Toys aren't just for children

By Susan B. Tauber Special Writer

dults are like children. They want to have their toys, too. Toys, however, have different meanings for adults. They can be things to play with, just as they are for children, or they can be things that make them happy—like personal care items, things for their office or tickets to far-off places. Whatever their shape or size, toys make terrific adult gifts, Summit Travel has several suggestions for gifts of travel.

"These can range from one-day excursions to several day jaunts," said Gail Shapiro, president of Summit Travel in Farmington Hills.

Among the list she compiled, Shapiro suggested airplane tickets for a one-day shopping trip to New York City.

"What a wonderful gift this would be for someone who loves to shop," she said. "Hy in to New York for one day's shopping; fly home that night. This gift would cost from \$125 for airplane tickets," she said.

For the theater buff, Shapiro suggested train tickets and hotel accommodations to Toronto. These make a great gift, starting at less than \$300 per person.

If warmer weather suits the person who is receiving the gift, Shapiro said she can book tickets to Florida from \$149 a person, to Mexico from \$299 a person or to Cancun for three days from under \$300 a person.

"Cruises are the hot sellers now," she said. "There is a cruise to fit everyone's interests, whether that is to travel alone, as a couple or with a family." The most popular cruise spots are to the Caribbean Islands and to Mexico.

For shoppers whose ideas of toys are more concrete, The Sharper Image stores in Novi and in Troy have a varied and unusual selection. Keith Thompson, manager of the Troy store in The Somerset Collection, said ideas are numerous and

the price range is immense, "We have adult 'toys' ranging from \$12 to thousands of dollars. Even if they don't see something they want to give as a gift, they probably will find something for themselves," he said.

When asked for suggestions for adult toys, Thompson immediately thought of massagers. "These are something people would like to have but usually won't buy for themselves," he explained. "We have several different types of massagers, such as hand held, personal trainers, foot massagers and ones to use in the shower."

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