

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1994

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SHOPPING CENTERED



Linda Bachrack

Plymouth shops sell Americana

The stars and stripes aren't just for the Fourth. If you're drawn to Americana, you'll use the flag and other reds, whites and blues to accessorize every room in the house. This patriotic scheme can even add some punch to your flower garden.

Just as primary colors brighten interior spaces, they make an eye-catching impact in the flowerbed or hanging basket. "People are always asking for color themes for their gardens," says master gardener Cindy Richardson, the senior designer at Four Seasons Garden Center in Oak Park. The bicentennial year sparked an interest in red, white and blue flowers, but pastels reigned until now. "This year there are more flags, more patriotism. Monet is out and American colors are in," says Richardson.

She's created flowering flags and penials using white begonias, alyssum or petunias, blue ageratum and calixia, and red geraniums. The effect is dazzling. Imagine an American Eagle topiary in red, white and blue or moss-lined baskets spilling petunias, geraniums and lobelia. The colors of the flag make an electrifying statement when mingled together in the landscape.

Richardson also suggests perennials such as blue hosta, larkspur and plugs for the patriotic garden. Four Seasons is at 14471 W. 11 Mile Road.

Plymouth Rock

I traveled to Plymouth in search of fresh country-style Americana, and found some wonderful examples of contemporary designs and traditional folk art. At Sideways, Inc., 505 Forest Ave.



under a handcrafted wooden bird-house beckons our feathered friends. White stars on a bright blue ground decorate the front, while the sides are striped in red and white and the roof is made of pinecones (\$39.95).

Flag painted doorstops are actually old bricks and would make great bookends or paperweights (\$11.95). The stars and stripes decorate oven mitts (\$6.95) and dish towels (\$5.95), and dance across a hand-painted clay flower pot (\$14.95). Don't allow a summer shower to dampen your picnic plans. Let a flag be your umbrella (\$59.95).

The folks at Country Charm, a home furnishings and accessory store, 322 S. Main, arranged an Americana sampling atop a Shasta console table. Included are a wicker flag basket lined with navy and whitestars (\$29.95) and a primitive Uncle Sam, complete with hat and striped trousers (\$49.95). Uncle Sam stands guard over a slate flag wall hanging (\$21.95); a Boyd bear (\$14.95) outfitted in a red, white and blue striped sweater (\$13.95); and wooden cutouts depicting a fire and drum corps (\$6.95). Days Gone By...at 550 Forest Ave., is a unique country store and lace gallery.



Their window features a wooden folk art lamp base painted in an Old Glory motif. Complete with white shade, it sells for (\$290.95). I also spotted a soaring American eagle against a flag background on a picnic throw by Goodwin Weavers (48 by 68-inch, \$52.95).

Tennis wins

If you think the stars and stripes might inspire your tennis or golf games, the cutest sports tees I've seen are at Tennis Time, 3627 Maple Rd. in Bloomfield Hills. The awful shirts are entitled Flag Bag and Racquet Red Glare, and they take the American flag look to new heights. They're worth a peek in Tennis Time's window (\$26-\$30). 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Malls & Mainstreets next week:

- Linda Bachrack shops for the season's best picnic baskets.
- Added Attractions lists special events at the Malls and Main Street shops.
- Meet Joyce Carver of Graham & Gunn, another super salesperson nominated by an appreciative shopper in *More Than You Bargained For*.

Malls' fun events cool off shoppers



When the temperature soars, it's good idea to cool off for a while in the air-conditioned comfort of your favorite shopping center. There's always a cool drink available and in July, some very special events.

BY SUSAN DEMAGGIO
 STAFF WRITER

Already bored with the sun and where you find that summer's heat is not a treat?

There's lots of cool fun coming up in July at your favorite shopping center.

Livonia Mall at Seven Mile and Middlebelt, has two contests: Big bag contests, and a daylong Celebrity Auction for Muscular Dystrophy scheduled.

The Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 12, on the stage near Crowley's. The Tommy Dorsey Band will also perform there 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16. The concerts are complimentary.

Amateur photographers are invited to submit either color or black and white photos for judging toward a \$300 grand prize and mall-wide exhibition on July 29-31. The deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Friday, July 15. There is no limit to the number of entries an individual may submit, but the fee is \$4 per photograph. Prints must be 8 by 10-inch to 24 by 30-inch maximum. Forms are available from the mall management office.

Call for crafters

Also at Livonia Mall, craft lovers are invited to enter their creations in an Arts and Crafts Contest and Show

set for July 30-31. The grand prize is \$100. Crafters must be over 18 years of age. One entry per artist. No entry fee. The craft contest deadline is Saturday, July 30 before 11 a.m.

Another feature of the crafts contest is an mall-wide show and exhibit. Interested crafters will pay \$25 to set up a table. Forms available through the management office.

Volunteers are needed for the Livonia Mall's annual MDA Auction on Saturday, Aug. 4. Musicians, magicians and anyone who can entertain the crowds bidding for celebrity items are especially sought. Organizer Bill Checks reports that he still needs local services and merchandise to add to his growing list of auction block items. For more details call Checks at 476-1166.

Fairy Tale Theater

At the Oakland Mall in Troy, the Giggie Gang is forming. The three-week children's event features a live theater performance and free kids meals on Wednesdays; July 20 (Snow White), July 27 (Rumpelstiltskin) and Aug. 3 (The Emperor's New Clothes.) Showtimes are 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in center court.

