

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1995

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SHOPPING CENTERED



LINDA BACHRACK

Wear the patents for a spring shine

Yes, it's your time to shine. Patent leather makes a comeback this spring, and it's back with a passion. A tailored little black patent pump may be a safe shoe choice for Easter Sunday, but a white patent high-heeled mule will turn heads.

Fratine white shoes re-enter the fashion scene after a lengthy rest in the back of the closet. And patent leather accessories also shine in fire engine red, neon yellow, even lime green. For the more demure, baby blue and pale pink patent leather grown-up loafers are afoot at Kenneth Cole in the Somerset Collection, Troy (315). Reflect upon some of the season's best and brightest:



Many designers are pairing the shine and color of patent with clear vinyl or mesh. Neiman Marcus at Somerset offers an exclusive white or black patent and mesh oversize tote (\$150), while Jacobson's in Birmingham, Rochester and Livonia displays a kelly green mini-bag by Paloma Picasso in the same patent/mesh combination centered with her signature "X" (\$125). Also spotted at Jacobson's, a dainty-heeled black patent shoe with clear plastic insects by Vanelli (\$92).

Find patent shoes in an array of styles including stacked heel granny boots in black (\$180) at Hudson's, chunky retro T-strap sandals by Via Spiga (\$100) at Neiman's, Gucci slides with clog soles in white, yellow, pink and black (\$150) and Perry Ellis slip-ons with mini-check fabric platforms in bright colors (\$24) at Jacobson's.



Liz Claiborne even gives the ubiquitous canvas tennis shoe a shiny new black patent leather face (\$30) at Hudson's. Since patent leather has a waterproof polyurethane coating, the tennis shoes are perfect for a rainy day. Wear them with your yellow slicker.

Patented props

Shoes are certainly not the only accessory to mirror the sun this summer. Look for hats, belts, bags, pins and hair ornaments in colorful, shiny leathers and vinyls. Frank Olive's lacquered straw sailor hat features a patent leather band and rosette (\$245) at Neiman Marcus, and for play, don a black patent baseball cap from Hudson's (\$15).

Belts are skinny and encircle the waistlines of your shaped suit jacket, your barely there sweater set, and your long '40s-style shirt dress. The narrow length of patent is almost a necessity this season. Get it in hot pink, orange, royal blue, white, black and beige at Jacobson's (\$10).

Patent leather purses are easy to clean with a damp cloth. Beware of scuff marks, especially on white. Some sure bets are Jones New York's poeple pink shoulder bag with polished aluminum accents (\$65) at Jacobson's, Anne Klein II's large satchel in lipstick red (\$56), tiny structured handbags in geometric shapes by Bagnana & Couture (\$25) and Unlisted's mini backpacks in gold, silver, black and white (\$24) all from Hudson's.

Spring's most eye-catching accent is the lifeline patent leather camellia pin. You've probably seen them adorning lapels on Oprah and Company. Even Chanel paraded shiny flowers down the runway. Find them at Neiman's in white, red and black (\$25). Patent headbands (\$28) and flat bow barrettes complete the look (\$25).

One rule of thumb when going for the gloss—don't wear too many shiny accessories at once. Shine on! ... a couple of pieces at a time.

Linda Bachrack is a resident of Birmingham. You can leave her merchandise suggestions and ideas for this column at (313) 953-2047, mailbox 1889, or fax them to (810) 644-1314.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Malls & Mainstreets next week:

- Linda Bachrack shops for beach bag essentials for spring breakers.
- Added Attractions lists special events at area shopping centers.
- Go Behind The Label with jewelry designer Karen Coof of West Bloomfield.

Shoppers 'just wanna have fun' expert advises



BY SUSAN DEMAGGIO
STAFF WRITER

Local barber shops watch out!

There's a shop debuting in some area of the U.S. where Johnny climbs a ramp to have a playful play (ie elephant spout water on his head to rinse the shampoo. And where cartoons play on monitors next to the

barber chairs shaped like dolphins and reindeer.

Kinda makes the 'ol barber pole pale by comparison. . . . One of a dozen new retail concepts changing the way product is bought and sold in America. To bring the challenge into focus for local merchants, the Birmingham

Principal Shopping District (PSD) joined forces with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce to present a breakfast seminar on the future of retail, held March 16 at the Birmingham Community House.

Barbara Ashley, senior vice president of Retail Service for the Taubman Company, showed the audience slides of unique shops and retail centers around the country. The presentation went so well that the PSD and the Chamber decided to jointly host quarterly retail workshops for members.

