

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Retails from page 4B

Frankie & Debbie will sell fashion for the young at heart. Look for funky and fun by new designers like Los Angeles-based Ton - in sizes to fit teen boys and girls. Debbie said the interior design is a must-see with lots of playful concepts. Designer Ron Hoa is handling the project.

KIDS CLUB STARTS
The Newburg Plaza, Six Mile/Newburg in Livonia begins a Kid's Club for children 5 years and under, the second Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. The premier on Tuesday, March 14 features a "Pajama Party," with Maureen Shifman and her monkey puppet "Coco." Kids should wear their pajamas and bring along a favorite stuffed animal or doll. Stories, songs and surprises. Monthly programs last 30-45 minutes. They're free and open to the public.

DISCOUNT BRIDAL FARE
Amy Koen, owner of All Things Beautiful, Discount Bridal and Invitations of Koenford is celebrating the company's

one-year anniversary with a special promotion, offering couples their first 100 invitations free! Koen provides gowns, veils, invitations, costume bridal jewelry and reception accessories 20-40 percent off nationally advertised products. For more information call (313) 638-9694.

COMPUTER SUPPLY OPENS
Greg Worcel announces the opening of his third personal computer supply store "PC Supply Company" at 1650 South Woodward in downtown Birmingham. To celebrate, customers can register to win a 17-inch color monitor. Drawing is March 20. PC Supply was founded in 1986. Other locations are in Southfield and Rochester. The stores provide sales and service from entry-level home PCs to high-end business networks. Inquiries welcome at (810) 644-6633.

FRENCH RAGS
Phyllis Storme (810) 648-2092, and Rosemarie Gilman (810) 855-3432, invite women to a week

of genuine home shopping to see the French Rag line of clothing March 13-18. The wardrobe of separates and dresses fits women sizes 6-18. Pieces are priced at \$50-\$500. Reservations required.

STAGE & CO. UPDATES
Steven Goldberg, son of the Stage & Co. Restaurant founder, has taken over operations at the popular West Bloomfield establishment and instituted some changes. Stage & Co. has new entrees for the health-conscious, and catering with waitstaff available. The restaurant is closed on Mondays. For more information call (810) 855-6622.

SAKS SOMERSET DEBUTS
The following new designers have been added to the spring line up at Saks Fifth Avenue in Troy: Magaschoni (created by Cass Tech graduate Tracy Reese); Donna Karan, sportswear; Isabel Ardece, career sportswear; Dana Buchman, Plus Size Collection; Emanuel Ungaro, petite collection; Ralph Lauren, infants and toddlers; and Vestimenta, men's suits.

BRIDAL DIRECTORY
Oakland and Wayne County editions of the Bridal Buying Book by Jeanette Senkowski of Birmingham are available locally at participating Arbore Design Perry Drugs, Farmer Jack and Kroger stores (\$9.95). The books offer tips for planning a wedding with a list of businesses and services that have been "checked-out" by the author for high standards of quality, fair prices, and willingness to work with couples

in all price ranges. For more information contact the Bridal Buying Bureau (810) 258-5861.

PERFECT FIT RELOCATES
Stuart Blair, owner of The Perfect Fit, opened at 6895 Orchard Lake in West Bloomfield. He hopes to educate the next generation of businessmen to the fit, selection, service and affordability of custom made clothing. His price range: \$560-\$3,000. Suits take between six and eight weeks

to complete. Inquiries welcome at (810) 932-1155.

CAFFE GNO
Hudson's private label of coffee and related products, Caffe Gno, is now available in all Marketplace Departments. There are 12 coffees of different roast levels. Priced \$6.99, \$8.99 and \$7.49. The line also includes bags of Biscotti, syrups, instant cappuccino mixes, and cappuccino sprinkle toppings.

Buchman from page 4B

"The highlight of the day is when we order lunch up from the dell around 10:30 a.m.," she mused. "And it's not that great a dell."

Designing each new group is an "evolving process," she explained. "We start with color clumps, then play with fabrics. We design the style, make the prototype, and then test it on fit models."

"Fit models" (different body types in the same size) assure that Buchman's clothing fits well on a variety of clients.

"It's amazing to see how a garment hangs on various size 8's," she said. "One person fills it out in the hips, another in the waist. The key to a good fit starts with the shoulders. Everything else works from there."

Buchman was born in Memphis, Tennessee where her dad made a good living in the steel business. Her mom was a homemaker. Her brother became a sculptor, her sister a professor of Italian.

