

# Malls & Mainstreets

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## Face it: Now is a good time for a tuneup

### BEAUTY AND THE BEST



JEFFREY BRUCE

Does she or doesn't she? The question bears scrutiny.

Have you ever seen a good face here? I hope not. You never want to hear a friend say, "I've always wanted to have my face done. Who's your plastic surgeon?" That's like telling a guy, "Love the toupee."

Plastic surgery has been around forever. When I was a teen-ager growing up on Long Island, almost every girl I knew received a nose job for her 18th birthday. They looked like a trio of Miss Piggy since they all went to Dr. Diamond who gave them the "Dr. Diamond nose."

When clients ask me if I think that so-and-so has had some work done, my response has always been, "You don't look like that at 50 or 60 or 70 if you haven't had a tuneup. We all have our suspicions as to who's had some work done (think Raquel, Elizabeth, Joan), and we all know who's had too much (think Joan Rivers, Roseanne, and my personal faves Mory Amsterdam and Rose Marie.)

Personally, I'm all for it. Have I had anything done? Are you kidding? Has Joan Van Ark? When I was 38, I vowed that I would do my eyes if one more person came up to me and said, "Geo Jeff, you look so much younger in person than you do on 'Kelly and Co.'" Lo and behold, 10 minutes later, up she came. When I was back in New York, I went to see a friend of mine who was, and is, one of the city's top surgeons. I had my initial consultation, my "before photos," and within a week, I was "done." Did it hurt? Not at all. How did I look? Like I kissed a truck going 60 m.p.h. Five days later I looked gorgeous! No scars, no puffiness, no discolorations. Just clear, wide-eyed, bag-free eyes. How much? What a rude question!

More and more people are going the plastic route. Why? Because we are, thankfully, living a lot longer than our ancestors. Sixty-five isn't 65 anymore. In fact, my oldest client is 99, lives in Bloomfield Village and has had more work done on her than the Statue of Liberty. She's also a flaming redhead and dates only younger men! Of course, she's loony as a fruitcake, but she says, "I know I'm not playing with a full deck, but I also know that I look fabulous!"

Now that I'm 61, I am going to do the old eyes again. It's been a while since the last procedure. I'm also thinking about the "Ally McBeal" waddle. Isn't that a precious thing to be hanging over your collar? Mine's not too bad yet, but it definitely has to go.

Is plastic surgery for everyone? Of course not. Does everyone want it? You betcha. Here are a few guidelines to help you find the surgeon who is right for you:

- Check medical malpractice suits filed with the clerk of your local Circuit Court. These suits don't necessarily mean that the doctor is bad, but several should be a warning sign for you.
- Ask about credentials and training. Many surgeons advertise "board certified." But the requirements vary greatly depending on the particular board which is cited.
- Ask for references from trusted family physicians or other doctors who are knowledgeable about your local medical community.
- Make sure that the surgeon has hospital admitting privileges in case of complications after surgery.
- Ask if the surgeon carries medical malpractice insurance, and if not, why not.

We have all heard of the horror stories that occurred on the operating table. Liposuction, in particular, gives me the creeps. But the bad is far outweighed by the good. When I see an adult with braces on her teeth, I think, "good for you." Why not feel the best about yourself?

What the world sees first is your face. We can't fight gravity, but we're lucky enough to be able to do something about it. Just be careful, be cautious and be deceived.

Contact Jeffrey Bruce at (800) 944-6588 or e-mail him at [jubb@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jubb@worldnet.att.net). The Jeffrey Bruce Cosmetics and Skin Care Web site address is <http://jeffreybrucecosmetics.com>.



Sweet surrender: Take a coffee and cake break at the Sweet Shop in downtown Farmington.

## Sidewalk Stroll Historic Clarkston charms visitors

BY MEGAN SWOYER  
SPECIAL WRITER

When Sue Baran orders pizza, nothing but the best will do. For the Baran household that means the cheesy Italian pies at Rudy's grocery store in downtown Clarkston. "Their pizza is fabulous," says Baran, who has lived in Clarkston for eight years and tries to avoid chain pizza shops as often as she can.

Baran, like many who live in or visit Clarkston, is not only endeared to the charming community's local grocery store, but she loves to loll at the downtown bakery on Main and savor a hot cup of something while watching passersby. "We used to do that a lot more before our daughter was born," says Baran, referring to her 3-year-old energetic toddler, who on this summer afternoon insists on "going higher and higher" on the swings at Clarkston's kid-filled Depot Park.

The Barans and thousands of others enjoy living in Clarkston because of its homegrown charm. With a population of 27,500 (only 1,000 or so live in the village of Clarkston), Clarkston is one of few communities with a bustling, quaint downtown, complete with a sports shop, antique emporiums and a nostalgic corner diner.

In addition, Clarkston has a significant past. The village, which was named after the Clark brothers in 1842 when they platted the land, features a variety of architectural styles. Both the city and township blend Victorian farmhouses with Gothic revival and Greek revival homes.

