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Arts & Entertainment

B1 (F)
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www.hometownto.com

In tickets

Yanni book signing
The Foundation for Modern Greek Studies welcomes Yanni to the Royal House, 5201 E. 13 Mile Road at Van Dyke in Warren, 8:30 p.m.



Saturday, March 29: He will be signing copies of his new book in Words. There is no charge, the public is welcome. (248) 595-9567

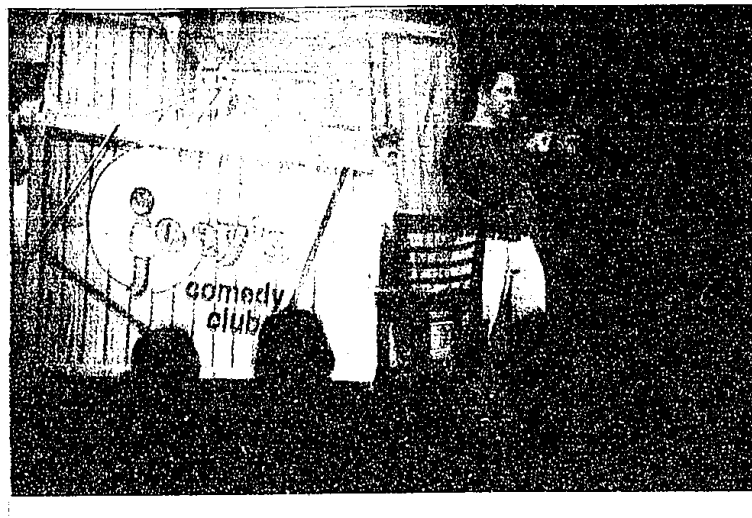
Comedy Works
Kirk Hanley of Farmington Hills, Quenton Hicks of Clarkston and other local comedians will be working hard to make you laugh. 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 28 to June 14 at Detroit's Century Theatre. Comedy Works features the Guild, a group of some of metro Detroit's improvisers. The Guild uses audience suggestions to play improvised games and create original sketches that current, witty and hilarious. Comedy Works is a game-style format and switch (and form) improv act on the stage. Tickets are \$12.50 available at the box office and a Ticketmaster location. To charge by phone call (313) 962-9230. The Century and Gem Theatre are at 333 Madison West, then online at www.gemtheatre.com

Kidz Klez Band
2 Cantors and the Kidz Klez Band, March 30 is high-energy Jewish music performed by Cantor Earl Berris, Cantor Stephen Dubov, and the Kidz Klez Band of Michigan with accompaniment by Mark Mandelbaum, at Congregation B'nai Mose, 6800 Drake Road, West Bloomfield. No charge or tickets needed open to the community. For directions and more information, call (248) 788-0600 or e-mail cbmindo@bnaimose.org

Templing
George Popovich directs Henry Ford Community College's Virtual Reality 3D stereoscopic production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, April 2-5, at the Alday Auditorium on campus, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. Tickets \$15, call (313) 845-6478 or http://theaterhfc.com/44/index2.html

Art, autos
The entry deadline is Monday, March 31, for *Art, Autos & Architecture*, a summer event and juried art show Saturday-Sunday, July 26-27, with optional Friday evening gala, at the Scripps Mansion in Lake Orion. Booth fee is \$25 with a \$15 jury fee. Acceptances will be sent in April. Go to www.guesthouse.org for a printable application or call the Lake Orion Art Center (248) 693-4956 for more information

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Jeff Dwoskin's lively delivery keeps the audience at Joey's Comedy Club in stitches.

Stand up

Fledgling comics take the plunge at local clubs

BY LINDA ANCHONIN
STAFF WRITER

So your mother thinks you're funny. Friends and co-workers laugh at your jokes. But do you have what it takes to make it as a stand-up comic? Tim Allen did, although he was mighty nervous during his first open microphone night performance at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in 1979.

Open mic nights allow up-and-coming and established comedians to try out material. For the audience it's a cheap night out, costing anywhere from \$3 to \$5 plus drinks.

For Jeff Dwoskin, open mics offer the opportunity to see if his jokes are as funny as his mother thinks they are. The West Bloomfield comic was pacing the floor in anticipation of his turn at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia.

