

FRIDAY



See Marc Price, who played Skippy on the hit TV sit-com "Family Ties," 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. at Mainstreet Comedy Showcase, Ann Arbor (313) 996-9080.

SATURDAY



Thousands will line up on Grand River 10 a.m. to noon to watch the 32nd Annual Founders Day Festival Parade in downtown Farmington. The festival offers food, fun and music.

SUNDAY



"Let's Dance!" Children's performers Sharon, Louis, & Bram perform "At The Hop," "Sh-Boom," and other music for tots, kiddos, parents and grandparents, 2 p.m., Meadow Brook Music Festival, at Oakland University, Rochester (810) 645-6666.



Hot tip: The Actors' Company with Villanova Festival Theatre presents "The Wizard of Oz," 1:30 p.m. Friday, July 12; 1:30 p.m. Saturday, July 13 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 14 at the Festival Theatre, 2800 North Townline, La Salle, Ontario (about 15 minutes from the Ambassador Bridge). Tickets (children \$6.50 and adults \$8.50 Canadian) will be available at the door, or call (519) 734-7671.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

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Celebrate the arts

DURING DOG DAYS OF

summer

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN • SPECIAL WRITER

If

people see you're in the Ann Arbor show, it gives them confidence to buy a painting," said Plymouth artist Thomas LeGault. Year after year fairgoers line up on the corner of Liberty and Main Street to watch this whiz with a paintbrush complete an acrylic work every 1 1/2 hours.

"Ann Arbor has helped establish me," said LeGault, who has exhibited in the Ann Arbor Art Fair for 20 of the 25 years he's painted the representational abstracts featuring Northern Michigan lake scenes, florals and lighthouses. "The fair is a showcase, a qualifier for who's who. And even for people not making a purchase, there's no where else they can sample a variety of media this extensive."

Organizers expect 500,000 visitors to celebrate the visual and performing arts at the nationally acclaimed Ann Arbor Art Fairs July 24-27. More than 1,000 artists and fine crafts persons, who have been subjected to intense jurying processes, will descend on 24 downtown city blocks in a festival fit for the entire family. Imaginative works ranging from storybook pottery by David Stabley of Pennsylvania to classic car paintings by Tom Hale of Farmington Hills to contemporary glass tables by Stan Megdall of West Bloomfield are among the extensive list sure to please every art patron.

In addition to the finished works, kids of all ages will be fascinated watching juried artists and members of the Ann Arbor Pottery Guild demonstrate their skills from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Ethnic and fine restaurants, outdoor cafes and food booths will tempt fairgoers with dozens of dining opportunities. For the undecided, the Edible Art Fair on Liberty between Main and Ashley will serve a sampling from the menus of Ann Arbor's restaurants.

The Ann Arbor Art Fairs are actually three fairs in one, each with its own history and concept. The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the original juried show now in its 37th year, is known for exhibiting cutting edge artwork. Selected as the top fine craft show in the nation by Sunshine Magazine in 1995, the Ann Arbor Street Fair received nearly

2,000 applications from 36 states for 190 booths. "We have a total of 73 new artists. One of the most interesting is Patrick Dragon. Although not new to the fair, he will be throwing clay forms for people to touch and leave their imprint in the vessels in progress," said Susan Frolich, Ann Arbor Street Art Fair executive director.

The State Street Area Art Fair features 275 nationally prominent artists. Organized by a group of State Street merchants in 1968, the fair is in the heart of the State Street shopping district.

"We're really excited because we have a lot of new exhibitors like nationally known African-American artist Margaret Warfield from Georgia. And there's more intricate wood work and new metal work this year," said State Street Fair coordinator Kathy Krick.

The Summer Art Fair, sponsored by the 1,500 member Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans, is the largest of the three fairs with 560 artists in 540 booths. For 26 years it has delighted fairgoers with contemporary American art and fine crafts, and the ever-popular Imagination Station at Liberty and Fifth where families can create art for free. "We've invited 112 different local performers. The live music adds a whole other aspect to the art fair that's fun," said director Shary Brown.

