

'Global Journeys' in your own backyard



"Global Journeys in Metro Detroit," (published by New Detroit, Inc., 1999, \$12.95)

As a former immigrant (from Germany in 1948), I've always regarded life in the United States as existing on two cultural planes. One is decidedly American: Broadway musicals, Thanksgiving, Walt Whitman, baseball, Wall Street and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The other is a kaleidoscope of cultures from around the world that seek to preserve their rich heritage for the benefit of compatriots and the population at large.

In celebration of our cultural diversity, Marcia Danner, Helen B. Love, and Patricia B. Peart, in

collaboration with New Detroit Inc., have recently published "Global Journeys in Metro Detroit." The book's authorship is equally diverse, drawn from the 27 ethnic groups featured in this 600-page multicultural, Motor City manual.

Whether you're interested in sampling Creole cooking, listening to Beethoven or Kentucky Blue Grass, buying native American crafts, attending mass conducted in Polish, tuning in to foreign-language radio, or learning everything from Norwegian embroidery to Japanese martial arts, you'll find the information in "Global Journeys."

Each chapter is devoted to a particular culture: Latin American, Italian, Arab, Korean, Indian, etc.) and begins with a map of the "Old Country" plus a brief description of its history and geography. Next comes a synopsis of the immigrant experience,

explaining how each group came to the Detroit area and where its members settled. Various listings follow: restaurants, specialty shops, musical performers, churches and synagogues, holidays and observances, organizations of all types, publications, and Web sites.

But what makes this compendium especially enriching and much more than a guidebook are the numerous sidebars included in each chapter. Can't tell a knockwurst from a bratwurst? Want to create Ukrainian Easter eggs? Interested in African textiles? How about Jewish theater and Irish dancing? Or Greek architecture?

These topics, plus so many more, can be found in "Global Journeys," a treasure trove meant to inform and entertain visitors to Detroit as well as longtime residents. Parents can use the manual to introduce

their children to world culture; teachers, to supplement language and history lessons.

Those who don't have the time, money, or inclination to travel abroad can use the book's "guided tours" that come complete with mini-maps and detailed instructions.

In the preface, Mayor Dennis Archer writes: "Our hope is that it opens your heart and your mind - your very spirit - to venture out and experience the world of cultures abundant in Metro Detroit. We hope it will open the invisible fences that too often separate our neighborhoods and help you build new friends among people you may not have understood."

To me, "Global Journeys" reflects what America is all about: a country so open and confident of its identity that it welcomes variety and differences. The book is attractively

illustrated by Patricia B. Peart. It's a great gift for the holidays: well organized, clearly written, informative and reasonably priced.

"Global Journeys" is available in all major metro Detroit book-

stores.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township and a tutor in English. You can leave her a message on a touch-tone phone at (734) 953-2047. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

Author from page C1

Urbane and analytical, Barbara remains the outsider until she recognizes her selfishness and the value of true love.

Heroine Anne McClellan in "Sweetness to the Sweet" (Zebra Books, 1994) also matures after facing the truth. Having lost a husband and an idyllic marriage to the 1985 Mexico City earthquake, Anne first seeks comfort in her "safe little hide-hole," living on "leftover crumbs from the past."

Eventually good sense and optimism return, and Anne forges a new life by opening "Sweet Expectations," a bake shop in New Hampshire. The masculine and darkly mysterious Chief of Police Mark Novak becomes a steady customer but seems to want more than coffee and crullers. Anne has already invested in a new mortgage and a new town. Dare she make a new emotional investment as well?

Sense of humor

What sets Joan Shapiro's novella apart is a sense of humor that is self-deprecating and down-to-earth. The author constantly reminds us that love is not experienced in a vacuum. Prosaic reality intrudes at the most inopportune times. In "Daniel" (Meteor Publishing, 1993), for example, Edie and Dan are seated in the front seat of a heated car and have just traded tales of unhappy marriage and bitter divorce. Unburdened at last and overcome by a "desire too strong to deny," the two lovers turn to each other with "a sudden rush of hunger." Locked in a passionate embrace that transcends time and place, the two suddenly become aware of something cold coming between them.

The laws of physics will not be

denied as Edie's carton of vanilla ice cream drips steadily into the hero's "hand-sown imported black leather shoes."

In "Dori's Miracle," a short story in the anthology "Joys of Christmas" (Zebra Books, 1994), a 56-year-old widow and grandmother of four finally seeks a life of her own. When new neighbor Josh expresses interest, Dori responds but tries to keep their budding relationship quiet. Discretion and courtship don't mix in a boisterous and nosy family, however. As little Ellen leaves her grandma's Hanukkah party, she takes one more look at Josh and blurts out, "Gramma Dori, he doesn't look like a chunk." To which grandson Steve loudly replies, "Hunk, dummy, not chunk! Man, you are so dumb!"

