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LETTERS

Send letters by the 21st day of the month preceding publication of our next issue to: Editor, AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Please include your address and phone number (not for publication). AGENDA reserves the right to edit or reject any letter. We give preference to letters under 400 words.

GOLDSMITH OBSESSED WITH NEWHOUSE

Alan Goldsmith has been untiringly hyping Kari Newhouse for eight years in Current, and continues to do so now in AGENDA. The intensity and duration of Mr. Goldsmith's obsession with Ms. Newhouse paired with his obvious inability to render anything vaguely resembling objectivity when writing about her rather modest talents raises the question in this reader's mind of whether Mr. Goldsmth's interest in the attractive, goldenhaired young songstress may go beyond the strictly musical.

But my main beef with Mr. G. is his apparently nonexistant understanding of the true alternative/underground music scene and its attendant youth subculture. Seeing as how we live in a vibrant university young adults, it seems negligent on AGENDA's behalf not to employ the resources of a music critic that is a bit more attuned to what's really going down musically at either the local (the beautifully dark and textured sounds of the trio Perplexa, for instance) or national level. I mean no offense to Mr. G. personally, for he seems to be a very kind and caring soul—he's just out of touch. And both AGENDA, which touts itself as being an "alternative" publication, and its readers, deserve more than his tired, breathless declarations of admiration for a singer/songwriter of trite, mainstream pop muzak.

Roland Diaz-Perez ANN ARBOR

GOLDSMITH RESPONDS

If you had addressed this to me instead of the newspaper in general, I would have phoned you up, invited you out for a beer at the Heidelberg and we could have had a perfectly nice chat about the state of the local scene, your groundbreaking history as a hip concert promoter and what you've been up to since your return to town ... but ... NO ...
Funny, I agree with some of what you say. If I had my

way AGENDA would be have loads of articles covering the vast range of cool stuff taking place in A2 vis-á-vis the local music scene. I've kicked around the idea of starting a local music newspaper even because there is so much going on from metal to noise to surf to even "trite mainstream pop muzak" (to borrow a phrase) that the thousand words or so I get to do each month in The View From Nowhere only scratches the surface. I know Ted Sylvester (the editor of AGENDA) would be way way happy if more hipsters such as yourself would submit articles on some of this stuff (note: Ted was a rock and roll drummer at one point for gods sake though please don't tell anyone, OK?) Maybe you would like to take on that task (I'll take your word on Perplexa. That might be a good start).

My comments and review of Kari Newhouse stand on their own. Do what you want with them. I have no desire to be "in touch" with anything whether it be my "feelings" or "to what's really going down" in town, which is silly in the assumption actually, like there is one big truth or something when it come to art. Give me a break. And equally silly is using the misogynist claim that my comments on Newhouse were based on anything other than her talents as an important American musical artist. It would be like me charging you with having a fetish with young white boys in flannel shirts because you booked so many Sub Pop grunge bands into Club Hin your days as a music business type. Both changes are dumb as hell.

If you still want to go out for a beer, give me a call.

AGENDA

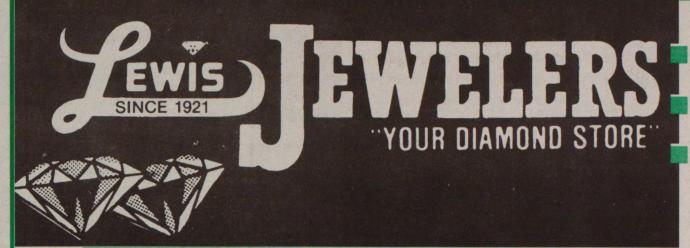
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AGENDA is an independent, nonaligned newsmonthly published by Agenda Publications, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, 313/996-8018, ISSN 1047-0727. Vol. 11, No. 9, DECEMBER 1996, Copyright © Agenda Publications. Subscriptions: \$15/year U.S., \$30/year international.

20,000 copies of AGENDA are distributed at the beginning of every month from over 300 locations in the Ann Arbor Metro Area.

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BOYCOTT UPDATE

BY LUIS VAZQUEZ

FOCUS: Borders Books

Note: AGENDA continues to bring attention to corporate scofflaws who don't deserve a cent of your hard-earned dough and show you ways you can help out.

About three months before she was fired from the Borders Books in Philadelphia, two significant events occurred in the worklife of bookseller Miriam Fried. First, Fried received a glowing evaluation from her manager at the Borders bookstore in Philadelphia who wrote that Fried "provides a fine model for other booksellers with her work ethic and her book knowledge." At the same time, Fried was helping to lead a union organizing drive at the store and wore a button to work signifying her support of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). It is obviously the second significant event that many union activists and others feel led to Miriam Fried's firing. Fried has filed an unfair labor practice petition with the National Labor Relations Board.

Because of Miriam Fried's firing and other anti-union practices, Borders Books has come under the scrutiny of many labor groups and others interested in democratic work environments. Borders pays its booksellers \$5.50-6.25 per hour to start, depending on store location. Borders booksellers receive paltry pay increases—even with years of experience, booksellers make less than \$7 per hour. On the other hand, in 1994, Borders' three top executives received compensation packages ranging from \$247,420 to \$861,639, and held stock worth more than \$22 million (not including long-term stock options). From July 1995 to July 1996, Borders, Inc. reported a sales increase of 10.7% for existing Borders stores, compared with a national economy growing at less than 3%. Borders is the nation's second largest bookseller, with annual retail sales of around \$1.5 billion.

When Michael Moore, author of "Downsize This!" and host of the popular Television program "TV Nation" appeared at the Philadelphia Borders during a recent book-signing and promotional tour, he invited IWW pickets into the store with him. Moore also urged customers to buy their books elsewhere. Borders promptly cancelled Moore's invitation to speak at their grand opening at the World Trade Center in New York City.

Union organizing efforts continue at other

Borders stores. In Chicago, the United Food and Commercial Workers union (UFCW) celebrated a victory when booksellers there voted for UFCW representation in November. Borders spent two months trying to convince Chicago store workers that union influence would conflict with "Borders' culture." Organizing drives are also reportedly taking place in Des Moines, Iowa and Albany, New York. In Philadelphia, workers have vowed to rekindle their organizing drive, despite the IWW's narrow defeat and Miriam Fried's firing. More attention is now being focused on Borders' unionbusting activities such as the hiring of a notorious union-busting law firm, and flying their executives around to "hot spots" to dissuade Borders workers from joining unions.

In Ann Arbor (Borders' headquarters) and in many other communities around the country, labor activists are calling attention to Borders' union-busting tactics and low wages. The recently formed Southeast Michigan Local of the National Writers Union (NWU-UAW Local 1981) is taking a stand in solidarity with the IWW by organizing and assisting with leafletting and informational picketing during the weekend of Dec. 14 and 15, (the sixmonth anniversary of Miriam Fried's firing).

Ann Arbor, a virtual mecca when it comes to bookstores, is fortunate to have so many good new and used bookstores to choose as alternatives. It would be a powerful statement if Borders, which got its start right here in Treetown, were to do poorly during the upcoming holiday season.

What you can do:

Shop at stores other than Borders and its sibling stores - Waldenbooks, Planet Music, and Brentano's Books — until Miriam Fried is reinstated. Call, fax, or write the Philadelphia store at 1727 Walnut St., Phila., PA 19103 and/ or David Stewart, General Manager tel:(215) 568-7400; fax:(215) 568-7466. Contact Borders' corporate HQ at 311 Maynard St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 and/or Richard Flanagan, President tel: (800) 644-7733 or (313) 913-1100. E-Mail Borders Spokesperson Peter Blackshear at: PBLACKSH@borders.com. Join the IWW and the Southeast Michigan Local of the National Writers Union on Sat., Dec. 14 from 11 am-1 pm, or Sun., Dec. 15. from 1-3 pm, for leaflet-ting and informational picketing in front of the Borders bookstore on Liberty Street in Ann Arbor. Call or write the IWW: Industrial Workers of the World, 103 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, tel: (313) 483-3548; email: iww@igc.apc.org

Luis Vazquez is interim co-chair of the Southeast Michigan Local of the National Writers Union.

by TOM TOMORROW



MR. D'SOUZA'S ELOQUENCE ASIDE, SCAPEGOATING THE DISENFRANCHISED IS A LONG-ESTABLISHED TRADITION IN THIS COUNTRY... AND IS--AS THE PASSAGE OF CALIFORNIA'S PROP. ZOT DEMONSTRATES--A TACTIC TO WHICH AMERICANS ARE PERENNIALLY **VULNERABLE**...





