

## Deck the house

Members of the John W. Hunter Chapter of Quarters, an antique study group, got together last week to decorate Birmingham's historic Hunter House for Christmas. That's Judy Marron fastening ornaments on the tree. Chapter members are holding the house open to visitors, noon to 3 p.m., Sundays, Dec. 9 and 16. While, by building code, they had to use artificial greens, the candles on the tree are real and in period candle holders made of copper wire and weighted with a walnut for balance. These were made by Jim and Alice Kershner; she's a Quarters member. Hunter House is on the north side of Maple, just east of Southfield. (Staff photo by Stephen Cantrell)

# Cultural Center hosting old-fashioned Christmas

Detroit's Cultural Center will be filled with the spirit of "An Old Fashioned Christmas" on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 6-9 p.m., when the seventh annual Noel Night takes place.

Sponsored by Detroit Adventure, more than a dozen Cultural Center institutions will hold open house to celebrate the holiday season.

Free transportation around the Cultural Center perimeter will once again be provided throughout the evening by a shuttle bus.

Noel Night is a traditional evening offering free entertainment, music, drama, craft workshops, exhibits and refreshments. Thousands of visitors will gather for a Christmas caroling finale at 9 p.m. with the Salvation Army Band in the center of Woodward Avenue, which will be closed between Kirby and Warren for the festivities.

A program schedule and a map of the Cultural Center will be available at the door of each participating institution. Following is a list of the highlighted events that the entire family can participate in on Noel Night:

- Let children guess the names of costumed storybook characters and see excerpts from Christmas Classics in the auditorium, at the Main Library, 5201 Woodward.

- Old Fashioned Southern Christmas with candy making, carols, Christmas spirituals and storytelling at Your Heritage House, 110 E. Ferry.

- Craft workshops and "Winter Sky" planetarium show at the Children's Museum, 67 E. Kirby.

- Ethnic holiday delights at the food booth of the International Institute, 111 E. Kirby. The International Institute also will host the Rosa Gragg Educational & Civic Club's pageant of "Doll Dancers."

- Victorian Family Christmas with carols, stories and refreshments at the church house of the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4605 Cass.

- Among the many old-fashioned events at the Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., will be performances of Just for Keeps barber-shop quartet, the James Tatum Trio, puppet shows with Mona from Channel 7's "Hot Fudge" and the presentation of "Hansel and Gretel" by the Sneedier Puppet Company.

- Outdoor light sculpture exhibit at the Center for Creative Studies at 245 E. Kirby. Original holiday gifts also can be purchased at the Student Art Show and Sale.

- First Congregational Church, a designated historic site at 33 E. Forest, for a nominal fee will serve a cafeteria-style dinner from 5-7 p.m.

- Musical entertainment at the Detroit Community Music School, 200 E. Kirby.

- Cider at the Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, and an art exhibit by Carl Larsen, as well as works of Scarab Club members. Portrait sketching will take place in the Main Gallery (charge).

- Musical groups from the Detroit Public Schools perform at the Schools Center Building, 5057 Woodward. Also a tour of public radio station WDET, on the 14th floor, which will also be broadcasting, live, the musical sounds in the Cultural Center that evening.

- At the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave., the Cathedral Chamber Singers and Detroit Children's Choir.

- All galleries of the Detroit Institute of Arts will be open for Noel Night. While touring the museum, visitors will attend music and dance performances.

- The Freer House at the Merrill Palmer Institute, 71 E. Ferry, will be decorated for the holidays. Listen to the sounds of the melodic harp while touring the gracious mansion.

All attractions and refreshments at Noel Night are free. The only exceptions are the Detroit Science Center, which will charge its regular admission fee, and places where crafts, gift items and foodstuffs will be sold.

## Summit offers ride tickets

The 73-story Detroit Plaza Hotel joins famous skyscrapers across the continent in offering visitors a panoramic view from the world's largest revolving restaurant and cocktail complex, The Summit.

The view of two nations, the Detroit River, Belle Isle, Lake St. Clair and beyond was previously limited to guests sipping or supping at the circular glass-enclosed restaurant.

Guests may now purchase a "Ticket to Ride" at the Sky Lobby, on the Ontario level of the hotel.

Guests begin their visual feast as they soar to The Summit in glass-enclosed elevators. Arriving at the 72nd floor guests may then choose to simply relax in an observatory lounge or proceed to the cocktail lounge or dining room and apply the \$1 ticket price toward food and beverage.

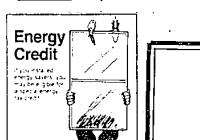
Other skyscrapers that have become famous through incorporating a public observatory at sky-high levels are Toronto's Canadian National Tower, which charges \$3.50 per person, the Empire State Building and World Trade Center in New York and the John Hancock Building in Chicago, which all charge adults \$2 to ascend.

## Grist issues casting call

The True Grist Ltd. Dinner Theatre in emer announces a casting call for actors for its 1980 season. The season will include "California Pie," "The Gin Game" and the Alan Ayckbourn comic trilogy "The Norman Quests." Auditions will be held Saturday, Dec. 15, at the theater. Potential auditionees should send a resume and current photo to True

Grist, P. O. Box 127, Homer, 49245. All auditions are scheduled by appointment. An appointment can be made by calling (517) 568-4151.

All auditionees should prepare two monologues, one comic and one serious, for their audition time. Although True Grist is not auditioning musical talent at this time, an accompanist will be provided for those actors who wish one.



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