

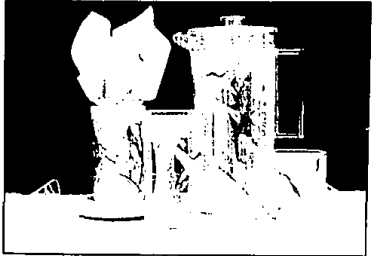
## street seen

**Charlene Mitchell**


Street Scene reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual and the unique. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and enterprising entrepreneurs. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.

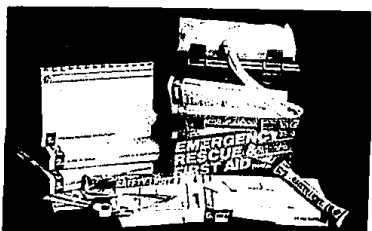
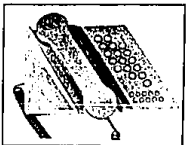
## Patio pleasers

This sets a pretty table for your outdoor pleasure. The pitcher with matching tumblers and tall glasses comes in a dozen patterns and is tough enough to go into the dishwasher. Priced individually in sets. English Gardens, West Bloomfield.



## Classy number

This mahogany and crystal desktop phone is as distinctive as your signature. The fine-polished wood is handcrafted and comes with its own registration certificate. The crystal inlay is designed by Orrefors of Sweden. Full complement of advanced features, this masterpiece of form and function comes with a 10-year guarantee. \$1,500. PL Telecom, 29280 Franklin Road, Suite 115, Southfield or call 352-8288.

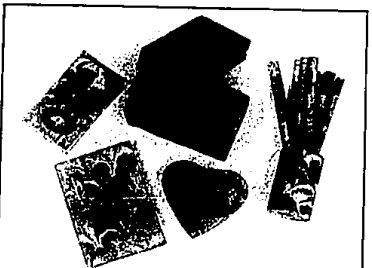


## Everything but an M.D.

Any kind of an emergency you can think of is handled by this lifesaving kit that gives step-by-step instructions on what to do when an emergency arises, and there is no doctor immediately available. Supplies are included and the kit has several items that normal first aid kits do not have. Instructions are categorized for easy identification. \$95. At all Jacobson stores.

## Peachy beachy

Life's a beach — the headline in Street Scene read last week in talking about ways to cope with the sizzling temperatures. But it doesn't have to be dull and it certainly can be colorful in the fashion statement you want to make when you hit the beach. Examples are the color-coordinated Co Co Bana sets that include a matching towel, waterproof tote bag and portable chair. Comes in peach or aqua. Priced individually. At all Jacobson stores.



## Viva Italiano

Lovely patterned accessories by Firenze of Italy make a distinctive complement to the normally cluttered work area. Boxes of various sizes and shapes and pencils in their own holder help to keep things organized. A nice touch, too, is a dainty picture frame for a photo of a favorite person. Items priced individually from \$2 to \$10. Encore II at LaMirage, Southfield.

## Card sharks

Hurry, get up to that attic and grab those old baseball cards before someone decides to toss them out.

It seems that cardboard renditions of Al Kaline, Mickey Lolich and the like have become the best investments since last October's stock market crash.

Got a 1952 Mickey Mantle in your closet? The Yankee slugger's rookie card could fetch a cool \$4,000. And a complete set of Topps cards from that year is valued at \$25,000.

But what if the only cards you can dig up are more along the lines of Chris Pitaro (the Tigers' "third baseman of the future" for two months in 1985) and other average players who never made a big mark in the Major Leagues?

Well, the Surf Detergent folks have something just for you.

Lever Brothers is introducing "Surf Baseball Card Collectibles," a set of books featuring photographic replicas of complete sets of team cards for each year dating back to 1952.

The full-color books are being pub-

lished for each of the 26 Major League teams.

In addition to the replicas of each team member during the last 37 years, the Detroit Tigers book includes year-by-year highlights and statistics. A special section called "Collector's Corner" provides insights into valuable or unusual Tigers' cards and lists the latest trading value of key cards.

The Detroit Tigers book will be available at a later date for about \$15.

But Lever Brothers will give away 45,000 copies of the volume at Tiger Stadium before Sunday afternoon's game against the Oakland Athletics.

For Tiger tickets or information about the book giveaway, call the ball club, 963-7300.

## Alpenfest '88

It might not seem like a good mix at first, but some of the best German food this side of Frankfurt and some of the best bluegrass music this side of the mighty Mississippi River combine to make the annual Alpenfest one of northern Michigan's best kept secrets.

This year's festivities are slated for Wednesday, July 13, to Saturday, July 16, in Gaylord.

The Alpenstrasse (that's the festival's main drag for the uninitiated) will play host to bluegrass, traditional American folk, cajun, big band and other musical combos.

