

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

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SHOPPING CENTERED



LINDA BACHRACK

Sinking into the perfect chair

When you ask a friend to take off her shoes and sit a spell, the phrase implies a long, relaxing visit curled in your coziest, most comfortable chair or spread out on your overstuffed sofa. So what is the best seat in your house — the one you offer for serious tete-a-tetes?

The favorite in my house is a generous wing chair dressed in an English floral linen fabric in soft shades of rose and aqua. The matching ottoman supports feet and legs, and also serves as a resting place for the newspaper and a couple of magazines. You know a chair is snugly when its primary occupant is Mo the cat, an expert on the nuances of comfort.

If you're in the mood or the market for stylish seating, indulge your tastes at Expressions Custom Furniture, 950 S. Woodward in Birmingham. Expressions' creative concept allows you to design an upholstered piece any way you want it. Just visit their showroom, select a frame style, choose from hundreds of fabrics and your personal creation will be hand-crafted and delivered to your home within 45 days.

Whether you envision a romantic damask-covered down sofa or a casual public chair dressed in an abstract Navajo print, the folks at Expressions can indulge your every whim. You're limited only by your imagination.

"Our hottest seller right now is the saddle leather pull-up couch," says design consultant Dana Blake. "The rugged, distressed look of the butter-soft leather appeals to the naturalist, not the purist."

Their comfiest, coziest chair is a wide, overstuffed style with fat rolled arms, deep cushions and bun feet. Filled with a down-like luxury coil, you get the sumptuous feel of down without its maintenance problems.

Instant charm

Slipcovers add versatility and a certain timeless refinement to a cherished old piece or a new one. Slipcovers are enjoying renewed popularity according to Blake. Expressions has a special Cover Stories Collection of fabrics from which to choose. "Natural fabrics are selling well, as are purples, burgundies and jewel tones," she says.

Before I left the store, I settled into the Ridem Cowboy denim oversized armchair with a tufted back. The wild west print captures the spirit of America and makes a real style statement when mixed with leather, twig tables and cow hide accessories.

Hepplewhite's Fine Interiors and Generations Country Furniture, 210 W. University in Rochester, is another inspiring furniture store. Owner Mary Lujan recommends curling up with a good book in an extra-wide rolled-arm chair with matching ottoman. "Much

I spotted a wicker chaise lounge with mint green floral print cushions. I would imagine that the chaise is the ultimate in luxury relaxing. But I would make it mine alone and hide it in a corner of the bedroom. Also admired — the wing chair extraordinary — a solid wood vintage style with 'sink into' fawn leather cushions.

better than a recliner," she says. One of her favorites wears a deep earlstone tapestry fabric with pleated skirt and includes an elegant fringed pillow (\$1680 for chair and ottoman).

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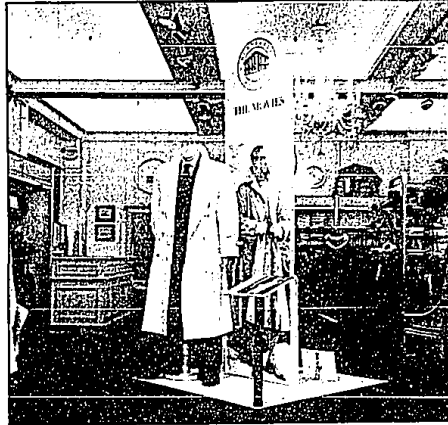
In our discussion of seats of honor, we almost forgot the all-time favorite rocking chair. Hepplewhite's displays a shaker rocker with extra deep cushions in a brick red wildflower and oak leaf tapestry (\$449). The back is fully upholstered, making it a sure choice of grandmas, new moms and babies.

Pretty soon we'll be snuggling up by the fire with our newspaper and a steaming beverage, but until then we can curl ourselves into "our chair" and dream the dreams of Indian summer days.

Linda Bachrack is a Birmingham resident. You can leave her column ideas at 983-2047, mailbox 1889 or fax them to her at 644-1314.



