

ART BEAT

Want to publicize an arts event, or know a talented local artist who deserves recognition? It's news that belongs in Art Beat. Send information to Art Beat, Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax, (248) 644-1314.

Most recently, Spence served as vice president of education at the National Audubon Society, and chair of the education department at the American Museum of Natural History. Spence received his masters in natural Resource Management from the University of Michigan. The Institute of Science serves about 200,000 visitors annually. It offers a variety of education and outreach programs, all new permanent exhibitions and a regular schedule of changing exhibits.

with classics and community theater favorites. The new season includes: "Back to Bachrach & David" - A collection of hits by composer Burt Bachrach and lyricist Hal David, Sept. 17-19, 24-26, Oct. 1 & 2. "The Man Who Came To Dinner" - A classic comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, Nov. 12-14, 19-21, 26 & 27. "Oliver" - The classic musical adapted from Dickens' novel set in 19th-century London, Jan. 21-23, 28-30, Feb. 4 & 5. "Sherlock Holmes" - March 17-19, 24-26, March 31 & April 1. "Forever Plaid" - May 12-14, 19-21, 26 & 27. Tickets: \$14/play; season - 6

shows for \$55, 3 shows for \$36. For information, call (248) 644-2076. NOT RECEIVES SKILLMAN GRANT The Skillman Foundation awarded a \$126,000 grant to support the program of the Michigan Opera Theatre. During the 1999-2000 seasons, the funds will be used to offset the costs associated with five main stage opera productions, a dance series and the educational and community outreach programs. DSO SHOWHOUSE BENEFIT "Summer Bounty Jazz Picnic," the next Detroit Symphony Designer Showhouse will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, August 8. The event is sponsored by the

DSO Volunteer Council. The showhouse is located in Detroit's Palmer Woods. Classic jazz and swing will be performed by Mike Karoub's Cello Jazz Trio. Casual attire is suggested. Reservations: \$50/person. A portion of the proceeds will benefit DSO education and outreach programs. For information, call (313) 576-5154. ARTIST PHILLIPS TWICE HONORED The watercolor painting of Kathy Boltz Phillips of West Bloomfield was honored at the West Bloomfield Festival, held in early June at the Henry Ford Medical Center. In late June, Phillips' water-

color, "Dock Scene," was selected as the prize in a raffle sponsored by the Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce. This past week, Phillips showed her work at the Ann Arbor Guild Art Fair. LOOKING FOR STORIES ABOUT SUMMER CAMP If you have an interesting story about attending music or art camp this summer, please contact The Eccentric's Arts & Leisure section. We're looking for stories about educators, parents and students who attended Interlochen, Blue Lake or other camps. Call (248) 901-2557.

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course. "Some adults forget that children are needy and that we have a responsibility to care for all children, regardless of where we live." Beyond raising social awareness in some of the works, it's clear that Monteiro is infatuated by color and motivated by empa-

thy. A watercolor of a starving Ethiopian child and an empty bowl will remain "half-finished," said Monteiro, because working on the painting invariably induces a torrent of tears. Raised in a neighborhood a few blocks north of Detroit's New Center Area, Monteiro attended

Catholic school and worked as a social worker, parole officer and at the Urban League and Red Cross. While attending Wayne State University, she began her formal training as an artist, taking drawing, then painting classes. "My love was art, but being a practical person, I wanted a

career to support myself," she said. "There's a lot of truth to the notion of 'starving artists.'" An appreciative artist Shortly after her exhibit opened, Monteiro returned to the museum. She read the comments of her work written by impressed visitors. Struck by the possibility that someone might consider her as either insensitive or unappreciative, Monteiro responded in typical fashion. She printed a pile of "thank-you messages" and placed them at the entrance to the Emerging Artist exhibit.

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in French medieval literature. The former Catholic School language teacher teaches French and English to corporate executives. "Great Places" is anything but academic, dryly empirical or a recitation of names and dates. "If you say to a child, 'You're going to hear about history,' their response is 'Auuughhh,'" said Arrathoon, who lives in Rochester. "These are children's stories with magical elements. It's a more fun, imaginative way to learn history." Think of it, she said, as a history lesson with a twist of Disney and a dash of Lewis Carroll. Jody the mouse, for instance, is made by the Wizard of Paint Creek, who - much like the Loch Ness creature - straddles the world of the real and the imagined. The "magical" stories shouldn't be mistaken for myths, said Arrathoon. She is happy to make the academic distinctions among stories, folk tales, legends and myths.

