

Miss Michigan joins LSO at benefit

Miss Michigan, Stacey Heisler, 23 of Livonia, will be joining the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at "Sunday, Sports and Symphony," a benefit for the symphony, 6-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29, at Laurel Park Place.

"She'll be doing the same Spanish jazz number for voice and violin that she'll be performing at the Miss American pageant in Atlantic City on Sept. 16," said LSO conductor, Francesco DiBlasi. "She plays violin and sings." In addition to her special performance, Heisler, a former LSO member, will play with the symphony at two concerts during the event 6-7 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. Heisler was crowned Miss Michigan on June 19. She topped 31 contestants with her violin/vocal performance of Duke Ellington's "It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing."

■ Pianist Howard Watkins will be making his third appearance with the LSO at the benefit.

her career, she is a 1991 graduate of the University of Michigan School of Music. In addition to the LSO, she has performed with the Ann Arbor Symphony, the International Symphony of Port Huron-Sarnia.

Pianist Howard Watkins will be making his third appearance with the LSO at the benefit presenting "One of the finest renditions of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue that I have ever heard," said DiBlasi.

The benefit will be at Laurel Park Place at Six Mile and Newburgh. In addition to music, patrons will be treated to a taste of Livonia featuring food from over

25 area restaurants, hotels and food services. Giant silent auction items include a resort vacation sponsored by Marriott Hotels and Northwest Airlines.

Tickets are \$25 per person in advance or \$30 at the door, and available by calling 464-2741 or 462-1100. Dress is casually elegant. There will be a cash bar.

Other featured guest artists include Nancy Delawaky Villeneuve, soprano singing "Times of 'Fat Bob'" Taylor also known as the singing plumber singing "O' Man River," and "Man of La Mancha."

The symphony kicks off its 20th season 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 with a concert featuring piano soloist, Tony Bonomi in Schumann's "Piano Concerto in A minor" at Churchill High School Auditorium, 6900 Newburgh. For tickets call the LSO hot line at 458-6575.



Featured soloist: Stacey Heisler of Livonia, Miss Michigan 1993, will perform with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at "Sunday, Sports and Symphony," on Aug. 29.

Bruschetta offers wine bar on Fridays

Bruschetta, an Italian cafe at Oakland Mall in Troy, is offering a wine bar 4-6 p.m. Fridays beginning Aug. 27.

Each week, three wines from a specific region will be featured and served with the cafe's signature dish, Bruschetta (grilled country bread), topped with flavor sensations that complement the wine selections.

Friday, Aug. 27 — "Refreshing white wines from Veneto," featuring Anselmi's Soave Classico, Bolini's Pinot Grigio and Zecchi's Sauvignon. (\$6 per person).

Friday, Sept. 3 — "Three from Ruffino," which includes Ruffino's Aziano Chianti Classico, the new Torgaio Sangiovese and the highly rated

Libalo Chardonnay. (\$6 per person).

Friday, Sept. 10 — Sampling of California's "Bony" Don wines, highlighting Ca del Solo Malvasia, Moscato and Pecatore. (\$7 per person).

Friday, Sept. 17 — "Fruit of Friuli," spotlighting wines from Northern Italy's Plozner Estate, and will include Tocai, Gewurztraminer and Pinot Nero.

Bruschetta's assistant manager, David Brown, a wine enthusiast and contributor to national wine publications, will be hand to answer questions about choosing the perfect wines for every occasion. For more information, call Bruschetta, 689-2900.

Carillon recital to include music by Handel

Annalisa Curry, carillonneur at the Hills Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield Hills, will perform 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29, at Christ Church Cranbrook. The series continues its Summer Carillon Recital Series at 4 p.m. Sundays through August.

The free recitals are open to the public. The church is located at the corner of Cranbrook and Lone Pine roads, one mile west of Woodward, Bloomfield Hills.

Curry's eclectic program will include pieces by George Frederic

Handel, preludes on Appalachian spiritisms and a medley of music made popular by the Muppets.

For more information, call the church at 644-5210.

The church opens at 3 p.m. on

concert Sundays. Docents are available to answer questions about the church's history, architecture and art. Listeners are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy the concert on the church grounds or across the street in Cranbrook Gardens.

Southfield Symphony to perform at Autumnfest

Southfield's Autumnfest at the Mary Thompson Farm, 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, is a merry day of fall frolic for the whole family. There will also be a kids' tent

to entertain the young, and young at heart. Activities include face and cap painting, watermelon and pie eating contests. For information, call 354-4717.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items to be considered for publication in What's Cooking to: Keely Wygonik, Taste/Entertainment editor, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 22251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our Fax number is 591-7279.

■ THREE CHEFS SERIES

Chefs Milos Chelchke, Golden Mushroom; Edward Janos, Avenue Diner; and Brian Polyn, Pike Street, Chimsyo and Acadia will offer their Three Chefs Series cooking class 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 at Acadia Restaurant, 3880 Lapeer Road, Auburn Hills. Cost \$150 per person. For details, call 684-0809.

person and include beer, pop, coffee, sandwiches and other snacks.

■ THE LARK Tickets are still available for the 15th annual chili cookoff at the Lark 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19. Tickets are \$32.50 per

person and include beer, pop, coffee, sandwiches and other snacks.

■ CAFE CORTINA Rita Toton and staff will be hosting a very special six course dinner at Cafe Cortina, 30715 W. 10 Mile Farmington Hills, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 1. Cost is \$48 per person. Call 474-3033

Volunteer ushers sought

The University of Michigan School of Music's University Productions office is seeking volunteer ushers for the 1993-94 season productions in the Power Center and Mendelssohn Theatre. Those interested should apply

in person at the University Productions office in the Michigan League Building in Ann Arbor, 830 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning Sept. 13, or call 763-5213 for information.

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