Classic rainwear: Women who love the tailored look of well-crafted garments shop at Burberrys throughout the world. These pieces, from the 1960s, are part of a Burberry retrospective celebrating the company's 150th year.



For Dick Tracy: When the famous cartoon detective stepped off the comic books and into the movies, Burberrys was asked to design his famous yellow raincoat. The raincoat and fedora will be on display at Burberrys in Troy through September.

Burberrys' show is fashion history



It's the raincoat of royalty. It's the uniform of spies, foreign correspondents, aviators and polar explorers. It's simply the Burberry, the top of the line in outerwear, celebrating more than a century of excellence with a historical clothing exhibit.

By SUSAN DEMAGGIO
STAFF WRITER

A few weeks ago an enormous crate arrived at Burberrys in Troy from across the waters in merry old England.

Staff members carefully unpacked the contents, their heads reeling from the odor of mothballs filling the stock room as box tops were opened.

"It was pretty thrilling to pull out these incredible antique Burberry outfits from years gone by," said Cynthia Feemster, assistant manager of the six-year-old store in the Somerset Collection. "We delighted in each piece of historical accessory we uncovered, including a WWI RAF (Royal Air Force) Officer's sword and a hat

with a gorgeous plume."

Feemster said 15 vintage garments will be displayed in the store Sept. 10-30 for the first time in the United States. The clothing comes from museums and private collections all over Europe.

Two weeks ago a PBS camera crew set up in the store to tape a special program on the history of Burberrys. The documentary will be a tribute to the company that has served heads of state, men of letters, military men and women, film stars, explorers, foreign leaders and the British monarchy.

Let it breathe

It all started with the invention of

garbardine by draper Thomas Burberry of Basingstoke Hampshire, England in 1856. Burberry was determined to find a waterproof fabric that would let air reach the body, after listening to a local physician berate the rubber-lined macintosh of the day. Though waterproof, he argued, the macintosh was unhealthy and uncomfortable.

Taking a clue from the linen smock-frocks worn by shepherds and farmers, he realized that the ability to keep out the wet depended on the close weave of the fabric combined with a loose style of the garment. After years of experimentation, Burberry produced a superb cloth proofed in the yarn before weaving by a secret process (in which no rubber was used) and then closely woven and proofed again by the same process in one piece.

He called the cloth garbardine, after from a line in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* — "I hid me under the Garbardine for fear of the storm."

Garbardine was advertised as "a

cloth for all seasons — a garment for all the elements." It was rechristened "the Burberry" by King Edward VII who got accustomed to yelling "Give me my Burberry!" as he bounded out the castle door.

In the trenches

Burberry's most famous creation, the trenchcoat, was designed for British officers fighting in the trenches during WWI. The original features, epaulets and belt loops, were for attaching equipment, but they remain on modern raincoats as a stylish feature.

The outdoorsy set quickly became steady Burberry customers and the garment line was expanded to include windproof motor coats, tearproof shooting garments and "liberty-giving" golf suits "with such devices as pivot sleeves and expanding pleats which ensure increased downwinding and perfect follow through when driving."

See BURBERRYS, 6B

Hudson's lifts the lid on pots and pans

By SUSAN DEMAGGIO
STAFF WRITER

Need a new frying pan? If you do, marketplace choices seem endless, confusing even to the most educated consumer. Do you want anodized cookware? Stainless steel? Cast iron?

What about something like Corningware that can go right from the freezer to stove top to microwave?

Want a copper bottom? Something in an aluminum clad? Why not try some see-through Visionware?

"That's why we're hosting Pro-Cookware month at Hudson's," said

Chris Morrione, spokeswoman. "We want to give our customers the opportunity to put their cookware questions directly to representatives of leading cookware manufacturers. We're combining their visit with cooking classes and demonstrations that we hope customers will enjoy."

These special events will take place in the Hudson's Marketplace Departments throughout the month of September. The classes are free, but reservations are required by calling 443-6332.

