

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, 30231 Schoolcraft, Lico-nia 48150, or call 591-2000, Ext. 313.

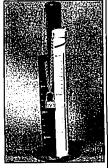


#### Vino a la carte

This vintage metal wine container comes with treats in-side. Eighteen inches tail, it's a beauty all by itself made all the nicer with separate packages of gourmet wine bis-cuits, Amerito aimond cookies and the like tucked inside. \$28. Marmell Gifts, Farmington Hills.

## Stack 'n Save

Those loose coins at the bottom of your purse or trouser pocket can add up fast when you stack them in this cute black, red and white triple tube savings bank. Comes with lock and key to keep in-house "burgers" at bay, Holds \$30 in quarters; \$10 in dimes and \$1 in nickets. \$4.98. Warren Drugs, 32910 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills.



### Downhill but upscale

A delightful piece of art for cat lovers and ski bums alike. Of Tom Cat here has his left paw in a cast and is hobbling on a crutch, ap-parently from tough luck on the slopes. A great conver-sation piece. Stands about 20 inches high. This one-ofe-kind sculpture is by artist Anita Flory, \$350. Ilona & Gallery at Hunters Square, Farmington Hills.



#### Backside attraction

beigner dispers! — what will they think of nex? Not only to these disposable dispers have the necessary elastic fosesres on the legs, there's also a special monogram on he rear. Choose from 20 different designs or create your wm. Among the choices: prince and princess, tannis pro, orbiell, besebell or beakethall player, or kiddle choodico train. Prices vary according to quantity and type of pecial container. Kiddlywinks, 120-B, West Maple Road, kimlingham.

### The new Bard

Roeper Upper School students will bring a whole new interpretation to a Shakespeare classic, "The Curate: Shakespeare As You Like It," Saturday through Sunday, Nov. 18-20. The unusual and original play, often subtitled "The Record of One's Company Attempt to Perform the Play by William Shakespeare," was written by playwright Don Nigro who adapted the classic so that icould be performed by a theatrical troupe of seven people. Nigro came up with a completely original play about a rag-tag group of players. The dramath cure the complete of the property of

acters.

The play will be staged at 4 and 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday at the Bloomfield Hills school. Tickets cost \$4 for adults and

### Danish look

The University of Michigan-Dear-born will present "American Pic-tures," a widely acclaimed multi-media presentation of American life and the underclass, at 1 pm. Friday, Nov. 18, and 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19.

The film depicts a man who came to this country from Denmark with only \$40 in his pocket and his ability to survive due to the hospitality of the Americans he met on his jour-ney.

In the course of the film, he en-counters lower-class whites, blacks and Indians as well as upper-class families and millionaires. The film includes a coverily filmed Ku Kux Klan meeting and a disturbing look at the city of Detroit. The creator of the film, Jacob Holdi, will be at each presentation and will participate in discussion and answer sessions following the showings.

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The free showings are sponsored by the UM-D Office of Academic Affairs, Student Activities Office and Philosophy Ciub.

The film will be shown in Room 179 of the Engineering Laboratory Bullding on the UM-D campus on Evergreen Road, Dearborn.

# An evening of comedy

The students of the University of Michigan's Opera Theater Program will present an evening of comedy and tragedy with two of Puccini's most popular operas — "Glanni Scicchi" and "Sour Angelica" — Thursday, Nov. 17 through Sunday, Nov. 20.

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The operas will be sung by graduate and undergraduate voice students at UM. They will be accompanied by the University Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Gustav Meler. Tals opera theater will be the first In UM history to employ "superti-ties," English language translations projected on a screen above the stage. The use of "supertitles" will enable the audience to follow the performance of "Suor Angelica,"

which will be sung in the original Italian. "Glanni Schiechi" will be sung in English.

The Wayne State University

"Gianni Schicchi" and "Suor An-gelica" are two stories taken from a three-opera trilogy entitled "Il Trit-tico (The Triptych), "first performed by the Metropolitan Opera in New by the Metrop York in 1918.

"Suor Angelica" is the tragic story of a woman who has been banished by her family to a convent because of an affair years earlier that result ed in the hirth of a child. When she colly the convent has she had been a convent on the child. The child when the convent, has died, Sister Angelica is almost driven insane with grite.

grier.

