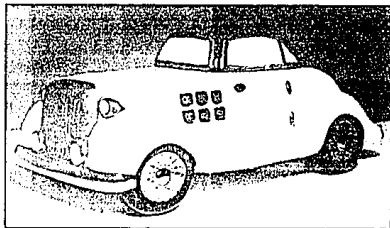


street seen

Charlene Mitchell



Street Seen reporter Charlene Mitchell welcomes comments and suggestions from readers. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoecraft Road, Livonia or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.



Affordable

Here's a model of a Mercedes Benz for those with a champagne appetite on a beer pocketbook. True, you'll probably park it on an end table or dresser, but this ceramic model can be the object of your attention in as much as the Hand-painted, classic car has a removable lid for storage. \$40 at the Paper Place, Applegate Square, Northwest-Highway in Southfield.

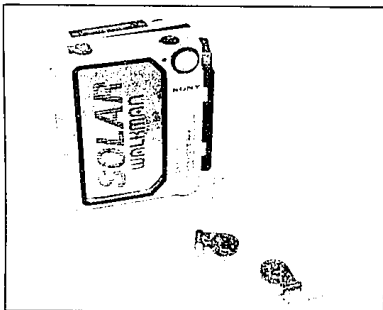
Tee time

No more getting teed off because your drive went berserk. Exacto claims to relieve the frustration (not to mention the embarrassment) of an inconsistent drive. The plastic tee provides an ideal height for every drive and eliminates a key variable of the driving process. It's available at Caddy Shack, Novada Bob's, Carl's Golf and Pro Golf-Livonia.



For globe sitters

Keeping track of world happenings or plotting your next trip around the world is visually easier with a Repliglobe strategically stationed somewhere at home in office. Incidentally, it's reportedly the finest globe made. \$200 at Wellington Ltd., 14 Forest Place in downtown Plymouth.



Plug in to Ma Nature

When your regular batteries go dead in the middle of your favorite tune, you can re-charge this portable Solar Walkman by placing it in the sun. Let Ma Nature's natural rays get the music going again. \$150 at Jacobson's stores.

Long view

Gro-Tubo planters — a complete vertical growing system — could very well be the hanging basket of the '80s. You simply snip a cutting of your favorite plant (directions tell you how), punch a hole in the tube, insert the cutting, gently squeezing the tube around the stem. At that point, the growing medium will hold the cutting in place as it takes root. \$14.99 at the Indoor Gardening Center, Golden Gate Shopping Center, Canton. P.S. Coleus cutting were started in the one shown.



STREET WISE

Boblowdown

You find them here and there — Lifelong Detroit residents who've never been to the Boblo Island amusement park. It's sort of like living in New York City without ever going through Central Park. Those unlucky few who've never tasted Boblo's delights will get the chance to find out what they've been missing starting Saturday when the park opens for business once more. The Boblo boats leave every hour starting at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.95 for ages 7 and older. (Boblo Island Detroit dock, Clark Avenue, just north of the Ambassador Bridge; 259-7500.)

Have toga, will travel

The Roman Emperor Caligula used to throw some pretty mean toga parties we understand. But he never had the services of Otis Day and the Knights belting out "Shout." Day, who was featured prominently along with toga parties in the film "Animal House," will be leading his Knights to Westland at 8 p.m. Friday for a big toga party at the Grande Ballroom. (Grande Ballroom, 31186 W. Warren at Merriman, Westland; 421-7630.)

TV guide

What does it take to be a successful television producer? Emmy Award-winning producer/director Harvey Ovshinsky will provide some answers in a seminar called The Role of the Producer in Broadcast and Cable Television. Presented by Cranbrook P.M., the seminar will run at 7:30 p.m. Mondays, May 4, 11 and 18 and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14. Tuition for the seminar is \$300. (Cranbrook P.M.; 645-3635.)

Invitation to the dance

The Harbinger dance group will perform at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the Smith Performing Arts Theatre. The performance will include various pieces from the group's repertoire including "Waiting for the Echo." (Smith Performing Arts Theatre, 2705 Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills; 471-7700.)