WHICH BRINGS US TO THIS WEEK'S EXTRA CREDIT BO-NUS QUESTION: WHAT POLITICIAN, EARLY IN HIS CAREER, SAID, "I AM NOT, NOR HAVE EVER BEEN, IN FAVOR OF BRINGING ABOUT IN ANY WAY THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL EQUALITY OF THE WHITE AND BLACK RACES... (NOR) OF MAKING VOTERS OR JURGRS OF NEGROES, NOR OF QUALIFING THEM TO HOLD OFFICE, NOR TO INTERMARRY WITH WHITE PEOPLE..."







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DETROIT NEWSPAPER STRIKE: WHAT NEXT?

Militant Regional Strategy Needed to Win Back Jobs

By Randy Furst, Rick Sather, Bob Mattingly and Don Bacheller

Editor's Note: When 2,500 workers at two Detroit newspapers walked off the job July 13, 1995, few imagined they would still be on strike 17 months later. But Gannett and Knight-Ridder, the giant media companies that jointly own The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press, are determined to bust the six striking unions at the papers despite \$250 million in losses caused by the unions' strong advertising and circulation boycotts. The stakes are huge: A victory for the companies would send a chilling message to workers nationwide.

Circulation has been cut by at least a third at the papers and it has not recovered. Most advertisers remain out. But the companies refuse to bargain. They say the scabs they have hired and the few hundred union members who have crossed the picket line are their permanent work force.

The National Labor Relations Board is prosecuting the companies for unfair labor practices and a ruling favorable to the unions is expected soon, but the companies yow to drag out appeals for many years.

About 2,000 workers remain on strike, but many have found other jobs. Only a few hundred remain active in picketing, leafletting advertisers and putting out The Detroit Sunday Journal, the strikers' 150,000-circulation weekly.

Community support remains strong. Hundreds have been arrested in civil disobedience protests. In recent months, a coalition called Friends of Labor has blocked gates at Gannett's Port Huron printing plant and conducted actions at newspaper bureau offices, including the Free Press office in Ann Arbor. Locally, Jobs With Justice continues to picket targets including the homes of Free Press Publisher Heath Meriwether and Editor Joe Stroud.

As the strike drags on, debate over the unions' strategy continues. Clearly, winning the strike remains a formidable task.

The following essays are offered as food for thought — options to consider in the days ahead. The time for a new strategy is clearly at hand, and this is AGENDA's way of contributing to the debate.

Randy Furst is a steward in the Newspaper Guild in the Twin Cities at the Minneapolis Star Tribune where he works as a reporter. Rick Sather is a member of the union committee in Teamsters Local 638 at the Star Tribune where he is a newspaper driver. Bob Mattingly is a retired business agent for Teamsters Local 896 in San Francisco. Don Bacheller is a Vice Chairperson of the New York Times Unit, Newspaper Guild of New York.

eventeen months into perhaps the most important strike in the history of the American newspaper industry, many labor activists across the United States are troubled that The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press are still publishing.

How, they ask, in one of the nation's strongest union towns, can two publishers continue to print and sell their newspapers in defiance of their striking unions, who have the support of the city, state and national labor movement?

The answer is not that strikers haven't been tough and militant. Since July 1995 the strikers have endured outrageous police violence and harassment, held out through a severe winter, and persevered despite family and individual hardships.

The time has come to face up to the fact that the current strategy of advertising boycotts, leafletting and small-scale civil disobedience actions and the like have failed to get the job done. Labor's strategy in Detroit fails to take into account that Gannett and Knight Ridder. the huge corporations that own the two papers, are using the strike as a club against workers in other cities, both union and non-union. Their gains in other cities reduce their Detroit losses. Even more important, these monster companies will stubbornly resist a settlement as long as they think time is on their side. With their deep pockets, they will endure huge losses in order to outlast the unions if the final outcome is a union-free environment and they can enrich themselves more in the long run.

Certainly then, the unions must re-evaluate how they can inflict increased economic damage on the newspapers. What have the unions left undone that they have the power to do? The answer is obvious: The unions, except for a brief two weekends in 1995, have not yet stopped production and distribution of the papers. Instead they have relied on secondary tactical actions and the mere passage of time to wear down the industry giants, mistakenly hoping to win a war of attrition.

If this is not the time for Detroit labor and its many allies to assert their determination to win this cru-



PHOTO: DAYMON J. HARTLEY

Summer, 1995: Strikers and Sterling Heights Police clashed a number of times as picketers tried to shut down the distribution of the jointly-produced Sunday edition of The Detroit News-Detroit Free Press.

cial strike, then why will later on be a better time?

To continue the present Detroit strategy is a certain recipe for a disastrous defeat. A new winning game plan would start with an inclusive strike committee, encompassing the entire spectrum of strikers and labor activists willing to organize mass actions. The strike committee would draw the larger regional labor movement and the community behind Saturday night actions to block the distribution facilities and stop the distribution of the all-important Sunday editions.

While maintaining an offensive against the Sunday editions, the strike committee would organize a Midwestern march on Detroit, which already has the endorsement of some Detroit labor leaders. A successful regional march would provide the momentum for a national march on Detroit, which in turn could inspire Michigan labor to call a one-day regional sympathy strike. Together these actions would likely raise the strike's economic and political costs far above what the corporations and their backers would be willing to pay.

Last year, the new leaders of the AFL-CIO — John Sweeney, Richard Trumpka and Linda Chavez-Thompson — announced that they were Corporate America's worst nightmare. Backed by 15 million members of organized labor, they can utilize the Detroit strike to de-

liver a powerful wake-up call to Corporate America by mobilizing labor's ranks in the streets.

The AFL-CIO should be called upon to put its organizing power, its political influence and its millions of dues dollars behind a drive to win the strike.

Local and national unions have demonstrated that they have more than enough resources, including financial resources, to carry this off, as demonstrated by the way the two mass labor solidarity marches on Washington were organized.

If the Detroit strike strategy is not changed, the strike will be lost. A loss will send a message to all union workers that union-busting corporations are invincible and that resistance is suicidal.

The men and women who sacrificed so much to build unions in this country understood the power of a union and the power of the strike weapon. We have to relearn that mass actions that shut down the plants and choke off the profits are an indispensible weapon in labor's arsenal.

Mass actions of this kind have saved labor's bacon countless times. In the Detroit strike, it would mean bringing out thousands of strikers and supporters, clogging up the roadways coming out of the Sterling Heights and Riverfront plants. During the Labor Day weekend in 1995 and the following Saturday night, Detroit strikers and supporters put on a dramatic show

of force and came close to halting distribution. Clearly, the troops are ready and willing if our leaders are willing to lead.

Such a strategy will not only raise the newspaper companies' strike expenses, it can also inspire the corporations' other workers to resist concessionary demands. But most importantly, mass actions will certainly compel the Detroit power structure to realize that it faces the threat of a much more militant labor movement, one that could reverse the tide of defeat for working people that has run for the last twenty years.

Some union leaders say that they cannot support or encourage mass action aimed at shutting down production and distribution or defy court-imposed injunctions against mass picketing because of the risk of contempt violations or prosecution under RICO laws. They warn that it could result in big fines and jail sentences.

If that had been the mentality of union leaders in the 1930s, many of our major unions would have never been built. From San Francisco to Minneapolis to Detroit, the American working class defied anti-union judges and anti-union laws and organized the nation's major industries. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters went from a small, insignificant union to a major force as a result of a massive, victorious strike in Minneapolis in 1934 in which workers, their families and the unemployed took to the streets by the tens of thousands to stop the city's trucks from operating. "In 1934, we papered the walls with injunctions, said Harry DeBoer, one of the leaders of the Minneapolis strike.

If legalities swayed the civil rights movement, Greyhound bus stations would still have "white-only" signs on their restrooms and African-Americans in Montgomery, Ala. would still be riding on the back of the bus.

