

COMING ATTRACTIONS

SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, SEPT. 13

BARBERSHOP

Ice Cube (*Ghosts of Mars*) stars as Calvin, the owner of a barbershop in the South Side of Chicago. The comedy, which takes place during the course of one day, features Cedric the Entertainer (*Kingdom Come*) as Eddie, the old barber in the shop who everyone tries to avoid. Anthony (*Two Can Play That Game*) Anderson as a thief and rap artist Eve as Terry, a shop worker whose boyfriend is cheating on her. Tim Story directed the comedy, marking his feature directorial debut. (MGM/UA) Rating: Unknown

LES DESTINEES

Set over 30 years from 1900 to 1930, through hard economic times and the Great War, this is the epic story of one

French man's (Charles Berling) evolution from being a Presbyterian minister to running the family's porcelain factory, framed by his romance and marriage to Pauline (Emanuelle Béart), for whom he left the church, and France. (Weispring Media) Rating: Unknown

STEALING HARVARD

Jason Lee and *Silent Bob* Strike Back. Lee stars as John Plummer, a guy who turns to a life of crime to finance his niece's college tuition. Featured players include Leslie (Orange County) Mann as John's girlfriend, Tom (Freddy Got Fingered) Green as his best friend, Megan Mullally (from *TV's Will and Grace*) and Dennis (Big Trouble) Farina. Brice McCulloch directed the comedy, marking his first since completing *Superstar* in 1999.

SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

SLAP HER, SHE'S FRENCH

The story centers on the most popular girl on campus, whose status is jeopardized by the seemingly innocent but diabolical French exchange student who moves in with her and takes over her life. Featured players: Piper Perabo (*Coyote Ugly*), Jane McGreggor (*MTV's Live Through This*), Kristen Crippen (*Road Trip*), and Jesse James (*Hanging Up*). Melanie Mayron directed this comedy, marking her first since completing *The Baby-Sitters Club*, 1995. (Premiere Marketing and Distribution Group) Rated PG-13



Jason Lee (left) and Tom Green cook up golfball schemes to raise \$29,000 in college tuition in the movie, *Stealing Harvard*, which opens Friday in local theaters. Leslie Mann also stars.

reunite as adults. Suzanne, a waitress nostalgic for the old days, meets up with Lavinia, a prominent socialite eager to hide her past. Featured players include Erika (Traffic) Christensen as Lavinia's drug-addicted daughter, Geoffrey (The Tailor of Panama) Rush as a failed writer who gets a ride from Suzanne while driving from L.A. to Phoenix, and Eva Amurri, Susan Sarandon's real-life daughter. Bob Odenkirk directed the comedy, marking his feature directorial debut. (Fox Searchlight) Rated R

their desperation, they are able to discover the true motivation, which lies beneath the crime. Featured players include Kevin (Hollow Man) Bacon, Charlie (Sweet November) Theron, Stuart (About Adam) Townsend and Courtney (The People vs. Larry Flynt) Love. Luis (Message In A Bottle) Mandoki directed the thriller.

Marking his first since completing *Angel Eyes* in 2001. (Sony Pictures) Rated R

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Section containing movie listings for National Amusements, Showcase Cinemas, and various theaters like Star Theatres, Star Great Lakes, and United Artists. Each listing includes movie titles, showtimes, and ratings.

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SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

New York fashion designer Melanie Carmichael suddenly finds herself engaged to the city's most eligible bachelor. But Melanie's past holds many secrets, including Jake, the red-neck husband she married in high school who refuses to divorce her. Bound and determined to end their contentious relationship once and for all, Melanie sneaks back home to Alabama to confront her past, only to discover that you can take the girl out of the South, but you can never take the South out of the girl. Featured players include Fred Ward, Mary Kay Place, Josh Lucas, and Reese Witherspoon. (Touchstone Pictures) Rated PG-13

Enrichment classes and activities offer knowledge and fun

By Linda Chomim Staff Writer

Talking with members of community-based organizations in Oakland County makes me want to go back to school. The Birmingham Bloomfield Arts Center, Community House in Birmingham, and Paint Creek Center for the Arts in Rochester offer everything from classes in drawing and dance to a trip to see the Bolshoi Ballet Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Detroit Opera House.

