

## street seen

Charlene Mitchell



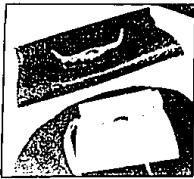
Street Scene reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual and the unique. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and enterprising entrepreneurs. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.

## knee savers

Heavy jobs like scrubbing floors and gardening can be pretty rough on your knees. Do your work in comfort with these custom-molded foam rubber knee pads. Won't leak on water, or mildew, rip or tear. \$6.98. English Gardens, West Bloomfield.

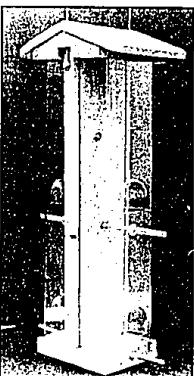
## Exotic lookalikes

Here are two of the spectacular 1988 collection for all seasons by designer Glen Miller for Ann Turk shown at several major shows in New York, L.A., and Europe. This line is taking off — probably because they are far less expensive than authentic reptile skins. Crafted of quality leather, the bags are embossed in the pattern of your choice. All have shoulder-length detachable straps. Summer white embossed lizard, \$290; chocolate embossed crocodile, \$340. Quintessence at LaMirage, Southfield.



## Something fishy here

Now that the warm weather is with us, so is the joy of grilling. Get your outdoor cooking act together with a book that tells you how to whip up great meals on the grill. With all the right equipment for the outdoor gas or open-style grill, you'll never want to see the inside of your kitchen again. "Joy of Grilling" book, \$21.95; barbecue fork, \$7.75; tong, \$9.99; fish rack, \$1.99; fish milt, \$12.99; charcoal companion gas match, \$9.99. At Kitchen Glamour stores, West Bloomfield, Redford and Rochester.



## Birdie banquet

It's for the bird lovers in the family. This vertical wood and aluminum bird feeder can easily hang on a tree limb or fence. The see-through design lets you see at a glance how much feed is left. The clever bubble-like openings are easy for the birds to feed from. \$26.98 at all English Gardens stores.

## Tieing in with art

These ties aren't exactly for the board room, but if your lifestyle permits, you can wear reproductions of famous paintings as part of your wardrobe. Choices include "Moulin Rouge" by Lautrec and "The Dream" by Rousseau. \$18 each. At Encore III at LaMirage, Southfield.



## Rays a difference

Swing into summer with this feminine sun visor in white cotton with pretty eyelet lace trim. Perfect for outdoor sports or just everyday wear to help protect eyes and face from bright rays.



## STREET WISE

## Oui Oui

If you can't take a trip down the Seine this summer you might settle for a lecture series and exhibition of French Impressionist poster art. The exhibit at the Print Gallery, 29203 Northwestern Hwy., in Southfield, will display French Impressionist posters during June and July.

Posters of Monet, Sisley, Pissarro, Renoir, Manet, Degas and others will be on display in conjunction with a special lecture series taught by Michael Farrell. The series will examine the origins, development and decline of French Impressionists.

Michael Farrell is an associate professor of art history, University of Windsor, Adjunct Education Curator at the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, Staten Island, N.Y.

The lectures will be given in a three-part series at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 10, 17 and 24. Admission is \$5 for each session.

For reservations, call 356-5454.

## Cycling cruises

Get those legs in gear and join the College Cycle Tours on trips to the

Colorado Rockies this summer. Stays are \$10 and \$26 days in June, July and August. Student rates are \$295 for 10 days and \$1,450 for 26 days. A new adult 10-day tour in August costs \$545.

All tours include a van for your bags, pre-paid lodgings at campgrounds and inns; a whitewater raft trip; two-experienced leaders; selected meals; and van transport from the starting and ending cities. The 26-day student tour includes a van tour.

If you're new to the bike path, van transportation is available if you like. Experienced cyclists are offered individual daily mileage that can be increased as preferred.

For adults who can't commit to the full 10-day tour, prorated packages are offered.

For more information, call College Cycle Tours at 357-1370.

