

# Arts & Entertainment

GALLERIES ■ THEATER ■ DANCE ■ DINING

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## Hot tickets

### ■ Growing Up Live

Peter Gabriel performs with special guests Blind



Boys of Alabama and Hukaw Zawm at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$45-\$125, available through Ticketmaster at (248) 645-6666.

### ■ Festival time

Check out the Urban Organic Festival on Saturday, Nov. 30, at the Tangent-Hastings St. Ballroom, 715 E. Milwaukee, between Oakland and Hastings in Detroit. The doors will open at 8:30 p.m. and performances will begin at 9:30 p.m. for a line-up that includes Blackman and Arnold, Funkelligence, Nu-Soul Sensation, Amp Fiddler - former keyboardist for Parliament-Funkadelic - and Conya Doss. Conceived as an alternative to the typical concert, the Urban Organic Festival also includes visual, spoken word, dance, film and culinary artists. The festivals occur quarterly at indoor venues in and around Detroit. Tickets are \$20 in advance, available at Spectacles, 230 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit, or \$25 at the door. Call Spectacles at (313) 953-6886.

### ■ Holiday glass

Touch of Light Studio and Gallerie of Handblown Glass shows works of John



Fitzpatrick through Dec. 24. Open houses are slated for Dec. 7 and 21 at the studio, 23426 Woodward, a half mile south of I-695, in Ferndale. Winter class registration is ongoing. (248) 543-1868.

### ■ Christmas spirit

Start your Thanksgiving Day weekend with a performance of Christmas on Main Street at the Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main, Northville. The musical show mixes old and new holiday tunes. Performances are at 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, beginning Nov. 29. The show runs through Dec. 21. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children and senior citizens. (248) 349-8110.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY / OBSERVER

Rockettes Alison Roller-Woerner (left) and Krystie Richeson talk to the animals after a blessing in front of the Fox Theatre.

## Filling hearts with Christmas

### Camels steal the scene in Radio City Spectacular

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Brian Kauffman had fun last week passing out carrots to children, who

fed them to camels assembled for a blessing by The Rev. Pat Casey of St. Patrick and St. Dominic churches in Detroit. What's nice is that it was all part of his job as producer of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular opening Friday, Nov. 29, at the Fox Theatre in Detroit.

It's a routine Rockettes Krystie Richeson of Farmington Hills, Tracy Rysdale of White Lake, and Alison Roller-Woerner of Lake Orion cherish as well, even though they've been in the show for several years. After rehearsing six days a week for nearly a month, they still enjoy spending an off-stage moment with the five sheep,

three camels and donkey in the living Nativity scene at the end of the show. "It's interesting working with the animals," said Roller-Woerner, who's now in her fourth year with the Detroit production. "You never know what's going to happen."

#### RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

What: The Rockettes star in an holiday show featuring singing, dancing, ice skating, and a living nativity  
When: Nov. 29 to Dec. 28  
Where: The Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit  
Tickets: \$17.50-\$59.50 and available by calling (248) 433-1515. For information, call (313) 471-6611

"We come every year to kick off the holidays," said Loviska of Westland. "Next week we'll be back to see the show. It just gets you in the Christmas mood. Some people bring the whole family. It's a total family show. Last year I brought my 16- and 26-year-old sons."

#### BECOMING A DANCER

Jennifer Flandt loved the show so much when she saw it that she decided to become a Rockette. The Rochester Hills dancer passed the audition in May in Chicago and was notified in July. At the time she was teaching at Cranbrook Theatre School in Bloomfield Hills. Flandt studied dance many years at Deborah's Stage Door in Rochester before landing a position with the Rockettes.

"When I was younger, we took a trip to New York and toured Radio City Music Hall and met a Rockette," said Flandt, a sophomore majoring in dance and communications at Western Michigan University. "Being a Rockette was my first and main



Bryanna Stape feeds a carrot to one of the camels in the production.

goal. For me to do this at 19 is incredible. It's a dream come true. It's also a lot of hard work.

PLEASE SEE CHRISTMAS, B3



Father Pat Casey blesses the camels, sheep and donkey taking part in The Living Nativity scene that closes the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes.

## Surprise someone special with a gift of art for the holidays

The final onslaught of art shows is around the corner, just in time for holiday shopping. Even though my sister Gwen and I started ours last July, I still have a few last-minute gifts to pick up for co-workers and friends. I don't want to give anything away, but clay and glass are two of my favorite mediums.

Why art? I guess it's because I always look for a gift meant only for that special person. But besides the one-of-a-kind aspect, when you buy a bowl like I did last year for my neighbor Karen, who'd recently renovated her kitchen, you're helping an artist to continue his or her work. John Cynar feels the same way.

Of course, exhibiting and selling art is what he does at Paint Creek Center for the Arts in Rochester. This year's Holiday Gift Gallery features 25 artists at the arts center, 407 Pine, Rochester Hills. The show coincides with an 85-piece retrospective of the late Zubei Kachadoorian and a Small Works exhibition of prints, photography

and painting by five artists including The Box Show from the Museum of New Art. The show will continue to Dec. 21. For information, call (248) 651-4110.

"We have glasswork and ornaments by George Bochnig, glass bulbs with brass stands by Gail Leone, and glass icicles and bulbs by Don Schneider of York Street Glassworks, absolutely gorgeous leather zoo animals - whales, moose and dogs by Sandy Vohr of New York, and a variety of paperweights, vases, vessels, and tiles from Pewabic Pottery. So if they're looking for something by Pewabic in north Oakland they can find it

PLEASE SEE CHOMIN, B2



Artistic Expressions  
Linda Chomin



Ruth Price shows this leaf-shaped platter in the Village Potters Guild annual Holiday Show in Plymouth.

## Ballet Shoes or Wing Tips?

Makes no difference as long as you take time to put your feet up, get comfortable and spend some time with us.