Competition for entry is tough in the three fairs. While criteria for acceptance differs, all three utilize committees to jury slides. In the case of The Guild, seniority of members is a factor. Although artists undergo intense scrutiny, they nearly year after year because it's well known in the arts community that exhibiting in the Ann Arbor Art Fairs will add credibility to their resumes.

For the last 16 years, Maureen Voorheis has shown her polished aluminum, cast and fused glass sculptures in Ann Arbor "because sales are good." The Summer Art Fair provides the West Bloomfield sculptor with a large audience to test her latest designs for tables and mirrors featuring neon lighting under cast glass.

"It's great exposure. You're getting so many people from out of town because it's so prestigious."

See ART FAIR, 2B



Storybook Art: David Stabley of Pennsylvania tells stories in clay.

ANN ARBOR ART FAIRS

What: One of the top art fairs in the country featuring nearly 1,000 artists. Live entertainment, food and children's art activities scattered throughout downtown Ann Arbor.

When: July 24-27. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, July 24 through Friday, July 26 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 27.

Where: Three fairs in one, the Ann Arbor Street Fair is on South and East University as well as Church Street; the State Street Area Fair is at Maynard, Liberty, William and North University, and the Summer Art Fair is on Main Street from William to E. Huron, Liberty between Ashley and South Fifth, and State Street from South University to William.

Cost: Admission is free. Visitors are encouraged to park free at Bharwood Mall or Pioneer High School and ride the Shuttle Bus, \$2 for adults or \$1 each way, children age 7 and under free. The Art Fair Trolley, running between the fairs which cover 24 city blocks, is free to Shuttle Bus passengers, 50 cents for others.

Observer & Eccentric area artists participating in the Ann Arbor Art Fairs include:

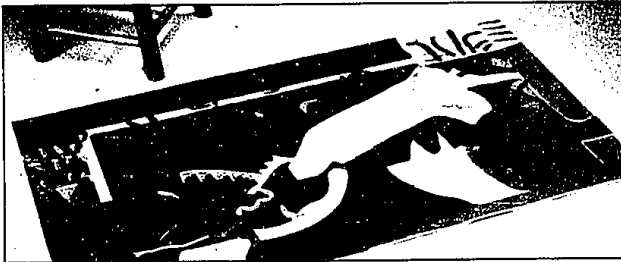
BLOOMFIELD: Sarah Hicks, painted floor cloths and Charles Hall, wood.
BLOOMFIELD HILLS: Judith Fitzpatrick, jewelry; Carol Berthoff, clay, and Hans Nordlund, 2-D mixed media.
CANTON TOWNSHIP: Nanette and Corneil Witczak, fiber/fabric.
FARMINGTON HILLS: Elizabeth Lurie, Robert Piepenburg, Carolyn Dulin, clay; Claudia Tann, jewelry; Andrea and Ted Striewski, mixed media/jewelry, and Tom Hale, painting.
FARMINGTON: Frank and Kim Yorke, jewelry.
LYNDEN: Barbara, Alan and Lon Gibson, ceramics.
PLYMOUTH: Thomas LeGault, painting.
ROCHESTER: Walt Cole, lathe-turned wood vases.
ROCHESTER: Rick Burger, painting; Sam and Nina Sottile, metals, and Jonathan Stopper, jewelry.
ROCHESTER HILLS: Judy Charest, painting, and Michael and Michelle Crumb, clay.
TOTTI: Jenis Penrose-Patt, mixed media; Marilyn Austin, painting, and Donna Beaubien, printmaking, paper and painting.
WEST BLOOMFIELD: Alice Frank, mixed media; Maureen Voorheis, sculpture; Susan Cobb, fiber and Bruce Megdall, pastel.

CUTTING EDGE NATIONAL ARTISTS

Fair organizers are excited this year because recognized artists from around the country will bring their most imaginative wares to Ann Arbor.