Oppressive laws or court orders, whether they protect segregation or union-busting, are still wrong and must be defied whenever possible.

It is unclear how the government and the newspaper companies will respond to mass action by

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

A Goal Equal To Our Vision: Expand The Detroit Sunday Journal

By Michael Betzold

he Detroit newspaper strike has energized, galvanized, unified, radicalized and inspired more folks in this area for a more sustained time than any cause in years.

It has also wounded, worn down, frustrated, divided, sapped and ruined more folks than any cause in years.

It's wondrous testimony to the backbone, dignity and righteousness of the people of Michigan that this much effort has gone into a fight to win back jobs for 2,000 people. It's remarkable that people have risked their lives sitting down in front of trucks, battling police, staring down armed guards. Truth be told, it's energy disproportionate to the prize.

The strength and persistence of the support is humbling for some of us strikers. After all, thousands of other jobs in this area have gone down the tubes with much less protest; most, in fact, with hardly a whimper. Why is this strike so special?

It's not just because there's a widespread recognition that this is a crucial showdown for labor. It's also because there's an understanding that the Detroit area needs a unifying voice. It needs a trusted source of information. It needs real newspapers.

There's increasing recognition of the dangers posed by the concentration of power over information in the hands of fewer and fewer mega-corporations. There's an increasing distrust of managed, packaged, spoonfed, generic "news" marketed like fast food for the mind.

The people of Michigan have been fighting for much more than just the jobs of 2,000 strikers. They have been fighting to get the kind of newspaper they deserve. But they're never going to get it from Gannett or Knight-Ridder.

The problem with the strike is not merely that union leadership hasn't adopted the best strategies. The problem is not merely that too many strikers have drifted away. The problem is not just a lack of more widespread labor and community support. The problem is that the goals of the strike are too paltry.

thousands of union activists and their supporters. They might be hesitant to take on the full power of the labor movement. On the other hand, union leaders should be prepared for an onslaught, and have in place a large legal defense team and a big legal fund to bail the strikers out.

We are approaching a key time for the Detroit newspapers — the holiday season when newspapers become thick with advertising. Some advertisers will withdraw, but plenty more will not - partly driven by the basic affinity of one corporation for another. Advertising boycotts and strike papers have their place in union strategies, but they won't win by themselves. Making them the centerpiece of the strike effort will only prolong it, until it peters out in defeat.

The labor movement can win this strike and achieve a decent settlement. But to do it will require that we harness labor's collective strength to halt production and distribution. Knight Ridder and Gannett may have huge bank accounts, but we have a lot more power than they do. It's time to use it.



Winning the strike would mean 2,000 workers would get new contracts with some pay increases and protections. This would be wonderful for the workers and their families. It would also be a symbolic victory over corporate greed. But the corporate giants, even in defeat, would gird for the next battle. Those 2,000 jobs and those two newspapers would remain under the joint control of Gannett and Knight-Ridder, two corporations which have shown no regard for the welfare of their employees, the integrity of their product or the needs of the people of

It's likely the companies will close one of the papers sooner or later, probably sooner. Then many of the jobs that we have all fought so hard to win back would be gone.

Even if both papers keep publishing, they will never regain the respect or readership or advertising revenue they have squandered during this senseless war to destroy the unions. Under any contract, jobs will be reduced, unions will be attacked, and lies will be told.

In another language, the control of the means of production will still be in the hands of the bosses

Unfortunately, a much bleaker scenario

trying to force Detroit strikers to accept the strategy of a "return to work" offer. That would mean some strikers would go back to their jobs under their old contracts. The companies could be forced to let go of some of their scabs to make room for the strikers. The national unions promise they would pour money and energy into a nationwide effort to back an "inside/outside" campaign, trying to pressure the companies for new contracts.

The problems with this strategy are obvious. Our energies would be divided and our ability to pressure the companies would be decreased. The companies' efforts to convince the public the battle was over would be bolstered. Essential community support would dwindle

It's understandable that strikers and supporters have flagged of late. Time takes a toll; so do the demands of making a living. The companies count on that: Time is on their side. But I think there's also a sense among strikers and supporters that the goals being pursued are not worth the effort.

There is a better way. There are loftier goals. And I believe there is now a unique opportunity to realize them.

Instead of merely fighting to get back our old jobs in the service of corporate power, we could be fighting to create our own jobs. And we could be working to create a newspaper that is responsive to workers and the community.

A major focus of the strike should be invigorating and expanding The Detroit Sunday Journal with the goal of more frequent publication. As a weekly, the Journal has become a self- sustaining, well-read and solid little paper. It's the first mass-audience newspaper in memory to voice the concerns of Michigan workers. But it hasn't posed a major threat to The News and Free Press.

Someone is going to enter the Detroit newspaper market to challenge the weakened News or Free Press, certainly when one of them closes, if not sooner. That challenger is unfolding. National union leadership is a likely will be another soulless corporation,

unless we get there first. With proper planning, The Journal could be transformed over the coming months. It's happened in other cities; strike papers have survived strikes and become permanent fixtures.

What form a permanent Journal would take is hard to say. I'd like to see an ownership/investment structure with four elements: unions, a few large local investors, thousands of small investor-subscribers, and employee ownership. Others may have a better idea.

While daily publication would produce the most full-time jobs and the most information for readers, it also would require huge amounts of money and might be out of reach in the short run. I'd like to see a threetimes-a-week paper: a strong Saturday paper like the current Journal, a Monday paper with plenty of sports, and a Wednesday or Thursday paper with plenty of entertainment and events listings.

However The Journal evolves, it should be a mass-market paper with a strong voice for workers, much like the current Journal. It should be a vital, take-no-prisoners paper unafraid to do investigative reporting and unafraid to offend any abusers of power. And it would kick Gannett and Knight-Ridder

Never has there been this kind of opportunity to create such a paper. With thousands of loyal readers, The Journal has a leg up. With the new unity forged in prosecuting this strike, there's an audience eager for more of what The Journal has offered.

What's needed now is for the community to demonstrate that it would support such a paper. I'm asking for pledges: not real money, but a figure you might be willing to invest in a more frequent, permanent Journal. Obviously, the terms of any such investment are as yet unknown, and your pledge would not be an unalterable commitment, just a show of support. Send name, address, phone and amount of pledge (\$100 minimum) by fax to 313-998-1609 or by e-mail to MJBetzold @aol.com.

The effort poured into winning this strike must not be wasted. We need a victory equal to our commitment and vision.

Michael Betzold is a striking Detroit Free Press reporter, a member of The Newspa-per Guild Local 22, and an Ann Arbor resident and freelance writer.

ALL-STAR BENEFIT CONCERT FOR STRIKING DETROIT NEWSPAPER WORKERS

As 2,000 striking Detroit newspaper workers face their second holiday season without their jobs, many of the Ann Arbor area's top musicians have decided to brighten up their spirits.

On Dec. 5 at The Ark, 13 headline acts will unite in an All-Star Benefit Concert. Proceeds will go to the Metropolitan Council of Newspaper Unions' striker relief fund. Members of six unions have been on strike against The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press since July 13, 1995.

An eclectic cast of performers, accomplished in folk, pop, bluegrass, blues, rock and other styles, will play solo and in ensemble at the unique benefit. The cast includes Dick Siegel, Frank Allison, Jay Stielstra, Lisa Hunter, Chris Buhalis, drivetrain, K.C. Groves, Brian Lillie, Rollie

Tussing III, Jo Serrapere, Audrey Becker, David Mosher and Jere Stormer Everybody wanted to help," said Buhalis, who organized the concert and will be the emcee. "I just started making calls and there was no hesitation. And the owners of The Ark generously are giving us

Tickets to the concert will be \$15. Strikers and members of their families will pay \$5 apiece. Tickets are available at the door only. The concert will begin at 8 pm and

doors will open at 7:30 pm.
The Ark is at 316 S. Main. The phone is 313-761-1451.

Buhalis stressed that the concert will be devoted to music, not political statements. Information about the strike will be available at the concert, including how to subscribe to The Detroit Sunday Journal, the strikers' weekly newspaper, and how to join Jobs With Justice, an Ann Arbor-based group that works in support of the strike.

