

Suburban Life

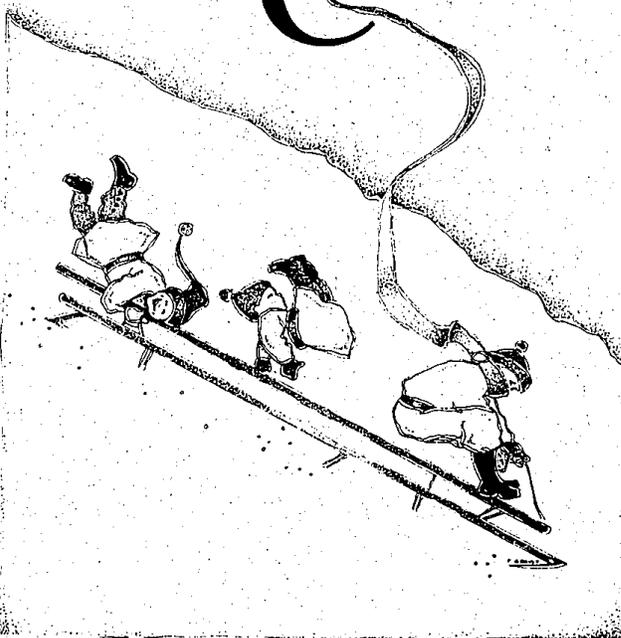
Lorraine McClish editor/477-5450

Thursday, December 6, 1990 O&E



(F18)

CHILDREN'S WINTER ACTIVITIES



Children on winter break can choose from plenty of fun-filled activities.

Whether it's a visit to the Detroit Zoo, or a trip to Henry Ford Museum, families can find lots to do in the metropolitan area. Some low-cost, or free, activities are offered even closer to home.

Most museums and other attractions will be closed Christmas and New Year's Day, and some will close on other days as well. Information is subject to change, so making a phone call before heading out is a good idea.

These activities should keep youngsters and their parents occupied until it's time to go back to school. They're also a great way for families to enjoy time together.

ART INSTITUTE

A variety of activities are planned at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward in Detroit.

"Breakfast With Santa" will be 9:45 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday in the Kresge Court. Visits — for believers of all ages — will continue through Saturday, Dec. 22. Ticket price is \$7 and advance reservations are required. Weekend visitors may enjoy a "Snack With Santa" noon to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays. No reservations required.

The December line-up features special Detroit Youththeatre performances Saturdays. They include: "Christmas 'Round the World" on Dec. 8, a magical international sleigh ride for those age 5 and older; "Folk Navidad" on Dec. 15, a holiday dance and music extravaganza for those age 5 and older; and "Holly Folly Christmas" on Dec. 22, with Ken Schultz as the elf who dazzles the audience with a variety-packed performance for those age 5 and older.

Youtheatre tickets are \$5, and show times are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the DIA Auditorium. For ticket information, call 833-2323.

The art institute's Prince Street Players will present their musical version of "The Emperor's New Clothes" Wednesday through Sunday, Dec. 26-30. Children must be 5 or older to attend, and tickets are \$5. Performances will be 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 27-29, 2 p.m. only Dec. 26 and Dec. 30.

The art institute offers self-guided family tours, including the "DIA Discovery Tour" and "Do You See What I See?" Information is available in the Farnsworth Lobby.

An archeological scavenger hunt, "The Mystery of the Five Fragments," is offered 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Kits for the scavenger hunt can be checked out in the Rivera Court.

For more information, call the DIA, 833-7900.

HENRY FORD MUSEUM

A holiday celebration, "Traditions To Treasure," is planned at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Special displays and demonstrations will continue through Jan. 1, except for Christmas Day.

The centerpiece for the museum celebration will be a towering Christmas tree decorated with cookies, candy, dolls, stuffed animals and small toys. The museum concourse area will feature a fantasy Lionel train layout.

Toy trains — including one equipped with a tiny camera that broadcasts an "engineer's eye view" — will wind their way through a gingerbread village. Visitors will be able to watch gingerbread houses in the making.

Several craft activities are

planned for children. Youngsters will be able to make such items as a gingerbread boy bookmark, snowflake ornament and angel ornament. Families can leave a little bit of their own history at the museum by contributing photos of their celebrations to the holiday photo wall. Family photos will become part of the archive.

Santa Claus will preside over the merriment in the museum. Many holiday customs and traditions from the past will be displayed at the historic Greenfield Village buildings. At the Town Hall Activities Center, children will find holiday crafts to keep them busy.

The Henry Ford Museum Theater will present "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" on Saturdays through Dec. 22, with additional performances Wednesday through Sunday, Dec. 26-30. Two matinees will be staged each show date, the first at 11 a.m. and the second at 2:30 p.m., except Dec. 16 and Dec. 30 when only a 2:30 p.m. show will be performed. Audience members will be able to meet the characters after each performance. For ticket information, call 271-1620.

Hours at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Separate admission is charged for the museum and village. For more information, call 271-1620.

JEWISH CENTER

The Jewish Community Center, Maple at Drake in West Bloomfield, has planned activity days for kindergartners through sixth graders. Each "Winter Day" will feature a special theme, plus activities in the gym and pool.

Session will be 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 24, 26, 27, 28 and 31, and

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AND CLOSER TO HOME...

