

John Seibert as Tony Whilcomb (left) and Matt Sawyer perform in Shear Madness at the Gem Theatre, Detroit.

Bowling to square dancing: Different ways to ring in '03

If you're tired of celebrating New Year's Eve at the neighbor-hood tavern or erowded ban-quet hall why not try some-thing different this year? There's still time to make plans and buy tickets for a vari-ety of non-traditional options:

The Gem and Century
Thetres and Century Club
restaurant, 333 Madison Ave.,
Detrois, are offering a variety of
theater/dinner packages. Shear
Madness and 8-Track. The
Sounds of the 70° avill be
showing. A sample package
includes theater, dinner, daneing, champagne toast and party
favors for \$100 per person. Call
(313) 963-9800 or visit
www.gemtheatre.com for times
and more info.

— Kids of all ages are welcome to Michigan's first indoor water park for a Splash Bash at the Best Western Sterling Inn Banquet & Conference Center, on the southwest corner of Van Dyke and 15 Mile in Sterling Heights: The family package includes accommodations and water park entry for four people, pizza, hot dogs, soft drinks, entertainment and favors. Cost is \$395.50. For more info call (666) 979-1400 or check the web at: www.sterlinginn.com.

Sit back and listen to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall, 3663 Woodward American songs. Champagne to attack described the described of the Merican songs. Champagne to asta, dessert buffet and dancing on the stage will follow the performance. Tickpie range from \$40 to 300, 1500 easts, which include hold discirures and open bar.

If you're tired of celebrating New Year's Eve at the neighborhood tavern or crowded banquet hall why not try something different this year?

are \$195. Call (313) 576-5111 or visit the web at: www.detroit-symphony.com.

- Ring in the New Year with family and friends at First Night Birmingham 2003. The celebration offers puppet and magic shows, contra-dancing lessons, mask making, face painting, live music and lots more. Tickets cost 85 or \$10 per person depending on the event. Before Dec. 31 buy tickets at TechnoMasters, 725 S. Adams, Birmingham. On Dec. 31 tickets will be available at the door of each performance venue. Cash or check only.

— The Holiday Inn Livonia, 17123 Laurel Park Drive will host a family fun night. The package includes children's entertain-ment, board games and Holidome fun until 1 a.m. Room rates run from 8169 to \$219 plus 14 percent tax. For information call (734) 464-1300.

— Swing your parner at a country western dance at the Italian Cultural Center, 2811 Imperial Drive south of 12 Mile and east of Hoover in Warren. Advance ticket sales only by calling (586) 731-8337, Cost is \$35 per person. Open bar, champagne toast, dinner and dancing will be provided.

Hockeytown fans will cheer for the home team at Joe Louis Arena when the Detroit Red Wings play the St. Louis

Blues at 7 p.m. Call (313) 396-7544 for ticket information.

7394 for facet information.

— If bowling is your game check out Oak Lanes, 8450 Middlebelt Rd. in Westland. Sign up for the no-tap doubles tournament from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. for 840 per couple. Door pizes, party favors and pizza included. Op, rent-a-lane for two hours anytime between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. The cost of 540 per lane includes a max of four bowlers per lane, party favors and one large pizza. Advance reservations are required for both events by calling (734) 422-7420. ing (734) 422-7420.

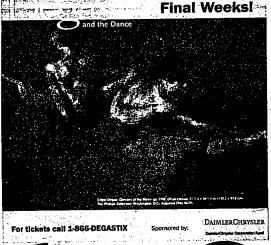
— Head for the slopes at Alpine Valley, 6775 East Highland in White Lake to ski from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. A torch light parade begins at 8 p.m. and a fireworks display will start at 9 p.m. Call (248) 887-4183 or visit www.skialpineval-ley.com.

— Travel south of the Michigan border to the Walleye Capital of the World in Port Clinton, Ohio. At the stroke of midnight, Wylic, a 600-pound fiberglass fish will be slowly dropped from atop a pole. Food, music and dancing begin at 8 nm. Check www.walleyemadp.m. Check www.walleyemad-ness.com or call (800) 441-1271.

Mary Quinley is a Livonia resident and writes about food and travel for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. You can reach her at MOInfo@aol.com.

Master the Art of Having a Good Time!

Art, food, shopping and more every Friday night from 6 to 9 p.m. Activities are FREE with museum MOTORCITY JAZZ FRIDAY Fridays Hotline: 313-833-7530 **WEMU** Promotional support for Friday Nights at the DIA provided by: <u>metrotimes</u> NEXT WEEK Celebrate the holidays at the DIA **FAMILY FRIDAY** Friday, December 27 The Peter Sparting Dance ompany treats you to dance inspired by the current





The Detroit Institute of Arts 5200 Woodward Aven 313-833-7900 For membership



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Friday Nights at the DIA