The 2,000 workers, including reporters, editors, circulation employees, drivers, printers, photographers, mailers and others, have been struggling to survive in the face of an all-out assault by the nation's two largest newspaper chains: Gannett Co. Inc. owner of The Detroit News, and Knight-Ridder Inc., owner of the Detroit Free Press. The unionized workers, driven out on strike by the companies' unfair labor practices, have been permanently replaced and the papers have kept publishing with scab labor. A successful advertising and circulation boycott led by the unions has cost the companies an estimated \$250 million. Despite the huge losses and pleas by Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer and others, the companies have refused to bargain new contracts with the unions.

Several dozen striking workers live in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area, as do the publisher of the Free Press, Heath Meriwether, and its editor, Joe Stroud.

Pastors For Peace Complete Cuba Quest

By Phyllis Ponvert

n spite of strong U.S. governmental opposition and very limited media attention, a U.S. grassroots effort scored a recent victory, as Pastors for Peace successfully delivered 400 computers to the Cuban medical project, INFOMED-CUBA without applying for the license required by the U.S. trade embargo on Cuba. On October 11, all the health facilities on the island were connected to the Internet on a full-time basis. With this island-wide electronic information network, Cuba's 66,000 physicians, medical students and researchers can now access medical information within Cuba and around the world. Delivering the computers took eight months of work, including a 94-day fast by five members of Pastors for Peace.

It was another success for the group, which since 1992 has taken six caravans of humanitarian aid to Cuba without ever asking for a license. "We have not and will never apply for a license under the terms of the U.S. embargo," said founder of the group and Baptist Minister Lucius Walker. "The use of medical supplies as weapons against 11 million innocent Cubans is morally repugnant. Participation in the licensing process would be a *de facto* recognition of U.S. policy, and as Christians and people of conscience, we are unable to do this."

In 1960, the U.S. began trade sanctions against Cuba after the 1959 Cuban Revolution overthrew U.S.-supported dictator, Fulgencio Batista. The 36-year-old embargo is designed to destroy the Cuban Revolution. With



PHOTO: PHYLLIS PONVERT

Sept., 1996 — President Fidel Castro at ceremony presenting Carlos Finlay Medal to fasters Jim Clifford, Brian Rohaytn, Seya Sangan, Lisa Valanti, and Rev. Lucius Walker (founder of Pastors for Peace).

the passage of the 1992 Torcelli and 1996 Helms-Burton laws, not even food and medicine can go to Cuba without a license from the U.S. government. At present, all other organizations which send aid to Cuba voluntarily submit to the licensing process. Absurdly, even U.S. citizens who travel to Cuba without permission can receive 10 years in jail and a fine of \$250,000.

Project INFOMED-CUBA began three years ago when Cuba decided to update its medical information system. Funding from the U.N. and the Pan American Health Organization had bought 14 main servers, the backbone of the system, and Cuba was seeking end-user terminals in the form of used IBM-compatible personal computers to connect all hospitals, clinics and

other medical facilities with the already established main servers.

In 1995, Californians Dr. Juan Reardon and engineer David Wald went to Cuba, met with the Ministry of Public Health, and were asked for these end-use computers. The two men formed INFOMED-USA, located the used computers and turned to Pastors for Peace for their expertise in delivering aid to Central America and Cuba. Pastors agreed to deliver the computers as the centerpiece of their sixth Cuba aid caravan.

On January 31, 1996, Pastors for Peace was prevented from crossing the border into Mexico at San Diego. They were met by an army of 1,000 agents from the U.S. Customs Service, San Diego police, U.S. Treasury, San Diego Fire Department, and the FBI.

There were two other attempted crossings in February, and all 400 computers were confiscated by the U.S. Treasury Department.

After unsuccessful attempts to negotiate with the government, five members of the group began a Fast for Life at the border site until the computers were released. The fasters were Rev. Lucius Walker, Seya Sangari, Jim Clifford, and Lisa Valanti, all from the U.S. and Canadian Brian Royhatyn. After 33 days, the Fast for Life moved to Washington, D.C. to better confront the government. Their only nourishment throughout the 94-day fast was a mixture of water, lemon juice, maple syrup and salt.

In spite of an almost total U.S. media blackout, staff and volunteers generated public support to pressure the U.S. government to negotiate with Pastors. The message was simple: Whatever the policies of U.S.-Cuba relations, it is immoral to withhold humanitarian aid from the people of Cuba, and we have put our lives at risk for this cause.

Unrelenting pressure from the international press, thousands of U.S. and foreign citizens and grassroots groups, 70 members of Congress, and nine U.S. religious organizations paid off. After 94 days, the Fast for Life ended May 24, when the U.S. government released the computers to the General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church.

The Methodist Church honored Pastors request not to apply for a license, but did provide the government with paperwork proving the computers were going to Cuban hospitals and clinics. As in past caravans, the government issued a license.

Their first evening in Cuba, the

group was met by President Fidel Castro who thanked each member individually at a special reception. Pastors personally delivered computers to hospitals in five Cuban provinces and the others were installed in emergency clinics, rural hospitals, pharmacies, and medical libraries.

President Castro also awarded the five fasters the Carlos Finlay medal, named in honor of the Cuban doctor who did pioneering research on the cause and eradication of yellow fever. In his acceptance remarks, Lucius Walker said. "If I had to choose one image of these past days here, I would choose the image of the Cuban children. We see healthy children filled with great self-confidence, who know they are loved, are special, and that they have a mission to create a new world. Because of those children, we know that in Cuba, the Revolution will never die. For them, we dedicate the next Caravan, in the spring of 1997, to the needs of the Cuban children.

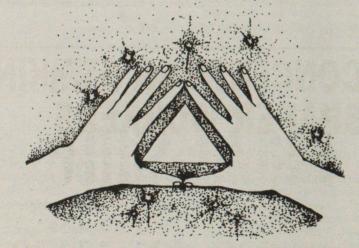
INFOMED-CUBA is being expanded. It needs thousands more computer terminals and is continuing to collect Windows-capable 386 equipment and better.

For information and to participate in the next caravan:
Pastors for Peace, 331-17 Ave SE,
Minneapolis, MN 55414, (612) 870-7121,
FAX 612-870-7109, Peacenet: P4P.
David Wald, (408)-243-4359 FAX 408243-1229 dwald@igc.apc.org.
Juan Reardon, MD (510)-926-0917,
jreardon@igc.apc.org.
Cuba Solidarity/InfoMed USA
WebSite:http://www.igc.apc.org/
cubasol.
InfoMed-Cuba Web Site:http://

www.cubaweb.cu/medicina/infomed/im0.html.

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— Popular Science, Jan. 1996

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words, words, words

BY ARWULF ARWULF

keep getting in trouble by listening too closely, or not closely enough, to what's being said. This we all share; none of us are adequate listeners! Careful listening has become a lost or endangered art in a clamorous and increasingly knuckleheaded age. I vow to try and shut up and listen to that which deserves a hearing. We need to all take this vow, or something like it, and live up to it whenever possible. Then maybe we can continue to evolve creatively, with grace and maybe even healthy ethics. That's asking a lot. I'm gonna keep asking.

This goes back a ways. One of my earliest memories involves my father hollering at our high-strung poodle. "Betsy!" he intoned, "Don't you understand English?!" I puzzled over that for years. So did Betsy.

Public schooling taught me to translate nearly everything being said by figures of authority into an incomprehensible Adult Noise language, which I could tune out at will to focus instead on inner daydreams. (This is also how one gets run over by Greyhound busses. So pay attention.) Strange prisons, those stunted schools.

What came to rescue me were the silent voices heard inside my head whenever I read words printed between the pages of books, and the frowzy vernacular of the streets, where I began to spend as much time as possible. Surrealist literature and powerful extracts of ergot mold helped me to break language into anarchic confetti. The work of putting it back together again will apparently occupy me for the rest of this particular life.

Listening on the street is still a vitally important part of the research process. When I was twelve, there were new words to learn out there. Another way of speaking; every generation has this. However: I had to adapt some of the slang right away even before I'd had a chance to savor its use. "Chicks" and "Dudes" had been exciting syllables I could toss around like lawn darts. Then suddenly the female article was unacceptable, for carefully explained political reasons. "Chicks" was disrespectful, even derogatory. I struggled to eliminate this word from my speech patterns, as I did not want to be saying the wrong things. I took it seriously.

