

Holiday happenings

The traditional 12 days of Christmas now runs about 40 days, and no wonder. It takes at least that long to squeeze in the holiday activities. The following list of events should keep everyone from thumb twiddling in December.

● WELCOMING A GRAND OLD MAN

Parades trumpet the arrival of the jolly elf from the North Pole. Saturday, Nov. 27, Garden City welcomes Santa Claus with its annual parade beginning at 11 a.m. It progresses from Middlebelt and Maplewood, south to Ford, west to Merriam and south into City Park where Santa will receive the key to the city. A Santaland in City Park is sponsored by the Jaycees through December. Santa will take requests.

On Sunday, Dec. 5, Rochester will hold a "Say Yes to a Michigan Christmas," beginning at 2 p.m. and progressing along Main Street. The parade is sponsored by the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and the Rochester Jaycees and ranks just behind Detroit's Thanksgiving Parade in size. Floats will emphasize Michigan landmarks.

On Tuesday, Dec. 21, a breakfast with Santa Claus will be held at Hudson's Northland at 9 a.m. Tickets are \$3.

● SPECIAL FOR CHILDREN

Cobo Hall's "Christmas Carnival" runs Dec. 10-22 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Animated figures, decorated trees, reindeer and playground equipment create a fantasy

land for children. A variety of entertainment is presented throughout the period. Admission is free.

Saturday, Dec. 4, Detroit Historical Museum holds a "Children's Christmas Happening" in the museum from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event includes craft demonstrations, a circus exhibit, workshops, free candy treats and, of course, Santa Claus. Donations accepted.

Saturday, Dec. 4, Detroit Youththeatre presents the puppet production, "The Night Before Christmas" at the Detroit Institute of Art auditorium. Performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets \$2.50.

Saturdays, Dec. 11 and 18, Detroit Youththeatre presents "Mother Goose Jamboree" at the Detroit Institute of Art auditorium. Performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets \$2.50.

Dec. 4, 11, 18, 25-31 and Jan. 8 and 15, Henry Ford Museum Theater presents a stage adaptation of Mark Twain's "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court." Curtain is 2 p.m. All tickets are \$2. For information and advance tickets, call 271-1620, ext. 415.

Dec. 18, Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents "Holiday for Young People" featuring "The Firebird." Two programs at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Ford Auditorium. Tickets at \$7, \$6 and \$5.

● A PROPER CHRISTMAS ATMOSPHERE

Meadow Brook Hall welcomes the public to a sumptuous Christmas walk of the Hall's elegant 100 rooms Dec. 1-12. It is

open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The theme is "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and rooms are lavishly decorated by a different florist for each room. Tickets are \$5 for adults on weekdays and \$6 on weekends, \$1 for children under 18 and \$4 for senior citizens. For information, call 377-3140.

Cranbrook House in Bloomfield Hills will present a "Holiday Magic" Christmas walk Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Dec. 12 from noon to 4 p.m. and Dec. 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The walk features 10 table settings decorated by notable area personalities and institutions including Detroit Lions coach Monte Clark and WDIV-TV, Channel 4. For information, call 645-3134.

Fair Lane Mansion in Dearborn will be open for holiday inspection Dec. 1-21. Self-guided tours run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays. On Sundays, guided tours run from 1-4:30 p.m. Rooms are specially decorated by local florists. Tickets for the self-guided tour are \$2.50 a person, guided tours are \$3 a person. On Dec. 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 Fairlane will have Christmas dinner, including a tour and piano concert with dinner. Tickets are \$25 a person.

● OUT OF THIS WORLD

The Cranbrook Planetarium at the Cranbrook Institute in Bloomfield Hills presents its annual "Holiday Skies and the Christmas Star" throughout December. Times on Saturday and Sunday are 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening the program begins at

7:30. From Dec. 27 to Jan. 31 the planetarium will present programs at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The program is included in the regular museum admission of \$2.25 for adults and \$1.75 for students.

● NOEL NIGHT

The annual Cultural Center event is an open invitation to experience Detroit's many museums. The Dec. 8 program runs from 6-8 p.m. The Detroit Historical Museum will present craft demonstrations, clowns, musical entertainment, a 26-foot Christmas tree with antique toys underneath and light refreshments. The International Institute offers music by the Hungarian Choir, the Detroit and Windsor Hall of Nations, Harmonicas of Michigan and the General Motors Employees Choir. Father Christmas will be on hand for children. Soup and bread will be on sale for \$1. A holiday wassail and ethnic cookies will also be sold. The Detroit Institute of Art will feature choral music in the Great Hall and Kresge Court, a band on Woodward Avenue and various refreshments. The museum will remain open until 10 p.m.

● THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS

PAST
Greenfield Village presents a Victorian Christmas Dec. 4 to Jan. 2. Village homes of the 19th century are decorated as they would have been, and village staff show how decorations were made. Cooking demonstrations, crafts and music are included. Weather permitting, sleigh rides will be available.



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