

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to **Art Beat**, *Observer Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 691-7279.

CALL FOR PERFORMERS

The Southeast Michigan region committee of VSA Arts (formerly known as Very Special Arts) is looking for children and adult performers with physical and mental challenges to take part in their festival Friday-Saturday, May 5-6 at Wonderland Mall in Livonia.

Special needs school/community groups and solo acts from the metro Detroit area will display their dance, vocal and instrumental music achievements at the "Celebrate Arts-Ability" visual and performing arts festival. In the last festival, more than 170 adults and children sang, danced and played hand chimes during the two days.

For more information or an application, call Connie Leit at Farm Conservatory (248) 648-3347.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Up to \$600 is available to assist a person with a disability who wants to further their creative talent in the area of the visual, performing or literary arts. The Southeast Michigan region committee of VSA Arts (formerly known as Very Special

Arts) is awarding their annual Jack O'Brien Scholarship to an artist (ages 13 and up, including seniors) living in Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw, Monroe, Macomb, Livingston, Lenawee or Jackson County.

Deadline for application is Sunday, April 16. The scholarship must be used for independent work and not a student project. Last year's winner, Janis Stanton, created a series of 10 watercolors spotlighting Michigan sights.

ART EXHIBIT
Donna Vogelheim is the featured artist March 27 to May 25 at Farmington City Hall, Liberty and Grand River, and Farmington Hills City Hall, Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake Road.

An opening reception is scheduled 7 p.m. Monday, April 3 at Farmington City Hall.

Presented by the Farmington Area Arts Commission, the exhibit focuses on watercolor paintings. Vogelheim, a Walled Lake artist, was the 1991 Farmington Artist-in-Residence. For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division, (248) 473-1866.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE EASTER

The Friends of Polish Art celebrate Easter with a traditional "Svienskonka" meal and a demonstration of Easter palm weaving 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Polonus Restaurant, 1744

Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte. Tickets are \$20 by advance reservation by April 9. Call (248) 649-4527.

If you wish to participate in the art of Easter palm weaving with Helen Budzinski, bring scissors and some palms for braiding.

REDFORD UNION BAND FUND-RAISER

The Redford Union High School Band Boosters are holding a holiday meat sale to raise funds for the musicians. The Dearborn Spiral Sliced Ham has no water added and is ready-to-eat.

Hams must be ordered by Thursday, April 6 for pick-up 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 20 at the high school cafeteria in Redford.

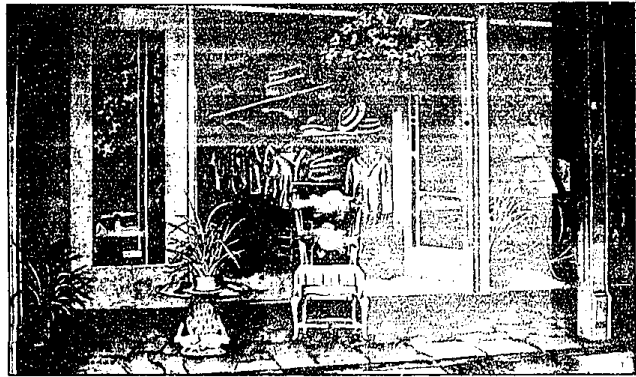
Half and whole hams are available as well as spiral sliced turkey breast, smoked Kolbasz and fresh Polish sausage.

To place an order or for more information, call (313) 592-9762.

FINAL CALL

The Livonia Arts Commission is looking for exhibitors for its Fine Arts in the Village June 10-30 in Livonia. Works will be displayed June 10-11 at Greenmead Historical Village then be moved to the Fine Arts Gallery in the Livonia Civic Center Library where they will continue on display through June 30.

Prizes totalling \$2,600 will be



Watercolor works: Donna Vogelheim exhibits her paintings at Farmington City Hall and Farmington Hills City Hall, March 27 to May 25.

awarded including a \$1,000 top prize. Deadline for application is April 17. For more information and an application call (734) 465-2640.

KIDS DANCE CLASSES

Hip Hop, Combo Dance, Budding Ballerinas, Mom & Tot, and Beginning Ballet, Jazz and Tap

classes begin Monday, April 3 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon at Junction.

There is also an ongoing Drop-in Art Studio for adults and Figure Drawing Sessions once a month. For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

ART FAIR

Sugar Loaf Art Fair comes to the Novi Expo Center 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday-Sunday, April 14-16.

