

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Art Beat, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, fax them to (734) 591-7279, or e-mail (as a text file) to ichonin@ec.econline.com.

BEADMAKING DEMO TODAY

Watch Sally Prashch give a glass beadmaking demonstration 7-9 p.m. today in room 251 of the Science Building at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road.

Admission is free. Call (313) 593-5292.

HELD OVER

The Livonia Youththeatre extends its performances of *The Sound of Music* 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 23-25 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26 at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 Six Mile at I-275, Livonia.

Tickets are \$5, \$3 ages 17 and younger. Call (810) 344-7774.

SUMMER THEATER PROJECT

The Park Players present Scott McPherson's dark comedy *Martin's Room* 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 24-25 in the Logan Auditorium at Plymouth Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road at Canton Center. Tickets are \$3 and available beginning one hour before performances.

The production marks the end of the Players first "Summer Theater Project" in which Plymouth Canton Educational Park students committed to a rigorous summer of rehearsals. The 14-member cast is under the direction of drama teacher Geoffrey Kopp and features Kristina Bahrou, Andrea Kirk, Ryan Welsh, Jerry Reid, Valerie Akers, Kyle Zink, Greg Angel, Joe Drake, Nicole Mellian, Kim Ganney, Megan Brown, Megan Phillips, Damon Cottrell and Patti Nelson. Kyle Trent and Sherry Mealy serve as company and stage managers.

The plot revolves around two estranged sisters who come to realize the true power of family when one is stricken with Leukemia. The production won the 1992 Drama Desk Award for Best Play and was made into a movie starring Meryl Streep, Diane Keaton, Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert DeNiro.

BALLET AUDITIONS

The Livonia Civic Ballet Company will audition dancers for its 2001-2002 season Sunday, Aug. 26 at Miss Jean's Dance Arts, 15519 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Auditions begin at 1 p.m. for dancers ages 8-10, followed by ages 11-14 at 2 p.m. and ages 14 and up at 3:30 p.m. All dancers must have a minimum of three years of ballet instruction. There is a non-refundable fee of \$9. For those unable to attend the Aug. 26 auditions, there will be auditions 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30.

The company will perform *The Nutcracker* in December. For more information, call (734) 427-9103.

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company will hold open auditions for dancers Sunday, Aug. 26 at Joanne's Dance Extension, 9282 General Drive, Suite 180-190, Plymouth.

Audition times are noon to 1 p.m. for ages 7-9, 1-2 p.m. ages 10-12, and 2:30-4 p.m. for ages 13 and older. There will be a \$5 fee. Males dancers are needed (scholarships available).

The ballet company, along with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, will present three performances of *The Nutcracker* Dec. 8-9. It will also perform *Coppelia* in spring.

For more information, call (734) 692-8540.

OPENING RECEPTION

Meet Canton artist Elbert Weber at an opening reception for his one man show 5-7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27 at the Joanne

Winkleman Hulse Center for the Arts, 774 North Sheldon at Junction, Plymouth.

Sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, the exhibit continues to Friday, Sept. 21. For hours or information, call the arts council at (734) 416-4417.

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBIT

D & M Studios holds its 11th annual student show Monday-Sunday, Aug. 27 to Sept. 2 at 8691 North Lilley Road at Joy, Canton.

The works culminated from this summer's 26 art camps at D & M Studios, Canton Summit on the Park, and the Plymouth Cultural Center. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday, until 3 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Registrations for fall classes in drawing, painting, cartooning, mixed media, and high school portfolio preparation begin Sept. 9. Classes will be held at the above three locations. Call (734) 453-3710.

FINAL WEEKS

Robert Ferrish exhibits his oil paintings, sculpture and carvings through Friday, Aug. 31 at Livonia City Hall 33000 Civic Center Drive, east of Farmington Road.

Among his favorite subjects are waterfowl and the scenery at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia. For more information, call the city's community resources department at (734) 466-2536.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

The Plymouth Community Arts Council closes its Music in the Park series with Marc Thomas & Max the Moose



Final weeks: Robert Perrish exhibits his art work in a one man show at Livonia City Hall.

noon Wednesday, Aug. 22 in Kellogg Park on Main Street, between Ann Arbor Trail and Penniman, Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

WRITING SEMINAR

Are you tired of writer's block? Need inspiration to pick up a pen or some tips to help write a story? Cheryl Vatcher can help you during writing seminars offered 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19 at the Northville Coffee Bean, 137 N. Main (\$25), and 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25 at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia (\$42).

Vatcher, a Plymouth writer who earned a master's degree from University of Michigan's School of Education, has penned articles for several metro Detroit

newspapers. To register, call (734) 414-8680.

VOCAL JAZZ

Schoolcraft College is looking for experienced singers for its vocal jazz program. Applicants must have an interest in singing jazz in groups and as a soloist. The two groups, which meet 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday or 7-9:50 p.m. Thursday, sing in the close harmonic style of Manhattan Transfer and Singers Unlimited. All members will develop a solo singing repertoire during the semester. The vocal jazz program can be taken for college credit. All jazz performers are welcome (ages 16-80+).

Rehearsals begin Aug. 28 and 30 at the college, 18600 Hagertry, Livonia. For information, call

conductor Jack Pierson at (734) 420-8984 or send e-mail to jack-pier@hotmail.com.

CALL FOR ARTISTS
Farmington Hills' Cultural Arts Division is looking for artists for a multicultural exhibit and sale at the Multicultural/Multiracial Council's fall Heritage Festival to be held at the Costick Activities Center.

The exhibit opens with a reception, hosted by the Farmington Community Arts Council, on Sept. 20. The display continues through Sept. 23. The Division is seeking artists whose work represents their particular culture. For more information, call (248) 473-1857.



Ballet auditions: The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company is holding auditions for "The Nutcracker." Livonia resident Haley Albertson danced the role of Clara last year.

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