It was 1970. And a fifteen-year-old girl had questioned my very hippest boyhood terminology. Called into question my ethics on account of what I so casually spoke. It was the beginning of a long process of careful consideration, which naturally became entangled in the sloppiest goddamned behavior imaginable. But that's life.

Point is: We began, many of us, to actively question the power of the spoken word, even as it tumbled from our own lips. The women who lived in the Rainbow communes on Hill Street were quick to explain what constituted sexism and sexist behavior. It was for us to make some changes by altering our ways and means. Calling everything and everyone by their rightful names. Refusing to follow standard guidelines for social action, as these were morbidly disrespectful towards all but a few in positions of great power

Over the years, some have taken these principles to extremes while carelessly warping the fabric of the struggle. And how suspect the subject itself has gotten! It has become fashionable to dismiss any such awareness of unethical language as "political correctness." This is a term which is applied only to what are called "leftist" politics, despite the famous political correctitude of the likes of Ronald Reagan, Anita Bryant and Jesse Helms. Anyway, I think that the questioning of unethical language can be a healthy exercise in individual awareness.

Example: The word "suck." I must have been about sixteen years old when it occurred to me that I was going to have problems with the popular phrase: "That sucks." This was, in the early 1970s, a fairly new application of a word

which had its own history: P.T. Barnum's "sucker born every minute," and any number of putdowns ever since. Why did I eliminate it from my own speech habits? It is something I still never say, no matter how disgruntled I may get; and I love to cuss up a storm, with plenty of piss and vinegar. What's wrong with "sucks"?

Let's check you out at birth for a minute. You are expelled from the womb. A manifest drag. Gasping for breath, you try and acclimate. What's the first thing you start looking for, after your first nap in your new frame? Why, you'd like something to suck. Specifically the nipple of the breast of the mother. This is the first meaning, the primal meaning of "suck": NOURISHMENT. ABUNDANCE.

A dozen or so years later and there are hormonal things starting in to happen, with a developing need to eventually seek the comforting embrace of another individual, finding ways to revel in one's age and to interact gracefully with a lover. There are no limits, no calendars, no constrictions to this love. It is the mystery, so slandered and abused, so grossly misunderstood by most societies for thousands of years: HON-EST LOVE. SINCERE LOVE. RESPECTFUL LOVE. The sharing of ecstatic love. To kiss. To apply one's lips, touch with the tongue. This would be a noble and worthy nest of meaning for "suck." What could be more precious? More deserving of humble and respectful gratitude? To be treated with utmost tender loving care?

Obviously there is a time-worn pejorative thing going on with this word, associated with servitude, oppression and very real hatred. The casual phrase ("that sucks") carries a subtext which, once I recognized it, altered the way I spoke, and have spoken ever since. It's a choice I made for myself. You should talk however you please. But it might be better for all of us if we considered the impact of even our most nonchalant verbal habits. Words are power.

Lindsay says: Words evoke habitual response belief patterns in people — extremely powerful. Words are vessels which carry with them the emotions of the heart of the speaker. The language to symbolize what has happened, what's happening now, what stands to happen. Thought forms become real; naming is essential to forma-

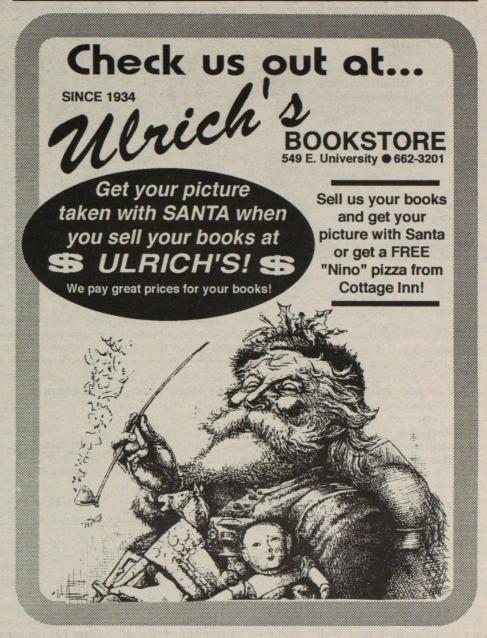
Starhawk says: Language also conveys metaphors; these metaphors, the images we use, shape our thoughts and our actions. The thought-forms of estrangement become bound into our language as metaphors, and the metaphors reinforce the thought-forms, the constricting patterns in our minds.

So where has the language been, and what do we invoke with the voice? One of my favorite words to sputter is bastard. What a great invective! Multi-purpose, like all good cusses. Lindsay quietly reminds me that the entire basis for that word is to be found in the history of patriarchal control of the bloodline. A bastard is illegitimate. Unsanctified by the laws and constricts of patrilineal descent. Out Of Wedlock - this conjures the icon of the chastity belt!

I still use the word bastard. Especially if somebody rips me off, or cuts me off in rush hour traffic. But the good thing is, I think about it when it comes out my mouth. And that I feel is a good habit. Having spent much of my life embroiled in all manner of habits, it's good to have one which I am sure is likely to do some good out here in Babylon. Like Che Guevara and John Coltrane, I would strive to continue to be guided by great feelings of love. Marianne Moore will finish the

Q: What is inward beauty?

A: Inward beauty affords you contentment. Compensates you for miserable things you see and read about, the happenings and unnecessary mistakes in life that worry you. Good will and concern for the other person; inward beauty—it contradicts bad behavior and ill will.



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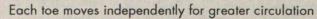
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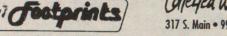
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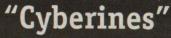


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S ECP

DMX_The Pure Art of Music?

DMX IS ONE OF THE SECRETS of cable TV I keep waiting for everyone to discover. When I finally got it for myself I realized some of the reasons it isn't taking over the world. But anyone seri-

ously interested in the art of music should probably get it.

DMX stands for Digital Music Express. It consists of 30 channels of music that play 24-hours-a-day with no DJs, no advertisements or any other interruption. Pure music, all the time. If you want to know what is playing you press a button on the remote and it tells you the name of the song, the artist, the composer and the album, as well as the record company stock code, and the DMX code for the song. It doesn't tell you the performance date, however.

The list of channels has some thing for almost everyone:

Symphonic; Chamber Music: Gospel; Lite Jazz; Classic Jazz; Big Band/Swing; Classic Rock: 50's Oldies; Adult Contemporary; Folk Rock; Modern Country; Traditional Country; Ranchero Tejanos; Salsa; Urban Adult Contemporary; Christian Inspirational; Dance; Reggae; 60's Oldies; Love Songs; Great Singers; Beautiful Instrumentals; New Age; Hottest Hits; Album Rock; Heavy Rock; Alternative Rock; Show Tunes; Rap Hits; Blues.

They don't repeat as much as Top 40 stations, so I always hear something new. A sample of songs played in a row from four of my favorite channels: Dance—Can U Feel It, 3rd Party; Superfreak, Rick James; The Boy From Ipanema, Crystal Waters; I'm In Love, Georgie Porgie; Heavy Rock—Return of the Warlord, Manowar; Until It Sleeps, Metallica: Wild One. Dio: Traditional Country—Then and Only Then, Connie Smith; Kiss An Angel Good Morning, Charley Pride: My Arms Stay Open All Night, Tanya Tucker; Make The World Go Away, Eddy Arnold; Great Singers-Do, Jeanie Bryson; These Foolish Things, Ella Fitzgerald; Anytime, Anyday, Anywhere, Nat King Cole; A Fine Romance, Billie Holiday.

Almost none of these genres are available in this area 24-hours-a-day. Our hard rock stations play a lot less metal now, but new stuff is still coming out. Some genres are heard locally only on AM, or in two hour shows on WCBN.

DMX's most eclectic channel is 50's Oldies, where jazz, rock, country, and R&B are all mixed together—if it was a hit, they play it. The down side is that you don't hear the obscure greats unearthed by DJs on public radio stations like WCBN, WEMU or WDET. Most of the channels have an inescapable commercial feel, even without advertisements. I also miss the human touch of the DJ. But when I'm making love, the last thing I want is to hear is the booming voice of the DJ, and the next to last thing I want

is to have to change the record.