Peggy Kerr, director of special programs at The Community House, is especially excited about the Bolshoi's Swan Lake and a fall gallery tour in conjunction with the Our Town art exhibition (Oct. 17-19) at The Community House. In fact, it's hard for the director of special programs to list only a few of the exciting lectures, trips, concerts and classes available through the not-for-profit organization which began offering classes in the 1950s. Kids ages 8-18 can audition for the Popcorn Players production of the Wizard of Oz Friday-Saturday, Sept. 13-14. For further details about the Nov. 9-10 performances and to reserve an audition time, call (248) 644-5832.

Michael Farrell lectures on the art and architecture of Venice in a series beginning Sept. 12. Or take up watercolor painting of ducks, swans and water writers with Peggy Koronczyk.

"We look to the East and West coasts for trends," said Kerr. "Sept. 11: One Year Later is a special lecture series by Rabbi Shervin Wine (Oct. 2, 9, 23 and 30) in light of the anniversary of the terrorists attacks on America. The series asks questions like what have we learned, what can America do to help the Israeli and Palestinians, and can India and Pakistan achieve peace?"

"It's like a necessity, it's natural to do this. We want to be able to inform the community on important issues. We're not only offering arts and entertainment classes and lectures but ones that are current with world issues."

The Community House also offers classes in computers, business, finance, personal growth and fitness, in addition to its art series. Since Sept. 1, Kerr said people haven't been as willing to travel so isn't time to get back into the skies and start enjoying places like Florence (Nov. 30 to Dec. 6), Australia and the Islands of New Zealand (Oct. 2-17) or somewhere closer like Chicago (Nov. 23-25)? And if you can't make it to Russia, take a two-day trip (Oct. 29-30) to see French Paintings from the Hermitage Museum at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto.

But before you go, consider taking photography with Monte Nagler of Farmington Hills. It will help you preserve those memories.

Parents with children too young to travel might want to take basic black and white color photography for parent and child with Maureen Electa Monte. Monte says "please bring your baby" to another class for parents with children up to nine months.

If you've always wanted to dance now is your chance to take adult classic ballet and a ballet workout for dancers and non-dancers with Lauren Flinn for parent and child with Maureen Electa Clayton, Director of MoreDances Contemporary Dance.

The Community House has a lineup that space

doesn't allow us to print - trips to the 140-piece exhibition *Degas and the Dance* at the Detroit Institute of Arts Thursday, Nov. 21, a day at Stratford to see *King Lear* (Sunday, Oct. 6), a Richard Rodgers Centennial salute by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (Thursday, Oct. 10), and the Radio City Rockettes at the Fox Theatre Saturday, Dec. 7.

For more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832.

**BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ARTS CENTER**

Art historian Deborah Kawsky will give a lecture at the Birmingham Bloomfield Arts Center before lending a Dec. 4 tour of Degas and the Dance opening Oct. 20 at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The BBAC offers several unique workshops, trips and classes like drawing at the DIA with Mary Stephenson.

"Want to become a collector or learn to use a digital camera? The BBAC offers workshops in both. In fact they have a variety of subjects to choose from including basic drawing and cartooning to glass blowing in conjunction with College for Creative Studies.

Kawsky, a Plymouth resident and Princeton graduate, teaches a Wednesday morning class on Tuscan art as a way to learn more before *Magnificent! The Medici, Michelangelo and the Art of Late Renaissance Florence* opens March 16 at the DIA. Her *He Said/She Said: Great Couples in Art* focuses on one of her favorite subjects - women in art. Kawsky's taught several classes on the topic at the BBAC.

"We'll talk about couples like Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz who were married," said Kawsky. "Mary Cassatt and Edgar Degas were not but were influenced artistically by each other. It's an interesting subject to explore - how women are portrayed differently by men and women."

Kawsky also will lead a spring trip to Washington, D.C. with the same concept in mind. Stops include the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and an exhibit by photographer Margaret Bourke White at The Phillips Collection.

To register for BBAC classes, call (248) 644-0866.

**PAINT CREEK CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

Mary Fortuna can't wait for fall classes to begin in September. Paint Creek Center for the Arts has been offering everything from painting to clay and photography for 20-years.

"For adults we have fundamentals of art which we started in spring and was so popular," said Fortuna, art center education director. "There's a preschoolers class (4-5 year olds), and drawing is always popular and watercolor is already full. We'll have a workshop on handmade paper, mixed media, hand-coloring photographs, and a photo class for young adults 10-14. Cartooning classes with Phillip Parks, a professional illustrator, fill up very quickly."

For more information on classes at Paint Creek Center for Arts, call (248) 661-4110.