

ON THE  
MARQUEE

La Casa

Greg Trooper will perform at the La Casa Music Series 8:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20, at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 651 N. Woodward at Lone Pine, Birmingham. Tickets \$10 per person in advance, \$12 at the door. For advance tickets or information, call 646-4950.

Musical auditions

The Jewish Community Center with Nancy Gurwin Productions announces open auditions for the upcoming Lionel Bart musical hit "Oliver" to open 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16. Auditions for children ages 6 to 17, 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22, adults, 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 23 in Room 150 of the Jewish Community Center, 6500 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. For information, audition appointment, call 354-0545, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bloomfield Players

Bloomfield Players, a community theater group sponsored by the Recreation-Community Services Division of the Bloomfield Hills Schools, is holding auditions for "Annie Get Your Gun." Auditions for singers and dancers will be 6-8 p.m. for children and 8-10 p.m. for teens and adults Thursday, Aug. 26, and Monday, Aug. 30, in the theater at Lahser High School, 3456 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills. Callback auditions will be 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31. For information, call 433-0885.

Brass band

The Knappesche — und Trachtenkapelle Brass Band from Peiting, Germany, sponsored by the Livonia Rotary Club and Livonia Parks and Recreation Department, will perform 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26 at Civic Center Park, Five Mile at Farmington Road in Livonia. The band is composed of 35 musicians accompanied by 10 dancers. They will perform traditional Bavarian folk music, complete with costume, and dances native to the region.

Family outing

The Baldwin Public Library, 300 West Merrill, Birmingham, is offering a dinner theater program — "Ocean of Books," 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26 in the Rotary Room. Bring a picnic supper and blanket if you wish. The library will supply punch. Children's entertainer Maureen Schiffman will present an hour of puppets, songs and movement. Call 647-1700 to register for the program.

Madrigal Choral

Madrigal Choral of Southfield is holding auditions for men only, 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31, at Southfield Lathrup High School. Call Patricia Duensing, 253-0072 to schedule an audition time.

Youth philharmonic

The Livonia Youth Philharmonic will hold auditions 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31, and Wednesday, Sept. 1, at Faith Lutheran Church, 3000 Five Mile Road, Livonia, for its upcoming concert season. Rehearsals are Saturdays from September to May at Churchill High School in Livonia. For more information, or to schedule an audition appointment, call 281-5764.

LSO benefit offers taste of Livonia

Food, fun and music await at "Sunday, Sports and Symphony" a benefit for the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at Laurel Park Place.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
SPECIAL WRITER

The gala benefit that's become the social event of the season in Livonia, "Sunday, Sports and Symphony" promises an evening to delight the senses 6-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29.

Hosted by Laurel Park Place at Six Mile and Newburgh, the fifth annual festival-like fund-raiser on behalf of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, takes place in the mall.

Hear dynamic music from "Phantom of the Opera" and "Cats," taste tempting treats from 25 Livonia restaurants, smell the heavenly scent of fresh pastries, see items up for bidding in the silent auction, and meet basketball celebrity, Vinnie Johnson, formerly with the Detroit Pistons.

Tickets are \$25 per person in advance or \$30 at the door, and available by calling the Livonia Symphony Orchestra office, 421-1111.

"This is the social event of the year for the city of Livonia. It's a fun, fun evening with 25 restaurants, the silent auction and appearances by the Livonia Symphony," said Livonia Symphony Society president, Ken Kelsey of Farmington Hills.

Co-chairing the event this year are Lee Alanakas and David O'Neill.

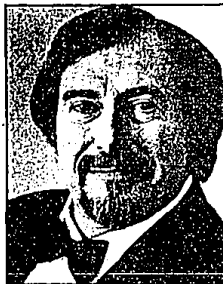
"This is one of our major fund-raisers. The symphony needs it in support of the community," Alanakas said.

"Almost all of the communities where they have a larger cultural base, a symphony orchestra enhances the worth of the community. It gives area residents an opportunity to enjoy the cultural arts."

Center Court performances by the Livonia Symphony Orchestra under



Featured soloist: Nancy DeLewsky Villeneuve, soprano, will sing "Times of Your Life" and other popular songs at a benefit for the LSO.



Guest artist: Metro Detroit's favorite singing plumber, "Fat Bob" Taylor, will perform at a benefit for the Livonia Symphony Orchestra on Aug. 29.

PREVIEW

conductor Francesco DiBlasi will run 6-7 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. Featured guest artists include Nancy DeLewsky Villeneuve, soprano singing "Times of Your Life" and "The Way We Were." "Fat Bob" Taylor also known as the singing plumber and pianist, Howard Watkins playing Gershwin's classic "Rhapsody in Blue."

