

# MALLS & MAINSTREETS

(F)11A

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1993

## SHOPPING CENTERED



LINDA BACHRACK

## A bushel of ideas for fall flavor

Fall has officially arrived. There are golden leaves peeking through the clusters of green, the cider mills are open, the windows are raised and the air feels cool, if not crisp. It's harvest time and area orchards brim with unusual varieties of apples, including Early Blaze, Northern Spy and Wealthy.

There's something about a shiny red or green apple and its association with health and wholesomeness that prompts us to use its image as a decorative accessory. Its fresh sweet scent perfumes potpourris and candles. A basket of apples seems a requisite of the autumn hearth or kitchen table.

And so I scouted the malls and mainstreets for wonderful examples of apple-themed gifts and must-haves. Perhaps a McIntosh or Golden Delicious will accent your home this season.

The Dandy Lion & Company, 116 E. Fourth St. in Rochester devotes an entire display to an apple motif. The crop includes a hand painted miniature chair with an apple cut out as the chair back (\$28.95) and a black and white ticking stripe apron strewn with red apples (\$23.95). Striking black place mats sport vibrant apples, perfect to show off a whimsical set of mugs and plates. The dessert set depicts the progression of



the apple from a whole to the core in four graphic stages (\$43.95/set of mugs and \$43.95/set of plates). They're pictured on a decorative painted shelf.

"I would love that entire display for my kitchen," said Jean Keating of Farmington Hills. "The shelf is useful and darling, and the china is so neat."

Rochester Hills resident Mary McEwen agreed, adding that the incredible store displays imparted great ideas. She particularly admired a metal stand holding fragrant wooden apples (\$6.99/ea.). Daughter Clare didn't hesitate when asked her favorite apple item. She pointed to the mini apple-shaped teapot with the delicate apple blossom on its handle (\$15.95).

What were the apples of my eye? I loved the gorgeous needlepoint pillow by Patricia Dupont that realistically captures an upended osen basket spilling its contents of apples (\$84.95).

And tucked underneath all of this autumnal splendor, look for the heavily textured rug rug interwoven with three giant red apples — a cheerful welcome to fall (\$57.95).

For a special hostess or housewarming gift, let The Dandy Lion create a custom basket including Nuts About Apples potpourri by Aromatique (\$11), green apple tea (\$8.95) and a selection of apple recipes (\$2.50). Fill in with your favorite seasonal selections.

### Add an apple

M.T. Hunter Country Store, 1000 S. Woodward in Birmingham, also has a bushel of apple ideas. Look for stenciled pillows, table runners and crockery. Decorate a tabletop with a wooden apple cart filled with true-to-life red and yellow apples complete with bumps and bruises (\$7.75/ea.).

You'll also find a selection of dip mixes, including Country Caramel Apple and Fruit Dip. Some are packaged with an acrylic apple-shaped bowl (\$3.25/dip and \$7/dip and bowl). With the addition of mulling spices (\$2.50), this makes a perfect little thank you gift.

### More apple ideas

Not to be missed, a soft cotton lap blanket by The Rug Barn featuring apples woven inside large navy, green and red checks with a flowering vine border (\$50).

Other stand-outs in the vast array of apple motif objects include a sparkling Steuben apple (\$340) at Neiman Marcus. Also at Neiman's, Mrs. Preadable's mouth-watering caramel apples dipped in chocolate and peanut butter, toffee, macadamia or pecans (\$14).

For the bath, consider Fruits and Passion green apple candle (\$22) or foaming bath (\$31) in great looking glass decanters topped with tiny ceramic apples. Or to scent a friend's home, take her a gift basket filled with fragrant wooden apple scents and nuts by Aromatique (\$7). All from Neiman Marcus.

Linda Bachrack is a Birmingham resident. You can leave her column ideas at 963-2047, mailbox 1889 or fax them to her at 644-1314.



Trying it out: Sharon Hung of Redford looks through the viewfinder to test a camcorder at the Best Buy store in Westland. Her husband Yien and baby Corrie accompany her. Salesman Ken Kiraly looks on.

ART: EMANUELE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Strip gets new anchors

BY SUBAN DEMAGGIO  
STAFF WRITER

With the opening of a new Kmart store at the south end, and a Home Quarters shop on the north end, the 37-year-old Bloomfield Town Square at Square Lake and Telegraph is about to get the facelift it sorely needs.

And that's not all, according to Bennett Terseblo of Farman/Stein,

leasing agent for the property. Several other new retailers are considering a spot in the plaza and negotiations are under way.

"We're creating a new energy at the center," he said. "Finally delivering what Bloomfield-area shoppers have been calling for — quality merchandise at value-oriented prices."

Kmart will open a new store at Bloomfield Town Square on Oct. 16

in the former Roma's of Bloomfield location. The 96,000-square-foot store will offer shoppers a Little Caesar's Pizza dining room, a Sight 'n Save Optical center, an automotive center and a portrait studio.

Kmart is hiring 150 new employees to staff the store.

See ANCHORS, 12A

## ADDED ATTRACTIONS

MONDAY, SEPT. 13

### NEW STORE

Jacobson's has opened for business in the Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor. The store formerly operated in downtown Ann Arbor since 1924. A distinctive feature of the new store is a crystallized glass dome which is illuminated at night.  
Briarwood Mall, 194/Eisenhower Pkwy.

### ART EXHIBIT

Work of students and alumni from Interlochen Center for the Arts. Through Sept. 18, "Evening With Interlochen" Saturday, Sept. 18 features cocktails, dinner buffet, Fashion Show from Barney's New York and student musical performances 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$100 ticket price benefits Interlochen and Detroit Symphony summer residency program.  
Somerse Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge, 355-3955/644-8770.

