

Big Bird, Bert, Ernie, Cookie Monster and the rest of the Muppet gang are in the cast of Sesame Street Live's "Save Our Street," coming Wednesday, Jan. 28, to Cobo Arena in Detroit. The musical event show runs through Sunday, Feb. 8. For ticket information, call 567-7500.

upcoming  
things to do

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**Amazing One-Man Band** is appearing Wednesdays-Saturdays through January at the Midtown Cafe in Birmingham. Glasier sings and performs with an electric digital piano, organ, synthesizers, Oberheim drum machine, harmonica and bass pedals. Selection of songs include Neil Diamond, Elton John, Ray Charles, Billy Joel, Beatles, Jerry Lee Lewis, Fats Domino, Little Richard and Moody Blues.

**ACTORS ALLIANCE** The Performance Dynamics training series has been expanded at the Actors Alliance Conservatory Theatre in Southfield. Beginning Saturday, Jan. 17, training on three skill levels will be offered, in the Exploratory Series, the Preparatory Series and the Conservatory Series. For more information and a free brochure, call 642-1326.

**JAZZ CONCERT** The George "Sax" Benson Quartet will give a free jazz concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, at Sam's Jams Discount Records in Ferndale. Benson, a saxophonist who has been performing since the age of 17, has appeared at the Detroit Montreux Jazz Festivals with his group. It is with this group and the Austin-More Band that he presently spends most of his performing time. Benson's new LP is "Swings and Swings and Swings," with three Canadian jazz musicians.

**SESAME STREET** "Save Our Street" will be presented by Sesame Street Live from Wednesday, Jan. 28, to Sunday, Feb. 8, at Cobo Arena in Detroit. The musical stage show starring Big Bird, Ernie, Cookie Monster and the rest of the Muppet gang features audience participation. There's a singalong with Grover, the Count and Prairie Dawn. Tickets at \$8.50 and \$6.50 are on sale at the Joe Louis Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. The Cobo Arena Box Office is only open one and 1/4 hours prior to showtime. To purchase tickets by phone, call 567-7500. For general information, call 567-6600.

**WINTER P'JAZZ** The Top of the Pontich has reopened at Detroit's Hotel Pontchartrain, with "Winter P'Jazz at the T.O.P." featuring Detroit vocalist Orthea Barnes beginning Thursday, Jan. 15, and continuing through April. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays. Appetizer and finger foods are available during each performance from 8 p.m. to midnight. Cover charge is \$4 Fridays-Saturdays, while a two-drink minimum is in effect Thursdays.

**IN CONCERT** Alice Cooper will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at Joe Louis Arena. The concert is priced at \$16. For tickets, call 567-6000.

**MUSICAL 'COMPANY'** Ridgedale Players will present Stephen Sondheim and George Furth's musical "Company" at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 16-17, 23-24 and 30-31; 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18 and Feb. 1, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at the playhouse in Troy. Tickets are \$7 general admission. For ticket information, call Donna Backus at 644-8328.



Albert Glasier, "the Amazing One-Man Band," appears Wednesdays-Saturdays through Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Midtown Cafe in Birmingham.

Getting lost adds excitement to winery touring

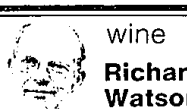
Low threatening clouds, a chill wind, sloppy driving. It is the season to think of visiting sunny California and its wineries.

But which one? With some \$500 to chase among, it is difficult to decide. I suggest that the best way is to select vastly different ones, to see the broad range of their characteristics.

Careful investigation and analysis, based on the new 12 sorting technique so fashionable among statisticians, shows surprisingly that, at least among the newer wineries in the state, there are but three basic types. Visit these and you will have a clear perspective on the newer entries in the winery sweepstakes of California.

**DIRECTIONS** for visiting are purposely vague. Getting lost is half the fun of the adventure. Be assured, however, that if you can find one of these you will find the other two. Here is a bit about each of the types that the sorting technique identifies as prototype of their kind.

The LeBaron Vineyards, just outside Lido, is the product of its found-



wine  
Richard  
Watson

er's ego. He has amassed large sums in private enterprise and has used the making of wine as an expression of a more refined lifestyle. Some of the finest laser technology is used to crush and refine his wines. But marketing is the chief strength of this operation. Its slogan is famous: "If you can find a better wine, buy it." And many do.

