

GO! TRAVEL

All aboard for weekend in Toronto

By IRIS SANDERSON JONES
SPECIAL WRITER

Some people fly to New York or London for a winter getaway. Others hop a train for Toronto where art galleries, theaters and restaurants await.

A full-priced adult economy ticket from Windsor to Toronto costs about \$50 U.S. for adults. Book five days ahead and don't travel Friday or Sunday, and you will pay much less. Seniors over 60 pay about half on the same book-ahead dates.

A ViaRail employee taught me this trick: If all of the book-ahead tickets are sold out for the train time you want, book and pay for another time on the same date.

Travel agents often cancel their reservations after they've passed the five-day deadline for buying advance tickets. If you have a discounted advance-purchase ticket

for any train departure, you can start calling in four days before you leave and chances are that a seat will be available on the same day but at a different time.

If that little trick doesn't work, you can buy a regular-priced ticket at the station. The world you see through the big picture windows of the train is the same as it has always been, farmlands spreading to islands of trees and farm buildings. The whistle still sounds for every level crossing — there are lots of them in this lush flat countryside — but the train itself has changed a lot since ViaRail upgraded the cars and service last year.

Example: as soon as you pass the first stop, that coffee man will be back with free breakfast. If you further pampering, pay about \$15 more for first class.

The Royal York Hotel is one of the grande dames of the railway era, refurbished nicely for 21st century travelers.

There are lots of other choices. Value Plus packages, available through the Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Association, offer reduced accommodation, either for two in U.S. dollars: Royal York Hotel, \$84; the elegant Four Seasons Hotel, \$135; Quality Inn Journey's End, \$50. They will send you a visitor's guide and map, reserve a hotel room, and they will book you a seat at one of the many theaters in Toronto.

"Phantom of the Opera" has celebrated five years at the Pantheons Theatre. More than 700,000 people have seen "Showboat" at the Ford Centre for Performing Arts. "Cray For You" and "Miss Saigon" have been running lately, and "The Who's" "Tommy," "Beauty and the Beast" and "Sunset Boulevard" will open this year.

Also, check out smaller theater experiences offered by the Canadian Stage Company and the Tar-

ragon Theatre.

Shopping

If you really want to shop a city version of "the mall," walk or take the subway to the 350 shops in Eaton Centre. The Centre is connected with the underground city, which covers eight city blocks of shopping under the street and out of the weather.

If you'd rather window-shop, take the subway to Yorkville. Laque, famous for its French-designed crystal and glass, has opened its first full-line boutique in North America in Yorkville, where it joins shops like Tiffany, Hermes and Cartier. Yorkville is a wonderfully restored area full of shops, restaurants and galleries.

There are hundreds of big and little places to eat in Toronto. Bistro 990 at 990 Bay Street is a warm, cozy, low-ceilinged French bistro, not elegant but attractive and stylish.

Another interesting place to eat



MICKY JONES

Getting away: Night time at City Hall, Toronto. The Eaton Centre is in the background.

is Movenpick Restaurant Marcho. They give you the bill when you walk in. You take it to various food stations, ome for crepes, salads, seafood, meats, grills, fresh fruit, pizza, etc. Each place where you pick up food then stamps the bill.

Shoppers with sore feet might also consider two new places:

Simply Pleasures Tea Room in the St. Lawrence neighborhood and the new tea room in the Royal York Hotel.

For information about Ontario telephone toll-free (800) ONTARIO. Call Metropolitan Toronto Convention and Visitors Association toll-free for Toronto (800) 363-1990.

Singles Mingle

Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Observer/Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax (313) 591-7279.

Dance parties

SHINGLE MINGLE
Farmingington Single Professionals along with Metropolitan Single Professionals host a "Single Mingle Dance" 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Marriott Hotel, 500 Main St., 2nd Floor, Livonia. D.J., cash bar and hour of omelets. Attire is dressy, men must wear a coat and tie. \$8 for non-members.
(313) 981-9909.

WEDNESDAY/SATURDAY DANCE
Wednesday Suburban Singles and Saturday 16-County Singles will hold a dance 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Burton Manor, 150 and Webster Road, Ext. 177, Livonia. (Saturday) Feb. 25 dance party will be held at Burton's of Garden City, at 32550 Cherry Hill, Age 21 and older, proper attire, no cash bar. \$12.50.
(313) 842-0443 or (313) 842-7422.

FRIDAY DANCE
Friday nights in February Westside Singles host a dance at the Burton Manor, 150 and Webster Road, Ext. 177, Livonia. Age 21 and older, dressy attire. \$12.50. \$10.00 admission is \$2. General admission \$5.
(313) 981-9909.

REMEMBRANCE
Remembrance singles dance party will be 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. every Sunday at Burton's of Garden City, at 32550 Cherry Hill. Dress is sharp, age 21 and over. Admission is \$3.
(313) 292-0186 or (313) 425-1430.

Bedroom dancing

STABILIZERS
Stabilizers dancing for singles age 40 and older will be 9 p.m. to midnight every Friday in the Northwest Theatre, 2540 Grand River, at Beach City, Livonia. Dressy attire, no jeans. Married couples welcome.
(313) 525-8913.

