

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.



Pointing up fun

Artist Gus Kuhn has created an adorable collection of finger puppets that are fun adult toys as well as art. Paper mache and fabric and an array of bright colors make these birds, clowns, cats and funny faces come to life. Acrylic stand also available to hold sets of three or six. More than a dozen to choose from. \$3.50 each. Ilona & Gallery, Hunter's Square, Farmington Hills.

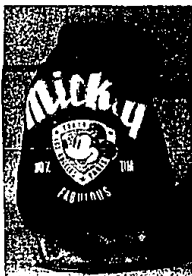


Gr-rr-eat new look

Boots are quite the rage this year after taking a couple of years off. This knee-high suede boot has an elaborate tiger in exotic leather applied on its side. Comfortable low heel makes this a good choice for fashion wearability. Monique Shoeique, 302 S. Washington, Royal Oak.

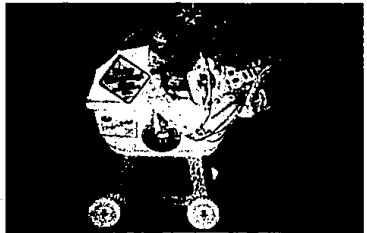
Mickey on the go

The shape and styling makes this roomy tote a lot different than the ones you see everywhere. The large circular bottom is done in a red ribbed rubber material. Nylon upper is accented by a larger than life Mickey Mouse figure celebrating his 50th anniversary with Disney. Adjustable shoulder strap. Can be used for sports, as a school bag or an easy carry-on bag for short plane trips. Unisex, kids or adults. \$19.210. Warner Gifts, 28855 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.



Jump on fashion

This two-piece portfolio with matching wallet is crafted from frogskin. Natural colored skins are elched to make a room portfolio which is great to use instead of a briefcase or can double as clutch bag. Monique Shoeique. Washington Square Building, Royal Oak.



Have crates, will travel

Kinder-Krates features usable and practical inserts — no food or candy. Ideal for gifts for newborns, big brother-sister gifts, birthdays, showers, sick children and, of course, Christmas and Hanukkah. What makes Kinder-Krates different is the crates — of colorful plastic containers. Includes everything from carts to waste baskets to hampers. For more information, call 663-3637.

Your bid?

An eclectic array of gifts — from fur coats and "Phantom of the Opera" tickets to puppets and harmonica lessons — will be on the auction block at a Dec. 1 fund-raiser for the Attle Theater.

More than 150 items will be sold at the auction which will be at the Grosjean Peaine War Memorial.

Admission to the auction is \$30 per person and that includes a hors d'oeuvres, dessert and open bar. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a silent auction, followed by the live auction at 8 p.m.

Some of the items to be auctioned off include four tickets to Broadway's hottest show, "Phantom of the Opera," as part of a New York weekend that includes a champagne dinner at Sardi's, hotel accommodations and limousine.

There also are baubles like at diamond tennis bracelet from Valer Jewellers, fur coats from Wrubel & Korin in Birmingham, spending the day in the kitchen with Chef Duglas, dinners at the Rattlesnake Club, Joe Muer's, the Goome, Glapinski and Opus One and a private piano performance by Fedora Horowitz.

Tickets are available by calling the Attle Theater at 875-8285.

Friendly

The Friends of Folk are showing how friendly they are by sponsoring a Augie's Acoustic Sunday Series at — where else but — Augie's in Dearborn Heights.

The series kicks off Sunday, Nov. 27, with Michi-Gras, featuring Bobby

Lewis, Mike Irish, Theresa Smith and David Eversole. Folk music on the bano and guitar with bass, violin and vocals are on tap.

The show starts at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Ticket cost \$6 and are available at the door.

Augie's is at the corner of Ford Road and Telegraph. For more information, call 338-4502.

Art of seeing

Michael Naranjo doesn't care if he ever gets his sight back. He has, he says, a beautiful wife and children and his sculpting.

His sculptures, entitled "The Art of Seeing," are on display at Birmingham's Four Wings Gallery through Dec. 2.