In contrast, "Gianni Schiechi" is a dark comedy about avarice and deceit. Set in Florence in the mid-1400s, it is about a group of greedy relatives who have been left out of a relatives who has dead man's will.

Because no one outside the family knows of the old man's death, the relatives enlist the aid of Gianni Schicchi, a crafty old peasant, who dresses himself up as the dead man and proceeds to dictate a new will to a lwayer.

Performances will be at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Power Center, Huron and Fletcher streets on the UM-Ann Arbor campus.

Tickets for cost \$10 and \$7. Stu-dent seating is available at \$5 with identification. Tickets can be bought from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the ticket office inside the Michigan League. The Power Center box office will be open one hour prior to each performance.

The Wayne State University choruses and orchestra will open the holiday season with the Zind annual Salute to Downtown Defend and the State of Downtown Defend and State of Downtown of the Control of th

# 'Lily' benefit

The understudies of the Wayne State University Theater and the School of Fine and Performing Arts are sponsoring a benefit theater party at the Nov. 29 preview of "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe," starring July Tomlin, at the Fisher Tehater.

A pre-performance dinner at the Receas Club and an afterglow with Lily Tomlin at Pegasus in the Fisher are added attractions for guests who contribute to a scholarship fund for theater students at Wayne State. The fund will be named for Tomlin, a former WSU student and Bonstelle Theater actress. She also has contributed to the benefit.

Benefactor tickets are \$150 and are available for the complete evening. Patron tickets cost \$125 for the preview and, Tickets are \$75 for the preview and, Tickets are available through the WSU theater promotions office at \$77-3010.

# Coachman keeps the blues alive

Continued from Page 1

Ask Famous Coachman for the demographics of his listening audience, he won't pull out the latest Arbitron figures. He'll just hold his hand to face and whisper, "every-body."

Every-body includes lawyers, doctors, auto workers, cab drivers, homemakers, seniors, dinks, yupples and prepples. One person from Alabama calls a relative in Detroit and has them put the receiver next to the radio.

radio.

Part of his following is the late night reveller, one who is driving home after an evening out. It's only 12:35 a.m., and Famous Coachman is already addressing that segment of this audience. "Is your seatbelt on?," asks Famous Coachman, as he begins to play another blues tune. "If not, mail me still oan dut it on at the next stop light. Let your conscious be your guide."

guide."
The money he receives goes to the station. Until two years ago, Famous Coachman worked free at the station. He said he receives \$5 an hour as hest of one the most listened to shows in that time slot. He grumbles a bit about that.

ON THE WHOLE, though, Famous Coachman is quite an upbeat man. While a blues record plays, degts up and dances a bit while taking a few jabs in the air.
"Hear what he said?," asks Famous Coachman, standing up and emphatically pointing to the record that's playing. "He's singing, 'Dami fyou'll take my blues away." At least not without a fight in Famous Coachman's case. He's been the Detroit blues scene most ardent



supporter throughout the years.
On this night, several of Detroit's well-known and not-so-well known blues artists drop in to talk about their music. The Butler Twins stop to showfit their now album, "Butler Twins — Live in Detroit." Also visiting are Mr. Bo, T.-Mann, Choker Campbell and Little Willle.
Famous Coachman interviews each one and plays their music they have brought. Detroit has a rich blues history, And professor Coachman wants the masses to know about.

"People from the south came to "People from the south came to Detroit looking for work," he said. "Then all the factories closed down. That gives them the blues. "Some people have the idea of the blues as depressing: that it's low

down and dirty," he added. "That's simply not true."

THOSE WHO work with Famous Coachman marvel at his knowledge of blues music in general. Name as ong and hell likely tell you the orginal artist and what label it was on. "Caccey" Chamberlin of Detroit has been Famous Coachman's assistant for six years, Quite a blues afficionado herself, she's forever diging into a stack of albums at the studio while he does his show.

"He never fails." Chamberlin said ithout looking at the bottom of , he'll always request the album

Coachman has

that's there."
"He's real people," added Frank
Dumont, who helps answer phones
on the show.
And like real people, staying up all
night can take its effects. At 4:30
a.m., he rubs his eyes and yawns. He
asks Caccey if the coffee is started.
"They say the agait held agait."

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