Admission is \$6, children under age 12 and parking free. For more information, call (248) 348-5600 or visit the Web site at www.sugarloafofcrafts.com.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features events at suburban bookstores, libraries and literary gatherings. Send news leads to Keely Wygonik, *Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (734) 591-7279 or e-mail to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net.

BOOK SIGNINGS

Author Hildegard Lindstrom will sign copies of the book "Child Prisoner of War" at Waldenbooks, 30200 Plymouth Road in Livonia. The book signing is set for 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 8. Call (734) 261-7811 for information.

Farmington Observer Newspaper reporter and Livonia resident Timothy Smith will be signing copies of his book, "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies - Little Thumbs Up!" 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Borders Books, 45290 Ulica Park Blvd., Ulica, (810) 726-8555. In addition, copies signed by Smith and Devin Scillian of WDIV-TV (who wrote the book's preface), recently were donated to the on-air and on-line versions of the Channel 56 auction, which is scheduled May 27. Smith can be reached at (248) 477-5450.

AUTHORS TO SPEAK
Authors Nic Cooper and Rick

McCoy will discuss their book "How to Keep Being a Parent When Your Child is No Longer a Child," 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at the Northville Barnes & Noble, Six Mile at Haggerty. Cooper and McCoy have spent over 25 years as teachers and counselors in southeast Michigan. They drew on their experiences in dealing with adolescents and in discussing the skills parents need to survive the teen years. Call (248) 348-0696 for information.

KIDS STUFF

Storyteller Miz Rosie performs an unforgettable characterization of Harriet Tubman, telling wonderful stories punctuated by historical fact. The program, for ages 4 and up, is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at the Novi Borders. Call (248) 347-4643 for information.

Kindermusik storytime is set for 4 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Little Book Shoppe on the Park, 380 S. Main in Plymouth. Parents and their children are invited to experience free interactive 20-30-minute programs of storytelling, music and involvement during Story Time With Miss Karen, led by Evola Music Kindermusik educator Karen Onkka Schanerberger. Registration is suggested but not required. Call

(734) 455-5220 for information.


SHAMAN DRUM

Novelist Kimberly Kafka will take part in a reading and book signing 6 p.m. Friday, March 31 at the Shaman Drum bookstore, 313 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Willis' book, "True North," is a literary

adventure novel that showcases Kafka's knowledge of life in Alaska. She is a certified EMT who spends summers in Alaska


and winters in Wisconsin. She taught writing and literature at the University of Michigan. For information, call (734) 662-7407.

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SPRING BREAK ART CAMP
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9AM-3PM

ART CAMP IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN TO COMBINE CREATIVITY AND FUN, TO DEVELOP ARTISTIC TALENTS AND EXPLORE NEW MEDIA UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A PROFESSIONAL STAFF. STUDENTS ARE GROUPED BY GRADE LEVEL AND WILL ENJOY A VARIETY OF AGE APPROPRIATE BASED ACTIVITIES.

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The Last Day For The Super Fair
At
The Pontiac Silverdome
Sunday, March 26th
Noon - 10 p.m.
\$12 Ride All Day Carnival Rides!
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Presenting...
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Joe L'Erario and Ed Feldman from The Learning Channel offer expert home renovation advice and demonstrations.



GMC BUILDERS HOME & DETROIT FLOWER SHOW

COBO CENTER
Thursday, March 23, 2pm-10pm
Friday, March 24, 2pm-10pm
Saturday, March 25, 10am-10pm
Sunday, March 26, 10am-6pm

GMC
Detroit Flower Show, Detroit Home Show, sponsored by

ADMISSION: Adults: \$6.50, Seniors: \$4.50, Children 6-12: \$4.00 Children under 6: FREE

HUNDREDS OF EXHIBITS... PLUS:

- A completely furnished 2,050 square foot contemporary ranch home
- Green Thumb Theater with America's Flower Man Dale Bakman and The Mide Experts Jeff Helver
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- Michigan Kitchen & Bath Show
- Flower Creation Station
- GMC vehicle display
- Pool, Spa & Recreation Show
- Parade of Homes
- WJ's Joe Gagnon and Deen Kowalski
- WITZ-TV Glenn Eagan, Rick Ebbel's Mid Milk Woodland
- WITZ-TV House of Malls and Treasures Chest contests

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