Food booths will feature German fare ranging from Pannekuchen and wursten (pancake and sausage) breakfasts, to sausage and sauerkraut suppers. Non-German foods will also be available, of course.

For information about the festival, call the Gaylord-Osego County Chamber of Commerce, (517)732-4000.

## Mime time

Nobody lives the "Action Speaks Louder than Words" credo better than Marcel Marceau.

The world-famous pantomimist is returning to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival for an encore performance of mime magic 8 p.m. Saturday at the Power Center.

Marceau has delighted festival au-

diences with his legendary talent and endearing alter ego, Bip, since 1984.

Tickets for Marceau's performance are \$20, \$17 and \$14.

Other weekend festival events include an evening with actress Zoe Caldwell and "Rags, Bags and Dragons" with Marshall Izen.

Caldwell, who will take the Power Center stage 8 p.m. Friday, will present her one-woman show, "Come Wailing With Me." The award-winning actress has appeared on Broadway in "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" and Tennessee Williams' "Slapstick Tragedy."

Tickets to the Friday show are \$17, \$14 and \$11.

Izen, who will perform 2 p.m. Sunday at Power Center, is an Emmy Award-winning puppeteer, concert pianist and visual artist. "Rags, Bags and Dragons" features medieval stories and skits set to the music of Prokofiev and Stravinsky.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

For tickets or more information on festival events, call 763-8587.

# Used furniture sometimes better

Continued from Page 5

take the lobby furniture.

"The good stuff goes first and that's always the real wood. Not too much of that around anymore for liquidation prices."

The shopper might also find, once in a while, lots of mattresses, bed linens and towels.

Sherman's Crossing is thriving in its current flea-market location, Shine said.

"I'M 70 YEARS old and working

harder than I ever did before in my life."

Sherman's Crossing buys from the estate sales and auctions, and caters to every possible taste, though about 40 percent of the merchandise is oriental art and accessories.

Newspaper classified sections carry columns for estate sales and auctions. Auctioneers also send out flyers to those who have signed in at previous events.

"We move around a lot," said Gary M. Berry, of A & C Auction in

Rochester Hills. "We do the auctions for the families of the deceased, people who are moving out of the state or the retirees who are moving into a smaller apartment. The majority of those sales are made on the site."

"It would be unusual, but it does happen every once in a while that we would hire a hall, and that generally would be in the neighborhood or pretty close to where the merchandise came from," he said.

## Getting the most for your money

Looking for some used furniture? Have we got a deal for you . . .

• **AUCTIONS** — Auctioneers will more often go to the site where the merchandise is, rather than bring the merchandise to them. Auctioneers will also most often advertise the sale in the immediate vicinity of the sale. So watch the ads in your local papers.

• **CORT FURNITURE RENTAL** — For anyone who needs a furnished apartment in a hurry, on a rental basis, right down to the shower curtain and kitchen utensils. Showrooms at 3921 Rochester Road, Troy, and 28270 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. Previously rented furniture is sold in the Southfield store only.

• **HOTEL-MOTEL FURNITURE**

**LIQUIDATORS** — Large lots from major hotels and motels throughout the U.S. offered in showrooms at 20201 Livernois (one block south of Eight Mile) and 10532 Grand River (west of I-96). Best bet for best selection is the Livernois store.

• **RE-SELL-IT** — Top-quality merchandise only culled from estate sales at 34769 Grand River, Farmington.

• **SHERMAN'S CROSSING** — Large assortment offered in Country Fair, a flea market on Dequindre north of Eight Mile in Warren. Heavy on Oriental art and accessories.

• **VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA** — Rock-bottom prices in store and warehouse at 5835 Commonwealth, Detroit.

## Used book stores full of surprises



Skip Rosenthal's book-lined office sets the tone for his Farmington store, Books Abound

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Barbara J. Rule Books, 425 Walnut Ave., Rochester; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. M-Sat; 656-0890. Rule said here is one of about 30 bookstores nationwide that specializes in cookbooks. She searches nationwide for cookbooks, which she said, are just now beginning to get the respect they deserve from dealers.

A first edition "Joy of Cooking," circa 1931, is worth a respectable \$3,000, Rule said.

Other specialties are children's books, and Michigan and WWII books. Most of this compact store's titles are non-fiction.

"Mine is probably the smallest

used book store in Michigan," Rule said with a hint of pride.

Yesterday's Books, 25222 Greenfield, Oak Park; M-S 10 a.m.-6 p.m., 12-5 p.m. Sun; phone 968-1510.

It is here you will find a copy of Hemingway's play, "Today is Friday," copy 101 of 300, in fine condition. Owner Lois Woditska collects such rare books, but there is a good general selection here also, including paperback spy, western and bestsellers. There is an interesting collection of first editions, uncorrected proofs and autographed firsts and a wall stocked with history books. History, art, and science fiction are specialties.

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