**LE BARON PRODUCES** but a single wine under its own label. It is a blend of imported Piedmont grapes and locally grown Gamay. It is a hearty wine, robust and full of self-confidence. Most attractive are the selling strategies employed: offering rebates on slower-selling items as well as putting much of its

wine in oversized bottles (Imperials). The winery staff is unionized and protected under a special pension plan, one designed to achieve maximum employee benefits at minimum cost through the clever use of tax-deferred annuities. The program has made them especially loyal to their leader.

Representing the second type of winery is Clos de Boutique, along the San Andreas fault near beautiful Hollister on 17.6 acres of treeless

hills. It was begun by owners Bruno and Sadie Klitz following their move from Columbus, Ohio. There they were successful operators of a private sanitation firm that served the campus area (badly needed, according to them) but decided in middle age to bring some beauty into their lives that could not be found in Columbus.

"We wanted to live in clean air and scenery, and Hollister was the best place we could afford," said Sadie recently, adroitly flicking dead fruit flies from the top of the tasting barrel with her thumb.

"OUR CHARDONNAY is our best wine. It goes over well with all our old friends back in Ohio." Perhaps it is the touch of vanilla extract used that seems to give it a style all its own. "Great at the stadium during a

sleeting rain storm."

The third type of winery is Peaceable Kingdom, located high in the Maycasas Mountains on the Napa-Sonoma border. It produces only "pure" wines, uses no chemical additives in both vineyard and winery and engages in no filtering or fining of its products.

Isolated as the winery is (by choice), there is no electricity, so all aspects of production are hand (and foot) operations. Hand cutting of corks is the most remarkable of all. While cleanliness is not apparent throughout the winemaking operation, the owners believe this is compensated for by the ritual employed over each case as it is packed. The dirt floors of the winery and home there add a rustic touch to Peaceable Kingdom's appearance.

THE OWNERS have effectively

disdained involvement in the highly competitive wine world. They are content to stay atop their mountain, letting occasional visitors find them to purchase their wares. (The tasting room is run by a Miss Carriage and is only open when she feels right about the whole thing but can usually be viewed on alternate Thursday and Friday mornings, April 1 and the week before Christmas.)

Further, Peaceable Kingdom has eschewed all winery competitions as inconsistent with its spiritual beliefs. Perhaps this decision was helped by an event in 1983 when, at the San Luis Obispo State Fair, no categories for any of its wines could be found and it was asked to withdraw. Now it really has.

If you go, good touring and tasting to you. You can learn a lot by finding these wineries.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

On the Town

Thinking of Selling Your Jewelry? SEE ROBERT GALE Fine Jewelry in Birmingham 725 S. Hunter Blvd. 644-6650 Closed Mon.

SUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET Sweet Excess. Detroit's favorite Sunday brunch is a kaleidoscope of breakfast, lunch, breakfast favorites, served with white linen and silver in the elegance of the Kingsley dining rooms. From 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. Kingsley Inn Woodward at Long Lake Road • Bloomfield Hills • 642-0100

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Ginopolis On the Grill ALL NEW MENU & New OPEN PIT CHAR GRILL COOKING! Fresh Seafood (12 catches daily) Lunch & Dinner Served Daily Extraordinary Sunday Brunch (11am-2pm) FAMILIES WELCOME 27815 Middlebelt at 12 Mile Farmington Hills 851-8222

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Pancache A DINING EXPERIENCE... Our new chef, Chris Tobias, invites you to experience his newest creations. With the purchase of any entree, enjoy your choice of... Petite Portion Crab Legs only \$3.95 additional or Prime Rib offer good Sunday through Thursday until Feb. 28, 1987 We feature a continental style menu, including specials created daily...Your dining experience begins with homemade bread & ends with our gourmet dessert cart. 555 S. Woodward 28th S. of Birmingham Theatre 642-9400

Distinctive Dining Indulge yourself with an exceptional dining experience at the Benchmark. The elegant decor serves as a dramatic backdrop for superb continental cuisine, fine wines, soft music, tempting desserts and impeccable service. Cocktail and dinner service available Monday through Saturday, beginning at 6 p.m. Call 559-6500 for reservations. the Benchmark 16400 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield, Michigan 313/559-6500