"Shopping malls are the State

Fairs and Fairways of the '90s," Ashley said as a slide of a very crowded center court at Mall of America in Minnesota came into view. "People today are all time poor, but they will make time for things they enjoy. Make sure people have a good time in your store."

She pointed out that although there is "an increasing isolation of people due to computers and home video equipment, the human species still needs to interact. People will seek out restaurants and public shopping arenas to make human contact

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High styled cable act makes designer famous

BY SUSAN DEMAGGIO
STAFF WRITER

David Yurman estimates that he sold about \$50 million worth of jewelry in 1994, a pleasing payoff to years of working metals into designs for the rich, cars and yachts.

The 50-something native New Yorker arrived at Neiman Marcus in Troy, March 3, to kick-off a week-long jewelry department exhibit tracing his career through 1984



David Yurman

when he created the original cable bracelet that became his signature. His pieces have become collectibles, cited by Sotheby's auction house in their overview of the American jewelry design world.

Yurman and his painter-wife Sy-

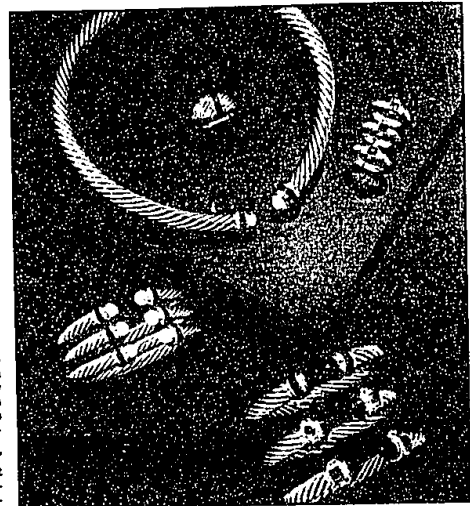


bil oversees the newest jewelry collections from the 18-foot-long kitchen table in their loft apartment in New York's Tribeca. Son Evan, 13, is known to add his opinion, which is always welcome, according to Yurman.

"I think design is in his genes," Yurman said. "My dad was a belt maker for the clothing manufacturers like Evan Picono. He never considered himself a designer. He simply made belts, but an artistic element was there somewhere."

When he was 15, Yurman got a

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Cable Collection: David Yurman's distinctive designs in sterling silver cable accented with 14 karat gold and semi-precious gemstones are featured at Neiman Marcus in the Somerset Collection, Troy.

Tel-Twelve launches two series for shoppers

Music on Mainstreet, a jazz concert series, and Sunday Nights for Children, debut this week at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield.

Thursday evenings 6-7:30 p.m. the food court at Restaurants On Mainstreet comes alive with jazz musicians serenading diners.

The Ron English quartet kicks-off

the program on March 23. Charlie Gabriel & Friends plays on March 30; Larry Nuzzo quartet takes April 6; Buddy Budson and Ursula Walker team up on April 13; Charles and Gwen Scales with their sextet perform on April 20; The George Benson Quartet is set for April 27; Calvin Brooks & Smooth Flight play on May 4; Dr. Beans and Friends for May 11;

the Mark Hynes Quartet on May 18; and the finale is the Steve Wood Quartet on May 25.

Every Sunday at 1 and 3 p.m. throughout the spring, families will have the chance to enjoy a variety of programs from magic shows to character appearances. All events are free in the court area around the Restau-

rants on Mainstreet.

On March 26 the Powerful Rangers make their debut. The remaining line-up includes Magician Jim Cardy, Simba from the Lion King, the Mask Puppet Theatre, Mary Ellen the Clown, and entertainer Doug Scheer. The series ends May 28 with Barney.

Retail businesses in local malls and Main Streets may submit news of upcoming special events for Added Attractions. The deadline is the Wednesday before publication on Monday. Send details to: Malls & Mainstreets, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009. Or fax them to: (810) 644-1314.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

HEALTH TESTS

Annual project Health-O-Rama offers free and low cost medical tests and information through March 22.

Livonia Mall, Seven Mile/Middlebelt, Livonia. (313) 476-1180.

EASTER BUNNY

Visits and pictures with the Easter Bunny through April 15, daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

Westland Mall, Plymouth/Middlebelt, Livonia. (313) 522-4100.

PUPPET SHOW

"Goldilocks" performed through March, Monday-Friday at 7 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Free performances 26 minutes long.

Westland Mall, Plymouth/Middlebelt, Livonia. (313) 375-9451.

