

# An older person can be helpful



BARBARA SCHIFF

Dear Barbara, You asked for comments. Here's one from an 80-year-old. Most of these people cause their own problems. A 40-year-old neighbor told me her mother told her before she died if you have problems, ask an older person. Wisdom comes with age, so I have helped her many times to stay calm and think.

We all have troubles with our country because a bunch of baby-boomers are running it. They are brilliant but impulsive. They don't weigh the gains and the losses; they want immediate action. And that's my comment.

Dear 80s Boomer, Thank you for your comment. I printed it to allow the readers to enjoy your wisdom. Barbara

Voice mail message: Barbara, Responding to your column of Sept. 13, The issue is the transference this woman is experiencing toward the therapist, and that's what is going to

make the therapist relationship work. Obviously, if she has that kind of transference, it is a good therapist relationship. This is something that has to be dealt with in a clinical way. It is not just a question of working through a relationship with honesty. The client has to take a look at who the therapist is replacing in her life, who she wants the therapist to be. It could be the client's husband, mother or father or whatever.

You deal with it in a very general kind of manner, but it's not that kind of question. It is a very therapeutic issue, not a relationship issue per se. Hope you will take that into consideration.

Dear Caller: Please note that I take your message into consideration and add it to the other possibilities mentioned in the previous columns. Barbara

If you have a question or a comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36281 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. You can also leave a message by calling 953-2047, mail box 1877, on a touch-tone phone.

## Comedy from page 5B

"I'm getting more and more gay fans," Ford said. "It's wild. I think it's because I tell them about women in a way they can understand. I'm definitely not sending mixed messages. After all, I love men. I'm still sleeping with them."

Twice divorced, Ford has been married for two years to husband number three and splits time between homes in Lake Tahoe, Nev., where her husband works, and Santa Monica, Calif. She feels the third time is definitely the charm.

Ironically, it was prompting from her first husband that led Ford in the direction of comedy, first as a writer and later as a performer. Her second husband, a musician, was apparently just a source of comedy material.

"I was just doing my part to decrease the homeless population," Ford said when asked about her second foray into wedded bliss.

Diane Ford will appear Nov. 18-20 at Mark Ridley's Comedy Cafe, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak. Call 642-9900 for reservations.

BY JOHN MONAGHAN  
SPECIAL WRITER

They despise the growing number of Vietnamese immigrants that arrive in their Melbourne, Australia, neighborhood. They keep a map on the wall of the newcomers' infiltration. Whenever they get one alone in a dark alley, they savagely beat him or her as a message to the others.

The world of neo-Nazi skinheads isn't pretty and "Romper Stomper," premiering at the Magic Bag Theatre in Ferndale this weekend, doesn't blink or flinch. Deemed racist propaganda by some and an objective chronicle of violent times by others, the movie actually uses fairly tried-and-true movie conventions to portray a sickly fascinating subculture.

Looking beyond their political agenda, these skinheads are little more than '90s versions of rebel heroes like Brando and Dean. All are alienated and uneducated,

though a few register a spark of intelligence.

One at least, Davey (Daniel Pollock), has second thoughts about his chosen lifestyle when he meets Gabe (Jacqueline McKenzie), a screwed-up girl from the suburbs. This doesn't sit well with Hando (Russell Crowe), the unofficial leader of the pack and the most ravenous when it comes to loving the party lifestyle.

Crowe, who won the Australian Film Institute Award for best actor last year, carries much of the movie's intensity beneath his cold blue eyes. He forms the third edge of a classic love triangle that is one of the least effective parts of the movie, which broke box office records overseas last year.

Visually, "Romper Stomper" runs the gamut from quick-cut scenes of gang violence to lengthy, often ponderous conversations between the skinheads. The low-

budget quality of the film drags you deeper into a world you may have just as soon left alone.

Writer/director Geoffrey Wright, a former Australian movie critic, finds his characters "dramatically worthy" and isn't ashamed about bringing their stories to the screen.

"My characters are evil," he says, "but they are not glamorized and they are not quaint... These are characters who are desperate, who want something and who have a very clear — if demented — point of view. Anybody who wants something that badly, and who has so much strength of will, becomes magnetic."

