

But its new owner and caretaker, the city of Biloxi, does not yet know what to do with it. Biloxi assumed control of the house in January after the death of June Swetman last year.

June Swetman and her husband envisioned their home becoming a city museum or a residence for the mayor when they arranged in 1982 to donate it to the city. Either use is unlikely.

Setting up an official residence for the mayor is not a priority for Mayor A.J. Holloway or the City Council. Nor are city officials planning to open another museum.

The Georgian Revival home sits on a quiet street near the beach, has no public parking and is in an area zoned for residential use.

"Originally, the house was slated to be a historic museum dedicated to telling the story of a day in the life of a country banker," said Lolly Barnes, historical administrator for Biloxi.

"That was the original purpose Mr. Glenn Swetman had in mind. Whether or not that will be the purpose I don't know," Barnes said.

Glenn Swetman was the owner of The Peoples Bank and one of the Coast's most respected civic leaders. He had a penchant for collecting things.

The collections include valuable antiques, whimsical walking canes, uranium glassware and Japanese woodblock prints. Virtually every piece has an interesting story.

The prints once belonged to the architect Frank Lloyd Wright. A Victorian dining table came from the estate of 19th-century social reformer Dorothea Dix.

The house, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, has been offered as a headquarters for some Coast performing arts organizations.

The Gulf Coast Opera is in process of setting up an office in one of the second-story bedrooms. But that does not mean the public will get to go inside.

"We don't anticipate a lot of foot traffic," said David Daniels, president of Gulf Coast Opera "What we mainly need is a phone line and computer space. It's mainly a place where people can call and make reservations for performances. That space is ideal for that."

Two of Swetmans children, Chevis Swetman and Nancy Breeland, said they were pleased that the opera will use the house because their parents avidly supported the performing arts.

Their parents established a trust fund that now totals \$85,000 to pay for maintenance and repairs at the house. An assessment of the house by the city's risk manager found no major structural damages or problems.

The property has a value of \$183,000. "We are looking at some preventive maintenance and some minor repairs," said Vincent Creel, public affairs manager for Biloxi. "The city is still assessing its long-term options for use of the property. The antique and art collections inside the house belong to the Peoples Heritage Trust, a foundation the Swetmans set up at Peoples Bank to preserve and protect the Coast's historical properties.

"As far as I know, the uranium glass collection is one of the more extensive in the country," said Chevis Swetman "Years ago, people didn't know what it was that made it glow. The opalescent glass, which glows under black lights, was created by adding uranium to a glass mixture with a high arsenic content."

Outside the home, Chevis Swetman pointed to the fallout shelter and noted that his father was a survivalist as well as a collector of fine things.

"The fallout shelter has four escape hatches in case some of them got blocked by rubble," he said. "They were all built at right angles because radiation travels in a straight line. We were prepared for the big one."

JUCO CAMPUSES HOLD JOINT GRADUATION

BLOXI, MS.—Sean and Stephanie Harris of Lucedale graduated from separate campuses of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, but took part in the same graduation ceremony.

For the first time since 1968, the Jackson County, Jefferson Davis and Perkinston campuses of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College united Monday night for a joint graduation ceremony.

A few months ago, the Harris couple worried about having to miss each other's graduation.

"I was very relieved to find out it was on the same day in the same place," Stephanie Harris, 25, said Monday night as she and her husband prepared for the processional at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum.

"We both wanted to go to each other's graduation," said 28-year-old Sean, who completed the paramedic program at the Jefferson Davis campus.

Stephanie Harris finished at the Jackson County campus with an associate of arts degree.

With increasing enrollments and record-high graduating classes, the three campuses of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College have grown too large to hold separate ceremonies in their gyms. More than 800 students took part in the Monday night ceremony.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK—1999

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hospital Week during the week of May 9–15. This year's theme, "People Care. Miracles Happen," recognizes the health care workers, volunteers and other health professionals who are there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, curing and caring for their neighbors who need them.

An example of this dedication is the Universal Infant Hearing Screening program of Spectrum Health's Downtown Campus in my hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan. The program won the American Hospital Association's prestigious Hospital Award for Volunteer Excellence, which highlights special contributions of hospital volunteers.

The Universal Infant Hearing Screen program identifies potential hearing loss in all babies at or transferred to Spectrum Health's Downtown Campus. Early identification and intervention can prevent a hearing problem from being a handicap.

Volunteers undergo extensive training to prepare for this program. After volunteers ad-

minister the screening, audiologists review the test results to identify infants with potential problems. Those with abnormal results are referred for re-screening or diagnostic testing. Without the work of volunteers, it would be impossible to provide this vital service to the thousands of babies at Spectrum Health every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the staff at Spectrum Health for their dedication and their award-winning program.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE LAWRENCE BANKOWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding craftsman and labor leader in my District. Lawrence Bankowski, retired President of the American Flint Glass Workers Union (AFGWU), left this world on April 10, 1999 at the age of 68 after a long and valiant struggle with cancer.

Born in Mt. Clemens, MI, Larry grew up in North Toledo, graduating from Woodward High School and attending the University of Toledo. He often worked up to three jobs at a time, and joined the AFGWU in 1955 when he went to work as a moldmaker for Ohio Permanent Mold Company, where he remained until 1973 when he was elected international union representative. He rose through the ranks in 25 years of dedicated service to the union, retiring as its International President in 1999. In representing the 121 year old AFGWU and its 18,000 members, Larry traveled to other countries, met with President Clinton, and served on the U.S. Department of Labor's Advisory Committee on Trade Negotiations. He always championed the cause of working people, constantly urging that U.S. companies' production remain in the United States and that trade laws benefit workers everywhere.

A very wise leader, Larry was diligent in his life long efforts and embodied the men and women he represented in the AFGWU. Throughout his years of service in the international union, he kept his focus on the needs of the rank and file, never losing sight that the men and women making up the AFGWU and their futures were what mattered most. He understood that union working men and women can unite to fight for their economic, social and political best interests.

Larry Bankowski was also a dedicated family man, relishing time spent with his wife, children, and grandchildren. In the years I have been privileged to know him, his wife Betty, or one of his children or grandchildren always accompanied him. There is no way to adequately express our heartfelt condolences to Betty, their children Carol, Kathy, and Karen, his sisters and brother and grandchildren. May you find comfort in knowing Larry is at peace, and lives in the light he left shining in each of you, and of us. His kindness, dedication, and gentlemanly demeanor make our community and world finer and more humane.