

street seen

Charlene Mitchell

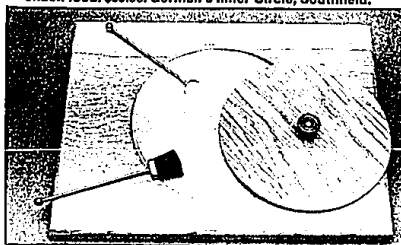


Street Scene reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual and the unique. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and enterprising entrepreneurs. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.



Oldies but goodies

Who'd ever think this wonderful piece of art was actually a cookie jar disguised as an old-fashioned jukebox? This silver ceramic piece looks as great as it is functional. Listings of your favorite old tunes are adapted to your favorite cookies. How about Blueberry Cheesecake by Elvis Presley? A great container for any kind of dry snack food. \$59.95. Gorman's Inner Circle, Southfield.

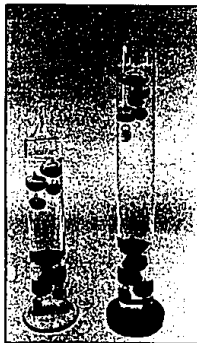


Sands of time

The perfect gift for the successful businessman or woman who needs a break from the fast lane. Take a mental pause and go back to your childhood days in the sandbox. The two-piece wooden set even comes with its own miniature metal shovel and broom. Guaranteed to get rid of office stress. \$15. The Male Room at the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield.

Tube talk

And you thought Fahrenheit and centigrade said it all. Beyond these mundane expressions of temperature is the Galileo Thermometer imported from Germany. Responding to heat, the glass spheres with metal pendants that enumerate degrees will drop. Cold makes them rise. The lowest ball of the top group tells you the temperature. Three sizes, four colors: green, amber, black and red. Small thermometer, 12 inches tall, \$35; medium, 17 inches tall, \$45; and large, 25 inches tall, \$55. The Moie Hole of Birmingham, 123 S. Woodward, just south of Maple on the west side of Woodward.



Tote 'n' travel



Mini-travelers will let you keep your sanity on the next long road trip with this easy-to-tote box full of fun things to play with in the back seat of a car or van. Includes fiddlywinks, yo-yo, marbles, pickup sticks, and chalkboard. The games also come in handy after you reach your destination. \$40. Jacobson's stores.



Added lift

Jumpin', runnin' and playin' just isn't cool for today's kids unless they're wearing one of the popular designer sneakers. Although Moms may disagree that logos are essential to fashion, youngsters believe these Fila's with red patent mock crocodile trim and the popular "air-walk" with geometric canvas pattern can make them jump as high as hoopster Isiah Thomas. Footloose at Sugar Tree Mall, West Bloomfield.

STREET WISE

Irish eyes

Irish eyes as well as others will be smiling Friday, Oct. 28, when an Irish feast of song, music and laughter will be staged at the historic old Redford Theater, Lasher and Grand River in Redford.

The Irish entertainment will start at 8 p.m. Ireland's "Ambassador of Song," Frank Patterson, will be featured along with Des Keogh, Ireland's "Master of Comedy," and Eddy O'Grady, accompanist on the piano and Irish harp.

Patterson is renowned as the world's reigning Irish tenor. A versatile entertainer, he has recorded more than 20 dozen records and recently appeared opposite Anjelica Huston in John Huston's final film, "The Dead."

Tickets cost \$25 per person (\$20 for senior citizens), including valet parking. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Legionnaires of Christ, a congregation of priests and brother dedicated to youth in more than 10 countries. It operates three universities, more than 50 schools and hundred of youth centers around the world.

For reservations or more information, call 644-2954 or 644-0855.

More music

Sheri Nichols, the Michigan Opera Theater and Ursula Walker will highlight the indoor concert season at the Farmington Community Center.

ter in Farmington Hills.

The series begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, with a cabaret-style performance by chanteuse Nichols and her musical director, Richard Berent. Critically acclaimed for her masterpiece, "Le Miracole de Plaf," Nichols represents the finest in Detroit talent.

At 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, the music switches to classical/pop with a special concert by the Michigan Opera Theater. The revue will include selections by Barrie, Gershwin, Sondheim, Oscar and Hammerstein and Hamilton.

Rounding out the musical selections will be Ursula Walker and the Buddy Budson Trio at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4.

Tickets for the concerts cost \$7.50 per person per concert of \$20 per person for the series. For more information, call 477-004.

The Farmington Community Center is at 24705 Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

On tippy toes

The Ann Arbor Civic Ballet will present "The Haunted Castle" at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, for the benefit of Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor.

The ballet will be staged at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$4 for children. For more information, call 668-3068.

Food and fun

The Van Dyke Park Hotel will present a dinner/revue beginning Saturday, Oct. 15, and continuing every Saturday.

"Fascinatin' Rhythms," a Broadway style musical revue will be staged in the 250-seat Van Dyke Theater through Saturday, Nov. 19.