Kids eat free when accompanied by an adult at the Oakland Mall's Arby's, Big Boy's, Bruschette Cafe and Tubby's performance dates only. At Lakeside Mall in Sterling

See SUMMER, 7A

Excedrin Headache No. 4



BILL BREKLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ouch! The Tasmanian Devil sports a bump after a Looney Tunes soccer match gets out of hand. The figures are part of a sand sculpture exhibit at Briarwood Mall.

Thai stylist is far from rice fields in S'fld salon

BY SUSAN DEMAGGIO
 STAFF WRITER

Don's savvy, Southfield salon at Inkster and Northwestern, is busy for a Tuesday morning as clients look over color charts, sit for manicures, and have their hair cut.

For proprietor Don Ongart, it's a dream come true, a far cry from the



jungles of southern Thailand and the rice fields of his father.

"It was destiny and hard work that brought me here," Ongart, 42, of West Bloomfield, explained. "I don't believe in luck — good or bad. As a young child I saw hair cutting as a way to have money, see the world and learn about people. I became a quick study and learned not from schools, but from working people. I think I did OK."

Quite "OK" according to clients and Applegate Square manager Bluma Siegel who marvel at Ongart's success.

"He recently increased his staff twofold, computerized his business

and remodeled the entire salon," said Siegel. "His hard work and tenacity has made him very successful. He works with lots of people, enjoys a comfortable income and is proud to be an American."

Ongart loves to tell his story, which goes something like this.

Each day, while waiting for the train to take him the hourlong ride home after school, he ran errands for the clients at the station barber shop. He'd get them cigarettes, pop, sweep the barber shop floors. "They really liked the lad because his pockets filled with enough tips to help him persuade his mother that he should stay in town all week and just come home on weekends."

His worried mother gave in to the boy's enthusiasm, letting the sixth of her seven offspring stay "in town." Over the years he learned to cut hair, starting with children and moving to the fussier women of the village.

After high school, he told his mother he did not want to go to school anymore. He wanted to be a hair stylist. She protested.

"She wanted me to be a teacher or a policeman," he recalled with a smile. "But now, when I send home the

See ONGART, 7A



Follow a dream: Stylist Don Ongart of West Bloomfield says his career as a barber has helped him see the world.

Retail businesses in suburban malls and on suburban Main Streets are invited to submit announcements of upcoming special events and promotions for added attractions. Send announcements to Malls & Mainstreets, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or fax them to (313) 591-7278.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

SOCCER PINS

World Cup Soccer pin trading, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Center court. First pin is free while supplies last. Suggested by Soccer Locker, CPH Photo Finish provides complimentary pictures of children who attend wearing soccer uniforms, noon to 5 p.m. Visit with soccer mascot Buster, prize drawings. Fairlane Town Center, Michigan/Auburn. Dearborn. (313) 593-1370.

FASH BASH TICKETS

Tickets for 25th annual Fashion Bash at the Fox Theatre, sponsored by Hudson's and the DCA Foundation's Junior Council, on sale through date of event, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3. Fashion Bash features live auction, parties and theatrical fashion presentation. Tickets \$25-\$150. (313) 833-2323.

SOCCER BRASH

World Cup Indoor Grass Display explores the Turbok Pallet System, through June 30. Meadowbrook Village Mall, Walled/Lake. Rochester Hills. (313) 975-8451.

BAMB CASTLE

90-ton, three-dimensional Looney Tunes sand sculpture.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

ture, featuring a Tunes soccer match, on display through Aug. 16, in the Briarwood Grand Court. Briarwood Mall, S. State/Essex/Howe. Ann Arbor. (313) 756-9410.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

FIREWORKS FESTIVAL

Detroit River Waterfront, 10-11 p.m. Rain Date June 30. North America's largest pyrotechnic display hosted by Hudson's. "Detroit Welcomes the World" is the theme, acknowledging recent G-7 Conference and World Cup Soccer. Fireworks T-shirts available in Hudson's Soccer Shops. (313) 443-6000.

BOOKSOUNDING WESTLAND

Meet city and county officials over breakfast to discuss city's retail climate and roads. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Lower level Community Room. Free. All interested persons welcome. Westland Shopping Center, Warden/Wayne. Westland. (313) 425-5001.

PARK GOVERNOR

Row Lewis and Debbie Christensen present an afternoon of children's stories and songs. Big Purple Dragon appears from "Pathways to Learning." Noon. Bring a brown bag lunch and your camera. Kingsley Park, East/Wyandover. Plymouth. (313) 456-1453.

KNITS SNOW

Lizzy Eisenberg-Fields, a local handknit designer, meets and greets shoppers 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tender Boutique. Customers can select yarns for custom hats, jumpers, cardigans, vests and skirts. Repeated June 30 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Samples and stock items available in cotton, wool and chenille. Tender, 271 W. Maple. Birmingham. (810) 646-6365.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

LUNCH FASHIONS

Clothing from Hersh's informally modeled. Noon to 2 p.m. Stage & Co. restaurant. The Boardwalk, Orchard Lake/A. Maple. West Bloomfield. (810) 855-6622.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

PUPPET SHOWS

"Pinochio" takes the little stage daily at 7 p.m. Saturdays at 11, 1 and 3 p.m. Sundays at 1 and 3 p.m. Through July. Free admission. Meadowbrook Village Mall, Walled/Lake. Rochester Hills. (810) 378-9451.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

CLASSICS BRUNCH

Co-sponsored by WQRS. Local musicians perform in concert. Rotunda stage. Noon to 2 p.m. Brunch catered by Sebastian's Grill. \$20 tickets available at concierge desk. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge. Troy. (810) 643-6360.