

Local artists batik banner

Batik a banner six feet by nine feet? Unusual, to say the least! Yet that is what two local artists did recently in a project different on three counts.

Batiking, a wax-resist dye process, is ordinarily used for scarves, kerchiefs, blouses, skirts and perhaps dresses; sometimes it is done on paper and framed, or on cards.

Banners are normally created by stitchery or applique.

Artists, highly individualistic, almost by their nature work alone.

So when Richard A. Fuller and Sr. Dorothy McLaughlin, RSM, united

their talents to create a huge red, yellow, orange and white artwork in batik, they broke a lot of tradition.

Fuller is assistant professor of art and art education at Wilkes College. Sr. Dorothy, former professor at College Misericordia, teaches at the University of Scranton while studying at Hahnemann Medical College for registration in art therapy. The two Dallas residents have long had professional association. When Sr. Dorothy was asked to design a banner for the Fifth Eastern General Conference on the Catholic

Charismatic Conference in Atlantic City, she immediately thought of batik as the perfect process and Fuller as the perfect collaborator.

Sr. Dorothy designed a sunburst around the biblical text, "The Unity Which the Spirit Gives," with a semi-circle of people being drawn toward a dove representing the Spirit of God.

Fuller, an expert in the process of designing in fabric with heated wax and dyes, adapted the design to the Indonesian process.

But this was more than a case of one artist converting another's 18 inch by 28 inch acrylic painting into another medium. It was the collaboration of two creative minds in a demonstration of the unity proclaimed by the banner.

As they drew templates, or stencils, onto a muslin sheet, they consulted about the image: is the wing of the dove sweeping enough? the circle wide enough? should more red appear here? less white there? how will the dye look in this spot?

"I think we should enclose it in a white circle..."

"This is going to be red here; is this good?"

"Yes, then heavier at the bottom...yellow here, and here, white here, I think...That's good."

So closely did they work when it was time to brush wax onto the fabric to prevent dye from penetrating an area, they

by-passed one another around the frame, adding dots or splashes where the other's brush had already touched.

Once the wax was on for the first dyeing, the pair donned rubber gloves ("This is like surgery!") and bundled the sheet into a large container of yellow dye. Next came drying, then retouching of wax where needed, then re-dyeing. They followed this process four times. Only red and yellow dyes were necessary, since orange resulted where the two blended. Places where the wax broke during dyeing created a speckled or cracked effect, one of batik's unique qualities.

Final task, and the longest, was ironing out the wax, using newsprint to absorb it.

The result of their work satisfied them after more than two full weekends of effort.

"I hate to admit it, but it's really a smashing banner," summed it up.

And combining as it does the batik process on a banner of such large proportions it is, indeed, smashing. Used during the Atlantic City Conference in the Family Track at the Shelbourne Hotel, it drew many comments from participants.

The two artists are highly qualified to produce such an artwork.

A graduate of New York University with a BS in Art

(Continued on p. 18)



Wendy Faux

Wendy Faux to wed

The engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Miss Wendy Lee Faux, to Charles Douglas Lee, son of Mrs. Estella Lee, of Oak 1, Tunkhannock, and Douglas L. Lee of Oak Harbor, Ohio, has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Faux, R.D. 5, Vernon, Tunkhannock.

The wedding will take place Saturday afternoon, Dec. 30, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon in the Eatonville Baptist Church with Rev. R. Sterling Smith, pastor officiating.

Bride-elect is a 1978 graduate of Tunkhannock Area High School, and is presently employed at her grandmothers restaurant, the Cross Country Restaurant, in Tunkhannock.

Her fiancé also is a 1978 graduate of Tunkhannock Area High School. He is presently serving with the United States Air Force at Biloxi, Miss.

Baptist Church with Rev. R. Sterling Smith, pastor officiating.

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OAK HILL

Tree-duster...

by Bridgette Corrales

Here it is 11:30 Sunday evening (two days past my deadline) after I helped the children deliver the Sunday papers, attend Mass, cooked a big birthday dinner for Vince, help decorate our beautiful Christmas tree, I'm ready to confess, "I shot Liberty Valance!"

What I forgot to mention was that last night Vin and I were out celebrating Christmas with 998 other Topps Chewing Gum employees, so you know I've been bouncing off the walls all day.

Speaking of the dinner-dance - it was a fantastic affair. Held at Gus Genetti's, we joined neighbors, Stan & Isabelle Chilson, Mike & Marie Annetta, Jack & Mary Gesmundo, Ann Brown, Fred & Yo Tomaselli. As the song goes, "I Could Have Dance All Night." We did and today we can hardly stand-up, let alone walk!

Belated birthday greetings to Estelle Shuleski who celebrated her birthday, Dec. 10. Sorry I forgot Estelle.

