

# Undecided from page E1

from Michigan — gateway to Toledo, the only state you can make with your hands," opens this zany politically incorrect, or correct show, depending on your viewpoint. They're at the Democratic National Convention, about to cast their votes for Clinton, there's a rousing chorus of "Hail, Hail to Michigan the Psycho of the West," with references to some of our illustrious residents including Jack Kevorkian.

Satire is the truth before anyone thinks it, and no Second City — Detroit show would be complete without a skit about racism. Unfortunately, in spite of efforts by many people to bridge the "Eight Mile Gap," Detroit remains "One City Racially Divided."

"Slipped A Discus," the last show, told of a frightened white suburbanite sure the black (savage) parking lot attendant stole her car. The car is found, only to

be stolen by a white man from Warren.

In this show, racism, and people's preconceived notions of it, are explored on a different level raising cultural and economic issues as well.

Miss Angela is black, and lives in Birmingham. She's in the hot tub with her boyfriend, and decides to go outside to talk to the Lawn Guy, (Rico Bruce Wade) who is also black. The Lawn Guy has worked for her family for 10 years, but she's never talked to him, until now, after attending an athletic event at Pershing High School in Detroit. Racial myths are exploded through casual conversation.

"How often do you talk to my parents?" she asks. "About once a week," he replies. "So do I," she answers.

Making conversation, she says,

"my mother is having an Urban Club meeting and went to Somerset Mall to get some black art to hang on the wall, but they didn't have any." "Where'd you get it, he asks, 'Blacks-Are-Us'?"

From there the talk turns to her going to Pershing High School. "It was like totally scary," she says. "I had to put the Club on my jeep and everything. One of the students called me an Oreo, and my mother said, 'well honey they aren't your friends.'"

"I know you don't think we're black enough for you. But I am dealing with some serious issues in that hot tub, and I can't deal with you, and your attitude. I'm sorry I don't listen to WJLB or live in the ghetto. It's not my fault I don't fit in. Eight Mile seems awful wide. Where do all the black people live out?"

Her boyfriend comes out to

check on her, talks to the Lawn Guy in a patronizing sort of way, telling him what a great job he's doing with the lawn, and leaves. But Angela's opinion of the Lawn Guy changes, he becomes a person, and she Angela, instead of Miss Angela.

From there, the revue skips merrily along, singing and zapping with funny songs like "I'm in love with teacher, she's the Square Root of my heart," to serious issues like AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, and drug use. A young couple, engaged to be married, learns about each other's transgressions while answering a questionnaire in the doctor's office as they wait for blood test results, nervously singing, "Getting to Know You."

The cast gets the audience on their feet in a skit about funding

cuts in Detroit Public Schools. There are no instruments, but the band has a concert to present. Band director, (Grant Krause) leads as cast, and audience play keys, stomp their feet, make mouth noises, and sing. It all comes together harmoniously in a rousing version of "Twist and Shout."

The stadium issue is tackled by two football players who happen to be gay — "I like Pontiac, there's so much to do. It's OK to be gay in Pontiac, like Ginsberg and Kerouac."

This show is about diversity, and understanding — "I have money, I am broke. I like Pepsi, I like Coke. I like 'Friends' I like 'ER' — its message — 'Ain't nothing wrong with being one big national undecided,' comes across loud and clear.

**GUN AND KNIFE SHOW**

**OCT. 4-5-6**

**FRI 10-9 • SAT 9-9 • SUN 9-6**

**GREAT SELECTION OF**

- Handguns •Rifles •Ammo •Safes •Shotguns •Knives
- Military Surplus •Hunting Supplies •Plus Much More!

Friday is Set-Up Day. Come Early For Your Best Deal!

Not All Dealers Participate On Fridays.

UPCOMING EVENT: ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE SHOW (OCTOBER 11-12-13)

**Gibraltar**

TRADE CENTER, INC.

1-75 & EUREKA RD. (EXIT 26) TAYLOR • 313-287-2000

**FREE**

FRIDAY ADMISSION TO THE TRADE CENTER

From 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**The ALL NIGHT STRUT!**

**A Classy, Sassy Musical Celebration of the 1930's & 40's**

**The Gem Theatre**

Groups Call NICOLE (313) 963-9800

(313) 962-2213

http://www.gemtheatre.com

(810) 645-6666

## FINE ARTS

# Needleworks make artistic point



PERSPECTIVES

MARY KLEMIC

If you think of needlework as a demure art form, you'll think again after visiting the exhibit and sale by the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan, at the Oakland County Galleria in the Executive Office Building, 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac, through Oct. 28 (810) 858-0415.

The display features pieces that are exciting as well as charming, including wall quilts, garments and objects.