## Blazing trails

For 22 years the spirit and adventure of the wild, wild, west entertained visitors at Stagecoach Stop, USA, Onsted, Mich. In the heart of the Irish Hills.

There's something for everyone at the new Stagecoach Stop. The zoo has been redesigned and expanded. The park is an antique lover's dream, with more than 10,000 au-

thentic time period pieces restored and in use or on display. View one of three sawmills including one which is 100 years old.

Enjoy live music, browse through one of the specialty shops, watch craftspeople involved in the art of spinning, blacksmithing, glass blowing, weaving and broom making. Children will enjoy the Runaway Mine Car ride, one of several kiddie rides.

Stagecoach Stop, Michigan's Village of the 1800s, is in Lenawee County at 7203 U.S. 12, Onsted, Mich. For more information, call 1-517-667-2300.

## Computer games

Lucasfilm Ltd.'s forthcoming "Willow" fantasy will be this summer's enchanting cinematic experience. Mindscape lets moviegoers continue the film's magic and mystery with "Willow: The Computer Game."

Willow, to be released by MGM, is an adventure-fantasy based on an original story by George Lucas.

The film, executive produced by Lucas ("Star Wars" and "Raiders of the Lost Ark") and directed by Ron Howard ("Splash" and "Cocoon") follows the exploits of Willow, an un-

likely hero in a battle that takes him beyond the peace of his village into a world filled with giant Dakinis, little brownies and mythical fairies.

Good triumphs over evil in the game, which closely follows the film's storyline.

Mindscape's advanced graphics transform selected movie scenes into a film adventure for personal computers. As a player you can reset the game and create new maps, new scenes, new spells — virtually a new game.

"Willow: The Computer Game" is an adventure game with arcade sequences to bring players a refreshing new fantasy experience.

For more information, call Mindscape Inc. at 480-7667.

## Student show

An exhibition of work by 60 recently graduated students from Cranbrook Academy of Art will be on view at the museum through Sept. 18.

It features work from architecture, ceramics, design, fiber, metalsmithing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, in Bloomfield Hills, offers temporary exhibitions focusing on contemporary trends in the visual arts.

For more information, call 645-3312.

## Hot tub testimonials sizzle

Continued from Page 1

nothing better than sitting in 20-degree weather in a spa with water heated to a toasty 104 degrees, Brody said.

Sure, they feel great and help you live longer. But how much?

According to Brody, a spa, \$4,500. If you want a Canadian spa, Brody says as much as \$6,000.

Add another \$45 to \$60 a month in average operational costs to enjoy a fully insulated spa used outside during the winter, Brody said. Monthly operational costs are a bit less if used only during the summer or indoors because less use of the heater is required to maintain the desired temperature, he said.

OPERATIONAL COSTS can be cut considerably with a quality spa, Brody says.

The lesson to be learned — do your homework and shop around for the best buy.

Spas are more popular here among the more mature and not nearly as prevalent in other parts of the country as they are out west.

The typical buyers are married couples, who are at least 30 years old, with grown children, living on a combined income of \$30,000-plus a year, retailers say. Very few spas are sold to younger singles, they say. "They have other expenses," says Bill Hobart, a sales representative at Hot Tub City. "Most spas are hot tubs in Plymouth. "Most spas are bought by established married couples who have an a/c or two and a few extra bucks now that the children have grown."

"Unfortunately, spas are still considered a rich man's toy, but they're not," said Brody. "I'd say they're about as popular here as they were about 10 years ago in California."

But spas will become more popular here after more and more testimonials by physicians are printed about their therapeutic benefit," he said. "In my opinion, more than 80 percent of all Californians will at least a \$30,000 annual income will own portable spas within five years."

"They will become that popular here in about 10 years," Brody said. "The industry is still in an its infancy, but spas are not a fad. They're

here to stay. They will soon be built in some newly constructed houses."

Spas began to surface in California as early as 1960, but portable

versions of their forerunner, the now archaic redwood hot tubs, did not become popular for home use until the late 1970s, he said.

Today, the manufacture and retailing of portable spas is big business in California, where sales are flourishing, he said.

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