homeowners' ocean adventures

Note: Due to a production error, part of this article didn't run in the At Home section of some Observer newspapers Nov. 21. The entire article appears below.
BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

There's a familiar, comfortable buzz – the sound of tumbling water – inside the spacious, quintessentially modern kitchen.

But the dishwasher is at rest, silent. And the sound is coming from elsewhere – a 10-foot high fish aquarium in the center of the kitchen.

That's right. The Plymouth homeowners, who wish to remain anonymous, have a fish aquarium in the kitchen.

Unquestionably the room's focal point, the salt-water tank perfectly reflects their personalities, said the room's interior designer, Eileen Jewell, owner of Studio Jewell in Royal Oak.

"They have a place in the Caribbean, and they're big scuba divers," said Jewell, a graduate of Michigan State University's Human Environment and Design program. "So instead of a piece of artwork, I thought how about an aquarium?"

The homeowners, having

always wanted an aquarium, embraced the idea without hesitation.

Home to three grouper and two stunning lion fish and visible from the dining room, an informal eating space and the family room, the aquarium entertains visitors and residents alike.

"It does create a lot of conversation," said one of the homeowners. "The funny thing is people talk to the fish."

The placement of the rock-filled aquarium works to visually mark off two distinct areas in the kitchen, as well.

On the left is what Jewell calls "his kitchen," a bar with built-in espresso machine, ice maker and beverage refrigerator. To the right is "her kitchen," more expansive and equipped with all the essential appliances and a few extras, including pull-out refrigerator drawers built into a cooking island.

A countertop on the opposite side of the island accommodates a set of five brushed metal stools upholstered in royal blue ultra-suede. Above the countertop is an unusual and stylistically modern chandelier in white. Both shades contrast well with the island's surface of black patterned granite – the counter treatment used throughout the kitchen.

Again, Jewell made her color selections with the homeowners in mind.

"The royal blue represents them so well. They love color," she said. It also picks up the blue tones in the aquarium. Jewell strongly believes key room elements ought to reflect those who live there.

"Our whole lives are spent in certain spaces. So it's about fitting into your home and feeling welcome," said Jewell, a member of the American Society of Interior Designers who has participated in the Michigan Design Center's Designer On Call program.

No room, no matter how ordinary or functional, is off limits, especially the kitchen, she said.

"People live in their kitchens, now more than ever, and much more than we even acknowledge."

So if it's an aquarium that makes life at home gratifying, don't hesitate. Impractical ideas have a habit of becoming practical.

"Take it from the homeowners with a kitchen aquarium: It's very relaxing and we enjoy it. And it just seems practical to put it somewhere where people tend to hang out."

Eileen Jewell can be reached at (248) 414-6514. For a designer referral and on-site consultation through Michigan Design Center's Designer On Call program, call (888) 614-4400.

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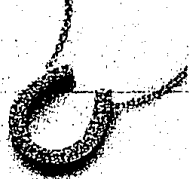
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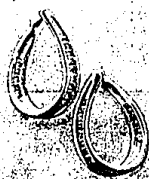
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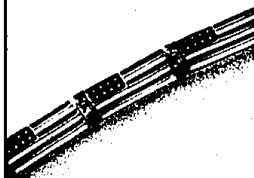
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Carrier of the month

Stephen Fine has been named October's Carrier of the Month for the Farmington Observer. Fine is a freshman at Harrison High School with an "A" average and enjoys sports. He likes being an Observer carrier because he gets to be his own boss and learn about responsibility.



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