DMX originates as a satellite uplink from Atlanta, GA. Continental Cable downloads it and adds it to the rest of the signals in the cable feed. The installer splits a "y" patch off of your incoming cable, so one cable goes to your TV or VCR and the other goes to your DMX re-ceiver. The DMX receiver is a small box that decodes the digital signal. Its output plugs into your stereo's auxiliary channel. The service is \$8 a month, and you get a lot more music for that \$8 than if you spent it on a CD—literally more music than

you can listen to.

About three years ago I saw an executive from DMX on C-Span promising to introduce 30 more channels the next year, with more world music in the mix. It didn't happen. Damn—I was looking forward to the Avant Garde channel. But there's still lots of great art on DMX.

Music and the other performing arts have risen to a new importance because of modern recording media. In the past fine art was defined media it had to result in an artifact. The only musicians who were considered artists were the composers who produced written music. With recorded music performers have a new importance, and their work is

now preserved for the ages. Recorded music is more a part of people's lives than most other art

DMX has a couple of technical problems. Occasionally I hear a loud pop interrupting the sound. When this repeats I use a rebooting routine that the cable company sent in the mail as a remedy. It doesn't always work. A more constant problem is volume level. DMX has taught me that there is no universal standard volume level used for mastering recordings. I have read that radio stations compress the dynamic sound levels of what they play so that their fare has a uniform level, but apparently DMX, with its ability to deliver CD quality sound, doesn't tamper with the purity of the mix by squashing its dynamics The result is that at low volumes songs vary considerably in their volume. I often have the volume set to just the level where I can hear all the instruments, and no higher. With DMX, some songs seem to drop to a whisper, or they blast out Because of pychoacoustics, people who listen to music at louder levels will likely not notice these variations, luckily for them.

My most frustrating problem has een with Continental Cable. The DMX receiver box has nine buttons and the remote has 28, and the installer left no instructions. It looks like there are buttons to actually order the music and pay for it, if we had two-way cable. As it is, I haven't even been able to set the preset buttons for my favorite channels. sent a note requesting documenta-tion in with my bill in April. Two months later and no reply, I was upset. I called Continental to find out why. "Oh, they threw out that note. They are just a billing service. You were supposed to call Customer Service. Can I help you? When I explained what I wanted, 'Customer Service' said they didn't have any documentation there, but would order some from the ware-house and send it out. She said it would take six weeks, but it hasn't arrived yet. I don't think it will, un-

less they hear about this article.
Still. I recommend DMX to anyne whose appetite for music can't be met by their CD budget or the available radio fare. It's great for making tapes, and you can learn all the names of songs and performers. Tell 'em I sent ya.

NOVEMBER 1996

Visual Arts Calendar STILL SHOWING

"Guild Gallery Grant Gala" Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans, 118 N. 4th Ave. Benefit sale of 300 works in several media donated by Summer Art Fair 1996 artists for new grant endowment fund for visual arts. Thru Dec. 8. 662-3382

Joan Rosenblum T'Marra Gallery, 111 N. First St. Retrospective of abstract painter thru Dec. 1996. 769-3223

Michigan Sculptors JJR/, 110 Miller. David Barr, Wendell Heers, Nancy Stevenson, Jay Lefkowitz, Norma Penchansky-Glasser, Jim Storm, Takashi Takahara, Lois Teicher, Russell Thayer, Mark Wallis, Marie Woo, John Piet show thru Dec. by appointment. 769-3223

"From the Alchemist's Fire" Park Gallery, 436 N. Park, Kalamazoo. Bronze sculptures by Kirk Newman, Carole Harrison, Frank Gallo, Norma Pechansky Glasser, Karin Kirulis, Jane Bunge Noffke, Frank J. Newman, Thomas Rowe, Richard Light, William Tye, Karla Wyss Tye & Paul Varga thru Jan. 15. 616-345-9242

"Common Ground: African Art and Affinities" U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. Juxtaposition of African artifacts with artifacts from other continents thru Jan., 1997. 764-0395

"Venice, Traditions Transformed" U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. Paintings, prints, drawings & rare books from the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation and the U-M. Exhibit thru Jan. 12. 764-0395

Images d'Épinal U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. First major USA exhibition of historic prints from French printmaking center thru Jan. 5. 764-0395

"Italy" Ann Arbor Main Library, 3rd Fl. Alice Crawford prints & drawings thru Dec. 994-8513

"Images of Empire: Flavian Fragments in Rome and Ann Arbor Reunited" Kelsey Museum of Archeology, 434 S. State. 15 fragments of Roman relief sculp-ture thru Feb. 17, 1997. 764-9304

Gifts of Art U-M Hospital. Howard Dombrowski, Sandra Somers, Sharon Drobney, Ann Arbor Women Painters, Mary S. Fallert, Andrea M. Tama, Mich. Surface Design Assc., Blanch exhibit thru Dec. 12. 936-ARTS

"Same Question/Different Answers"
Café Zola, 112 W. Washington. Berman
Gallery & Lighting Studio presents Judith
Ann Corba paintings & Nicolas van Krijdt
sculptures thru Dec. 11. 769-2020

Holiday Gifts Show Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Handcrafted gifts by regional artists thru Dec. 29. 994-8004

3 TUESDAY

"A Stronger Soul Within A Finer Frame: Portraying African Americans In The Black Renaissance" Opening 7-9 pm, Ann Arbor District Library Multi-Purpose Room, 343 S. 5th Ave. Rare books, posters & art from the Harlem Renaissance thru Jan. 5, '97, 994-8513

Chelsea Painters Pierpont Gallery, 2101 Bonisteel. Thru Dec. 19. 764-7544

5 THURSDAY. "Roadsides" Pierpont Atrium, 2101 Bonisteel Blvd. Vicky Veenstra lensless photographs thru Dec. 19. 7647544

6 FRIDAY

"Anamorphoses" Opening 8 pm, Galerie Jacques, 616 Wesley. French artist René Strubel's first one-man show in the USA. Drawings & paintings thru Jan. '97. 665-9889

13th Annual Winter Gallery Crawl 5-10 pm, starting from YWCA of Metro Detroit, 1411 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. Visit 34 galleries by bus w/guide, \$5, children free. Contact Ms. Jones, 313-259-9922

7 SATURDAY
Art Day in Ann Arbor 12-5 pm, open studios, galleries and art events throughout the area. More events in Ypsilanti this year. Free. Pick up map at Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau. 995-7281

Womyn's Arts & Crafts Winter Sale 10 am-5 pm, Gypsy Café, 214 N. 4th Ave. Many handmade items for sale. 994-3940

"Anamorphoses" Reception 2-6 pm, Galerie Jacques, 616 Wesley. See 6 Fri. listing. 665-9889

Art Day in Ann Arbor 12-5 pm. open studios, galleries and art events through-out the area. Free. Pick up map at Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau. 995-7281

"Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered" Opening 3-6 pm, Clare Spitler Works of Art, 2007 Pauline Ct. Alan Bray, John R. Cleary, Ivan Kende, Terry Marian Titus and others show thru Jan. 28, '97. 662-8914

13 FRIDAY

"Masked Revelations" 6-9 pm, Berman Gallery & Lighting Studio, 303 Detroit St., Ste. 104. Paintings by Taura thru Jan. 10, '97. 741-0571

14 SATURDAY

Tour of Daedalus Art Foundry 11am, 180 Center St., Petersburg MI. New Art League Second Saturday event fea-tures free tour of facility where metal is cast for artists. 313-279-1250.

SCREEN SCENE

By John Carlos Cantú

THE ENGLISH PATIENT

[1996. Directed by Anthony Minghella. Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Juliette Binoche, Kristen Scott Thomas. Miramax Films. 162 mins.]

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he good news is that The English Patient is as close to David Lean's filmmaking as anyone's crafted through this last decade. The bad news is that it's also closer to Ryan's Daughter than Brief Encounter.

Ace cinematographer John Seale has mas-

Ace cinematographer John Seale has masterfully captured the arid beauty of Tunisia's imposing desert. And editor Walter Murch has crafted an intriguing movie from an impossibly complicated premise. But Anthony Minghella's screenplay breathes a bit too much of Michael Ondaatje's dense 1992 Booker Prize-winning novel.