A wall quilt by Helen Bruck uses a watercolor technique that softly blends the shades. "Fireworks" by Robin Galick is a slashed fabric jacket that seems to burst with energy as well as color to the eye. Among the whimsical beaded eggs by Eleanor Herkammer are one called "Mephisto" — a truly "devil" egg with red hue and horns — and the elegantly stylish "Coco Chanel."

Muriel Jacobs' wall quilt, "All Tied Up," is made of ties, but and arranged in mesmerizing

segments that suggest tightness. Annmarie Kelly's "Sports Page" features newspaper replicas.

In her "Sunset on Mars," Nancy Meyer applies "martian" green and a scattering of stars. Her "Love Me Tender" presents images of high school, such as a yearbook and such rockers as Elvis Presley.

"Springtime in the Rockies" by Karen Beltry features sequins like a sparkling stream and stitches like plants. "Wall Street is a Jungle" by Fran Hillman includes animal images.

The guild presents lectures and workshops through the year at First United Methodist Church, 1569 W. Maple in Birmingham. Its next scheduled talk is Tuesday-Wednesday, Oct. 8-9, featuring artist and author Carol Wilcox Wells, off-loom beadweaving and a workshop on the Peyote stitch. Call (810) 649-0434 for information.

## Super 60

"Sixty Years of Painting, Printmaking and Calligraphy by William Bostick" features sophisticated, delightful works by the Bingham Farms artist who is also teacher, an author and former administrator and secretary of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The exhibit continues through Oct. 5 at the Preston Burke Gallery, 12 Mile at Haledale in Farmington Hills (call (810) 488-0200).

Bostick's street scenes are presented with sensitivity and have timelessness. Locations presented include Mariners Church, the Franklin Art Fair and Independence Hall. Humor is shown in "The Cocktail Party," the cartoon-like figures, "Highway Under Construction," in printer's ink, features crisp colors and sharp shapes. Also on display is Bostick's chart and map he made in 1944 for the Omaha Beach invasion, which guided landing craft.

## Painting show

The Birmingham Society of Women Painters' 52nd annual exhibit, which continues through Oct. 12 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1616 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham (call (810) 644-0966), has been the site of special festivities.

At the show's opening reception Friday, the first Birmingham-Bloomfield Cultural Arts Award was presented to the Birmingham Musicale. Also presented that

evening was the BSWP's Lillian Hoppins Memorial award, to Fran Levin for her watercolor collage, "Collectibles."

## Arts and Humanities Month

Thousands of organizations throughout the country will join to commemorate National Arts and Humanities Month, an annual celebration of cultural life in communities.

## Art & Apples applause

Donald Mitchell of Washington won first prize with his oil painting "Grey Fedora" in the Sunday Painters competition in last month's Art & Apples Festival in Rochester Municipal Park. The annual festival event is a judged exhibit of work by non-professional and student artists. Artist Anthony Warren III, host of Comcast's "Expressions with Tony Warren," judged this year's competition.

Monique Sobocinski of Shelby Township won second prize with her mixed media "Color and Excitement," and James Kasparek of Romeo took third with his pastel "A Shady Spot."

Honorable mention awards went to Jody Burneiser of Auburn Hills, Bonnie Krystoff of Rochester, Robert Lauka of Oak Park, Lois Moore of Shelby Township, Arlene Parks of Washington and Jerry Power of Sterling Heights. Lauka also won the Crowd's Choice Award by earning the highest number of votes from festival viewers.

Mary Klemic writes about Oakland County arts. Her phone number is (810) 901-2569; her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

## ARTBEAT

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Mary Klemic, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax (810) 644-1314.

## AUCTION ACTION

Wanted: your Chagall, Modigliani, Soutine, Picasso and Pollock — plus oil paintings, drawings, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, photography, watercolors, textiles, prints, antiquities, glass art and other treasures. Art donations are being accepted for "Charitable Auction '96," an auction at the Janice Charach Epstein Museum/Gallery in the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. Charitable creations by local artists will also be auctioned. To donate your

See ARTBEAT, SE

Just because something is old doesn't mean it isn't valuable.



Now that retirement is almost here, I'm grateful that I started planning early — with U.S. Savings Bonds through a Payroll Savings Plan.

Ask your employer or banker about saving with U.S. Savings Bonds. For all the right reasons.



A public service of this newspaper

**ONE NATION undecided**

SHOWS: Wed. 4 Sun. 6 pm • Fri. & Sat. 6 & 10:30 pm

**LIVE COMEDY THEATRE**

**The Best of Second City**

TOURING COMPANY

SHOW

Catch some of the best material ever created by The Second City

SAFETYNETS at 8:30 pm • ALL TICKETS \$7.00

**New Show!**

**The Second City**

313.965.2222

BEFORE or AFTER the show

IN THE SECOND CITY BUILDING

open Wed. • Sun.

for reservations call 313.965.3566

NEXT TO THE FOX THEATRE