

## 12 THINGS TO DO UNTIL SPRING COMES

The cost of living may be soaring, but the cost of enjoying yourself can be minimal.

Some of the nicest things come without any price tag at all; following is a list of beat the blah activities that needn't cost you anything at all.

- Make weekly tours with your family or Sunday school class to different places of worship including the various religious denominations -- Protestant, Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Jewish -- for an exercise in religious understanding and brotherhood.

- These long winter nights are good times for reading. Think of a subject you've always wanted to know more about -- the life and history of the gypsies, for example, or how to get your garden to grow this spring -- and then visit your local library.

- Using old magazine pictures and greeting cards make a scrapbook for the Plymouth State Home's retarded children, many of whom cannot read but will appreciate the bright pictures.

- Learn by heart the favorite poem or speech of someone who's very special to you so that you can recite it for him whenever he wishes.

- Make and frame a mosaic design

from those dried, packaged soup vegetables that you have in the kitchen cupboard.

- Make someone smile by making him a "smile box." Brightly decorate with paint or wallpaper the outside of a small, lidded box and glue a pocket mirror to the inside. The smile will be provided by whomever opens the box. (Lesson: "Everyone must create his own happiness").

- Have a basement sale. Don't wait until spring to have it in the garage; do it right now and get an early start on your spring housecleaning.

- Find yourself a pen pal in a foreign land by contacting Lucy Ekvaal at the International Institute at 111 E. Kirby in Detroit.

- Don't wait any longer to stick all those old photographs in your album!

- Remember that old school teacher you were so fond of? Track her down, give her a call and tell her just how often you think of her.

- Put up a homemade bird feeder in your back yard (a good way to enjoy the surprising variety of birds in Observerland).

- Throw a "Secret Desire" party -- you'll be amazed at who comes dressed as what!

## NIGHT SCENE . . .

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- **The Flame**, 38170 Grand River, 1 blk. W. of I-96, 477-1555. Every Monday 3-9 p.m. All the fish you can eat. Also featuring steak & eggs. Breakfast served anytime 24 hours 7 days a week.

- **Sundog**, Michigan & Telegraph, CR 8-3000. Seafood at its best. Cocktails, nightly entertainment.

- **Herb's Beef Buffet**, 28975 Grand River, just E. of Middlebelt, 477-5845. Family dining featuring the finest of roast beef dinners.

- **Blakeney's Ranch House**, 28333 Grand River, between 8 Mile & Middlebelt, 477-8545. Outstanding family dining. Banquet facilities available.

- **Skyjark Restaurant**, 29087 Plymouth Rd. (E. of Middlebelt), 425-0730. Finally a family restaurant in Livonia! Featuring home cooked meals. Open 24 hours. Closed Sunday at 10 p.m.

- **Mama Mia**, Livonia, 27770 Plymouth near Inkster, 427-1000. Restaurant & Pizzeria. Cocktails served on Sundays.

- **Hope's Fish & Chips**, 28370 Joy Rd., between Middlebelt & Inkster, 427-2130 or 427-2304. Fresh Nova Scotia filets, filleted in our kitchen. Delicious Shrimp, Frog Legs & Scallop dinners.

- **Idyl Wyld Public Golf Course & 'Saloon'**, 25780 Five Mile, Livonia, 421-0990. Family Buffets, "All you can eat" 5-9 p.m. Nightly dancing with Nick Lawrence & his Orchette. Every Mon. & Tues. Fun & Games Nights - chess - bridge - backgammon - starts 7 p.m. No admission charge; bring your own equipment. Serving food nightly 'til 1:30 a.m.

- **Hillside Inn**, 41661 Plymouth Rd., Plymouth, 453-4300. Fine Dining in an Early American atmosphere. A nostalgic reminder of Colonial Innkeeping.

### THE RACE TRACK

**NORTHVILLE DOWNS**, W. 7 Mile Rd. and Sheldon. Harness Racing 8 p.m. every night except Sunday. \$2.50 for clubhouse use reservations, enabling you to dine and watch at the same time. \$1.50 for general admission.

**DETROIT RACE TRACK**, Schoolcraft and Middlebelt. Closed until March 13 when harness racing begins.

More than...

## JUST SHOPPING In Observerland Shopping Centers

The days of the old Chautauqua show, which traveled about the country presenting programs of cultural and recreational interest, are now long gone.

But in many ways the modern shopping center has stepped in to offer some of the same kaleidoscope of activities as those old time, traveling entertainments.

Shopping, of course, is still the main activity at shopping centers, but most of them, particularly Livonia Mall, Northland, Westland and Wonderland, try to offer a series of constantly changing shows, demonstrations and exhibits for the pleasure of their customers.

**LIVONIA MALL'S** public relations director, Mrs. Eileen Boze, for example, was busy even before the new year arranging for a space ship ride to appear on April 25-28 as an attraction for children.

Part of her job is to inspect such rides for safety and effectiveness, so Mrs. Boze herself became a passenger on a moon rocket, fastening her seat belt and "blasting off" into outer space.

Livonia Mall, Seven Mile at Middlebelt, has an ambitious project, the garden show, scheduled for March 20 - April 8. Here, landscapers bring in actual gardens averaging about 22 inches in size, a feat which, Mrs. Boze admits, is mechanically mind-boggling for the mall's staff but highly worthwhile in terms of public response.

Once set up, the miniature gardens

offer a wealth of ideas for suburban gardeners wondering just how to spruce up their patios and flower beds for spring.

What might you expect besides merchandise from your next trip to your nearest shopping center? Probably a little bit of anything and everything.

Music lovers can hear the 75 man award winning Motor City Chorus at the Livonia Mall during the evenings of Jan. 25 and 26.

**THE BETTY Baldwin Art Show**, a wide collection of crafts and paintings by local artists, will be appearing at Westland Center, Warren and Wayne Roads, on Jan. 21 - Feb. 4.

Take the kids to enjoy the animal exhibit at Wonderland Center, Plymouth at Middlebelt, Livonia, now featuring a collection of brightly colored ducks including the exotic Mandarin and Australian varieties as well as a group of golden, ringneck and amherst pheasants. Toward Easter, look for a big collection of farm animals that will enjoy being petted by small hands.

Young theater goers can take advantage of the **Magic Carpet Programs** offered at both Northland and Westland Centers which specially chartered buses take children on a round-trip from the shopping center to the Detroit Art Institute's Youth theatre for a live Saturday afternoon performance, with refreshments and a chance to meet the actors after the play.

Tickets for this program -- \$2.

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Make check payable to OLYMPIA STADIUM, 5920 Grand River Detroit, Mich. 48208. Enclose self addressed stamped envelope. Allow one week for mail orders. Tickets may be purchased at Olympia Box Office 24 hours prior to performance. Tickets on availability basis with no refunds or exchanges.

OLYMPIA STADIUM

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