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seals until he healed and could be slowly introduced.

"It's going to be a great party. It's creative black tie and people should feel free to go wild. We'd just love to have everyone who cares about the zoo to be there. It's a really exciting place to be. We'll have a strolling supper, dancing and starting at 9 p.m. a concert by Buckwheat Zydeco who play a New Orleans type of jazz. They're sure to be a huge draw. Their music is so much fun," said Aviv who's served on the Detroit Zoological Society board four years.

"We have four ticket levels including a new \$75 ticket that includes cocktails, coney and the concert by Buckwheat Zydeco so everyone can participate. We want to reach out to everyone who loves the zoo."

Aviv and co-chairs Jennifer Fischer of Orchard Lake and Diane Platt, Grosse Pointe, have thought of everything. Not a lot to attend the event? Zoo lovers can buy raffle tickets to win a Hummer H2 donated by Jennifer and David Fischer of The Suburban Collection, a trip to Kenya or a gold polar bear pin

from Jules R. Schubert Jewelers in Troy. Only 2,500 \$100 tickets will be sold.

"We raised \$165,000 last year and hope to do better this year. The money will be used to benefit education programs," said Aviv. "I like animals and am very proud of our zoo and the education function the zoo provides for school. It's a real treasure for our city - Detroit. We are so lucky to have such a spectacular place for our children and all of us."

Scott Carter knows the zoo is a great place. He works there as curator of mammals, and each

day is a new adventure. He's especially enjoyed watching the seven bears investigate their new 4.2 acre den complete with piped-in live trout.

"They all differ in their personalities and dislikes," said Carter. "Some like the water. Others get in it only to eat. The bears are definitely in better shape. They've never had a pool this deep before. When they first tried out the water they had so much fun they had to struggle to the bottom."

The bears just concluded their first breeding season.

No cubs this year but visitors don't seem to mind. When I was there in February, a little boy and his dad got the thrill of their lives when one of the bears pressed his nose against theirs in the Exploration Station.

"It's incredible the crowds we're seeing," said Carter. "Last weekend we had 13,000. Even in the tunnel when there are no bears and then they see a bear, people are mesmerized and it's quiet,

and someone goes 'there's a bear.'"

But don't take Carter's or my word about the fun you can have while visiting the new polar bear digs, get an up close and personal look at the bears as they playfully wrestle or swim overhead as you walk through the 70-foot tunnel.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call Observer & Eccentric Arts & Entertainment reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@oc.homedom.net

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Houston. "By 1944, manufacturers were producing 800,000 tons a year, a 500 percent increase from before the war."

"By the 1940s aluminum was being used in fabric. A rug woven from wood and aluminum thread by Marianne Strengell (1956) was part of Alcoa's Foremost Program for artists and designers to create prototypes. Noguchi's 1957 tables were a result of the program and after all these years they're now being produced."

Strengell is one of the designers in the exhibition who lived, studied and taught at Cranbrook.

Charles and Ray Eames and Eero Saarinen, son of Cranbrook architect Eliel Saarinen, created several of the functional, fashionable chairs on display.

"Our design department has been one of the strongest," said Gregory Wittkopp, Cranbrook Art Museum director. "Internationally, Cranbrook has a reputation as a design center. Carnegie was looking for a select group of museums to host this. They approached Cranbrook."

"We've always looked at not only fine arts but applied arts of architecture and design. We're honored to be part of presenting the exhibition that's traveling to the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum in Manhattan and the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montreal. We're the last venue in North America before traveling overseas to London's Design Museum."

"This is the largest traveling exhibition ever brought to Cranbrook. From the 200 pieces originally shown, we've edited to 200 to fit the story line. Cranbrook's addition is a lamp created for Kingswood dining hall by Walter von Nessen."

Wittkopp urges everyone to view the exhibition spotlighting decorative arts from Scotland, a Sony robotic pet dog, the ribs from R. Buckminster Fuller's Dymaxion house at Greenfield Village, and chairs designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Frank Gehry, and Gio Ponti.

Aluminum's recyclable properties assures the metal a bright

future in the design world.

Not to be missed are Clare Graham's Serpentine Chaise Lounge made from beverage cans and Boris Bally's chair of reused traffic signs.

"The exhibition's unique and shows the whole range of design from big name designers to objects that extend into daily life: baseball bats, tennis rackets," said Wittkopp. "One of our goals is to educate people about good design, function and form. Design can enhance our daily life."

"All three of our shows this year were pinnacles. We saw record attendance with the exhibition of the Shuey collection, 16 pieces of which remain on exhibit. The acquisition of the Dr. John and Mrs. Rose M. Shuey collection positioned us as a museum of contemporary art. It raised the bar of what people's expectations are of the Cranbrook Art Museum. We're currently formulating a plan for a substantial addition to the art museum."

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21	22	23	24
Beach Boys	Brian McKnight	Alice 100.7 80's Fest	INXS & Simple Minds
25	26	27	28
Corque Eos • 11am & 7pm	Teddy Pendergrass & Jeffery Osborne	Golden Hits of Doo Wop (Little Anthony & The Imperials, Bill Packard's Dupont Brothers and Carl Gardner's Coasters)	Heart & Eric Burdon
29	30	31	1
Chris Isaak	Little Bear • 11am & 7pm	Kenny Rogers	Billy Ray Cyrus & Tammy Cochran
1	2	3	4
The Rippingtons, David Benoit & Jean Luc-Ponty	Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance	Michael Bolton	Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Felix Cavaliere & The Rascals, Lou Christie and The Association
5	6	7	8
1964 Tribute...Beatles Tribute	Franklin's Turtle	11am & 7pm	Al Green & Ann Nesby
9	10	11	12
Paul Anka	The Scintillas	Hank Williams Jr.	George Benson & Natalie Cole
13	14	15	16
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