

The Brass of Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings are sure to put the audience in a holiday spirit on Dec. 10. The ensemble is comprised of members of the Detroit Symphony and Michigan Opera Theatre orchestras.



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CONCERTS

FROM PAGE BI

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used to teach kindergarten and
started decorating in November.
I never tire of Christmas music.
There was always Christmas
music in our house growing upd
by sons play saw. When friends
and family came over we had
sing-alongs. On Christmas
morning we'd go from house to
house with two trumpets, flute
and two clarinets, and the familye we have visting would put
out food for us. We haven't
done that for 10 years because
my son lives in Colorado where
I've spent the last 10
Christmases, so I always look
forward to playing with the
band here. We want to do
something in the community to
give back, that's why we chose a
Birmingham church. It's a time
when everyone in the band
unites to play hollday music
and the music guarantees an
audience.'

LIYONIA CIVIC CHORUS

LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS

Songs like the humorous
Reindeer Twist and Grandma's
Killer Fruitcake are sure to
draw large audiences for the
Livonia Civic Chorus' annual
holiday concerts, "Wishing You
the Merriest" 7:30 p.m. FridaySaturday, Dec. 19-14, and 3
p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the
Livonia Civic Center Library
Auditoriam, 32777 Five Mile,
east of Farmington, Livonia. St.
Pete's jazz ensemble and this
year's musical scholarship winner Mary Beth Rosencrantz wili
join them in the merriment.
Tickets are \$10, \$8 seniors and
students, \$5 children younger
than 12, Call (734) 466-2410.

"I like the program because

than 12. Call (739) 466-2410.

"I like the program because of the variety," said Darryl Newman, who's singing with the chorus for a second Christmas. The band plays instrumentals. There are solos, men's and women's ensembles, and uet, small mixed ensemble for the Reindeer Twist. In the holidny spirit they wear antlers. The first half is informal and humorous but the second half is my favorite, more of the glo-

The first half is informal and humorous but the second half is my favorite, more of the glorious with full chorus singing Carol of the Bells, a Ukrainian Christmas earol, and O Holy Night, Jamaican Noel and two Hanukkah songs.

If you earl wait for the mid-December concerts to get into the spirit, the chorus sings 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at Livonia Mall, Seven Mile and Middlebelt, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at Greenmead Historical Village on Newburgh South of Eight Mile, Livonia. The concerts are free, but tours of the decorated Hill House in the Village are \$2, \$1 students. A candlelit tour provides an olid-fastioned way to celebrate the holidays. Tours begin at 6 p.m. (last tour begins at 6 p.m.) Thursday-Friday, Dec. 26-27. Members of the chorus will carol in the lanes and buildings. Advance tickets are \$5, \$2 student. Call (248) 477-7375 for reservations.

DETROIT CONCERT CHOIR

Alan Cooper hardly will miss singing in his native England this holiday season because the Waterford resident joins the Detroit Concert Choir for its Sweet Sounds of Christmas, featuring Buch's Chri \$12 for seniors and students. Call (313) 882-0118. "A lot of it is classical with a

"A lot of it is classical with a great flavor, not just popular tunes in different arrangements," said Cooper, whe works in Canton. "It's inspiring to take it to a new musical level like the promeade concerts in the UK. We take musical appreciation to a new level. We're a competition choir. I'm originally from Manchester, England, where there are holiday from the competition of the competit

NORTH OAKLAND CONCERT BAND

Mark Buchanan and the North Oakland Concert is under conductor Annette

Kline, like many of the groups, are asking the audience to Join in the fun. The North Oakland Concert Band (formerly the Lake Orion and Rochester concert bands) joins with Christ The Redeemer Adult The Redeemer Adult Contemporary Choir 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at Christ The Redeemer Church, 2700 Waldon Road, Lake Orion.

Waldon Road, Lake Orion.
Admission is free.
We're doing classics with recognizable Christmas tunes.
Russian Christmas funes.
Russian Christmas Music was written by Alfred Reed after an ancient carol and is a favorite of people in the band, said Buchanan, president of the North Oakland Concert Band and a Rochester Hills resident.
It's fun to play, powerful music. This is one of the band's favorite concerts. It kind of ideas of the holidays with singalong with carols, Hallelujiah Christmas, Sleigh Ride, and White Christmas.

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS

Ginny Lundquist is looking forward to giving holiday music a little different twist when the Farmington Community Chorus under Steven SeGraves performs Yule Cheer at 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Dec. 20-21, at Mercy High School Auditorium on the corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$10. Call (810) 632-4067.

4067.

"We're trying to get variety in the concert with everything from classical to traditional, gospel with a clapping, swaying rom classical to traditional, gospel with a clapping, swaying and swinging O Holy Night, a jazzy Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas to a Welsh lullaby, and a Gaudette from the Middle Ages, a traditional English song in Latin, plus I Hava e Little Dreidel, I Love Those Jingle Bells, Do You Hear What I Hear, 'said Lundquist of Orchard Lake. 'We have choreography and guest instrumentalists. We started rehearsing in early September. It sounds a little funny when it's hot outside, but gets you in the mood when it gets colder.