After graduation from Brown University, she attended the Rhode Island School of Design. She earned an advanced degree in fashion from St. Martin's School of Art in London.

"Then my dad suggested it was time to go to work," she said with a grin. "So I came to New York with a list of my favorite design-

ers and found my way to Ellen Tracy. I just showed up at their offices one day and asked to see chief designer Linda Allard. The secretary seemed surprised. But eventually I interviewed with Linda and got a job."

Later Buchman joined Liz Claiborne and after a few years was offered a deal she couldn't refuse. "Liz wanted to offer a bridge line, (price points between ready-to-wear and designer) and if I designed it, I could have my own label. That was eight years ago."

In 1987, Saks Fifth Avenue in New York carried the first Dana Buchman Collection. Suzanne Slott of Farmington Hills stopped by Saks to see Buchman's spring show.

"The clothes look nice for most occasions," she concluded. "I heard that Buchman designs for women with the 'middle problem,' which I can relate to. The colors and fabrics are beautiful."

Dana Buchman's clothes range between \$150-\$350. She plans to use the feedback she received from metro-Detroit customers when designing future lines.

"Some women said they like pants with elastic in the back waistband, others want more zipper-back slacks," she said. "I got a lot of positives about the vest bottom blouses and jackets."

Buchman prefers jackets without collars because they go well with many different blouses and vest necklines. The clean lines of her clothes get their spunky sophistication from luxurious fabrics in magnificent colors. Customized buttons, closures, silk linings and some reversible separates are the touches customers appreciate.

Buchman ends her work week with her family at their Long Island home where, "I sit and rest like a potato," she laughed. "Actually, that's one of the reasons I'd like to do a lifestyle line in cottons and velours. You'd never guess I was a fashion designer by how I look on weekends."

Three weeks ago Buchman presented her fall show. Last August, she presided over the opening of the first Dana Buchman Store, which opened in New York City next to the Four Seasons Hotel. Rare spare moments are used for reading 19th century novels by women authors. The books are supplied by her sister, who also shares a passion for the tales. Her advice to aspiring designers?

"Work really hard. Love it relentlessly. Stick with it and don't ever give up."

The Dana Buchman Collection includes Misses Sportswear and Dresses, Petite Sportswear, and Larger Women Sportswear.

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Tips from page 4B

spokeswoman Ilyse Lieberman said.

Double your space by replacing single rods with double-hung rods and shelving units.

If you're investing in a professionally organized closet, opt for a floor based system that offers adjustability so you can replace lower rods with shelves if your needs change. With a wall-hung system, you're stuck with what you buy.

Always remove clothes from thin wire hangers. These leave holes, stretch materials, and stick out in the wrong places. Invest in thicker tubular plastic hangers that won't get tangled and will keep clothes neat.

When you remove a garment to wear, leave the hanger, and rehang the garment in that same spot.

Replace shoe boxes with stack-

ing shoe shelves or plastic shoe bags that hang off the rod. This helps to get them organized and gets them out of the heap on the floor.

Give away any clothes you haven't worn in the past two years, and eliminate anything that isn't clothes-related such as books, photo albums, or boxes of decorations to free up space.

Pantries
If you're stuck with deep shelves where food gets lost in back, cut them down, then use the new space on the side walls with shallow shelves for canned goods or spices.

If you're building a new pantry, opt for adjustable shelves or pull-out trays. A custom system is best because modular systems with standard-size shelving — say, a 30-inch unit for a 34-inch wide pantry, wastes precious space.

Desks

The best solution to an organized work space is to keep your work area as clear as possible. File folders not used on a daily basis can be put in drawers adjacent to the desk.

Computers and printers should be stored off main work areas such as on a shelf or in a cabinet.

If you're using a computer desk from a furniture store, reserve the cubbyholes for everyday items. Don't stuff them with books and papers you don't need on a regular basis.

Garages

Use hooks to hang shovels and brooms instead of stacking them in the corner. Buy wall-hung bike racks to get bicycles off the floor. Use metal shelving units or cabinets when you can, including an upper cabinet in the space above the front of your car.

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OPENS SATURDAY MARCH 18

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11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Regular Admission: Adults \$4.00; Seniors and Children 6-12 \$4.00; Children under 6 admitted FREE.
Special Family Ticket, includes 2 adults and all the children, \$9.00 available only at Farmer Jack.