

FASHION CALENDAR

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

Trunk show

YSL trunk show noon to 4 p.m. in Couture Salon at Neilman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Also, UMI stock show noon to 4 p.m. through Saturday, Aug. 15, in Galleria Dresses and Donna Karan stock show noon to 4 p.m. in Designer Dresses.

Fall holiday

Joan Vass, USA Fall and Holiday '92 Collection Show, with representative Lisa Stewart, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Signature, at Jacobson's in Birmingham.

Autumn collection

Oscar de la Renta Autumn '92 Collection in Designer Salon, second floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

Women's footwear

Codie-Haan Women's Footwear Collection in Designer Shoe Salon, second floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

Back to school

Tenth birthday celebration 2-4 p.m. at Loretta Lorion's fine children's apparel, 6562 Telegraph, Bloomfield Township. Ten percent of the entire day's sales will be donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Back to school fashion show featuring children. Free balloons for the kids and birthday cake from Sanders.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

St. John

St. John Knit Collection Show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Designer Salon at Jacobson's in Birmingham.

Couture Salon

Steve Fabrikant trunk show noon to 4 p.m. in Couture Salon at Neilman Marcus at Somerset Collection in Troy.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

Career clothes

Emanuel trunk show noon to 4 p.m. in Career department at Neilman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

Ungaro Parallels

Ungaro Parallels Fall/Winter Collection Show presented by Berry Becker from Ungaro 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in International Designer Salon at Jacobson's in Birmingham.

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

Back to class

"Back-to-Class Smarta" Fashion at 7 p.m. in Children's Store at Jacobson's in Birmingham.

Neilman Marcus

Stanley Platow Martin Ross trunk show noon to 4 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 21, in Couture Salon at Neilman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

Designers sportswear

Joseph Abboud Autumn '92 Collection through Friday, Aug. 21, in Designer Sportswear on second floor at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Personal appearance by Abboud 1-3 p.m. in Designer Sportswear Thursday, Aug. 20. Informal modeling 1-3 p.m. Aug. 20 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 21.

Caravan Collection

Salon Z Designer Caravan Collection with special representative Harvey Balsano through Friday, Aug. 21, in Salon Z, third floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Informal Brunch Show at noon Aug. 20 in Salon Z. For reservations, call 643-9000, Ext. 324.

Mackie's designs

Bob Mackie Autumn '92 Collection through Friday, Aug. 21, in Designer Salon, second floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

Marx brothers were wicked players



Many of Hollywood's finest have dabbled at bridge with unusual enthusiasm, and some of them have become accomplished.

Lou Holtz of Sam Lapides story fame and Les Brown of "The Band of Renown" were certainly two of the glitzy city's greats. The ageless George Burns once played a fine game, but since Grace's passing he only has time for girls. Billy Wilder, producer of the unforgettable "The Apartment" and many more Academy Awards, still plays to this day twice a week, and his game is commendable. Don Adams of TV's "Get Smart" is another who has taken the game seriously.

But the two whose comedy and glory are legendary were Groucho and Chico Marx. Groucho was by far the star at gin, but Chico was the leader at bridge. As a partnership they would play any game, with anyone, for any amount. They gave up real-money monopoly because the payoff was too small.

Both were often accused of purposely diverting their opponent's concentration with their wonderful wit and whimsy. Charlie Goren once said it was practically impossible to keep a straight face when they were in a stake game against you. Their defensive playing conventions were unprecedented if not comically unethical. As Chico would say to his brother, "if you like my lead, don't bother to signal with a high card. Just nod your head." Chico, as dummy, once placed his 13 cards in play composed of four queens, a king and a jack. As he did so, he was heard to say, "I always bid, sometimes more with less." With this trash he had opened the bidding and jump-shifted Groucho's response, which landed them in a precarious three no trump that Groucho somehow successfully managed.

Of course, on that occasion they were playing a couple of wealthy, old, whispering widows who were literally paying their money for the privilege of being uproariously entertained. In deference to their opponents mediocrity, the Marxes had agreed to play the game off the ladies' tees, but in spite of this handicap, a Brinks armored car that Chico had leased was in wait at their country club's front gate.

On another occasion, Chico and his matchless mustache brother challenged West Coast star Lew Mathe and Goren to a levitation-sized stake game. Chico wanted to hold the match at the Rose Bowl, for he knew it would draw a big crowd. But gambling laws restricted play to public places so wisecracking minds decided on the men's locker room at the Wilshire Country Club.

This wasn't satisfactory for the Marx brothers, as the fire marshal's ordinance limited attendance to 62, but Chico agreed to make the best of it. As he later stated, "It was a close match until the first deal, but we did pretty good." It seems that he had sold kibitzer tickets at \$50 a head. George Burns was actually there and recalled that after the

Marxes had paid their card losses they still had \$2,100 left from the gallery's generosity.

It was at this propitious incident that Chico introduced "the Braille System." As both loved to bid, it gave them a better chance to foolingly feel their way around. On today's hand, from that match, Chico once again displayed his genius in a delusive series of bids that was especially dexterous. It fashioned the only lead the comediana enjoyed that afternoon. The pros took charge thereafter and showed the Marx Brothers something about bridge.

