

The Plymouth Community The Psymouth Communy
Arts Council's teen drama
club presents Moliere's timeless farce, "Turtuffe" 8 p.m. at
the Joanne Winkleman Hulce
Center for the Arts, 774 N.
Sheldon at Junction, Plyworth Adviscing by Jones. mouth. Admission is by dona-tion. All proceeds benefit the teen drama club, call (734) 416-4ART.



Meet artists and enjoy a variety of entertainment during Plymouth is Artrageous, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Plymouth on Main Street, Ann Arbor Trail and Penniman.



More than 100,000 flats of plants will be offered for sale at the 34th Annual Flower Day 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at East-ern Market in Detroit. Perfor-mances by local musicians 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., mini art fair. Shuttle service available from the Detroit Institute of Arts 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (313) 833-1560 for details.

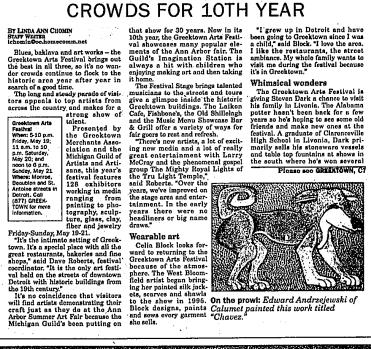


Country music fans will be flocking to Hart Plaza in Detroit Friday Sunday, May 19-21, for the Budwelser Downtown Hoedown. Featured performers include Mark Wills (pictured), Montgomery Jestry, Tracy Lawrence, Joseph Jenes and Chely Tracks, Call (348) 788-689 (bit inflormation, or West is the Web site; annual tempina con.



Whimsical work: Steven Dark created this "Chicken as Waiter

SIGHTS, SOUNDS, FOOD WILL DAZZLE CROWDS FOR 10TH YEAR



Bluesman's new material 'rocks harder

By Stephanie Angelyn Casola Staff Writer scasolr@oo.homecomm.net

Nearly a decade since the release of Ambition, an album that launched Larry McCray's musical career, the Arkanas-born and Saginaw-bred guitariat confirms his status as one of the most powerful bluesman around as he prepares to kick out new tunes at the 2000 Greektown Arts Festiva. With a new album in the works, the man who last declared he was Born TP Itay The Blues (1998) returns to Detroit to celebrate the 10th year of the festival. McCray is more than ready to showcase new songs like Blues My Business, Love Gone Bad and the tentative title track Believe it. While he said the music he's been playing for years hasn't changed much, it has shifted focus in terms of what people are into at the time. Today, blues has audiences.

"People are into very rhythmic."

to appeal to rock, reggae, soul and R&B audiences.

"People are into very rythtmic music," said McCray, in a telephone interview on May 9. "You have to do these things to continue to survive." McCray's new material "rocks harder," contains a wide array of rhythmy and strong vocals, but never stratform its bluesy origins, "I came from a history of it," said McCray, "My family were blues listeners and musicians before me, I always needed music with more of an inner soul."



Influences

Influences
Influenced by greats Jimi-Hendrix, George Benson and Wes Montgomery, McCray will be featured as the opening night headliner for the Grecktown festival. We're just gonna try to have an intense show, he said. "I'm really anxious and happy to have new music available for the people. I think the time is right for the band."

The time is right in Detroit to celebrate spring and the beginning of outdoor feativals as well. As the Greektown Arts Festival begins to heat up, the musical line up is sure to emit sounds of coal blues and steamy funk. To kick off the featival Friday night, The Brothers Groove start their engines at 6 p.m. blending funk, jozz, rock and blues into something undefinity child in Codish has played the featival with the likes of Johnnie Bassett and Thornetta Davis — who also return this year — it's a first for The Brothers

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SPECIAL EVENT

Comic book convention more than kids' stuff

By NICOLE STAFFORD SPECIAL EDITOR

randers.
Otherwise, attracting more than 300 comic artists from across the country to participate in an event like Motor City Comic Con, Friday-Sunday, May 19-21 at the Novi Expo Center, would be impossible.
"There are quite a few comic books written for the mature reader today," said Michael Goldman of Farmington Hills, president of Motor City Conventions and the founder of Comic Con. Ton of the biggest stereotypes about comic books is that they re for little kids. There are comic books for 6-year-olds and 60-year-olds."

olds."

In its 11th year, Comic Con focuses on two aspects of popular culture: comic books and tolevision and film with a science-fiction angle. The event began as a comic art convention and gradually grew to encompass other areas of pop culture.

Cult favorites

So, in addition to the hundreds of comic illustrators and writers who come to talk about their craft or sell and promote their work, Goldman tries to bring in stars from cult favorites like Star Wars and Star Trek.

What: Motor City
Comic Con feeturing
hundreds of comic
creators and
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orites like Star Wars and Star Jonathan Frakes, who plays Commander William Riker on Star Trek: The Next Generation, is this year's featured celebrity guest.

Surely, avid readers and collectors of comie books, budding strip illustrators and sci-fi fanaties have been anticipating Comic Con for months.

However, the general public may find the event of interest, too.

To begin with, there's a hodge-podge of pop culture merchandise and activities at Comic Con.

Film scripts, both signed originals and reproductions, are available for purchase.

Other finds include Pokemon

games, toys, action figures and other collectibles.

The Anime Club of Michigan (Anime refers to Japanese animation) will run features of the form in a private screening room.

Once more, the show may even convert a few non-believers into comic book lovers. The Friends of Lulu, a group of comic book fans who promote the form to women, plan to attend.

Others may simply discover how the form has evolved, according to Goldman.

The stories are really, written for adults, he said.

There's been a big place in the market for comics that are intelligently written. They're not just about the guy in spandex flying off to save someone. They're comics for thinking.

Entertainment experience.

Entertainment experience

Besides, comic books offer a unique entertainment experience, said Goldman.

"When you take great art and great storytelling and put it together, there's nothing like it. Not even television. For me, comics have always allowed me to use my imagination. It's not like television, which is kind of mindless. Comics still require you to think."