The Vietnamese aren't the only ones to suffer the skinheads' wrath. After barely escaping from the fury of fed-up immigrants, they head out to the suburbs and the home of a wealthy advertising executive. Gaining entrance through Gabe, who once apparently had an affair with the man,

they trash the place "Clockwork Orange" style.

"We're going to destroy your house and your life," one of the skinheads announces matter-of-factly. The big difference between this and the Stanley Kubrick classic is that the neo-Nazis have none of the creativity or personality that made Malcolm McDowell's character such a controversial one.

Far from glamorizing these punks, Wright and his talented cast depict skinheads as pathetic losers who, in terms of traditional movie morality, meet with unpleasant ends. You just hope that the guy sitting next to you sees the movie the same way.

If you have a comment for John Monaghan, call him at 953-2047, mailbox number 1866, on a Touch-Tone phone, or write him care of Street Sense, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36281 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

## SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

■ **DETROIT FILM THEATRE**  
Detroit Institute of Arts, 6200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call 833-2323 for information. (\$5; \$4 students and senior citizens)

"The Piano" (New Zealand — 1993), 7 and 9:30 p.m. Nov. 19-20; 4 and 7 p.m. Nov. 21. The highly-acclaimed film from director Jane Campion stars Holly Hunter as a deaf woman and piano teacher who enters an arranged marriage. Harvey Keitel and Sam Neill co-star. The film, originally scheduled for release in January, now bumps previously scheduled films for a two-weekend run at the DFT.

■ **HENRY FORD CENTENNIAL LIBRARY**  
13671 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Call 943-2330 for information. (Free)

"A Taste of Honey" (Britain — 1962), 7 p.m. Nov. 15. When a girl who lives in the slums of northern England becomes pregnant, her mother turns her out of their

apartment to face her predicament alone.

■ **MAGIC BAG THEATRE CAFE**  
22918 Woodward at Nine Mile, Ferndale. Call 644-3030 for information. (\$5)

"Romper Stomper" (Australia — 1992), 8 p.m. Nov. 18; 9:30 p.m. and midnight Nov. 19-20. This controversial focus on neo-Nazi violence in contemporary Australia boasts a Brando-like performance by Russell Crowe as the skinhead gang leader.

■ **MAIN THEATRE**  
118 N. Main St. at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday. Call 642-0160 for information and show times. (\$6.50; \$4 students; \$3 twilight/matinee)  
"Short Cuts" (USA — 1993). Robert Altman weaves together some eight stories in this ambitious but ponderous exploration of the screwed-up character types that populate contemporary L.A. Tom Waits, Lily Tomlin, Tim Robbins and Jack Lemmon just scratch the surface of the all-star cast, but no matter what you hear it's no "Nashville."  
"Remains of the Day" (Britain

— 1993). Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson play butler and housekeeper at a 1930s English estate. Top-notch performances far overshadow the occasionally schmaltzy storyline, the latest from the producer/director team of Ishmael Merchant and James Ivory.

■ **MALE THEATRE**  
435 W. Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills. Call 855-9090 for show times. (\$5.75 evenings; \$2.95 twilight)

"Remains of the Day" (Britain — 1993). Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson play butler and housekeeper at a 1930s English estate. Top-notch performances far overshadow the occasionally schmaltzy storyline, the latest from the producer/director team of Ishmael Merchant and James Ivory.

"Chairs of the Moon" (USA — 1993), 7 p.m. Nov. 21. When a pair of women share a cabin at a writer's retreat, they enter into serious discussions about the nature of women and sexuality. A special presentation by the Ladies Film Society. (Tickets \$6 in

advance; \$7.50 at the door this show only).

■ **MICHIGAN THEATRE**  
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 668-8397 for information. (\$5; \$4 students and senior citizens)

"The Piano" (New Zealand — 1993), 7 and 9:30 p.m. Nov. 19-20; 4 and 7 p.m. Nov. 21. The highly-acclaimed film from director Jane Campion stars Holly Hunter as a deaf woman and piano teacher who enters an arranged marriage. Harvey Keitel and Sam Neill co-star. The film, originally scheduled for release in January, now bumps previously scheduled films for a two-weekend run at the DFT.

