

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Art Beat, Observer Newspapers, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, fax them to (734) 591-7273, or e-mail (as a text file) to lchomin@

oc.homicomm.net.

IMPROV COMEDY NIGHT

Hit and Run offers improv comedy in a style similar to TV's "Whose Line is it Anyway," at 7:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, at the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford, 15198 Beech Daly, Redford.

Tickets are \$5. Call (313) 531-0554.

The band the Wrong Kind of Perfect opens the show. Afterward, stand-up comics will perform 10-minute skits as part of free, open mic night.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

The 135-voice Plymouth Community Chorus presents its 29th annual holiday concert "Christmas Tapestry" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at the new Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road. Tickets are \$10. Call (734) 455-4080.

The 48-voice Livonia Youth Choir present their winter concert 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia.

Admission is free. For more information, call (734) 425-1749.

The Vocal Arts Ensemble of

Michigan and PRIME vocal jazz will perform Christmas songs in "An Oldie Jazzy Christmas" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, west of Inkster Road, Livonia.

Donations will be accepted following the concert. For more information, call (248) 682-6662.

SUPPORT THE SYMPHONY

The Plymouth Symphony League will sell its sixth annual limited-edition pewter Christmas ornament at its office and Sideways on Forest Avenue. The piece, which depicts the Wilcox House, is \$8 with proceeds going to the Plymouth Symphony. The League, in collaboration with Trailwood Garden Club, also has luminaria kits on sale for \$4 per set of 10 candles. The 2001 Greater Detroit Area Entertainment Books are on sale, too, for \$30. For more information, call (734) 451-2112.

ART EXHIBIT

Olga Pawlowski displays paintings in a cross-women show, "Primarily People, through Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

CAMP HOLIDAYS

Each Saturday, in December between Thanksgiving and holiday break the Plymouth Community Arts Council will offer "Camp Holidays" with activities including songs, drama, crafts and games for children ages 5-14. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Children should bring lunch or \$5 for pizza, fruit and beverage. On Saturday, Dec. 1, children can stay at the arts council until 3 p.m. to watch the Whistle Stop Players' production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." Tickets are \$5.

The cost for Camp Holidays is \$25 for first child, \$20 for additional children for arts council members; \$30 and \$25 for non-members. Reservations are required. Call (734) 416-4278.

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OCC THEATER

Oakland Community College's Theater Company presents its first production, Neil Simon's comedy "The Good Doctor," 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, in Smith Theatre on the college's Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, south of I-495, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$7, \$5 students/seniors. Call (248) 522-3667.

"The Good Doctor" is a series of sketches adapted by Simon from the work of 19th century Russian playwright Anton Chekhov. Directed by theater artistic director Carol King, the 20-member cast is comprised of students and community residents.

Winter 2002 January 7 - March 23 (winter break February 11-16) Make Art Everyday! Member Registration December 3, 9am-7pm Guest Registration December 10, 9am-7pm Classes and Workshops Adult & Child Art History Auto Design Calligraphy Ceramics Critiques Design Drawing Fibers Jewelry Metals Mixed Media All Media Painting Pastels Photography Polymer Clay Printmaking Sculpture Trips & Tours Watercolor Portfolio Prep Youth Ceramics Youth Drawing Youth Jewelry Youth Mixed Media Youth Painting Youth Photography Youth Sculpture Adult & Child

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is what you should do. So I started thinking it is possible to do this? Then I heard about Wayne State having a student exhibition

in the basement of the DIA and went running over to see if I could help install the show. It's pretty powerful your school hav-

ing a show in the basement of the DIA."

Glick was hooked on becoming a ceramist. Today he's well-known for plate-shaped wall pieces which are colorful landscape paintings on clay. Many of them can be found in the permanent collection of not only the Detroit Institute of Arts but Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., Cranbrook Art Museum in Bloomfield Hills and numerous places around the world. But he's never forgotten what it was to be a struggling young artist. For many years now Glick's given a one-year assistantship to undergrad and graduate students.

"I teach by example," said Glick who frequently puts in 10-hour days. "It's a wonderful relationship that happens. The assistants see evidence of community when they're in the showroom."

