

Tastefest serves up a feast of activities

The Michigan Tastefest runs Wednesday-Sunday, July 1-5, in the New Center Area of Detroit. For more information, call (313) 872-0188 or visit <http://comet.org/tastefest>. All concerts are free.

The following concerts take place on the Best Buy stage, on West Grand Boulevard in front of the GM Building:

Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1; Boney James, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 2; Black Market at 8:30 p.m. and Felix Cavaliero's Rascais, 7 p.m. Friday, July 3; Imperial Swing Orchestra at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 4; and Michael Peterson, 7 p.m. Saturday, July 4; Enchantment at 2 p.m. and Los Lobos, 6 p.m. Sunday, July 5.

The Wellness Plan Jazz Showcase on West Grand Boulevard at Third Street, features: Tim Limbaugh's American Guitar at noon and 1 p.m., Lenny Price at 4:30 p.m. and David Myles and Mylesstones at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1; Rayne Biggs at noon and 1:15 p.m., Kog's Cats at 4:30 p.m., and The Edge at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 2; CASS-JAZZ at noon, Ryse-Tyme at 2 p.m., Jazzhead at 4:30 p.m., and Straight Ahead at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 3. Double Exposure: The McKinney Twins and Friends at noon, 3/4 Step featuring Roger Tucker at 2

p.m., Gwen and Charles Sales at 4:30 p.m., and Randy Scott at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 4; Tim Bowman at 1 p.m., Orchestra Fuego at 3:30 p.m., and Kimmie Horno at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 5.

The New Center Park Stage on Second Avenue and West Grand Boulevard hosts: The Rev. Right Time and the First Cousins of Funk, 5:30 p.m., and Killer Flamings, 8 p.m. Friday, July 3; Jan Krist at 3 p.m., Mudpuppy at 5:30 p.m., and Twinst' Thrantules at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 4; Jill Jack at 3 p.m. and Gillespie, Rasmussen and Raffoul (G.R.R.) at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, July 5.

This summer's Kids Shows take place in the Fisher Theatre lobby. The Mosaic Youth Theatre performs at 1 p.m., Children's Theatre of Michigan at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., and Maureen Shiffman's Musical Jamboree at 3 p.m. Friday, July 3. Storyteller Ivory Williams takes the stage at 1 p.m., Gemini at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., and The Mosaic Youth Theatre returns at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 4. Amazing Clark's Punch and Judy visits at 1 p.m., Chris Linn at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., and Yo-Master Zeemo at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 5.

The Henry Ford Health System Kidzone in New Center One Plaza offers dozens of free activities for children July 3-5 including Barnes and Noble Storytime, cookie decorating and more.

Cause from page E1

leading their own lives. We don't know how well off we really are." Havens began life in Brooklyn, which he calls the "last, one and only" melting pot of America. He said growing up with so many different ethnic groups was a special honor.

"Most of us haven't had the experience of being Americans. There is this isolationism and tribalism. But in my awareness, we've leaped so far into the possibility of being a nation of everyone," he said.

Folk singer Havens began his musical career like many New Yorkers of his time as a doo-wop singer. He said when he was singing doo-wop he was in "show business" but when he started singing folk songs he became a "communicator."

"There was a deeper connection to the audience and people in general, that's what the music of the '60s was, though many of us didn't realize we weren't in show business," he said.

Havens said it was poetry that finally brought him in his late teens to cross the bridge from Brooklyn to Manhattan.

"At the end of the 1950s, around 1958, I was singing with this German, Kenney Schneider, who sang second tenor in one of the last doo-wop groups I was in," he said. "We had been singing together four or five years. And he wrote the most beautiful poetry I thought."

Street corner friends would ask Havens and Schneider about

'Music is the fabric of who we are as a community. It was our generation's newsletter.'

Richie Havens
folk singer and activist

being "beatniks." Havens said he didn't even know what the word meant.

"I'll never forget this, Kenny came running into my house with the Sunday News and they had this article about beatniks in the Village," he said.

That was it. Havens "ventured over the bridge" to Greenwich Village and his new career was launched.

That's where I met my first professors of traditional folk music. That was the first time I heard history. I was a history buff and in school I loved history. It was all part of the adventure of becoming, which is always going on," Havens said.

Havens came under the influence of Fred Neil, Dino Valenti, Hamilton Camp, Bob Gibson, Odette, Pete Seeger and others, learning traditional folk music from around the world and the new music of contemporary writers like Neil, Valenti and Bob Dylan. They were part of a new movement that became "folk-rock."