Apparently, intellectualizing is a tough habit to break for the former literature scholar turned fiction writer. After years in academic studies, Arrathoon said she now suffers the "disease of writing" and has no plans to publish another academic paper. Arrathoon's other published writing includes essays on medieval poetics and the influence of Chaucer on the craft of fiction. Her dissertation at Princeton University was on an obscure 13th-century poem written by an unknown author. Since early this year, she's been writing and sending short stories to national publications. Although she has yet to have her stories accepted or published, Arrathoon has received encouraging responses from "Esquire" and other notable magazines to keep her writing. Meanwhile, she and Davie - who published a literary newsletter, "South Hill Gazette," in the late 1980s - plan to expand the "Great Places" series to include more Michigan attractions, and even national destinations.

Summer Strikefest... Blue Ribbon Special August 1 thru Labor Day Win Great Prizes: KID'S PRIZE - Youth Mountain Bike ADULT'S 1st PRIZE - Large Screen T.V. ADULT'S 2nd PRIZE - Round Trip Airline Ticket (for 2 Adults to anywhere in the Continental U.S.)

"I see myself in my work," said Monteiro. She said many of the images of children and women in her paintings represent her viewpoint. "These paintings are a way to take a moment and reflect. "Women have to usually take care of everyone, and sometimes they don't have time to take care of themselves."

A Country Music Revue featuring Billy Walker "The Tall Texan" TV, Recording and Grand Ole Opry Star Sunday, Sept. 19 2 p.m. Mercy High School Auditorium Sponsored by the Farmington Hills Police Officers Association For Tickets, Call (248) 474-3446

Blues from page C1

lor went on to achieve commercial success (Clapton with Cream and as a soloist, Green with Fleetwood Mac and Taylor with the Rolling Stones), Simmonds stayed true to his blues roots. "I just wanted to be the best guitar player. At thirteen I dreamed of being like John Lee Hooker, and I'm happy to be living that dream," he said. Promising new release Success has hardly evaded Savoy Brown. In the '60s, the band was a darling of the emerging counterculture with Bohemian blues records like "Blue Matter" and "Raw Sienna." Then, in the early '70s, Simmonds said he experienced the "rock star thing" with the commercial success of "Street Corner Talking" and "Hellbound Train." He continued to make albums of marginal note through the '80s and '90s. "I call the '80s and '90s my lost and wandering time," he said. This past May, Savoy Brown released "The Blues Keep Me Holding On" (Mythic). The album, which took three years to record, is full of up-tempo boogie blues, and offers plenty of proof that Savoy Brown has emerged from its "lost" period. "The Blues" hearkens back to the band's early days, when the interplay between vocal and guitar was at its pinnacle. Much of that recaptured sound has to do with the addition of Peterson, whom Simmonds met while touring for the Crescendo label in the late '80s. Peterson's robust voice and Simmonds' blistering dexterity on his Gibson 335 combine to make both shine. Simmonds and Peterson also wrote and arranged five of the 11 songs on the CD, including the title tune, an ardent testament to Simmonds' blues roots. "Now we're making records for the band's legacy," said Simmonds.

Hugh Grant "Mickey Blue Eyes" Join the Oakland Regional Board of Trustees of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Robbie Timmons of WXYZ - Channel 7, and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for A Night of Good Taste Monday, August 16, 1999 Patron Party, Galleria Officentre 6:00 p.m. Star Theater, Southfield 8:00 p.m. Party and Screening \$50 Screening Only \$25 1-800-KARMANOS (800-527-6266) Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Proceeds benefit cancer research, patient care and health education

SUMMER '99 THIS WEEK Dan Fogelberg w/Big Jack AUGUST 10 Cinderella American Family Theater's Broadway for Kids 13 Weird Al Yankovic w/Chris Zito 21 Don McLean w/Jim Messina 22 Alice In Wonderland American Family Theater's Broadway for Kids 27 Peter, Paul & Mary SEPTEMBER 3 Mark Chesnutt 10 Jethro Tull ON SALE NOW The Public Box Office and all... Charge (248) 443-6056