The 44-year-old Naranjo is a Tewa Indian of the Santa Clara Pueblo. His success story is a story of loss tempered by the determination to succeed against the odds.

A Vietnam veteran, he was blinded by an exploding grenade, which also damaged one arm. Rather than letting his childhood dream of becoming a sculptor be destroyed, he waged a battle at a rehabilitation center in California against doing leather work, weaving and wood carving.

His request for a block of wood and a chisel eventually was answered and his career as a sculptor began.

When he returned to New Mexico, he began working in bronze, drawing on the roots of his Pueblo culture and memories from childhood. A social worker helped to organize his first show in 1971.

His subjects range from Indian dancers to nudes to animals and many of his pieces are in permanent collections at museums.

Four Wings Gallery is at 340 E. Maple, Birmingham. For more information, call 540-1774.

Holiday cheer

Orchestra Hall will reverberate with holiday sounds Sunday, Dec. 4, when the Lyric Chamber Ensemble presents a holiday concert.

The 3:30 p.m. concert will feature Cantata No. 51, "Jauchzett Gott in Allen Landen." Concerto for Two Violins in D minor by Bach, Corelli's "Christmas" Concerto Grosso in G, arias from Handel's "Judas Macca-baeus" Oratorio and "Let the Bright Seraphim."

Emmanuelle Boisvert, in her first season as Detroit Symphony Orchestra concertmaster, makes her premiere performance as soloist with the ensemble. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, she has performed at the Marlboro Music Festival and as a soloist in Quebec City, Toronto, Philadelphia and Colorado.

Also performing will be Geoffrey Applegate, principal second violinist with the DSO, soprano Earnestine Timmons, known as the Leonine Price of Detroit, and Ramon Far-cells, the DSO's leading trumpeter. The concertmaster will be DSO violinist Stacey Woolley.

Tickets at Detroit Symphony Center \$12, \$15 and \$25. Discounts are available for students, senior citizens and groups of 10 or more. To order tickets or for more information, call 357-1111.

Foxy trivia

Speaking of theaters, the curtain has gone up at the new, old Fox Theater. Names like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Harry Blackstone, Smokey Robinson and Darryl Hall and John Oates were there to help celebrate.

But behind the glitz and glitter and the cinematic debut of "Encore on Woodward: Detroit's Fox Theater," produced by Oscar winners Sue Marx and Pam Conn, a lot has gone into reviving the Fox.

Consider this:

- More than 300 workers participated in the restoration, working more than 300,000 hours at the Fox.

- It took 550 gallons of paint for the restoration, not to mention 103 gallons of paint thinner and 600 paint scrapers.

- More than 1 million gallons of soap and water were used to clean every inch of the 5,000 seat theater.

- Twenty tons of dirt was removed from the decorative walls, ceiling, heating and cooling ducts of the Fox.

- Some 7,000 yards of colorful elephant patterned carpeting was remitted to match the original carpeting.

- One hundred thousand pieces of stained glass were repaired and restored.

- Three hundred thousand sheets of "gold leaf" was used to repair ornamentation throughout the Fox.

- Two thousand tons of hand-stencilled canvas was replaced on the vaulted auditorium ceiling.

- Some 318,000 ceramic terra cotta bricks cover the entire exterior of the Fox Building.

If you want to check out the Fox, call 567-6000 for more information.

Here's some fashions for the slopes

Continued from Page 1

But the latest thing, is "solar-powered ski wear." For the first time, the public can buy ski clothing made with Solar Alpha, a totally new technology which takes ultraviolet rays from the sun and turns them into heat energy.

It's more expensive, of course. Large-berge conceded, but in his opinion, it's well worth the extra cost.

For the budget-conscious skier, the prices of ordinary ski wear are high enough.

"A jacket can cost from \$175 and up and a good pair of Gore-Tex pants are \$100 and up," Vincent said. "And that's not counting the equipment, where the real money is."

A GOOD package of skis, boots, bindings and poles will run about \$400 for an adult, according to Rick

Vantongeren, president of the Professional Ski Institute of American, an organization which provides education and certification for ski instructors.