"Dr. Strangelove or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" (Britain — 1964), 7 p.m. Nov. 15-16. In Stanley Kubrick's landmark black comedy, a mad American general (Sterling Hayden) launches an all-out attack on the Russians. Peter Sellers plays multiple roles, including the U.S. President and the bizarre title character who can't hide his old Nazi loyalties.

**HERC'S**  
OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY  
(11:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.)  
Complete Dinner \$6.95  
(Beef • Ham Turkey)  
Includes: Soup or Salad, Potatoes, Vegetables, Roll or Pie.  
Call For Reservations  
Banquet Room Available • Daily Specials  
28975 Grand River Ave. • Farmington Hills

Attention Holiday Travellers  
**DISCOUNT COUPON**  
Flying out of Detroit's Metropolitan Airport this fall? Don't forget to park your vehicle at the #1 lot in service and security.  
**AIRLINES PARKING**  
We are conveniently located on Merriman Road, just north of Metro Airport. Cut out and present this coupon to receive the discount rate of \$3.00 per day and \$19.50 per week plus 30¢ state parking tax.  
Coupon Expires 12-31-93  
**AIRLINES PARKING, 8325 Merriman Rd.**  
**Call (313) 728-6066**  
For Further Information

**THANKSGIVING DINNER**  
IN OUR DINING ROOM OR YOURS  
Succulent Irish Amish Turkey  
Feast prepared to perfection by our catering staff for your enjoyment at home. Or, come in with the family and enjoy our Dining Room Menu or Holiday Buffet.  
644-1400  
Please Call For Reservations By Nov. 24  
**COMPLETE DINNER**  
Serves 14 for \$96 Plus Tax  
**Kingsley Inn**  
Woodward at Long Lake Road • Bloomfield Hills • 644-1400

Authentic Traditional **THAI CUISINE**  
Try a new taste sensation. It's a little bit of everything sweet, sour, hot and spicy. From lemon shrimp soup to peanut chicken. Your senses will be delighted.  
Huge Lunch Buffet \$6.95  
Weekdays 1993 Detroit Monthly  
**BANGKOK CLUB**  
Southfield Road between 12 and 13 Mile Roads  
Southfield Commons 569-1400

**Homespun Traditions**  
Country Crafts Show  
Sunday, November 21st • 10 am-4 pm  
Laurel Manor  
39000 Schoolcraft Rd. (West of Newburgh) • Livonia  
Featuring Dulcimer Music by Felicity Strings • Admission \$2.00  
Lunch Available • For Information Call Bonnie Jursic (313) 513-5769  
NO STROLLERS PLEASE

**Cranbrook House**  
880 Lane Lane Road, Bloomfield Hills  
**HOLIDAY TABLES**  
Cranbrook House Auxiliary presents spectacular holiday table settings designed by local residents on:  
November 19, 20 and 21.  
Refreshments and gift boutique.  
Benefit for preservation of historic Cranbrook House.  
Friday, November 19 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Saturday, November 20 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Sunday, November 21 Noon - 4 p.m.  
**TICKETS \$8.00 AT THE DOOR**  
(\$1.00 OFF WITH THIS AD - ONE PER AD)  
FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL 645-3149  
NO STROLLERS • NO PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT PERMITTED  
Shuttle from Christ Church parking lot.  
Cranbrook House is part of Cranbrook Educational Community.

**Nicky's Pre-Holiday Celebration**  
Buy any dinner entree at regular price and receive a second entree of equal or lesser value **FREE**  
Value up to \$21.95  
Valid during Monday dinner hours only  
**RESERVATIONS ONLY.**  
Please present certificate to hostess upon arrival.  
Not valid with any other promotion. Expires 12-13-93  
**755 W. BIG BEAVER**  
Concourse Level, Top of Troy Bldg.  
**362-1262**

NOW THRU SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST  
ENJOY MCL'S  
**OCEAN PERCH**  
ONLY  
**\$2.29!**  
TEL-TWELVE MALL  
**MCL CAFE/TERIA**  
Order Your Holiday Pies Early!