For all the story's interpersonal friction, there's an emotional void in *The English Patient* that doesn't persuasively connect its characters together. Chalk it up to British reserve — or blame Minghella himself — yet somewhat like the benighted flight that serves as the film's emblematic bookends: *The English Patient* crashes a bit prematurely.

World War II French-Canadian nurse Hana's

World War II French-Canadian nurse Hana's (Juliette Binoche) exhaustion with life causes her to abandon her unit so that she may sit out a nameless English aviator's painful death. She moves her patient to an abandoned Tuscan monastery and awaits his last breath. The film interpolates this tale — plus the nurse's short affair with Kip (Naveen Andrews), a Sikh demolition expert, and the arrival of a mysterious fellow Canadian, Caravaggio (Willem Defoe) — with the eventual death of her amnesiac patient.

The dying man's story, a Hungarian Count named Ladislaus de Almásy (Ralph Fiennes), revolves around his life between 1939 and 1944. Almásy has stranded himself in North Africa to avoid the messy emotional entrapments the world tends to present to lesser men and women. But flying into his life from out of nowhere comes vivacious British socialite, Katharine Clifton (Kristen Scott Thomas). Her map-maker husband, Geoffrey (Colin Firth), has led her to the end of the world in a airplane on his idea of a honeymoon.

RATING KEY

Acting

Aquirkoffate

leaves Almásy and Katherine

stranded in the

desert after an expedition acci-

dent. After they are rescued, they

find more interest in each other

than in mere car

tography. Geof-

frey's resulting

inability to come to terms with his

the film to its in-

alousy propels

Cinematography

Direction

Editing

Marrative

Sound

When a symbol appears following a title, it implies that the corresponding category is a strength of the movie.

The English

Patient unfolds back and forth — from Northern

Africa in 1939 to Tuscany in 1944 — leisurely
telling Hana's and Almásy's love stories. It's far
too much material for one film to bear and the
screenplay's elliptic nature only telegraphs its
major points.

Hence the comparison with David Lean. At his best, Lean rapidly developed character while simultaneously working on an extraordinarily broad cinematic canvas. Minghella, on the other hand, is swamped with competing strategic and tactical narrative details: Almásy is unremittingly churlish; Hana is emotionally underdeveloped; and Caravaggio is quite nearly superfluous. This leaves the Clifton's dual disappointments as the film's most compelling story.

ments as the film's most compelling story.

What's enthralling about The English Patient is Minghella's cobbling of a film out of a supposed unworkable plot. What he sacrifices in depth is compensated for in relentless narrative. He manages to hold his audience's attention despite the fact that he has to (by logical necessity) deflate what little suspense there is to be found in the story.

The English Patient is as artful a motion

The English Patient is as artful a motion picture as we're going to see released this year. Nearly unrelievedly angst-ridden, the film manages a dollop of optimism despite its aching world-weariness. It may seem a bit labored after all the effort, but by inferring that life can be salvaged by the simple act of caring, this flawed masterwork weaves a peculiarly effective magic despite its sundry obscurities.

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Coming in December Marvin's Room

A fiercely independent sister, who long ago left her parents and siblings behind, returns years later to the family manse, where older sister Bessie has been taking care of their bedridden father Marvin and their child-like aunt."—Boxoffice

Directed by Jerry Zak, with: **Meryl Streep, Diane Keaton**, **Robert De Niro**, Hume Cronyn, Gwen Verdon, Leonardo DiCaprio

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THE NUTTY PROFESSOR

[1996. Directed by Tom Shadyac. Cast: Eddie Murphy, Jada Pinkett, Larry Miller. Universal/MCA Home video. 95 mins.]

公一的田

ddie Murphy's back ... and he's back in a very big way.
Indeed, Tom Shadyac's The Nutty Profes-

indeed, Tom Shadyac's The Nutty Protessor proves three crucial facts about comedy in the 1990s: first, he's as much to blame for Ace Ventura Pet Detective as Jim Carrey; second, Murphy's at complete ease swiping Jerry Lewis' greatest all-time hit; and third, black humor has come a long, long way since Alfred Hitchcock and Step'n Fetchit.

It seems only yesterday — well, it was only yesterday — that Murphy's career was choking on the morass of Harlem Nights, The Distinguished Gentleman and A Vampire in Brooklyn. These aren't particularly bad films, but none of them have the soulful flair of his earlier 48 Hours, Beverly Hills Cop, or Coming to America.

Let's face it, America's funniest man of the 1980s has been gagging for some time on the fumes of his ego. As such, *The Nutty Professor* is a good road map illustrating Murphy's frustrations through this time. The film is meanspirited, misogynist, and downright misanthropic at times. But it's also unfailingly funny.

The Nutty Professor is everything we should warn our children about. No one — no race, no sex, no weight, no economic class, not even romance — comes out with dignity intact. Murphy's on a single-minded comedic mission in this movie and heaven save anyone who gets in his path.

But perhaps this is overstating the case a bit.

No. On second thought, *The Nutty Professor* is easily the most *un*funny hilarious film of 1996. And this is, paradoxically, why the film is a success.

In Jerry Lewis' hands, chemist Julius Kelp is a well-meaning schlemiel whose all-thumbs

scientific experiments turn him into his ex-nightclub partner, Dean Martin. After he drinks the secret love juice he's developed, Kelp's counterego, Buddy Love, is a smarmy smoothie of scholarly misdirection.

By contrast, Murphy's Sherman Klump isn't a squirrel in the least. Rather, he's a 400-pound bundle of tenured disappointment. And when he transmogrifies himself into his latent alter ego, he's not a vaguely over-the-hill crooner. This Buddy is a gangster of love.

This Buddy is a gangster of love.

That Murphy would parody himself as viciously as Lewis parodied Martin says a lot about both films ... and both comedians. For it takes a stretch of concentration to remember there was once a time when sophomoric humor wasn't meant as a direct insult to its audience. This was the distinction between vaudeville's camp and burlesque's shtick. Lewis always walked an unsteady line between these two styles of comedy, but he nearly always avoided dreck.

Murphy has no such qualms. He needs a laugh the way Klump needs a diet: in the worst way possible. The wonder is that a sort of softhearted comedy does indeed emerge from The Nutty Professor's overheated malignant lest

Nutty Professor's overheated malignant jest.

Most of the credit must go to Shadyac.
Amazingly, he keeps Murphy firmly in hand.
There are touches of gentle humor that another director might have dropped in the editing room.
Instead, Shadyac's uncanny ability to diffuse Murphy's acidic humor with an unlikely romance keeps the story running — and his leading man likable — despite himself at times.

Still, Eddie Murphy is Eddie Murphy. And he's in command from the first frame of this film to the last image. Playing a half-dozen characters might tire out most comedians, but the best (Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers, and, of course, Lewis himself) have always thrived in projects where multiple roles are de rigueur.

Just try to remember it's a movie when the mashed potatoes are being passed around the dinner table. *The Nutty Professor* is at its best (and simultaneous worst) when it tries to play itself out as real life.