Chamber ensemble

The Detroit Contemporary Chamber Ensemble will perform 20th century chamber music this Sunday in the Guild Hall of Christ Church. The Sunday's performance will be works of Ned Rorem, who is scheduled to appear to discuss his music. The performance will start at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$7, \$4 for students and senior citizens. (Christ Church, 470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills; 994-0542.)

Vocal blend

The Roches may not dress in the latest in haute couture but they put out music that is tres bien. The female trio will bring their vocal stylizations — combining folk, doo-wop and '40s style singing — to the Michigan Union in Ann Arbor. The concert is set for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. Tickets are \$12.50. (Michigan Union, 530 State at E. University, Ann Arbor; 423-6666.)

Got something interesting in the works? Send your information to Richard Lech, Street Wise, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoecraft, Livonia 48150.

Computer rock

Some bands turn out music so predictable that it sounds as though it were produced by computer. But in the right hands a personal computer can be a noteworthy addition to a musician's paraphernalia. At an upcoming seminar in Canton Township, John Casella, keyboard player for John Cougar Melencamp, will discuss using a personal computer to both write and play music.

The seminar will be 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at Arnold Williams Music in Canton. Computer Horizons, a Livonia computer store, is cosponsoring the event, called the MIDI Capability Seminar. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. The fee is \$10. (Arnold Williams, 5701 Canton Center Road, just north of Ford, Canton Township; 464-8502.)

CHEAP DATES

Continued from Page 1

Rochester's downtown park, with its duck pond, picnic shelter and tennis courts, separates the trail into two distinct parts.

The southern trek starts just north of Yates Cider Mill on Avon road. The northern route picks up at city park, just north of University, west of Main.

"If you aren't big on exercise, start at Orion and walk downhill," advises Sue Douglas, a member of the trailways commission. "You may not notice it, but it does gradually go uphill."

Afterward feed the ducks or watch hobbyists sail remote-controlled boats on the Rochester Pond.

Then head for Petker's Place restaurant on Livernois, just south of University, for a breakfast brunch. Eggs, potatoes, bacon, pancakes, french toast, bagels and cinnamon rolls are just a sampling of the 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. brunch fare. The cost is \$3.25 per person.

LITTLE APPLE, BIG FUN —

One advertising agency called Birmingham the Little Apple — the fun of New York without the hassle.

Window shopping and people watching on Woodward, Maple and other downtown streets is a joy. Art galleries, up-scale shops, ritzy dinner and theater-goers and luxury cars are part of the street scene.

Bates Street Night Out is an inexpensive singles night at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. Admission is \$5 for the monthly attraction that includes live music and refreshments. Dances start at 9 p.m.

The next one will be this Thursday night, featuring the Sun Messengers.

SKATES AND SPLITS — For \$10 you and your date can really be on a roll.

Bop over to the Skatlin' Station, Ronda Drive at Joy, where you can roller skate at a cost of \$2.50 per person for two hours.

Afterward, drop in at Daly's Drive-In, Ann Arbor Road at Main,

for a banana split with ice water, \$2.50 each.

ARTS AND SPLASH — Southfield offers plenty of opportunities for the dedicated cheap date.

For instance, there are free concerts on a rotating basis every Sunday morning at Southfield Civic Center, Prudential Towne Center, Tel-12 Mall and Northland. There is a free art festival June 5-7 at Prudential Towne Center.

The facilities at Beechwoods (9 Mile and Beech) offer more than a swim. There is cheap open skating there from late June through the beginning of April. (There are also picnic areas, baseball fields and a golf driving range.)

The Civic Center off Evergreen in the middle of Southfield has nature trails and parks for contemplative walking.

And movies at Tel-Ex Theater, Telegraph Road north of 12 Mile, are \$1 for all shows, all the time.

A REAL HIGH POINT — How about sitting on the side of a hill overlooking a sun-dazzled, tree-lined lake that has yet to see a cottage or a house? That hillside is on an isolated, undeveloped lake about 45 minutes from Plymouth.

Take Territorial Road west from Plymouth all the way to Dexter-Town Hall Road to the Pinckney-Silver Lake Recreation Area.

Once inside the park, drive as close as you can to the northern parking lot. There's a big sign in the middle of the picnic grounds next to Silver Lake pointing the way to the Potawatomi Trail. Don't start at the trail entrance close to the park entrance — If you do it will be 15 miles before you get to the hillside.)

