# GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

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Terrace Grama 30400 Phymouth Rd. 313-261-3330

All Shows SI Except shown after 6 p.m. on Friday & Scharday & 75x all shows Tuesday, Box Office opens at 4.00 p.m. Monday - Friday only. Call Theather for Features small Times 1.D. required for "2" rated shows

BOOKS

## Chaim Potok explores perilous path to adulthood

Zebra and Other Stolles By Chaim Potok (Alfred A. Knopf, 1998, \$18)

There was once a boy who loved to run. He could run as fast as a herd of zebras thunder-



Except 63 H.3s 243 835 9990 (D:SCOUNTED SHOWS T) LIFE IS ELAUTIFUL (PG13) (1:00 1:00 16:06, 8:30 CITIZEN RANE (NR) (1:13 3:45) 6:15, 8:45 THE DAPOSTERS (R) (1:30 4:06,6:30, 9:00

like Zebra, Isabel, Moon, and Max, the narratives explore the impact that injury, drugs, sex, or the loss of a parent makes on its teenage victim. There is B.B., for example, who shares a secret with her father, his admission that he ean't confront a crisis because he lacks "the right stuff." When the tragic loss of a child almost drains him of the little strength he has left, B.B.'s father is tempted to find solace in escape. "Each time he goes off on a trip," confesses B.B., "I think he won't come back."

Then there is Moon, a sullen, rebellious 13-year-old, angry that his wealthy parents won't buy him the recording equipment he wants for his band. Often subject to fits of rage when his wishes are denied, Moon is a problem at school as well as a thome. But then a foreigner comes to visit his community from a village in Pakistan, a boy his own age. Asher, he hears, had been sold into aervitude at the age of five, forced to sit "on a bench fifteen hours a day as a carpet weaver ... in a long, air-less room ... (at) temperatures over one hundred degrees." What goes on in Moon's mind is a gradual shift outward, from self-centerchess to compassion and finally — when Moon learns elf-centerchess to compassion and finally — when Moon learns the nature of Asher's utilimate fate — to "scalding outrage."

In "Zebra ...," Potok probes the psychological depths of young people initiated into the problems of adult life, its joys mingled with its pains and disappointments. The six young people depicted in the stories pass through darkness and

despair as the result of a tragic encounter. Yet they each find within themselves "the sublime senaation of secret power" to cope with and even transcend the narrow limitations of person als suffering.

Things will be all different forme," says Nava, after a violent confrontation with evil. He rather's sole response is a great look of sudness. But to Nava and the others, increased knowledge and understanding are the benofits that come with the process of growing up. "Zebra." is a thought-provoking and sensitive book for pre-teens and up. Chaim Potok will be at Borders in Farmington Hills on 7:30 pm. Tuesday, November 24.

P.S. Younger renders will projow "The Impatient Otter" by Franziska Schoenfeld (Cranbrook Press, 1998, 83-95) Beautifully illustrated by Cranbrook instructor Ann Kelly, the book tells the whimsical story of Marshall M. Fredericks' creation of a granite otter who talks and plays with the sculptor's five children, It testifies to the fact that sculptre, when executed by a great artist, can spring to life in our imagination. The book is available at Cranbrook Art Academy and at the Elizabeth Stone Gallery in Birmingham.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township. She is a private tutor in English and German You can leave her a message from a touch-tone phone at (734) 953-2047, mailbox num-ber 1893. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

### **BOOK HAPPENINGS**

Book Happenings features vari ous happenings at suburban bookstores. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, Observer & rogin Gallagher, Oserver & Eccentric Newspapers Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mi 48150, or fax them to (313)591-7279, or e-mail him at hgallagher@oe. homecomm. net

### BORDERS (BIRMINGHAM, SOUTHFIELD ROAD)

Lesley Hazleton signs her book Driving to Detroit," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at the store 31150 Southfield Road, Birmingham, 48025

## BORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS)

ORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS)
R. T. Stone signs his book "The Journals – A Message from the Council of Ancients," 7 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 12, at the store, 1122 East Liberty St., Rochester Hills.