Highlights include:

David Stabley, Pennsylvania, clay, poster and T-shirt artist for Ann Arbor Street Fair; Patrick Dragon, Florida, who will not only demonstrate his brown clay craft but will allow visitors to touch and leave their imprint on vessels in progress; Natalie Brown-Gutnik and Martin Gutnik, Wisconsin, brightly painted floor cloths; Michael Combs, Virginia, photographs to stretch the imagination; Sarah Berni, Pennsylvania, intricate watercolors of natural scenes hiding surprises like a face inside an orchid; Neil and Laura Herman, Colorado, contemporary jewelry with colorful stones and fine metalwork; Stewart Glavik, Florida, large-scale paintings.
The artwork of John Lennon will be on display in the Michigan Union Ballroom, 530 South State Street, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, July 24 to Friday, July 26 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 27.



Walking on Sunshine: Wisconsin artist Natalie Gutnik's brightly-painted canvas floor cloths revives an art popular in the 1700s.

Art to benefit health education

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

As Fran Cook blew out the candles on her 41st birthday cake, she wished a recent breast biopsy would come back negative, but that was not to be. Six years later after being diagnosed with cancer and surviving a mastectomy and chemotherapy treatments, the West Bloomfield resident is an advocate for early detection. Cook and 13 other breast health educator volunteers will be honored at a benefit for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute being held in conjunction with "Art at the Pavilion" July 19-21 at the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion, 28000 Evergreen Road. Tickets for the opening night benefit and art preview scheduled 5-9 p.m. Friday, July 19 are \$15.

Admission to "Art at the Pavilion," a fine arts and crafts show that features 115 exhibitors hailing from Texas to Vermont, is \$4. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21. Parking is free for the three-day event. For more information or benefit tickets call 1-(800)-834-9437.

One of the artists exhibiting in "Art at the Pavilion" is Sue Walton of Bloomfield Hills. A

weaver for 25 years, Walton will bring long coats, short jackets and scarves to the show featuring a wide range of mediums including painting, pottery, jewelry, and wood craft. Walton works on a computerized floor loom with color, texture and pattern to create limited edition patterns best described as earth and jewel tones in fancy twills of her own design. An interface between the computer and loom allows her to weave the patterns with ease. She then cuts, sews and finishes the garments herself. Since not everyone can wear wool and mohair because of allergies, Walton also weaves in silk, cotton and rayon. Although she enjoys hand spinning yarn for fun, the threads used to construct her loose, fitting cloths are mail-ordered based on color, texture and price.

"I just love working with yarn and fabric," said Sue Walton. "A lot of my work is classic. I want people to be able to wear my pieces for a long time."

Walton's roots in textiles go back to high school days when she first started to sew her own clothes. To earn a degree in art education at Miami University, she was required to take a weaving class and became hooked.

"A lot of business women buy my jackets for

something different to wear other than a blazer or suit," Walton said. "I try to make them simple enough so you can add a necklace and accessories."

New York producer Richard Rothbard of American Craft Marketing always likes to tie his art shows into a local charity.

"It's going to be fabulous because the benefit and art show is going to be indoors in air conditioning with carpeting on the floor and free parking," said Richard Rothbard, who will display his handcrafted wood puzzle boxes based on storytelling themes such as "Noah's Ark" and "The Cow that Jumped over the Moon."

Proceeds from the benefit will go to Karmanos' outreach education programs on breast health and smoking including HOT (Hazards of Tobacco) which reaches K-12 students in schools throughout the five county metro Detroit area. The Karmanos Cancer Institute, formerly known as the Michigan Cancer Foundation (MCF), is an integrated system encompassing MCF, The Detroit Medical Center, Wayne State University, and the Meyer L. Prentiss Comprehensive Center of Metropolitan Detroit. The institute provides oncology programs, research, medical treatments, outpatient services,



Weaving Wonders: Sue Walton of Bloomfield Hills is one of 115 artists showing their wares at "Art at the Pavilion" July 19-21 in the Southfield Civic Center.

support groups, and low cost or no cost medical supplies to cancer patients.

"Our purpose is to tell the community there are preventative measures like not smoking and staying out of the sun. Also, to know what symptoms to look for as it regards cancer," said Pat Sachs, director of Karmanos' Oakland County office housed in the Franklin Community Service Center.

See BENEFIT, 2B