### BABY PICTURES

Snapshots contest for the baby with the most endearing smile. Through Sept. 30. Send your favorite photos to Livonia Mall Merchants Association, 2951 S. Seven Mile Road, Livonia 48152.  
476-1166.

### MUSICIAN TICKETS

Hudson's presents evening with Louis Rukeyser and the latest investment news. Bill Proctor of WKYF hosts the event which includes a light dinner and cash bar. Tickets \$25. Doors open 5 p.m. Rukeyser speaks at 6:30 p.m.  
Grand Manor, Falmouth Town Center, 443-6000.

### PUPPET SHOW

"The Golden Unicorn." Monday-Friday 7 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m., 1, 3 and 7 p.m. Sunday 1 and 3 p.m. Free to shoppers. Puppet theater located near main entrance.  
Hoodwinked Village Mall, Adams/Walton, 375-2451.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16

### FALL FASHIONS

Free in Rotunda. Noon. Repeated Sept. 17 at noon

and Sept. 18 at 1 and 3 p.m. Reservations requested. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge, 643-6360.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17

### SOCCER CELEBRATION

Weekend of soccer fun. Grand prize drawing is trip for two to San Francisco to watch U.S. play defending World Cup champs. Instant pictures with life-size cardboard cutout of Pele at MasterCard station. Mystery shoppers awarding \$25 gift certificates to persons wearing MasterCard buttons. Saturday, Sept. 18 2-4 p.m. members of Detroit Rockers team host free soccer clinic in center court. Kids under 18, kick contest against Striker the Canine Goalie. Twelve Oaks Mall, Twelve Mile/Norw., 348-9438.

### SPORTS COLLECTIBLES

Coin, stamp and card show through Sept. 19, regular mall hours. Special visits by Alex Delvechio on Saturday 1-3 p.m. and Mark Fitzgibbon on Sunday 1-3 p.m. Livonia Mall, Seven Mile/Middlebelt, 476-1166.

### PIANO CONCERTS

Each Friday in September 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday noon to 5 p.m. Area musicians will perform. Laurel Park Place, Six Mile/Newburgh, 462-1100.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18

### KIDS SHOW

MC Teach, star of Sony Wonder's children's album, performs hip hop musical salute to education. 1, 3

## Best Buys opens

■ A new chain of appliance stores, Best Buys, has moved into town. In just two weeks, sales have topped expectations with shoppers delighting in the grab-and-go style of shopping that is a Best Buys trademark.

BY SUBAN DEMAGGIO  
STAFF WRITER

There are plenty of places to shop for a new television set or microwave oven, but newcomer Best Buys hopes their low prices and merchandising style will bring you to their check-out counters.

"We've just been open two weeks, and already we've exceeded our sales expectations," said Richard Vershove, manager of the Westland store. "The response to what we're trying to do for shoppers has been phenomenal. Customers have accepted us, welcomed us, and been patient and understanding about rainchecks because we've sold out of a few items."

Best Buys, an appliance discount chain based in Minneapolis, Minn., plans to open 12 stores in metro Detroit by next September. So far, six Best Buys have been opened: in Westland across from Westland Mall, in Southfield at Telegraph and 12 Mile, in Roseville at 14 Mile and Gratiot, in Utica off Utica Park Boulevard, in Southgate off Dix Road, and in Ann Arbor off Oak Valley Drive.

A Dearborn store is under construction.

Best Buys announced its entry into the Detroit market about the same time Highland Appliance stores announced their bankruptcy last year. The company hopes to fight the washer-dryer wars against longtime dealers such as ABC Warehouse and Ollie Fretter. Each company advertises the lowest prices, promising to beat your best deal. Customers will find the biggest differences among the stores in the product lines carried. For example, Best Buys does not carry Amana products, Fretter and ABC Warehouse do.

Best Buys customers can walk into huge, well-lit showrooms, grab a shopping cart and move from category to category, choosing from a variety of radios, telephones, computers, TVs sets and vacuum cleaners. Salespeople are not commissioned and staff an "Answer Desk" strategically located within each category department.

Best Buys also carries CDs, cassette tapes, movies, video games and computer software.

Todd Ridley of Southfield stopped in to check out the CD department.

See BUYS, 12A

and 5 p.m. Grand Court. Audience participation included.  
Summit Place Mall, Elizabeth Lake/Telegraph, 683-0123.

### TAILGATE MENUS

Cooking demonstrations highlight football season fare. 1 p.m. Home store. Free.  
Jacobson's, Maple/Woodward, 644-6900.

### CASUAL LOOKS

Patricia Miles anniversary celebration, 8 p.m. to midnight. Includes informal modeling of fall fashions by Donna Jessica, Stanley Gertinger and Martin Bornstein. Boardwalk, Orchard Lake/Maple, 932-5658.

### FLOWER EXHIBIT

Detroit Rose Society Show through Sept. 19 regular mall hours.  
Laurel Park Place, Six Mile/Newburgh, 462-1100.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 19

### STORY HOUR

Greg Russell of WHIC radio reads "The Wump World" and "Tales From A Duck Named Quacker" 1 p.m. Center Court. Kids meals 99-cents at participating mall restaurants. Book tokens redeemable towards merchandise discounts.  
Fairlane Mall, Southfield/Michigan, 593-3393.

### KITCHEN SEMINAR

Ethan Allen Furniture store hosts "Creating the kitchen of your dreams." 3-4:30 p.m. Free. Reservations requested.  
Livonia, Middlebelt south of Six Mile, 261-7780.

Information about special events and promotions for inclusion in this calendar can be sent to Susan DeMaggio, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or faxed to 644-1314. The deadline is Wednesday noon for the following Monday's edition.