

THE FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY
FARMINGTON HILLS BRANCH
32737 West Twelve Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334-3507

Hot tickets

Exhibit: The Boss

Next week, *Springsteen - Troubadour of the Highway*, a multi-media exhibit that explores rock 'n' roll legend Bruce Springsteen's images of cars and highways, comes to Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave. in Bloomfield Hills. The Members' Night opening is 6 p.m. Friday, June 6 and features a lecture by the exhibit's curator. Membership starts at \$45. For details, call (877) 462-7262 or visit www.cranbrookart.edu.

Johnny Mathis

Mathis will perform at the Music Hall Center for Performing Arts in Detroit 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 6. The event is part of Music Hall's Second Annual Cars and Stars charitable event, which raises money for Music Hall's programming and educational initiatives. Tickets \$45-\$125 and can be purchased at all Ticketmaster locations or by calling (313) 963-2366.

Duet closes

Matthew Prentice, president of Unique Restaurant Corp. of Bingham Farms announced Thursday, May 22, that URC has decided not to exercise its option for a second lease term at Duet and Deli Unique at Orchestra Place in Detroit. Citing the reasons for his decision, Prentice said Duet has not experienced the growth anticipated in the mid-town area. While the restaurant was profitable, profits were generated by catered events that could easily be executed by other URC venues, allowing the company to increase its profits. A second reason was an imminent announcement for a new site in the downtown Detroit area. Prentice indicated that the current situation at Duet did not allow him to maximize his most valuable asset—staff. The Duet staff will be dispersed to suburban venues until the newest Unique concept opens in February of 2004. Fixtures for the deli will be removed for a new suburban location in Birmingham or Troy. Duet's fixtures will remain at the site until a decision for their future is determined.

Art Festival

Mark your calendar. The West Bloomfield ninth annual Art Festival is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, June 21-22. More than 200 artists from across the nation will exhibit a variety of mediums along Maple Road outdoors on the grounds of the Henry Ford Medical Center. In addition to artwork, the festival features a variety of international culinary treats, and music. For more information, call (248) 626-3636 or visit www.artfestival.com.

All aboard

Experience the *Glory Days* of rail travel. Two rail fan organizations, American Rail Excursions in Chicago and Powhatan Rail Services in Dearborn, joined forces to operate private railroad cars to attend a joint convention in Baltimore of the National Railway Historical Society and the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, and to sightsee in Washington, D.C. The tour departs June 28 from Chicago and Dearborn and returns July 7. For more information, call (248) 435-2858.



Is Tyrannosaurus rex taking the fall for murdering a triceratops? Find out for yourself by visiting the crime scene at Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills.

Robotic dinosaurs tell the tale of T. rex

BY LINDA ANN COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

Mark Uhen almost seems to shrug as a 13-foot tall *Tyrannosaurus rex* begins to growl and whip his head and tail from side to side. The Cranbrook Institute of Science paleontologist wasn't expecting a life-like robotic dinosaur with lip curls and snarls between blood-curdling growls. But was the meat-eater as ferocious as films like *Jurassic Park* have painted him? In the last 10 years scientists have discovered evidence that raises doubts as to the eating habits of one of the largest dinosaurs to roam the earth 65 million years ago.

Was he or wasn't he a predator? That's the mystery visitors attempt to solve this summer as *Tyrannosaurus rex* goes on trial at the natural history museum in Bloomfield Hills. Created by Kokoro Dinosaurs of California and Museum of the Rockies, Montana, *T. rex on Trial* sets up a crime scene where visitors dig up clues. Does *T. rex* have the teeth, claws and body of a killer? Four robotic dinosaurs, real

dinosaurs, bogged, artificial casts, and interactive stations bring the mystery to life as visitors try to match bite marks on a *Triceratops* with varying sizes of dinosaur teeth. Along the way cartoon-like dino graphics relay facts about *T. rex*. At the end visitors cast their vote as to whether the carnivore was innocent or guilty of being a predator. "Today we can compare *T. rex* by looking at predators like lions as opposed to scavengers like hyenas," said Uhen, Cranbrook's head of science. "The preponderance of evidence shows he was not primarily a predator but a scavenger. The skeletal structure shows he wasn't built to run fast. *Saurornitholestes* was swifter of foot, leaner and lighter. Movies like *Jurassic Park* made *T. rex* look sleek enough to chase a Jeep but not catch it. The Jeep still got away."

T. rex was probably a scavenger because of his larger size. He was a walker not a runner, lacked agility, had useless arms about the length of a human's, and powerful jaws to crush bones. His teeth were not good for slicing flesh. He had an excellent sense of smell for locating

chickens. The one characteristic he did have of a predator was stereoscopic vision which gave him a 3-D picture of prey." *Deinonychus*, on the other hand, was fast with big, curved claws, and excellent eyesight for spotting prey like the *Tenontosaurus* that three of the robotic creatures feast on in the exhibit.

Growing up, Uhen, like most children, was fascinated by dinosaurs. In his later years as a scientist he gained a new appreciation for *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the Latin term meaning "tyrant lizard."

T. rex lived at a time when no other dinosaurs were left. They were the top carnivores in the ecosystem. There's sort of a romance to it. They were the biggest, baddest carnivore.

"Will the animatronic *T. rex* frighten young children? I'm a little startled by it. At the desk they're going to mention that this guy's down here," said Uhen motioning to the towering dinosaur dining on a triceratops, "and be aware."

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T. REX ON TRIAL

What: Solve the mystery of whether *Tyrannosaurus rex* was a predator or scavenger by investigating a crime scene complete with life-like robotic dinosaurs

When: Through Monday, Sept. 1. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 10 p.m. Friday

Where: Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills

Tickets: Free with museum admission \$7, \$5 ages 2-12. Children under age 12 free on Community Day Saturday, May 31. Call (877) 462-7262 or visit the Web site at www.cranbrook.edu.

Related events: Dinosaur Days 1-4 p.m. Saturday, July 12 and Aug. 9. Dig up fossils and make casts of a dinosaur bone while learning about paleontology from Cranbrook's Mark Uhen. Free with museum admission.

Garden Party scores as summer must-attend event

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

The beautiful and sprawling 95-acre grounds of the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center will again this year be the site of the most popular outdoor upscale food and wine event in metro Detroit.

In addition to stands featuring the foods of about 35 restaurants, and the area's top chefs, the event will also be the first public unveiling of award-winning wines from the second annual Detroit International Wine Experience.

A live auction by Dan Stall, Inc. will be conducted at 3:30 p.m. Splendid vacation packages and vintage wines are among the many lots up for bidding.

FOOD FOCUS

Events such as The Garden Party bring out restaurants perennially mentioned when awards are being handed out, such as Tribute (Farmington Hills) with celebrated Executive Chef Takashi Yagihashi, the 2003 recipient of the James Beard Best Chef in the Midwest award. Manager and maître d' Mickey



BY ELEANOR HEALD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLEASE SEE GARDEN PARTY, 8A

Executive Chef Takashi Yagihashi, won the James Beard Best Chef in the Midwest award.

FOOD AND WINE EVENT

What: 16th Annual Garden Party. Proceeds to benefit the children and families served by the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center programs for abused and neglected children.

When: 1 p.m. Sunday, June 8

Where: St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, 27400 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Tickets: \$150 per person, call (248) 626-7527