

Hot tickets

Christmas concert

Martina McBride brings her country music/holiday show, *The Joy of Christmas*, to the



Palace of Auburn Hills. The show is at 7:30 p.m. today, Dec. 5. Tickets are \$25.50 reserved and \$15.50 general admission. (248) 645-6666.

Rockin' oldies

Lou Christie, Tommy Roe, Peggy March, The Tymes, and Lenny Coco and The Chimes perform at *The American Golden Doo-Wop Music Spectacular* at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, Greenfield at Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. Tickets are \$35 balcony and \$45 main floor, available from the center box office. (313) 943-2345.

Potters Market

This tile by Lori Rogers of Birmingham will be among thousands of clay, ceramic, raku, stoneware and porcelain pieces on sale at the 27th annual Potters Market Friday-Sunday, Dec. 6-8, in the United Food and



Commercial Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, south of 13 Mile, east of I-75, in Madison Heights. Admission is free. No strollers will be permitted. (248) 246-2686.

Family concert

The Metropolitan Singers will perform a free concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at the Southfield Civic Center, Parks and Recreation Room 115, 26000 Evergreen at Civic Center Drive. The Choristers and Children's Hand Chime Choir from St. Genevieve in Livonia also will perform. For more information, call Kathy at (248) 545-8743 or Ray at (248) 932-0390.

Tea and Santa

The YWCA Oakland Branch invites mothers, daughters, grandmothers and aunts to a holiday tea at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at the YWCA, located at Normandy and Crooks, Clawson. Tea, sandwiches, cookies and punch will be served. Santa and Christmas Carol will be on hand for photos and the Royal Oak Children's Choir will perform. Cost is \$10 for the first adult guest, and \$5 for each additional. (248) 435-9100.



Karen Missavage performs in the TubaChristmas on Woodward Avenue between Farnsworth and Kirby.

Celebration puts all in the holiday spirit

BY LINDA ANN CHROMIN
STAFF WRITER

Noel Night's not your ordinary holiday celebration.

Along with horse-drawn carriage rides and traditional songs like *Jingle Bells*, visitors to the 30th annual extravaganza will be able to make and take home crafts and shop for art until they drop. And, Noel Nighters can listen to out-of-the-ordinary holiday music by performers from such communities as West Bloomfield and Plymouth.

It's all on Saturday, Dec. 7, in Detroit's University Cultural Center. And it's all free — except for the gift buying. Watch ice sculptors from Wayne State University and College from Creative Studies compete under the direction of Plymouth carver Tjarna Raukar at 3 p.m. before the evening even begins at 5 p.m. Judging takes place at 6 p.m. on the Woodward Plaza of the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward.

"It's a nice addition this year especially with Woodward closed," said Maureen Riley, who coordinates Noel Night for the University Cultural Center Association. "It continues to expand every year. This year we have over 30 venues. There are so many activities, make and take activities at almost all venues, most geared to children. They can make gift paper, candles, ornaments, stick puppets at the DIA (where there's a Kwanzaa celebration and Hanukkah sing-a-long alter-



Charlene Berry and her dulcimer bring Victorian-sounding Christmas music to the lobby of the Park Shelton. Outside horse-drawn carriages await Noel Night visitors.

nating from 6:30-8:30 p.m.)

"The community sing-a-long has been a significant part of this event, and to see the DIA and Library lit for the holidays is wonderful. There'll be shopping at College for Creative Studies, the Detroit Artists Market. The Wayne State grad studios will have art work for sale and the Furniture Factory offers its first Motor City Arts Market, and there will be free shuttle services."

Visitors to VSA Arts of Michigan can view paintings, sculpture and clay by artists with developmental and other disabilities in the gallery of their offices at The ARC (Association for Retarded Citizens), 51 West Hancock. Local artists will have holiday crafts, hand-painted tote bags, dolls, African masks, tapestries, and jewelry for sale during

PLEASE SEE NOEL NIGHT, B5

NOEL NIGHT

What: Celebrate the holidays with music, horse-drawn carriage rides, reindeer, theater, dance, children's activities, arts and crafts, planetarium shows, shopping, and sing-a-long

When: 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Where: Detroit's University Cultural Center, between Ferry and Warren, and Cass and John R. Free shuttle service runs between participating venues.

For more information, call (313) 577-5088.



The Klitz Klezmer Band of Michigan performs Jewish music at the Detroit Institute of Arts as part of a multi-cultural holiday celebration.



Artistic Expressions

Linda Chromin

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer isn't the only song in town

Last week, after Thanksgiving dinner, I listened to several CDs of holiday music as a way to boost my lagging spirits. Maybe I was just tired after cooking such a big dinner with a cast on the hand I fractured in two places while trying to prevent an unleashed dog from biting my Irish Wolfhound, Shamrock, but the holidays seemed so far away.

While listening to the Boston Pops recording of *Frosty the Snowman* cheered me, there's nothing like hearing about this very, merry soul live in a concert hall. Fortunately, many of the local musicians feel the same and they're all putting on holiday concerts. If you're like me, five minutes into listening to any of these programs you'll be ready to go home and wrap gifts after first putting on a pot of hot chocolate. It's one of my favorite times of the year and more so because groups like The Brass of Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings and the Boston Pops (see accompanying story) are coming to town. Whether you enjoy classical or popular holiday songs like *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, there's a concert out there for you.



If classical music is a little more to your liking, you won't want to miss up-and-coming soprano Rebekah Walker Dec. 19.

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND

Kerry Mills can't remember a Christmas without music. This year, as a clarinetist with the Birmingham Concert Band, she'll join with conductor Grant Hoemke and The Oakland Singers Encore for a holiday concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 West Maple, between Southfield and Cranbrook (Evergreen), Birmingham. Admission is free but donations to the scholarship fund are gratefully accepted. The band consists of nine students to Interlochen and Blue Lake music camps this past summer. For more information, call (248) 647-7586.

"It's a holiday tradition," said Mills, who's played with the band for 25 years and still looks forward to playing *Greensleeves Concerto*, *The First Noel*, *A Celtic Christmas*, and *Deck the Halls* this season.

"It gets you in the spirit. I

PLEASE SEE CONCERTS, B6

Ballet Shoes or Wing Tips?



Makes no difference as long as you take time to put your feet up, get comfortable and spend some time with us.