Walk the trail for about one mile, veering right at the Crooked Lake-Potawatomi intersection. When you reach the wooden stairs next to a dirt road, you're only about 200 yards from the hilltop.

The view over Crooked Lake is wonderful. All you need to complete your enjoyment is a little cold park for the beverages, munchies, a blanket for the hillside, old sneakers and some bug repellent. The only cost is \$2 for a day sticker for the state park.

Returning on Territorial Road, stop at the Crow's Nest at the Mayflower Hotel in downtown Plymouth for a beer and sandwich and walk around a lovely downtown. Or have dinner at Holly's By Golly, 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. The total cost is \$15-20 at either place.

This story was compiled by Richard Lech from contributions by the Observer & Eccentric staff.

Standing firm puts pests in their place

Continued from Page 1

"Usually we give these persistent personalities an inroad. We're not firm and honest enough to say, 'No, I don't want you to call me.' Instead we say, 'Well, I really don't want you to call me, but if you need to talk I guess you can call me, maybe on Friday.'"

MORGAN LIKENS the process to "spoiling a child." Saying "yes" to obnoxious or imposing behavior simply reinforces it. Pests learn quickly that continued persistence wears the victim down.

"Let's say you break off with

someone and say, 'That's it.' But for the next three weeks he sends you a card every day. If you return every card to sender, he'll eventually stop. But if you acknowledge just one of those cards — he's got you."

Being honest at the start of a relationship can avert confrontations, anger, misunderstandings, hurt feelings and the need to exert "power and control" over the other person.

People who can't respond with honesty may send out "conflicting signals" in a dating relationship or friendship, masking their own inadequacy by using such excuses as,

"Well, I didn't want to tell him or her the truth because I didn't want to

hurt him or her."

"So the person is persistent because he hasn't been told the truth. Often we don't know how to be truthful in love."

FEAR OF approaching a relationship with honesty may reflect low self-esteem and feelings of intimidation.

"We sit there and get angry and frustrated," Morgan said. "If we see a person in obnoxious behavior patterns — something that can be changed — and we don't confront that person, we're participating in that behavior."

If the neighbor's dog barks you out of bed at 3 a.m. every day, approach

its owner before your blood hits the boiling point.

If your best friend ties up your telephone line, set a time limit on calls and stick to it.

Morgan also suggests avoiding situations that may lead to persistent behavior.

"On a blind date, you're setting yourself up. If you go out with a person who's a friend, there's a feeling of being more honest," he explained. What about those intrusions you can't avoid?

The watchword is always "no."

Consumer's guide to pest control

Here are some experts' tips on how to handle a variety of pests.

• The telephone sales pest — "An unlisted telephone number is \$1.25 extra a month," says Mary Jo Ficarek, corporate affairs for Michigan Bell. "That's one way of protecting oneself. But if you give out that number, you're defeating the purpose."

The other way is the common-sense approach. I say "I'm not interested" immediately and hang up. It's a polite way of saying "Get off the phone." The individual must realize that they control the phone call."

MARIE ANDERSON teaches a Positive Thinking class through the Rochester Continuing Education De-

partment. She suggests that timid listeners literally stand up to insistent callers.

"It may sound silly, but by standing up you feel more control. Stand up and look down at the phone," she suggests.

• Unruly children — "It's just plain common sense, but your home is your castle. You don't have to become a victim," Anderson says. "I'd wait a minute to see if their mother says something. If she doesn't, then deal directly with the child. Don't be shy."

• Borrowing pest — Anderson suggests a kid glove approach with friends or neighbors who borrow and fail to return items.

"I'd be as delicate as I could and

simply never have the item in the house. They should get the message."

• Proselytizing pest — "No. 1, I don't argue," says the Rev. James Lyons, director of the Ecumenical Institute for Jewish-Christian Studies, Southfield.

"No. 2, I take their material and close the door."

If door-to-door or street corner preachers persist in discussing the material, Lyons simply says, "No, I'm not interested. I don't have the time to discuss it right now."

"I think what happens is they want to get you into a situation where you'll argue. Once you do, you've lost it," he said. "All I'm concerned about is that I don't get all worked up."

