

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. 315.

Hitting bottom

Get a laugh out of one of the messiest jobs around with this novelty plunger. With this little lady holding onto the handle, you don't have to look for a place to hide the indelicate but necessary household tool. Just let it all hang out and let others share in the mirth. \$27. Escapees on the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield.

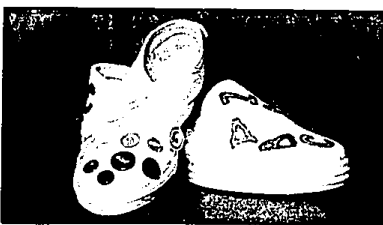


Moo-velous table talk

Add some spice to the table with these nifty salt and pepper beech cows. In fact, choose from a wide selection of lighthearted salt and pepper shakers similar to these. Ceramic pieces have plastic stoppers which remove easily for filling. No need to tell you how popular cow items are, because they ARE. So putting on the feed bag can be utterly delightful. \$13 a set. Escapees on the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield.

Yummy coverup

"Good Golly, Miss Molly!" is more than a salutation. It's the newest treat to hit the area. It's locally made and guaranteed to make you an addict. These delicious toppings come in traditional milk, chocolate, dark fudge, butterscotch as well as some exotic flavors including banana and peanut butter mixed with fudge. Molly McGuire named the product after herself, but won't take the blame if you gain an extra pound or two after consuming a jar or two. \$7.99 a jar. At Chocolateismo, West Bloomfield; Quarton Market, Birmingham; and Nino Salvaggio, Farmington Hills.



Goodie 2-Shooz

Turn a simple pair of canvas sneakers into something special with any of the designs from Goodie 2-Shooz, a company specializing in hand-decorated canvas shoes for men, women and kids. Slip-on or lace-up. Keds are hand-painted with your own design or theirs. Use faux gems, pearls or fabric ornaments to make a statement. These take special treatment in cleaning to protect the decorations, but other than that, they're pretty functional and comfy, too. \$25 a pair all sizes. Lee Specialty, 4008 W. Maple Road, Birmingham.

Too pretty to store

Beautiful ornate blue glass looks a bit like the lovely glassware grandma used to show off. Heavy glass is decorative and too pretty to hide away in the cupboard. A fine piece of art that will bring a smile to your face. \$25 a piece. Lee Specialty, 4008 W. Maple Road, Birmingham.



Discovering your karma

In the dead of winter, when the wind chills you to the bone and the snow seems like it's never going to end that's when a Caribbean cruise sounds great. Right?

Well, you can escape from the cold and get in touch with yourself on a Yoga Association of Greater Detroit cruise, planned for Jan. 29 to Feb. 5, 1989.

It's geared as a cruise for yoga students of all levels, friends and family and those wanting to learn yoga and meditation. The itinerary includes the usual cruise ambience plus classes, daily morning meditation, practical training in safe and effective ways to relieve stress and more aboard Royal Caribbean's Song of Norway.

The cruise departs from Miami, and ports of call include Playa del Carmen and Cozumel, Mexico; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; and Labadee.

Sale tickets cost from \$1,271 to \$1,394, and the cost includes free airfare to and from Miami.

Bookings are through Creative Cruises Exclusively in Sterling Heights. Reservations require \$50

per person at the time of booking, with an additional \$175 per person due Aug. 19, or \$225 after that date. The remainder of the fare is due by Nov. 18.

For more information, call 268-6500 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Summer arts

There's still time to take in the Summer Arts Program on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

Highlighting the theatrical endeavor is "Midwestern Memories," a nostalgic look at the trials and tribulations of settling southeastern Michigan in the 1830s. A musical written by Jamie Mason, with music and lyrics by Michigan native Michael McGuire, the play will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5, and Saturday, Aug. 12.

An adaptation of "Alice in Wonderland" by Annetta Womberger, featuring 10- through 12-year-olds in the summer arts program, will be staged at 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, and Friday, Aug. 19, and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13.

"Grease," that musical look of the styles, fads and music of the '50s, will be staged at 8 p.m. Aug. 12, 17 and 20, with "5-6-7-8 Dance!!!" a two-

part dance show, set for 7 p.m. Aug. 14 and 8 p.m. Aug. 17.

The performances will be at Smith Theater. For reservations, call 471-7000.

A kilt of a day

If you hear "the pipes acaillin'" it's probably the sounds of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit's Highland Games at historic Fort Wayne in Detroit.

The longest running Highland Games in the United States, the event will feature amateur and professional athletes competing in traditional Scottish games.

Now, we're not talking about your average track and field events. The event will feature amateur and professional athletes competing in traditional Scottish games. Now, we're not talking about your average track and field events. The event will feature amateur and professional athletes competing in traditional Scottish games.

There'll be other activities like Highland dancing, pipe band competitions, sheepdog herding demonstrations, Scottish country dancing and a Highland cattle exhibit.