Groucho	Charles	Chico	Lew
1♥	DBL	4♥	DBL
2♠	2♠	6♠	6♠
—	—	7♠	Passed Out

Both Vulnerable	Hand	Score
♠ Q J 10 9 8	C Chico	7 6 5 2
♥ K 6	L	♠ Q J 10 4 3
♦ K Q J 10 9 3	h	♠ 8 7
♣ —	s Groucho	♠ 3
		♠ K 4
		♥ 9 8 7 5 2
		♦ 2
		♠ A K J 9 4
		W. led ♦ K

Some of you may wonder what in the world is going on when you read the bidding, for Chico's four heart call was almost as abnormal as the hand. His intention after originally passing was to convey a specific message. He was a cue bid of partners opening call. A high-caliber splinter showing first round control of that suit and superb support for clubs. Give it some thought. What else could it mean? Imaginary, I agree, but if he really had heart support he would have shown it over Goren's informative double by redoubling or raising hearts.

The star of "You Bet Your Life" read it perfectly and let Chico take command. Six spades by Goren and Mathe is only off 1,100, but Chico would have none of that bidding seven clubs and a plus 2,140. This, of course, produced a big round of applause from the men's-room paid attendance and the Marx Brothers loved it.

Hotlines to phone for helping seniors

Here's a list of toll free numbers that may be of help and interest to older adults and their families. These toll free hotlines may be able to assist the callers in finding the information they require.

Energy Assistance
1-800-292-5650
Cancer Information Center
1-800-422-6237
Arthritis Foundation
1-800-283-7800
Taxpayers Information (Federal)
1-800-829-1040
Taxpayers Assistance (State)
1-800-487-7000

American Council for the Blind
1-800-424-8666
American Diabetes Association
1-800-232-3472
American Paralysis Association
1-800-225-0292

writes the On Aging column for the Observer & Eccentric. She is a gerontologist and the director of communications and admissions at a Rochester Hills nursing facility. Mahler is a member of the Michigan State Commission on Services to the Aging. Send your questions to her at Observer & Eccentric, 803 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Off the Cuff wants your suggestions

Got a suggestion for an individual The Eccentric can highlight in Off the Cuff, an occasional feature that focuses on ordinary people with extraordinary flair for fashion? If you know an Observer & Eccentric area

resident — man, woman or child — with a distinctive clothing sense, be it classic, trendy, homespun or outrageous, give us a call at 644-1100, Ext. 243.

INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.

A Public Service of the U.S. Forest Service and your State Forester.

WASTED YOUTH.

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.

A Public Service of the U.S. Forest Service and your State Forester.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

Finding a Dentist In a new community isn't easy...

And most newcomers say that's one of their first requirements after they move in. Getting to Know You is the newcomer specialist who helps new families pick the health professionals they need if you want to help new families get to town to better health, pick Getting to Know You.

WELCOMING NEWCOMERS NATIONWIDE

For sponsorship details, call (800) 645-6376

In New York State (800) 832-9400

World Renowned Author/Psychologist

Dr. Wayne Dyer — LIVE!

"Choosing Your Own Greatness"

How to Be A No Limit Person

Dr. Wayne Dyer is one of the most widely read authors today in the field of self-development. His books *Your Encouragement*, *Pulling Your Own Strings*, and *The Way of Zen* are all best-sellers to this day. In addition, Dr. Dyer is a teacher, author, and has appeared on radio and television programs including *The Tonight Show*, *The Tonight Show with Oprah Winfrey*, and *Oprah Winfrey*. He is also the author of *The Way of Zen*, which is a book of six invited to write a two next generation — it Magazine. This is a experience Dr. Dyer — LIVE — sharing his greatest lessons and latest philosophies for achieving greater happiness, fulfillment and success in our lives! Be sure to attend and bring a friend!

Monday, Sept. 21 • 7 pm • Plaza Hotel, Southfield

Yes! A POSITIVE NETWORK
(313) 362-2424

Reserve your tickets today!
\$35 in advance
(Visa, MC, AMEX, Discover)

OVER 80% SOLD OUT ALREADY... CALL NOW!

Wonderful Wicker

Underpriced "We Discount Luxury"

by Henry Link

Also Wicker Bedrooms, Dining Rooms Available.

Charles

CHARLES FURNITURE WAREHOUSE
122 E. Harrison • Royal Oak • 999-8320
6 Blocks N. of 10 Mile, 1 Block E. off Main
OPEN MON.-SAT. 10-5 • FRIDAY TIL 8 P.M.
OPEN SUNDAY 12 NOON TO 4 P.M.

IMAGINE...

Organized Pantries
Spacious Garage Storage
Increased Office Space

NO CLOSET CLUTTER

SPECIALTY STORAGE SYSTEMS

CLOSET MAID

CALL 937-3450
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

For custom designed ventilated shelving to fit your needs!

BEDROOM CLOSETS • WALK-INS • KIDS ROOMS • LINEN CLOSETS
PANTRIES • UTILITY ROOMS • BASEMENTS • LAUNDRY AREA
GARAGE • WORK ROOM • OFFICE • ATTICS

FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATES!

10% DISCOUNT WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AD!!!

9.9% BANK TERMS

Piano and Organ ANNUAL PARKING LOT SALE!

Yamaha Clavinovas
New Baldwin Baby Grand \$495
New and Used Grands \$1995
Yamaha Fender Guitars \$188
New Console Pianos \$1688

Peavey & Fender Amps
20%-50% OFF

EVOLA MUSIC
PLYMOUTH & UTICA STORES

215 W. ANN ARBOR RD.
Between Lily and Main
455-4677

4880 VAN DYKE
South of 22 Mile Rd.
726-6570

ALL OTHER STORES CLOSED SUNDAY TO HELP STAFF THIS EVENT