But if you skimp on equipment, Vantongeren cautioned, you're looking for trouble.

"If you go out in the hills and bang bumps (with less than adequate equipment), it's like driving a Volkswagen with no brakes," he said.

"You've got to understand that there's a safety factor involved."

"The boots are most critical," said Chris Seeman of the U.S. Ski Team. He wears Raichle boots which he views as the "hottest ski boots around as far as comfort." He estimates the cost at \$350.

Steve Kershner, a representative of Raichle, said you can buy a really good boot, offering comfort and warmth, for \$250.

"The key to skiing is really being as comfortable as you can," said Seeman. He puts the price of a good package somewhere around \$1,100 and said that's not exorbitant.

If you're just decided to throw in your skis and bindings and switch to Ping Pong, hang in there. There are some other options you can choose to keep the costs down.

New or used, longer ski lengths are in. An improved designed allows skiers to wear the longer lengths in greater comfort than ever before.

And one thing about this year's ski wear is that you won't get lost wearing it.

"The colors are bright, ranging

from fluorescents to eye-catching pastels," Miller said.

"Judging from the fashion exhibit at the ski show, bright doesn't adequately define the glare. The hottest combinations seem to be hot pink and anything. Bright, bright aqua is a close second, and whites and blacks look great with both of them."

PICTURE yourself gliding down the slopes in a gorgeous all-white jumpsuit with hot pink and aqua accents on the shoulders and sleeves, and your boots, gloves, headband and goggles all in dazzling white.

Or you could be a knockout in white pants and an aqua jacket, sporting big stripes of white and hot pink.

"Personally, I like the bold colors," said Bruce Bolesky who took sixth place in (ski) ballet at the Winter Olympics in Calgary this year.

"Fluorescents used to be tacky, but now it's come around. You can mix fluorescents and regular colors, too, and get a nice look."

Bolesky has a penchant for headbands instead of hats and sunglasses (he wears Ray-Ban) instead of goggles.

Sounds like a lot of accessories, but buying ski wear isn't as extravagant as it seems because most of it can double as outer wear.

"Lots of people come into the store who aren't even skiers because you can get the two F's — fashion and function," said Miller.

OK, so you're not set — skis, bindings, poles, the works.

Swap shops offer bargains

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"We sell anything that's winter oriented," said Tom Worley, a ski patrol member. "At times, you can even find ice skates."

"There's five times as much ski equipment as there is in any ski shop in Michigan."

He believes the Mt. Brighton ski swap is the largest in the state and the largest when it comes to children's equipment.

Because of liability laws, the equipment can't be more than a few years old and everything has to be marked with a DIN number, part of a universal German marking system for ski equipment, Worley said.

"If the toes and heels (on the boots) are so worn that they can't be adjusted in the ski, we won't take them," he said.

Nine stores — like Summit Haus in Jackson, Suisse Sports of Pine Swiss Valley of Jones and Viking Ski Shop of Toledo — that carry new and demonstration equipment at reduced prices, also sold their wares at the Mt. Brighton swap.

LeeAnn Trivier of Howell, a first-time customer who found out about the swap shop from the Livingston County Press, thought she got a good deal. Good enough that

she plans to come back next year for more bargains.

Three years ago she bought her children all new equipment.

"When you have kids this is great," she said.

THE DAY before the swap, customers brought their merchandise to Mt. Brighton, where experienced ski patrol members spent day the sorting and pricing.

Opening day the place was "jam packed." It was almost snowing, customers could barely walk through the aisles, Rodeman said.

Profits went to the Mt. Brighton division of the National Ski Patrol, a volunteer organization that provides first aid assistance to injured skiers.

The assistance "goes all the way from helping someone get their hat or glove on right to getting them into an evacuation helicopter," Worley said.

Most ski swaps are held in early fall, giving skiers the opportunity to buy before the season starts, but Riverview Highlands, Mt. Holly and Mt. Brighton held theirs in November.

If you missed this year's swap shops, that's OK. Just look at it this way: You're can be bright and early for next year's season.

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