"Sunday, Sports and Symphony has been so popular and successful and the symphony, they're sure the focal point of the evening," said Michael Buescher, marketing director for Laurel Park Place, a Schostak Brothers venture.

"It's very important to support the symphony as a cultural entity in our community and the fund raising part is very vital to that," he said.

In honor of the Livonia Symphony's 20th season, Mastercraft Jewelers has designed a one-of-a-kind

brooch in the shape of a musical staff with notes and a G Clef. A diamond, ruby, emerald and sapphire adorn the piece created by Jack Demirian. This is one of many items being offered in the silent auction.

Topping the list of auction items is a resort vacation courtesy of Northwest Airlines and Livonia Marriott Hotel and Convention Center.

Other valuable prizes include an autographed Detroit Pistons basketball; autographed photos from Scott Livingstone and Mike Henneman of the Detroit Tigers, and Ted Lindsay and Eddie Mio of the Detroit Red Wings; gift certificates from Eleganza Boutique, I Natural Cosmetics, Dara Michelle, Rivalry, Land and Seas, Sherman Shoes, Chantelle Menewar, Winkelman's, Jos. A. Bank Clothiers, Russell's Tuxedos, Charisma Salons, Apple Wreath, Genitti's and Italian Cucina restaurants, Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Quality Inn, Hotel Baronette, Hampton Inn, Livonia

Schwinn, and free graphic design work from Graphics Plus and printing from Kapechuk and Associates.

"If any business or organization is interested in donating an item or service to the silent auction we'd really appreciate it," said Buescher. Contact him at 462-1100.

Last year's event raised more than \$10,000 for the symphony. Two sources of revenue produced that sum — monies from auction items and the close to 500 tickets that were sold.

"We have new music, new restaurants. Besides being the major fundraiser of the year it's our opportunity to get all our patrons out in a social setting to mingle with the board and musicians. It's a great value for the money they spend. One of the best values around in fund-raising," Kelsey said.

Every city needs some type of cultural event like the symphony concerts to make the city fulfilled. To the city it's important to have an orchestra to bring so many benefits to the community. Young people have the opportunity to come and hear and be exposed to good symphonic music at our children's concerts."

This year's benefit is cosponsored by Laurel Park Place, Northwest Airlines, Livonia Marriott, Schostak Brothers & Company and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Participating restaurants and bakeries include Max & Erma's, The Novi Hilton, Y Not Yogurt, The Coffee Beanery, D. Dennison's, Olga's Kitchen, The Cookie Factory, Livonia Italian Bakery & Cafe, Embassy Suites, Leo's Coney Island, Little Caesar's, Bobby's Country House, Subway, Genitti's, Marriott Hotel Garden Court Restaurant, St. Aidan's Banquet Facility, Sweet Dreams, and The Heritage Bakery.

The Livonia Symphony kicks off its 20th season 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 with a concert featuring piano soloist, Tony Bonomoli in Schubert's "Piano Concerto in A minor" at Churchill High School Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh.

Fonte D'Amore reflects family's proud tradition

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER



Like his father John before him, Luciano Del Signore of Fonte D'Amore, is committed to serving delicious Italian cuisine that reflects the family's pride in their heritage.

A graduate of the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts program in Livonia, Luciano Del Signore and his wife Monica have introduced some changes at the popular Italian restaurant in Livonia which opened in 1972.

See FONTE D'AMORE, 7B

Fonte D'Amore  
32030 Plymouth Road  
Livonia, 422-0770  
Hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturdays, 4-11 p.m., closed Sundays.  
Menu: Authentic Italian cuisine.  
Cost: Dinners range from \$6.50 for Polenta to \$14.95 for Grilled Veal Chop. Pasta available in half order.  
Lunch menu includes sandwiches.  
Credit cards: American Express, Visa, Diner's and Discover.



Italian chef: Luciano Del Signore of Fonte D'Amore in Livonia offers customers a Taste of Italy with authentic dishes in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere.



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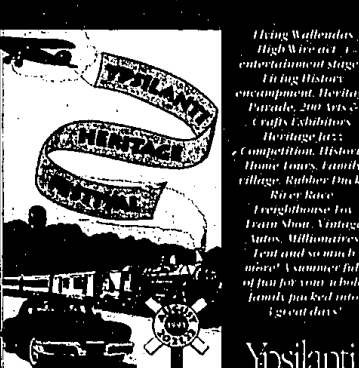
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261-3550

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