BOOK LECTURES

At Borders this week, 7:30 p.m. David Heynes signs and reads from "Somebody Else's Movie." On March 21 at 7:30 p.m. Larry Watson signs and reads from "Montana 1948." On March 26 at 2 p.m. Mary Blochman discusses her travelogue "The Fourth Coast: Exploring the Great Lakes Coastline from the St. Lawrence Seaway to the Boundary Waters of Minnesota." Borders Books, 31150 Southfield, Birmingham. (810) 644-1515.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

NEW'S SPRING FASHION

Preview Jacobson's selection of Hart Schaffner & Marx men's clothing for spring and the John & Murphy shoes collection with representatives offering personal services. 4-8 p.m. Also March 24 at the Birmingham store 4-8 p.m. Rescheduled March 25 at Laurel Park Place store 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Great Oaks Mall, Livonia/Watson, Rochester Hills. (810) 651-8000.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

INFORMAL MODELERS

See the latest looks from Bettie Appel. Noon to 2 p.m. Stage & Co. Restaurant, Boardwalk, Orchard Lake's, Maple, West Bloomfield. (810) 855-6022.

CRAFT SHOW

Browse through the works of local artists and craft artisans, maybe find a centerpiece for your spring table. Through March 26 during regular mall hours. Summit Place, Elizabeth Lake/Telegraph, Waterford. (810) 662-0123.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

NEW'S SPRING FASHION

Preview Saks Fifth Avenue's Allen Flosser Collection of suits, sportcoats, trousers, shirts and ties, representative Ladies special orders 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On March 25 view Calvin Klein Collection 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with special representative. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge, Troy. (810) 643-9000.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

BASEBALL CLINIC

1-4 p.m. Montgomery Ward court. Meet former Tigers Calvin Brown, Dave Rader and Jim Price. Clinic for kids, autograph session, and pitch accuracy booth. Park near Lot E, Free. Northland Center, Eight Mile/Greenbelt, Southfield. 1-800-730-4FUN.

OPERA FASHION EVENT

Somerset Collection presents its annual Best of the Collection spring fashion show 1 and 3 p.m. Rotunda. Seating limited. Make your complimentary reservation. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge, Troy. (810) 643-7440.

NEIGHBOR FASHION SHOW

The Steve Wood Quartet performs a little jazz while spring looks are modeled, 1-2:30 p.m. In the Parkette Court, Free for shoppers. Laurel Park Place, Six Mile/Newburgh, Livonia. (810) 452-1100.

CELEBRATING BOOKS

Reading event hosted by Wayne County Reading Council, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Center amphitheater, Westland Mall, Plymouth/Middlebelt, Livonia. (313) 522-4100.

BUNNY ARRIVAL

Free musical performance by Children's Theater of Michigan highlights the Easter Bunny's arrival 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Daily photo sessions through April 15, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday 12-6 p.m. Westland Shopping Center, Wayne/Warren. (313) 425-5001.

EASTER DECOR

Mail temporarily replaces Storybook Sundays with Easter decor through April 23. Fairlane, Hubbard/Michigan Ave. Dearborn. (313) 593-1370.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

CLASSICS BRUNCH

Brunch catered by Sebastian's Grill while shoppers enjoy area musicians performing the classics. Noon to 2 p.m. Rotunda. Tickets \$25 each, available at Concierge Desk. Proceeds benefit Interchurch and Detroit Symphony Chorus. Somerset Collection, Big Beaver/Coolidge, Troy. (313) 425-6360.

BIRTHDAY BASH

Sponsored by Metro Parent. Local clowns, mimes, magicians, businesses and bakers show you how and where to host your child's next birthday party. Lots of ideas. 12-5 p.m. Mail wide. World's Largest Birthday Cake created by 11 area bakeries on display. Tel-Twelve Mall, 12 Mile/Telegraph, Southfield. (313) 353-1111.

MONDAY, MARCH 27

HEALTH TEST

Free blood pressure screening and sinus and allergy information 8-10 a.m. Jacobson's court area, courtyard of Rotunda Hospital. From March 27-28, Project Health-O-Rama offers free and low-cost medical tests in the center concourse from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Laurel Park Place, Six Mile/Newburgh, Livonia. (313) 425-1100.

USED Pianos

Piano technician Richard Butner speaks on the perils of buying a used piano. 10-30 a.m. Hosted by Detroit Musicians League. Free. Troy Public Library, Big Beaver/Livonia. (810) 663-3450.