ARMY ADOR SINGLES
Army Ador Singles Ballroom Dancers meet 8:30-11:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Grand Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium Blvd. Live band. Admission \$4.50 per person. Dance lessons available 7-8 p.m. for a fee.
(313) 930-1822, (313) 665-0013 or (313) 487-6322.

Single groups

TEMPLE BAPTIST BARR
Four separate classes meeting 9:45 a.m. on Sundays, at Temple Baptist Church, 23800 West Chicago, Redford. Groups divided by age and the situation. Weekly topics include: dating, finances, careers, stress, Bible studies, prayer times, Girls Night Out. Check us out.
(313) 255-3333.

SELECTIVE PROFESSIONALS
Selective Professionals is a group for professional singles which sponsors seminars, brunches, speeches and varied activities.
(313) 261-9123.

BETHANY
Bethany, a support and social group for divorced and separated Christians, meets 8 p.m. the third Saturday of each month at St. Kenneth Church, Haggerty Road south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township.
(313) 261-9123.

NEWBORN SINGLES
Newborn Singles ministries meets 7 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the Gateway Hall of Newborn United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh, Livonia. Light refreshments served.
(313) 663-0014.

FARMINGTON SINGLE PROFESSIONALS
A nonprofit social group for singles ages 25-40, who share common interests and want to form new friendships. It is not limited to the Farmington area and members participate in more than 200 activities per year.
(313) 478-9181.

GRACE PLACE
Single Place Adult Ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main, Northville, presents a social group of Single Place which meets 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the church.
(313) 349-0911.

SCOTT POST
The Rev. Paul Cough leads Scripture messages relevant to daily single living 10:45 a.m. Sundays in Knox Hall, Ward Presbyterian Church, 17000 Farmington Road, at Six Mile Road, Livonia. Talk is Over 1000, 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Friday of each month. In Knox Hall of Ward Presbyterian Church. Also available, telephone, 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays.
(313) 422-1854.

EXPRESSIONS
An adult discussion group meets 7:30-11:15 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month in First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 1917 Washington Ave., Ann Arbor. The program is not church-affiliated.
(313) 930-1822, (313) 665-0013 or (313) 487-6322.

ed. The group is open to those age 21 and older. Admission \$5 per person and \$2 for volunteers. Snacks are served at each meeting.
(313) 996-0141.

METRO MINGLES
The Metro Mingles, a singles group for people with disabilities ages 21-35, is held at the Metro Club, 39500 Five Mile Road, east of Haggerty Road, Livonia.
(313) 338-9626 or (313) 648-3347.

ACTIVITIES GROUP
The Activities Group is single adults participating in a variety of activities on an organized year-round basis. They are not affiliated with any faith-based group, mid-tour or political organization. Membership fee is \$30.
(313) 624-7777.

ST. KENNETH CHURCH
St. Kenneth Church, 21 and over, meet at 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at St. Edith Church, on Newburgh south of Five Mile, Jack Mastian (313) 840-8824.

PEEP/LIVONIA-REDFORD
The Livonia-Redford Chapter 340 meets the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the Wayne Auditorium, 1217 Meridian, Westland. Meeting is 8:30 p.m. Dance is set for 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$4 before 9 p.m., \$5 after 9 p.m. New members welcome.
(313) 525-6637.

PEEP WAYNE-WESTLAND
The Wayne-Westland Chapter 340 meets the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the Wayne Auditorium, 1217 Meridian, Westland. Meeting is 8:30 p.m. Dance is set for 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$4 before 9 p.m., \$5 after 9 p.m. New members welcome.
(313) 525-6637.

CATHOLIC ALUMNI
The Catholic Alumni Club is for Catholics who are college graduates and are free to many in the Catholic church and are free to many in the Catholic church and are free to many in the Catholic church.
(313) 921-7554, (313) 830-1558 or (313) 647-7073.

VOYAGERS SINGLES
Voyagers Singles is a non-denominational singles group for adults 45-years and older which meets at St. Paul's Parish, 27475 Five Mile Road, in Livonia. They will meet at the church at 7 p.m. Friday, March 10, to attend the musical "The King and I." Tickets are \$8 and \$17 for seniors.

422-3091.

Sports/Recreation

GOLF CLINIC
The Activities Group sponsors Western Golf clinic for Beginners and Golf Club League Sign up Meeting 6 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at Grand Golf Course, 39500 Five Mile Road, east of Haggerty Road, Livonia.
(313) 349-1044 or (313) 420-3177.

CULTURAL ARTS
The Cultural Arts Club of The Activities Group will host a Spotlight Tour of the Theatre District on Monday, June 19. Early mail in registration is advised. The tour includes most of the theaters and churches in the Grand Circus Park area. Tickets are \$15 for members and an additional \$3 for non-members. Send check payable to The Activities Group, 2160 North Pontiac Trail, Commerce Township, Mich. 48390-3161.
(313) 624-7777.

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL
The Catholic Alumni Club of Detroit sponsors indoor volleyball every Tuesday evening 7:30 p.m. at the Deney Middle School in Southfield on the corner of Evergreen Road and 11 Mile Road. The cost is \$3 for members/15 non-members.
(313) 662-1827.

VOLLEYBALL
Single Professionals of Ward Presbyterian Church, 504 Main and Farmington, Feb. 24, in Livonia. Bowling Center, 32905 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Non-member orientation 7 p.m., practice and warmups begin at 7:20. Partners not