Dwoskin's been trying to break into the business for about a year. He decided to go for his dream after being laid off from a dot-com company. Dwoskin took a six-week class at Mark Ridley's and thought he was on his way.

"I'm trying to get out and get paying dates," Dwoskin said. "The money in the early stages is not there before the jump to headline. My wife's extremely supportive. My wife, brother and co-worker encouraged me. The hard part is when you're funny with your friends, it's not necessarily translated on stage. The classes taught me how to structure a joke, how to lay it out. I try three to five times a week to get on stage at the open mic here, at Mark Ridley's, and Yuk-Yuks in Windsor. One of my favorite jokes I did 10 times on stage before I got it the way I wanted it."



Bill Bushart's irreverent routine hails back to his days at Our Lady of Loretto.

Twenty minutes before show time, Dwoskin is wandering around looking for a glass of water — and pacing faster.

"I'm never nervous on stage, but before I usually have to go to the bathroom 20 times. Comedy's good for the colon," jokes Dwoskin. "But when I step on stage, all the nervousness is gone."

PLEASE SEE COMEDIANS, B5

OPEN MIC

■ **Joey's Comedy Club**, above Kicker's All-American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road east of Levan, Livonia. Open mic 8:30 p.m. every Tuesday (\$3). Call (734) 261-0555 or www.joeyscmedyclub.com

■ **Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle**, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak. Open mic 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$2). Improv troupe 8 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5). Call (248) 542-9900 or www.comedycastle.com

■ **Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase**, 314 E. Liberty, between Division and Fifth, Ann Arbor. Open mic and improv 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$5). Call (734) 996-9080 or www.aacomedy.com/



Artistic Expressions

Cranbrook has role in design of new center

Sometimes we treasure at least what's in our own back yard. That's true of the World Trade Center — and Cranbrook Academy of Art. Until terrorists destroyed the twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001, no one thought much about the architecture — a symbol of this country's economic strength.

Likewise, academy director Gerhardt Knodel says not many realize the impact Cranbrook has made on building design. Six architects, who have ties to the Bloomfield Hills school, submitted proposals for the new World Trade Center at the invitation of Max Protetch.

The New York gallery owner was at the forefront of an effort to determine the type of structure built on the site. Debates over whether it should strictly be a memorial soon fell by the wayside as the country began to realize the significance of the towers.

Protetch contacted 120 architects from around the world to submit ideas. Sixty of them ended up exhibiting designs at the gallery where he's shown architectural drawings for 25 years.

In February of this year, New York officials chose former Cranbrook Academy architect-in-residence Daniel Libeskind for the almost overwhelming task of building a complex that reflects the future of lower Manhattan.

Protetch will talk about the original design Libeskind exhibited at his gallery and the book that followed — *A*

PLEASE SEE CRANBROOK, B2



Max Protetch will give a lecture on designs created for the new World Trade Center.

Event celebrates Redford Theatre's 75th anniversary

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

George McCann, 76, stands inside the historic Redford Theatre lobby and gazes at a black-and-white photograph of the space in the 1920s.

He draws his hands out of his pant pockets, which are jingling with coins, points to the center of the photograph and traces the brass railings with a finger.

Now gone, the railings created rows in the lobby where patrons lined up to enter the theater. On weekends, the lines filled the lobby and trickled outdoors.

"That's what we called a hold-out," explains McCann of Warren.

"Back then, movies were continuous. There were no intermissions."

Ushers were charged with monitoring dark auditoriums for empty seats and escorting patrons into the show when others left.



Recent restoration has returned the theater's auditorium to its original splendor. To take a peek, attend the Redford Theatre's 75th anniversary celebration on Saturday, April 5.

75 YEARS OF SHOWS

What: The historic Redford Theatre marks its 75th anniversary with an extravaganza featuring Michigan Opera Theatre singers performing music from over the years, the Redford Harmony Club barbershop quartet, the Rose City Rising Stars children's chorus, music on the theater's historic organ, silent film, lobby displays and afterglow.

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 5

Where: Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, Detroit

Tickets: \$10, \$12 and \$15, call box office at (313) 537-2560 or visit any area Meijer store.

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.