## MURDER, MYSTERY & MAYHEM

Fiction group discusses Amy Tan's "The Hundred Secret Senses," 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12; John Billheimer signs his new

mystery "The Contrary Blues," 1
p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at the
store 35167 Grand River,
Farmington, (248)471-7210.
BARNES & NOBLE (NORTHVILLE)
Terry Stellini will sign braday,
Nov. 12: Biography Book Club wil
discuss Malachy McCourt's "A
Morik Swimming," 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 12, at the store,
Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville
SHAMAND RIVM (ANN ARBOR) SHAMAN DRUM (ANN ARBOR)

SHAMAN DRUM (ANN ARBOR)
Kristin Hass reads from "Carried
to the Wall: "American Memory
and the Victnam Votorans
Memorla!" 8 p.m. Monday, Nov.
9; Ursula Wiltshire Goodenough
creads from "The Sacred Depths of
Nature," 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10;
Howard Cutter reads from "The
Art of Happiness," 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 11; Richard
Balley signs "Nineteenth Century
English." 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov.
12; Joseph Clark reads from
Jungle Wedding: Storles," 8 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 13; Allson Joseph
reads from "In Every Seam." 8
p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14 the
store, 313 South State Street,

Ann Arbor (734)662-7407.

LITTLE PROFESSOR (PLYMOUTH)

LITTLE PROFESSOR (PLYMOUTH)
R.T. Stone will sign his book 'The
Journals - A Message from the
Council of Ancients, 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 13, at the store. 380
South Main St., Plymouth.
BOOK DISCUSSION
Dr. Mary Milnock of Madonna
University will lead a discussion
of Anne Tyter's "Saint Maybe,"
Monday, Nov. 9, at the Carl
Sandburg Library, 30100 W.
Seven Mile, Livonia, For more
information, call (248)476-0700.
BOOK LECTURE
Mystery writer William Kienzle
will speak 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov.
15, at the Livonia Civic Center
Library, 32777 Five Mile Road.
The program is sponsored by the
Friends of the Uronia Litraries
and is free to members. Yearly

and is free to members. Yearly memberships cost \$5 and are available at the door

## WALDENBOOKS & MORE

VALDENBOOKS & MORE Barbara Burris signs her book "Callie & Zora," 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, at the store 13667 Everke, Southgate, (734)282-4197.

## DSO series caters to singles

Since 1989, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Overtures," a group made up of concertinging "20-to-40 somethings," have been meeting to mix, mingle and enjoy classical music.

This season, "Overtures," will cater to metro-Detroit's urbil and suburban singles through a four-concert/party subscription package.

package.
Subscriptions include pre-concert parties beginning at 6 p.m. in the Orchestra Place atrium

in the Orchestra Place articular with live jazz, plentiful hors d'ouevres (enough for a light dinner) and cash bar.

At 8 p.m., Ovortures subscribers will walk next door to Orchestra Hall to enjoy a Detroit Symphony Orchestra Classical Series concert.

Concerts for the Overtures four-concert subscription pack-age include the "Concert for A New World," featuring the DSO under Music Director Neome under Music Director Neometral Jurio performing Dvorak's "New World Symphony," 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13; superstar flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal performing Mozart on Friday, March 12; the young Amorican viollinist Kurt Nikkanon in Prokofiow's Second Violin Concerto on Friday, April 23; and Overtures

What: Fun four concert series Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, where singles can meet and get to know each other. Subscription: Season subscription \$128, includes seat in the

mid-balcony and admission to the pre-concert party, among other benefits. Call (313) 576-5119 or for tickets on line, visit

the DSO's Web site, www.detroitsymphony.com
Performances: Preceded with a party at the Orchestra Place
Artium at 8 p.m., followed by intimate, Informal discussions
"ConcerTaiks" 7 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, followed by concert at

Concert Series

8 p.m. Filday, Nov. 13 – Program includes Overture to "The
School for Scandal," (Barber), Symphony No. 2 (Martinu), and
Symphony No. 9, "From the New World," (Dvorak).

8 p.m. Filday, March 12 – features fluitst Jean-Pierre Ram-

pal 

8 p.m. Friday, April 23 – features violinist Kurt Nikkanen 

8 p.m. Friday, May 31 – features violinist Gil Shaham and 
the Choral Union of the University Musical Society

the highly acclaimed Israeli vio-linist Gil Shaham joining Jarvi for the Bartok Violin Concerto for a performance on Friday, May 21 that also features Rach-maninoff's "The Bells."

"I am very excited that we can offer a fun four-concert series where singles can meet and get to know each other, and then onjoy a concert experience together," said Louis G. Spisto,

Detroit Symphony Orchestra
Hall president.
"I developed a similar series
at the Pittsburgh Symphony
and the Pacific Symphony
and the Pacific Symphony
california, which enjoyed great
success and filled a real need by
acrying an important segment
of the community that is often
overlooked.
"I believe this program will be
popular with music-loving singles here in Detroit."