"It's my commitment to the field. I recently gave a tour for students from Northern Michigan University. I told them it's 37 years of skills, accumulated equipment. I started with practically nothing. Everybody starts slow. But it's never stopped being challenging, never becomes repetitive. It's very much about creative, play. I get to play with intriguing, sometimes surprising

I teach by example. It's a wonderful relationship that happens.

John Glick

potter

things."

Back in the studio Glick trims plates for a commissioned dinnerware set. Glick's home is a collector's dream - cupboards filled with his handmade dinnerware, stacks of mixing bowls alongside the stove.

"I glaze each one individually choosing from 50 some glazes with 20 some decorative colors on top," said Glick. "It's absolutely energizing that way. It comes from my personal roots. I don't even know what's going to happen when I start sometime. I'm constantly asking what's next? What if I use a different glaze? I compare it to a jazz musician improvising. This is like this jazz riff. It's this free playfulness thing coming out."

Glick's sculptural work is more thought out. Abstract pieces such as Cloud Study recall a trip to China. Frequently his drawing and image making is influenced by Japanese woodblock prints. A Mantel series features pears created after ones on his backyard tree.

"My work is functional and sculptural," said Glick. "I don't just sit and do one thing. I'm doing someone's dinnerware set and these at the same time. The sculpture is functional in a very pleasing way."

Just like his formative student years, Glick's never forgotten the city which helped make his dream of becoming a full-time artist possible. It was here Glick established his Plum Tree Pottery in 1964.

"I'm grateful to the city of Farmington Hills," said Glick who's lived in the area since the late 1950s and in 1977 was named Artist-in-Residence by the Farmington Area Arts Commission. "They really make it clear. It's a community that welcomes dance, theater. It's a welcoming community for the arts."

The inviting atmosphere of Plum Tree Pottery makes it easy for the city to support artists like Glick, said Nancy Coumoundouros, cultural arts coordinator for the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. Glick regularly opens his doors to community-based organizations for tours and in turn the city is featuring his work at the City Gallery in the Costick Center in Farmington Hills through Jan. 4. For more information, call (248) 473-1856.

"The city of Farmington Hills is so proud of John," said Coumoundouros. "During this month when he receives the award, it's important to celebrate John. He always gives so generously of his time and is always willing to share his experience and talents."

"I have purchased several pieces of his and give them away as gifts. There's a richness of color. He blends his color so beautifully. There's a warmth about his work that reflects him as person."

Glick's quiet demeanor and warmth comes through all of the work now on display in his showroom. His doors are always open. Just look for the historic sign. If it's not during regular business hours, Glick will arrange a time. He's always eager to touch others with his work.

Meadow Brook Theatre Michigan's Favorite Holiday Classic! NOV 23-DEC 23 Celebrate the 19th year of holiday magic with Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the spirits of Christmas Past. Present and Future! Meadow Brook Theatre's grand production will thrill young and old alike, and dazzle all with brilliant lights, colorful costumes, singing caroles and holiday cheer! A Christmas Carol BY CHARLES DICKENS, ADAPTATION AND ORIGINAL STAGING BY CHARLES HOLTE

Oldies 1460 WPON Proudly Presents the Doo Wop 50 Tour Hosted by Crazy Al, Larry Matthews and all the WPON disc jockeys. Friday, November 30, 7:30 p.m. Clarenceville H.S. Auditorium, Livonia Identify the Doo Wop group and win a Free CD on Crazy Al's Show Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Call 248-332-1460 & Listen for more details Crazy Al's Radio Party Truly the greatest rock and roll show you've ever heard! LISTEN TO RARE ROCK AND ROLL ON WPON Radio Oldies 1460 AM Oldies You Just Don't Hear Any Place Else! Crazy Al's Radio Party Mon-Fri 8-9 a.m., afternoons 2-4 p.m. LISTEN ON THE WEB www.wpon.com

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America's Favorite Holiday Tradition! RADIO CITY THE ROCKETTES November 23-December 29 Fox Theatre