PlyMBDTR "We're trying to get variety in

PLYMOBTH COMMUNITY CHORUS

Eunice Thylor and the Plymouth Community Chorus weren't singing carols on a trip to Washington, D.C., this summer. They washington, D.C., this summer. They washingt du until September to start rehearsing. First Noel, Singing at Santa's Place and Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas for Sing Glorial, their 20th annual Gloriat, their 29th annual Christmas concerts at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, 41 Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile, Nortwille. Tickets are \$12. The chorus will have sev-eral of its holiday CDs available at the concerts. Proceeds go to a scholarship program for high school students. Call (734) 254-659.

9617.
"We went to Washington, We went to Washington, D.C., in June to sing at the National Cathedral, said Taylor. As part of the trip we visited all the monuments and sang even though it wasn't planned. We were in front of the White House where groups were protesting and passers-by applauded when we broke into the Star-Spangled Banner. We love to sing. With carols we never get enough. It sets the Christmas mood for folks."

TROY COMMUNITY CHORUS

Shirley Darge says people won't want to miss the Troy Community Chorus' Holiday Gift concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at Athens High School on the west side of John R, north of Wattles. Advance tickets are \$8, \$5 seniors ages 50 and older and children ages 12 and under, or \$10 at the door. Call (248) 879-0138.

"It's all about gifts - Gifts of Love, Gifts of the World, Little Drummer Boy, Twelve Days of Christmas, and the humorous Twelve Days After Christmas by an ensemble of nine women singing about fighting with their true love, and a mother who on the third day after Christmas caught the croup and had to use the three French hens to make some chicken soup, said Darge, president of the chorus under the direction of Mimi Gass. Darge is the only original member left in the Soviet group, now in its 25th year.

"It's going to be fun. I never

year.
"It's going to be fun. I never missed a concert. I love to sing."

A CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS

Rebekah Walker hasn't been singing as long as Darge but loves every minute just the same. At 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Del. 19, she'll share her passion with the audience at A Classical Christmas connert in the Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, 18200 Merriman, one-half mile north of Six Mile, Livonia, Tickets are 88 advance, \$10 at door. Call (734) 422-010, (249) 427-2122 or (248) 477-7720 for tickets.
Walker sings Franz Schubert's and Bach's Ave Maria, Ceast Franck's Panis Angelicus, Mozart's Ave Verum Copus, Beethoven's Sonata in E Idat Major along with Silent Night and O Holy Night. Some of the selections are on the first CD, Classical Favorites, she cut at age 17.

"I bicked ones most autoro-Rebekah Walker hasn't been

CD, Classical Favorites, she cut at age 17.

T picked ones most appropriate for Christmas, not all Christmas songs, but sacred used around this time of year, said the 19-year-old Walker. T love Christmas music. It makes it so special to hear songs you grew up with and you can look back and remember making christmas cookies when you were little.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CHORALE

CHORALE

No matter what style or era of holiday music you love there's a concert for you. On a classical note, the Madonna University Chorale sings Vivaldi's Magnificat, the Alfred Burt Carols and seasonal favorites at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at St. John Episcopal Church, 26998 Woodward, Royal Oak, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at St. Clement Church, 25220 Van Dyke, Centerline. Tickets are St. A portion of the proceeds will go to the chorale's spring concert tour in Washington D.C. For more information, call (734) 432-5708.

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS AND STRINGS

The Brass of Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings present a program of holiday music at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, at the Costic Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, Tickets are \$15 adults, \$12 senjor citizens, \$10 chil-dren. Call (248) 473-1857.

YOUTH CHOIRS

There's nothing like listening to the angelic voices of a children's choir during the holiday season. Luckily two groups present concerts, the Livonia Youth Choir at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Admission is free. A reception follows the concert. Call (734) 425-4749.

A holiday program features the young Rising Star Singers Saturday, Dec. 14, in the Little Theatre at Plymouth-Canton High School, Canton Center Road and Joy. Freewill donations ancepted. Call (734) 354-9825. There's nothing like listening

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR

As part of Noel Night, the As part of Noel Night, the chorus sings at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward, Detroit, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Admission is free, Call (248) 349-8175 or

THE MADRIGAL CHORALE OF SOUTHFIELD

Holiday music at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at Old St. Mary's Church at Monroe and St. Antoine in Detroit's Greektown. Tickets \$15 in advance or \$18 at door, Call (586) 465-5973.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

UMS Choral Union performs UMS Choral Union performs Handel's Messiah (Mozart edi-tion) at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at 911 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor; and at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, For information, call (734) 764– 2538.

Have an Interesting Idea for a story? Call Observer & Eccentric arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to Ichomin®