Each Wednesday, cooking tech-

niques will be demonstrated in the afternoons at Twelve Oaks and the evenings at Oakland Mall. On Sept. 8, Marianne Moulton from Revere, Crown Corning and Pyrex will demonstrate the features of 18/8 stainless Revere Pro-Line Cookware.

Sept. 16, Susan Dumont-Bongston will prepare Italian recipes that highlight 18/10 stainless steel cookware.

Sept. 22, Ann McCarthy from Calphalon, will teach cooking techniques using anodized cookware and non-stick cookware.

Sept. 29, Earl Peyroux will prepare

a complete meal using Steelon non-stick stainless steel cookware and Circulon hard anodized nonstick cookware.

At the Westland Mall store, beginning at noon, prominent chefs will entertain guests. On Sept. 11, Melora Lowry of Ann Arbor, will prepare a few entrees. Sept. 17, Bob Sloan will demonstrate recipes from his book, *Sept. 18 Chili Joe and Chef Curtis* will entertain guests.

Bride and grooms are especially invited to attend T-Fal classes

See COOKWARE, 6B

MONDAY, SEPT. 6		ADDED ATTRACTIONS		LIZ'S LATEST	
BABY PICTURES Snapshot contest for the baby with the most endearing smile. Through Sept. 30. Send your favorite photos to Lyovnia Mall Merchants Association, 29514 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152. 476-1168.		FRIDAY, SEPT. 10		BOOKWORM SHOW Musical tributes to joys of reading and a good education. Performances at 11 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m. Free to children of all ages. Center Court, Woodland Mall, Plymouth/Middlebet. 522-4100.	
RESERVATIONS OPEN Time to reserve a seat in the rounds for Saturday, Sept. 18 fall fashion show at 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. Free admission. Seating limited. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge. 643-6360.		ARTS AND APPLES Annual fall festival through Sept. 12. Highlights include sidewalk chalk contest, refreshments, artisans selling wares and shopping district specials. Downtown Rochester. Mary/University. 656-0060.		SUNDAY, SEPT. 12	
WARDROBE SEMINAR Tickets are on sale for the Jones of New York wardrobe seminar at Hudson's Career Dept. Friday, Sept. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in Oakland Mall and Saturday, Sept. 11 at 8:30 a.m. in Twelve Oaks Mall. Guests receive complimentary box meal. Reservations required. 443-6332.		PIANO CONCERTS Each Friday in September 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturdays noon to 5 p.m. Area musicians will perform. Laurel Park Plaza, Six Mile/Newburgh. 462-1100.		STORY HOUR	
RUKEYSER TICKETS Hudson's presents evening with Louis Rukeyser and the latest investment news. Bill Proctor of WXYZ hosts the event which includes a light dinner and cash bar. Tickets are \$25. Doors open 5 p.m. Rukeyser tickets at 6:30 p.m. Grand Manor, Fairlane Town Center. 443-6000.		INFORMAL MODELING Noon to 4 p.m. See Karen Kane's new line of women's wear. Enter drawing to win \$200 lifestyle wardrobe. Karen Ruff will answer questions and greet customers in Hudson's Advanced Dept. Oakland Mall, 14 Mile/John R. 597-9293.		SENIOR DANCE	
PUPPET SHOW "The Golden Unicorn." Monday-Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m., 1, 3 and 7 p.m., Sundays 1 and 3 p.m. Free to shoppers. Puppet theatre located near main entrance, Meadowbrook Village Mall, Adams/Walton. 375-9451.		GARFIELD VISITS Shows/ines are 1:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. Center court. Garfield performs as a sheriff, master Meechbrook Village Mall, Walton/Adams. 375-9451.		MONDAY, SEPT. 13	
		FASHION SHOW See the latest for fall from your favorite shops. "Your Signature For Style" presented at 1 and 3 p.m. by Productions Plus, Center Court, Oakland Mall, 14 Mile/John R. 585-0000.		INFO Information about special events and promotions for inclusion in this calendar can be sent to Susan Demaggio, 905 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or faxed to 644-1314. The deadline is Wednesday noon for the following Monday's edition.	