Tickets cost \$6 for adults, with children under 12 admitted free. Tickets will be available at the gate. Old Fort Wayne is at the Livernois exit of I-75 in Detroit.

Zoom!

All eyes will be on the sky at Selridge Air National Guard Base near Mt. Clemens Aug. 17-18.

That's when the U.S. Air Force aerial demonstration team, the Thunderbirds, will join military aircraft from Selridge and other military bases for an air show.

The show is part of open house at the base, hosted by the services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard — assigned there.

The activities will include the air show, performances by the Air Force Band from Chantute Air Force Base and police dog demonstrations. Modern and vintage aircraft also will be displayed.

The air show and open house are free of charge as is the parking. The base gates will open to the public a 10 a.m. and remain open until 5 p.m. both days.

For more information, call the base public affairs office at 466-5576 or 466-4521.

Could you use some suite relief?

There are just 22 days left. That's right. Just 22 days left to write and tell us why you need to get away from it all.

And if you do write us, you could

turn out to be the winner of our Suite Relief Weekend.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Guest Quarters Suite Hotel, Nanny of America Inc. and R.S.

Harper Limousines Inc. are offering a Suite Relief Weekend to a lucky reader who writes the best reason — be it humorous or serious — for getting away from it all.

The contest is easy to enter. There's nothing to buy; no special coupons to fill out.

Get a piece of paper and write down why you need to escape the summer blahs. There's no limit on the length and be sure to include your name, address and telephone number.

The first-place prize is two days of being treated like royalty.

There's experienced nanny care for the weekend for your children, if you need it; limousine service to and from the Guest Quarters Suite Hotel in Troy.

Troy, the winner will be treated to a two-night stay for two in a suite that includes a living room, dining area, king-sized bedroom, two color televisions, three telephones, a wet bar, microwave oven and more.

There's also dinner for two in the Atrium Cafe and private manager's reception with hors d'oeuvres both nights and American-style break-

fasts both mornings.

Second- and third-place finishers will be treated to a two-day, one-night stay in a luxury suite at the Guest Quarters, with a manager's reception, surf-and-turf dinner and full breakfast for two, champagne and flowers.

The rules are as simple as the contest.

(1) Entries must be received no later than Monday, Aug. 22. The winners will be announced in the Monday, Aug. 29, Street Scene section.

(2) Contestants must be at least 18 years of age, single or married, parent or non-parent.

(3) Entries must include the name, address and telephone number of the contestant. They can be mailed to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

(4) Employees of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Guest Quarters Suite Hotel, Nanny of America Inc. and R.S. Harper Limousines and their relatives are prohibited from entering the contest.

So, why do you need to get away from it all?

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always influenced by those summer visitors. They came in by train to the long gray and white building, now a historical museum, on the waterfront near the marina and to a second station, now a small shopping center, across the street from the Perry Hotel.

The Perry was built in 1899 and was once one of 21 resort hotels in the area, their porches and lawns alive with music and dancing. The Perry is the only one left.

The hotel was sold to the Ryecraft brothers in 1919, to new owners in the 1930s and to Co. Co. Development Inc. of Chicago in 1985. Both Kristine and Arthur Curry had spent childhood summers in northern Michigan. Kristine now writes a wine column for the Chicago Tribune. Arthur is president of Singer and Co. Securities in Chicago.

The first thing they did was to apply for national historic landmark status, which they received. It took several million dollars to bring the old hotel into the 1980s. The reception desk was moved to the back to be accessible to the parking lot. You can still walk in via the old entrance, across the big porch and into the public rooms.

The original tin ceilings are restored. A great mahogany bar was moved from a Fort Wayne hotel into the area outside the Perry dining room. There is an outdoor summer cafe, red checked table cloths and all, on the porch with its great white porticos.

An elevator takes you very slowly up to the rooms on the upper floors. The wide recarpeted hallways still faint slightly as they do in most of these old places, but the decor is well done and the rooms are attractive and comfortable. You will find your television set inside a Queen Anne armchair.

THE NORTH wing, added in the 1920s, has the same kind of rooms, many of them smaller, all renovated. These were originally built for summer travelers who came for the beach and didn't spend much time in their rooms.

A second wing, still decorated in the 1960s style, and not yet a part of the new look have a distant view of the lake, some from small balconies.

A tip on prices: All the renovated rooms in the main building are considered street-side and rent for \$69 single and \$78 double. You'll pay \$75 and \$85 for the bayview rooms and some small suites, unrenovated.

The cruise weekend package through Oct. 16 includes Friday and Saturday lodging, Saturday lunch on the Star Cruise Ship, Saturday dinner and Sunday brunch at the Perry and costs \$155.95 single and \$130.95 per person double, plus state and local tax. For reservations, call toll-free (800) 654-2668.

It is easy walking from the Perry to the gay or to the elegant shops of the Gaslight District. Locals are encouraged by the Perry renovation, although some negative comments are heard around town because of frequent management changes and

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