The package includes a choice of dinner entrees, served in private dining rooms, followed by the musical revue. Tickets are available for the dinner/revue and for weekend packages, including the dinner, theater, overnight accommodations and Sunday brunch.

For more information and reservations, call the hotel at 939-2860. The Van Dyke Park Hotel is at 31800 Van Dyke, between 13 and 14 Mile roads, in Warren.

A bit of Bach

If you're really into the music of Bach, you won't want to miss the Village Bach Festival in Cass City, Mich., Thanksgiving week.

Cass City's Presbyterian Church will host three Bach concerts Nov. 25-27. The concerts will feature a new composition commissioned by the festival to celebrate the 10th festival season.

The Nov. 27 concert will be at the First Presbyterian Church in Caro and will feature Bach's organ and

ensemble works for the flute and clarinet, played by festival soloist Frank Kowalski, Jacqueline Hoff and Catherine McMichael.

For more information, write The Village Bach Festival, P.O. Box 2: Cass City, Mich. 48726, or call (517) 872-3465 or (517) 872-2131, Ext. 269.

Our Town

On the art side of the street, the Community House in Birmingham will host the juried Our Town art exhibition and sale Thursday, Oct. 2 through Sunday, Oct. 23.

The show includes 250 works by 150 Michigan artists. The juried works pertain to Michigan landscape, architecture, nature and still life. All of the art work is two dimensional and includes a variety of media — acrylics, oils, pastel watercolors, fibers and photography.

All of the artwork will be for sale with prices ranging from \$100 to \$10,000. The sale will benefit the Community House.

The exhibition also will include seminars, speakers and a gala preview will be Wednesday, Oct. 19.

The art show will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 20-22 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 23. Admission is free, although tickets can be purchased for the special event. For more information, call 644-5832.

Finding love among the veggies

Continued from Page 1

Kroger proclaims a marketing success that doesn't have anything to do with food.

"Kroger is the world's largest florist," Reed said. "We sell and distribute more flowers than any single company in the world through food stores."

Supermarkets depend on volume sales, because there's a low mark-up on most goods, Reed said.

KROGER CAME up with the "Evolution Store" or the "Store of the 1990s," he said. For now, you'll have to go to Okemos to find Kroger's prototype of what's to come. The out-state store offers a video rental center, salad bar, nutrition center, pharmacy, delicatessen, in-store bakery and gourmet food.

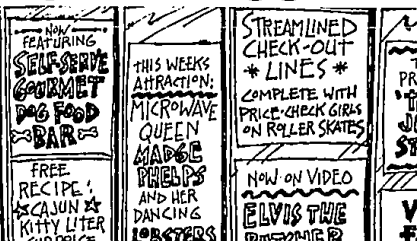
The Okemos store also provides a

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— Paul Coleman
Great Scott!

meat department that steps into the past with "old fashion" butcher type "cut as you like it service," Reed said.

You can get lobsters and clams in the Fresh Catch area. Produce is displayed by color and variety for convenience and aesthetic's sake.



Kroger's Evolution store is "hopefully" coming to the Detroit metropolitan area in a few years, Reed said.

CHANGES IN supermarkets follow changes in lifestyles, said Paul Coleman, Great Scott! communication director.

The Great Scott! on Maple in Birmingham looks like something from "The Jetsons." Who needs a clerk for directions? This store has neon lights flashing on and off showing confused shoppers where the departments are. Television screens even tell and show you how to prepare your purchases.

Microwave and precooked products are growing in popularity to help the hurried eater who wants

fresh food and doesn't feel like doing out.

"People have less and less time in a day and spend less and less time at a supermarket and cooking traditional meals," Coleman said.

Who would have thought 20 years ago the cash register would talk to you? In each Great Scott! store, scanner reads the Uniform Product Code, and a computerized voice call out the item and price. The computer lists the product on the receipt and helps management keep better inventory.

But as much as things seem to change they stay the same. Women still do the whopping majority — 7 percent — of grocery shopping. Montgomery said, quoting from an A & P survey.

Scanning the scanner

Continued from Page 1

the attention of the clerk at the time it is rung up, the consumer is entitled to the difference of the marked price and the price the cash register rung up.

If the consumer goes home and finds the mistake, the consumer is entitled to the difference plus 10 times that difference not less than \$1 or more than \$5.

For example, if an item is marked \$1.39, but the register rung it up at \$1.69, the consumer would be entitled to 10 cents plus 10 times the amount of the mistake. In this case,

the consumer would be entitled to \$3.30.

"SOME OF the stores have really found it convenient, other stores have found it's not cost effective," Bailey said. "But for the consumer, it's been wonderful."

One reason for the law was to combat the "worst-case scenario" where a business would change the computer pricing during peak periods to reap higher profits.

Some items, like fresh fruit and penny candy, do not need to be individually priced, Bailey said. The list of exempt items should be available at the store manager's office.

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