SANTA'S MAIL BOX

Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 6-8: Children who get their letters deposited in Santa's Mail Box on these days will receive a letter in return from the North Pole. The mail box is in the children's area of Jacobson's, Livonia.

THE NUTCRACKER

Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 7-9: "The Nutcracker," produced by Michigan Ballet Theatre with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra conducted by Felix Resnik, 7 p.m. Friday; and 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, in West Bloomfield High School, Orchard Lake Road, north of Walnut Lake Road. Reserved seating. Tickets are \$12 and \$10 for adults; \$8 and \$6 for students and seniors. For tickets call 924-5590. Master Card and Visa accepted.

CHRISTMAS SHOW

Saturday, Dec. 8: Christmas Show produced by the Theatre Street Players and the Theatre Street Dance Company includes a one act play "Requiem for the Innkeeper," "Toy Soldier," a visit with Santa and refreshments, 2 p.m. in Mercy Center's Dublin Hall, 11 Mile Road east of Middlebelt. Tickets are \$5 each, or \$25 for a family, available by calling 349-2728.

CREATE-A-GIFT

Saturday, Dec. 8: "Create-a-Gift," program for children to make gifts, package and wrap them, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in The Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Fee is \$15. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404.

HOLLY DAY

Saturday, Dec. 8: Holly Day in Franklin Village 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. offers home tours, visits with Santa, carriage rides, demonstrations, crafts for kids, movie classics, carols, storyteller, raffles, psychic readings. Franklin Band Concert begins at 7 p.m. Farmington High School Chorus performs at 3 p.m. "Tansy II" dessert theatre begins at 8 p.m. Most shops offer sales or special events. Most of the events take place on Franklin Road, one mile west of Telegraph, between 13 and 14 Mile Road.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

Sunday, Dec. 9: Holiday Concert for the family 3 p.m. in Southfield Civic Center Pavilion, Evergreen Road and Civic Center Drive, Southfield. Highlight of the concert is Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" narrated by Senator Jack Faxon. Tickets are \$8, or \$5 for seniors and students. Reservations taken by call-

ing Southfield Cultural Arts Division, 354-4717.

CHRISTMAS TEA

Mondays, Dec. 10 and 17: Old Fashioned Christmas Tea with Charles Dickens' classic characters served 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend Street near Maple, Birmingham. Guests will experience how Christmas is celebrated in about eight countries and receive a photo with Father Christmas. Cost is \$17.50 per person which includes tax and gratuity.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Thursday, Dec. 13: Old fashioned Christmas carolling party for the entire family begins 6:15 p.m. at the front door of Farmington Branch Library, State and Liberty streets. The group will bring song and cheer to the surrounding neighbors and return to the library for cocoa and cookies. Library staff provides the music. The carollers are asked to bring their own flashlight and Christmas cookies to share. Registration is requested, by calling the library, 474-7770.

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Thursday, Dec. 13: Chanukah Celebration, a children's party with songs and stories explaining the spirit of Chanukah at 7 p.m. in The Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Maureen Schiffman and her puppets bring traditional music and entertainment to the celebration. Light refreshments served. Fee is \$4 a person, or \$15 for a family. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404.

SANTA'S LUNCHEONS

Friday through Sunday, Dec. 14-16: Luncheons with Santa Claus at 6:30 p.m. Friday; at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in The Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Photos with Santa available. Reservations are \$4 each, made by calling the center, 477-8404.

NUTCRACKER BALLET

Sunday, Dec. 16: Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet with Southfield Symphony Orchestra and Rose Marie Floyd's Contemporary Civic Ballet Company at 3 p.m. in Groves High School, 13 Mile and Evergreen Road, Birmingham. Tickets are \$10, or \$7 for seniors and students. Reservations taken by calling 354-4717. Ballet is made possible in part by a grant from Michigan Council for the Arts.



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Bavarian Village

SKI SHOPS

• BLOOMFIELD HILLS 2540 WOODWARD at Square Lake Rd	338-0803
• BIRMINGHAM 101 TOWNSEND corner of Pearce	644-5950
• MT. CLEMENS 1216 S. CRAWFORD 1/2 mile north of 16 Mile	463-3620
• EAST DETROIT 22301 KELLY between 8 & 9 Mile	778-7028
• ANN ARBOR 3336 WASHINGTON west of U.S. 23	973-8340
• PLYMOUTH 4261 MILLER across from Gessner Valley Mall	313-732-5560
• GRAND RAPIDS 2035 28th St. S.E. between Burton & Kalamazoo	616-452-1189
• SUGARLOAF/SKI AREA 18 miles NW of Traverse City	616-228-6700
• TRAVERSE CITY 107 EAST FRONT St. (Bay Side Entrance)	616-941-1999
• FARMINGTON HILLS 27847 ORCHARD LAKE RD. at 12 Mile	553-8586
• NOVI/NOVI TOWN CIRCLE south of 196 on Novi Rd.	347-3323
• EAST LANSING 246 E. SAGINAW AVE. at 19 Mile	517-337-9698
• DEARBORN HEIGHTS 26312 FORD Rd. 1/2 miles west of Telegraph	562-5660

OPEN EVENINGS 'TIL 9, SAT. 10-6, SUN. 12-6