"Some made it, some didn't care if they made it and some made it despite themselves," Havens said. "Music is the fabric of who we are as a community. It

performing more than 60 benefits a year for a variety of needy groups. But his most personal efforts have been for children and the environment. In 1990 he founded Natural Guard, a hands-on program teaching children about the environment.

"I can't say I taught kids about the environment, but I know that I gave kids an opportunity to become the citizens they are in the community and to express the rights and responsibilities they have as citizens," he said.

Twenty years ago, Havens helped start a hands-on, children's museum in the Bronx built around water conservation.

"When I ask kids if they know any water environments, they all raise their hands and say 'The rain forest in Brazil.' I say, 'don't you live in an environment and they all say, 'No we just live in the city.' We try to change that view," he said.

Natural Guard is based in New Haven, Conn., and has chapters across the American continent.

Havens will be joining an old friend at Power, Janis Ian, with whom he shared an agent when Ian was just 12 years old.

"I sang at her father's camp when she was 11," Havens said with a laugh.

No doubt, Havens commitment to '60s ideals was an inspiration to Ian, who went on to make her own mark with such personal songs as "Society's Child," "Jesse" and "At Seventeen."

Filmmakers from page E1

manager of Detroit Tiger baseball with WDIV-TV Channel 4, and then moved on to work in post production with Universal Image in Southfield.

Screened Arts was formed to acquire literary properties with an eye to producing in Michigan. In addition to "Winona's Web," the company is also developing two other projects, a comedy-romance to be shot in Los Angeles and a thriller for shooting in Philadelphia.

The women are also creating the Michigan Creative Source Directory, a guide to film talent

in the state equivalent to Hollywood's bluebook of talent.

"I'm excited by the response I got. This is an all inclusive book, everybody in one. I'm surprised at all the talent - writers, directors," Bond said.

The book is planned for publication in August for distribution to people in the business within the state and nationally.

Bond is excited by Michigan as a location as well as a source of talent.

"On 'Winona's Web,' we wouldn't think of shooting it anywhere else," Bond said.

"Winona's Web" is the story of two women, one a psychologist seeking a simpler life and the other, Winona Pathfinder, an elderly Lakota Sioux medicine woman preparing to die. The women form a friendship, which blends the contrasting values of modern Western civilization with Native American beliefs.

Bond said the best of all possible worlds is to land a deal with a studio or major independent, which can get wide distribution for the film. Bond said that she and O'Reilly already have investors and the film can be

made on budgets ranging from a low-end \$3 million to a middle budget of \$10 million.

She has approached Jodie Foster, Julia Roberts, Penny Marshall and Meg Ryan about the project.

"We think, who would we want to see attached to the project and how can they help us," Bond said. "If you can get that combined with the backing of a studio to get it out there..."

In recent years, independent films have become an important source of new movies. Film festivals such as Robert Redford's Sundance and the Independent Film Festival in Los Angeles have become places where deals

are made.

"The entire market is not about blockbusters, special effects, 'Independence Day' films," Bond said. "There are films that are more character driven - 'Slingshot,' 'Fargo.' People do want to think."


Some production companies have shied away from Michigan because of cost. A recent movie set in Detroit is filming in Toronto because of the favorable Canadian dollar and lower overall costs. But Bond said filming in another country has its drawbacks.

"They have a point system you have to satisfy to get film subsidies, you have to use a Canadian

director, writer, post production. In Germany, which offers large film subsidies, you have to do post production there and record the music," Bond said. "There are rules and regulations you want to think about."

For "Winona's Web," Bond said they would like to be able to use a lot of Michigan talent on the crew and in subsidiary roles and as extras, especially Michigan Native Americans. She said they would also like to do some post production in the state.




"When I first came back here I thought you had to go to Chicago for this kind of post production, but it's right here," Bond said.



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We'll compile the Top 500 tunes of all time from your nominations. Then, to celebrate the long 4th of July weekend, we'll count 'em down, in order, all the way to the #1 song on Oldies 104.3 WOMC.

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My 4 favorite songs are:

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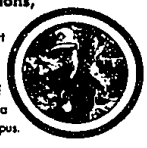


Did you know the earth is made up of 98% water? Discover the fascinating world of water! Learn about the water cycle and discover how water droplets are naturally recycled. Make and take your own "rainstick." Ages 5 and older. Pre-registration required. Members \$4, non-members \$5.

The Robot Zoo
June 13 through September 7, 1998

This national traveling summer exhibit features eight larger-than-life, robotic creatures, constructed of man-made parts. Computer interactive and hands-on displays help you discover how real animals function. This exhibit is sponsored by TIME, FANUC Robotics and Sillicon Graphics.

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