"We love to ride our bikes around town to look at all the historic homes," says Michelle MacWilliams, a Clarkston resident. "This town is not a suburb. It really is a town," she adds. "I lived in Southfield and Bloomfield and then here and this is the only place I've lived that has a small-town feeling." She and her husband, Steve, and their two sons often dine at downtown's Union Raw Bar, a "trendy spot with a gazillion beers on tap and great buffalo burgers," MacWilliams says. The MacWilliams clan and dozens of others routinely soak up Clarkston's family-style atmosphere at events such as summer's Friday-night concerts at downtown's Depot Park. "When you're in downtown Clarkston, it's like you know everybody, even though you don't," MacWilliams says of her town, which has been designated a National Historical Site.

Conveniently located just off of I-76, historic

Clarkston, which spans about one-half square mile, draws shoppers and antique lovers throughout the year. From points south, take I-76 north to the Clarkston exit (Exit 91). Go south and you will be on Main Street as you head into the heart of downtown Clarkston. On the way, you'll pass the fun and upbeat Mesquite Creek restaurant and a great shop called The Birdfeeder (7150 Orionville Road) for your fine-feathered friends, with unusual decorative treasures for your yard



Fairy dust: Spread some garden magic with a windsock from The Birdfeeder.

and garden, including cement figurines and, unique wind socks that feature designs such as pink flamingos, pigs and garden watering cans.

On the right-hand side of Main Street as you make your way into town, be sure to look for The Millpond Inn (155 Main St.). Situated near historic homes, window high in rows of pink, white and salmon-colored impatiens and geraniums, the B&B opened in 1995 as the first inn in the area. Built in the 1860s, Millpond was originally a residence. It has been completely renovated and features five guest rooms ranging from a Southwest motif to Victorian at its prettiest.

At 21 Main St., you'll find a brownish barn-like structure called Main Street Antiques Country Store. It overflows with antiques and accessories and has a special collection of lamps and lamp shades.

The Coach's Corner (12 Main St.) scores with all kinds of sporting goods, including shoes, logged sweatshirts and more. Racks of casual attire by Woolrich include a woman's sweater vest that's most unusual - it features a basketball pattern along with a three-dimensional basketball hoop!

Speaking of sweaters, the tiniest ones we've seen highlight the front window at Basketful of Yarn hand-knit shop (5 Main St.). Knitters can stock up on a variety of yarns here and catch a glimpse of cute, teddy bear-size sweaters. Hours vary, so call ahead at (248) 620-2491. In the market for a special piece of jewelry? At Tierra, Fine Jewelers (64 Main St.), you'll find gorgeous designs and a friendly staff who can help you choose a customized setting created by talented jewelry experts.

Don't leave Clarkston without a stop at the Parsonage (6 Church St., just off Main). Fresh flowers, decorative flower arrangements, affordable wreaths (an apple-themed one is especially clever) that can give your home a welcoming feel, a variety of framed, floral pictures, gardening utensils and more abound. Connected to the Parsonage is the Country Woodshed, which specializes in country-style furniture and accessories. Two levels of treasures await your keen shopping eye. We especially liked the anglo-themed wall hangings with inspirational wording that could make a perfect baby shower gift. A shelf full of glass objects - from dishes to candlesticks - also caught our attention. Cane-shaped shelves, tiny \$5 wooden fish, hutchers, candles and a lot more will keep you here for at least an hour.

News of special events for shoppers is included in this calendar. Send information to Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; or fax (248) 644-1314. Deadline: Wednesday 5 p.m. for publication on Sunday.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

#### FAIRY DUST

Wanda the Fairy Godmother magically appears at Livonia Mall at 1 p.m. on the stage near Crowley's. Livonia Mall, 29514 Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

### FRIDAY, JULY 31

#### MODE DU CONCOURS

Saks Fifth Avenue presents the Emanuel/Emanuel Ungaro Fall 1998 Collection, with sponsorship from Elle and Mirabella magazines and the Chrysler Corporation, for the Concours d'Elegance "Mode du Concours" luncheon fashion show. Held on the grounds

## ADDED ATTRACTIONS

of Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, the event begins with a reception at 11 a.m., followed by lunch and the fashion show at noon. Tickets are \$50 and \$100. For reservations, call (248) 970-3140.

### SUNDAY, AUG. 2

#### CULTURAL ARTS

Rajiv Khanna, curator of Eastern Art Arcade, will be in Art Van's Southfield store to meet guests and introduce them to collectible African artifacts and accessories. He will share the history and symbolism that is involved with each piece. 1-6 p.m. Art Van Furniture, 22555 Greenfield, Southfield.

(248) 569-3770.

### MONDAY, AUG. 3

#### EVENING GLAM

View an extensive collection of evening gowns from Molinda Eng, Badgley Mischka, Bob Mackie, Donald Den and more at the Neiman Marcus fall couture show. Informal modeling 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Continues on Aug. 4. Somerset Collection.

### WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5

#### BRITISH ISLES BASH

There's still time to get tickets to Hudson's Flash Bash celebrating British Isles Style. The show benefits Founders Junior Council of the Detroit Institute of Arts and is held at the State and Fox theatres. Patron Party begins at 5 p.m. with an auction following at 6 p.m. The fashion extravaganza is scheduled for 8 p.m. \$27.50-\$160. Call the Flash Bash Hotline for tickets (313) 833-6954.