Santa is arranging his hectic schedule to attend Cub Pack 232's Christmas Party Monday Dec. 18 at Gate of Heaven.

Wednesday evening, Paul Griffith and Gerry Donovan of Cork, Ireland enjoyed a dinner at our home, but more than the dinner, our guests enjoyed the company of Jack and Marianne Cleary and Father McGough and I hope, the Corrales.

Peoples - I wish I could go on with more of this column, but my body is so tired my fingers keep slipping off the typewriter keys, but before I say BONA SERRA, I have to tell you one more story...

Due to the Christmas holiday we women are doing, whether we like it or not, a little extra housecleaning. You know passing the dust mop under the bed, blowing a few good breaths over the drapes! Most of us don't get too carried away because no matter how much or how little we clean, the house looks the same, and only you know for sure.

But wait until you read this...last week I was speaking to a cute little newly wed who said, "I want to put my Christmas tree up too early, then I have something else to dust."

I made the mistake of asking, "What else do you have to dust?" She answered, "The tree ornaments!"

As I picked myself off the floor I thought for all these years my tree has been neglected. Never have I dusted it. But then with all the jumping around and with all the noise, dust doesn't get a chance to rest anywhere - least of all not on my tree.

PARSE to hear O'Connell

State Senator Elect Frank O'Connell will be the principal speaker at the second annual holiday dinner of the retired state employees' Luzerne Columbia Chapter, to be held at the American Legion Home on North River Street Wilkes Barre on Thursday, Dec. 14th beginning at 6:30.

Attorney John P. Moses will be toastmaster.

Anne M. Flosser of White Haven, chapter president, will preside at the short business meeting that will follow the dinner. Officers will be elected. Paul Gernert, State President and Arthur Dunkle, State Treasurer, both of Harrisburg, are expected to attend.

Phone call reservations are still acceptable. (675-5873).

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Kathleen Anderson engaged to Ken Roma

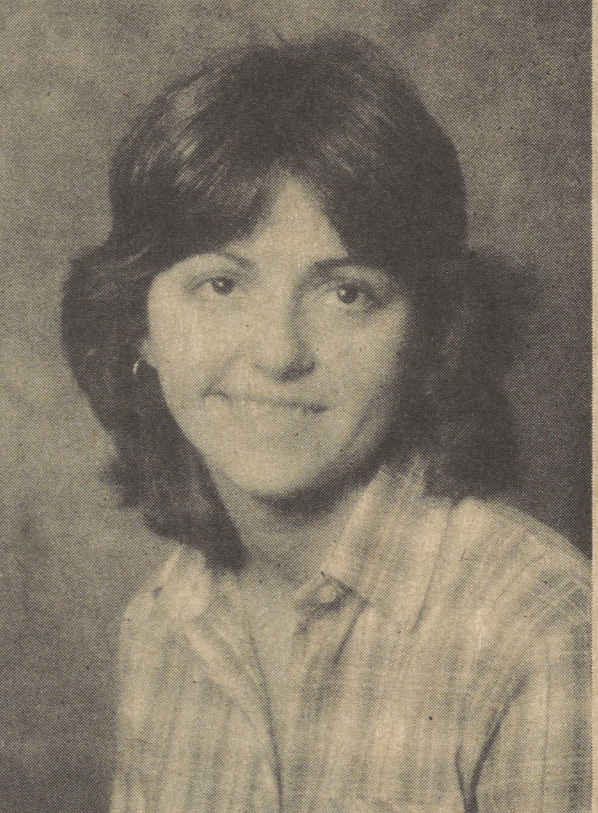
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson of 204 Clearview Avenue, Trucksville Gardens, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen Jane, to Kenneth Roma, son of Mrs. Roberta Holden of Beach Haven, N.J. and Alfred Roma, Manahawkin, N.J.

Miss Anderson is a 1977 graduate of Dallas Senior High School and attended

Penn State at their Lehman Campus. She is presently employed at the Village Pub Restaurant, Beach Haven, N.J.

Roma is a graduate of Southern Regional High School. He is employed as a captain on the Miss Barnegat Light, a commercial fishing vessel out of Long Beach Island, N.J.

A spring wedding is planned.



Kathleen Anderson

Blue Cross month noted

Public tribute was paid last week to Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania's first 40 years of existence by near by Wilkes-Barre's Mayor Walter W. Lisman who officially designated December, 1978, as "Blue Cross Anniversary Month."

In his specially prepared proclamation, Mayor Lisman recalled that the local Blue Cross Plan, which began offering its prepaid, nonprofit hospitalization insurance program to the public for the first time on Dec. 1, 1938, and whose operations now serve over 635,000

subscribers and 37 member hospitals in 13 northeastern Pennsylvania counties.

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