In a letter graciously responding to my review of "Sweetness to the Sweet" (Sept. 22, 1994), Joan Shapiro admitted, "Us long suffering, ill-used romance writers are always scrabbling around for that elusive R-word - even Aretha had trouble getting R-E-S-P-E-C-T."

When a writer has fully mastered her craft, artfully creates multi-dimensional characters that come alive on the page, captivates us with suspense even when the ending is secure, and at the same time, makes us laugh at ourselves, she deserves nothing less than our esteem and admiration. Thank you, Joan Shapiro, for the example you have set and the pleasure you continue to provide.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township and a tutor in English. You can leave her a message on a touch-tone phone at (734) 953-2047. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

ART BEAT

Want to publicize an arts event, or know a talented local artist who deserves recognition?

sentations of museum art to elementary students.

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.

DIA VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Elaine Adams of Bloomfield Hills and Janet Miller of Birmingham Farms have been named volunteers of the month at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Adams, who has been a docent since 1991, guides visitors the DIA galleries. She also conducts public tours of special exhibits. Miller, who joined the DIA's Art to the Schools Committee in 1972, gives slide pre-



Elaine Adams



Janet Miller

2300 Featherstone Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48106
248-334-2222

Hilton Suites
Ann Arbor

After holiday shopping
at Great Lakes Crossing,
rest up for more!

With our Holiday Shopping Package, you'll SAVE BIG while taking care of everyone on your holiday gift list. We'll drive you to Great Lakes Crossing just 10 minutes away for a day or night of great shopping, then pick you up when you're through! Afterwards, take a dip in our indoor pool or whirlpool, enjoy a sauna, get energized with a workout in our fitness center, or simply kick back in the spacious comfort of your own two-room suite. Package includes a suite with separate living room and bedroom, full prepared-to-order breakfast, evening beverage reception, nylon tote bag, over 100 discount coupons offering savings throughout the mall, a \$25 dining voucher good at four restaurants in the mall and more! For reservations, call toll free: 888-642-4754.

It happens

www.annarborsuites.hilton.com Beverage reception included in suite price. Subject to state and local laws. Offer valid Friday-Sunday 11/26/99-12/18/99 and every day 12/19/99-12/24/99. Limited availability. Advance reservations required. Rate exclusive of tax or gratuity and does not apply to groups, and is subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply. ©1999 Hilton Hotels.

Steak House
32350 W. 8 Mile • Farmington Hills
Call 248-426-6454

Hours: Monday-Sunday 10:30 AM - 2 PM; Sunday Noon - 2 PM

OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY
Serving Noon to 8:00 p.m.
featuring

Roast Turkey w/ Stuffing & Mashed Potatoes \$8.95
Honey Baked Ham w/ Au Gratin Potatoes \$8.95
Crab Stuffed Whitefish \$12.95

Call for Reservations!
Don't Forget to Reserve for Holiday Luncheon or Dinner Party!

START THE NEW YEAR
WITH A CHANCE TO WIN
FREE ROUND TRIP CHARTER AIR TO
CANCON FOR 7-NIGHTS*

Funjet Vacations
We're Changing to Serve You Better.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
OR E-MAIL: cadillactravel@earthlink.net
DRAWING To Take Place DEC. 2, 1999
Must Receive Before DEC. 1, 1999
*EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND BASED ON AVAILABILITY

CADILLAC MAYFAIR TRAVEL

21111 Haggerty Rd.
Novi, MI 48375
248-349-4000

Hilton
Novi

You've waited 1000
years for this.

The Hilton Novi makes this New Year's Eve unforgettable. This is the night you've been waiting for. And we've got the perfect way to celebrate. Our millennium package includes a deluxe guestroom with late checkout on New Year's Day, Surf and Turf dinner for two in our ballroom, 16 beverage tickets per couple, dancing party favors, champagne toast at midnight and brunch buffet on New Year's Day. For reservations call the Hilton Novi at 248-349-4000.

\$499 per couple complete package
\$339 per couple dinner-only package

It happens

In the cockpit at 700 mph.
Be there.

IMAX THEATRE
HENRY FORD MUSEUM & GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Announcing the grand opening of the IMAX Theatre at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village. A six-story high screen. Wrap-around, six-channel digital sound. Don't miss the spine-tingling, you-are-there excitement of "The IMAX Experience." Join us for our premiere film, "The Magic of Flight," and beginning January 1, Walt Disney Pictures' "Fantasia/2000." For information or to purchase tickets, call (313) 271-1570 in metro Detroit or 1-800-747-IMAX, or visit www.hfmv.org. IMAX Theatre open Thanksgiving and Christmas. Museum & Village open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Thanksgiving and Christmas.