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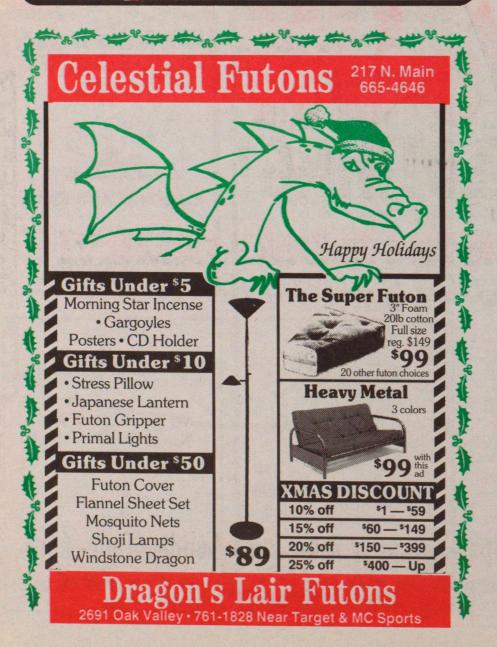
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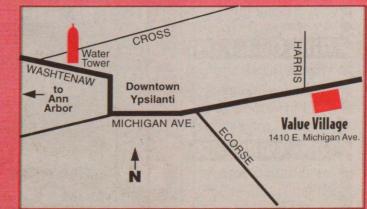
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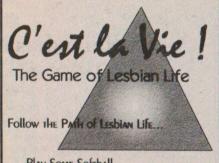
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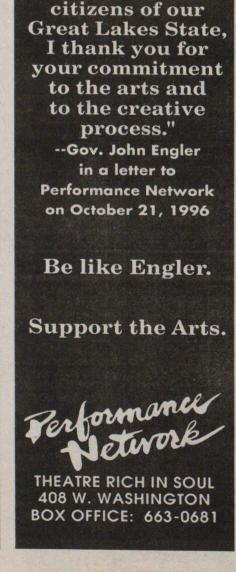
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"On behalf of the

LOCAL MUSIC

The View from Nowhere

By Alan Goldsmith

ood-bye Cava Java and hello The Gypsy Cafe. Starting this month, Joe Tiboni (fill in the blanks with historic facts about his days as a music life force involved with important rock and roll — flavored stuff like the Ann Arbor Free Concerts and Mr. Floods Party in the '70s, Joe's Star Lounge in the '80s and the laid back (sonically but not artistically) basement performance venue Cava Java in the '90s) has taken over the booking duties at The Gypsy.

Unfortunately, music has been axed from Cava

Unfortunately, music has been axed from Cava Java. While CJ hasn't been around quite long enough to wax nostalgic over, the cozy space with just the right everything (size, lighting, sound system and cosmic aura) was the first new spot in recent times to take seriously the new wave of singer/songwriters who've emerged as part of the Ann Arbor New Folk Underground. According to Mr. T, it's the same old story. The Cava Java owners weren't happy with the financial numbers, didn't have a clue about music and knew more about roasting coffee beans than art (I'm paraphrasing here ...). While Joe Tiboni continuing as a booker at The Gypsy Cafe without missing a beat is good news, the senseless and shortsighted end of Cava Java isn't.

By luck of the draw, Lisa Hunter and her band got the honor of headlining the last night at Cava Java to a packed, standing-room-only crowd. You should run out right this minute and pick up her new CD, Solid Ground (on the local Thursday Records label).

The contrast between her recorded work and her live show was interesting. Hunter is a strong candidate for having the best local release of the year with her collection of catchy, pop-influenced snapshots of personal highs and lows. With the record you get a spotlight blasting into a diary full of tell-no-one secrets with a meditative kind of quality that contrasts with boppy, hook-filled song structures. On stage however, Lisa Hunter can sing about these little scenes and tragedies totally relaxed and cheerful as a Moonie selling roses on a street corner. Telling jokes, and acting goofy oddly enough works in a live setting and the audience composed of obvious Lisa Hunter grouples (in the artistic sense) loved it. Is this face/stage act a triumph over the pain of the songs or a nervous veil that Hunter wears as she bares her soul in song? Probably a little of both. Either way Ms. Hunter is one of the more important singer/songwriters in Ann Arbor as we close out 1996.

With the death of music at Cava Java, there is new hope at the Main Street Espresso Royale Caffe. The coffee place has decided to seriously refocus on presenting live music. The plan now is for a six-month trial with the usual acoustic-influenced suspects. I caught another Thursday Records artist, Brian Lillie, for a Saturday night set and had mixed feelings about the venue. For Lillie, there was a pretty good crowd for a Saturday and the area near the stage seemed like the perfect spot to check out his music. But if you don't show up early and get stuck over by the coffee bar, good luck. Those damn espresso machines make way too much noise and mess with the musical ambiance. That didn't seem to bother Lillie though. While singing mostly tunes from his debut recording of last year, a pair of new songs, one called

"Bad Advice," a low key, introspective number about failing to listen to your soul, and another about his grandfather (a pilot during WW II), which became a folk crowd-participation-sing-along, shows that his CD was no fluke. And his carefully picked covers and references to Dylan, Springsteen and Lyle Lovett are evidence of the kind of performer Brian Lillie wants to be — an artist seeped in the American rock-influenced tradition with one eye on telling small truths and the other on having an audience join in.

Unfortunately, good news travels fast. I attempted to pop into The Gypsy Cafe for the Jen Cass and Friends tape release party last month but ... by ten o'clock, the small club was jammed to the roof and even standing room was not an option. While I'm not one to whine for the days about how nice it was when the GC audience was half-a-dozen people and you could grab a table five feet from the stage and how amazingly hip you were to have found such a place ahead of the pack ... it appears that bigger venues are the next logical step in response to the growth in the local

acoustic scene.

The idea of Michigan garage bands doing surf music in the 1990s is like watching a rerun of Happy Days — good, clean, dumb fun. There is nothing wrong with fun of course, and over the

nothing wrong with fun, of course, and over the past few years, this part of Michigan has been fertile ground for reverbing guitars and ethereal time-warped amphetamine-injected rock that flows from the roots of Dick Dale, The Ventures and hundreds of 60s groups who are probably all working in car washes now but at the time were creating slices, however obscure, of American rock and roll history. Surfin' The Spillway' (Happy Hour Records) is a 17-tune collection of SURF'S UP kickin', campy, local delights. The Prodigals are maybe the best known group here with four instrumentals, but from The Silencers to the Lustre Kings, this CD is a dance party classic for anyone who thinks rock and roll has to have words or an inner meaning or a "purpose." The BEAT is the purpose, silly ... And you're not going to find any better surf music anywhere, unless you can come up with a time machine with its destination

On a final note, as a newspaper junkle it's been heartbreaking to watch the corporate fascists of Gannett and Knight-Ridder in their attempt to bust the unions involved in the strike against The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press that has gone on for well over a year. And, on a personal note, I ALWAYS toss in the trash anything any of you out-of-touch punks who are dumb enough to actually send me something to review with a QUOTE from one of the above scab papers — I'm funny that way. (Pre-strike quotes are OK ... just so you know). Having said that, be ready to mark Thursday, December 5th on your calendar and catch the All Star Benefit Concert for the 2,000 striking newspaper employees still out there struggling for justice, at The Ark, where for \$15 you can catch the very best of the local singer/songwriter scene. Dick Siegel, Frank Allison, Jay Stielstra, Audrey Becker, Lisa Hunter, Jo Serrapere, David Mosher, Jere Stormer, K.C. Groves, Chris Buhalis, drivetrain, and others will be using their songs to light

The Vew From Nowhere, 220 S. Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104; or e-mail to: Alannarbor@aol.com.

a few candles in the darkness.



NEW RELEASES

By William Shea

Kula Shaker • K • Columbia

Over the past year or so Apple Records has released "The Beatles Anthology," a series of six CDs which ostensibly deliver a strong yet comprehensive review of the Beatles' recording career and a clear picture of their talents and influence on the entire popular music field since the 1960s.

Included is the first Beatle recording, demos by Lennon and McCartney, and studio out-takes of some of the best Beatle material. The scope of this collection is breath-taking. We hear raw renditions of "Hey Jude," "Strawberry Fields

Forever," and "The Long and Winding Road," all in their infant stage. But be-

But besides hearing the creative genius of the Beatles blossom and grow into the full bloom of



the product we're all so familiar with, we also hear the influential power of the Beatles as exemplars of popular music. We hear the pop sensitivities, the rocking guitar licks, and jolting sonic blitzes that have come to define both rock and pop music as we know them today. In fact, one could argue that much of the music in rock and pop would be radically different if not for the musical doors opened by the Beatles.

musical doors opened by the Beatles.
It should not be surprising that it is in Great Britain where one hears much of the Beatles influence. Not to suggest that it started with the group Oasis, but they were one of the first groups to carry the pop instrumentation and vocal harmonies found in much of the Beatles' pop music to the states. Another British group which carries on this long musical tradition of the Beatles is Kula Shaker.

Kula Shaker is a quartet consisting of Crispian Mills, guitar, tamboura (son of famed movie star, Hayley Mills); Alonzo Bevan, bass, piano, tabla; Jay Darlington, organ; and Paul Winterhart,

drums. Their music is Beatle-esque in that it often combines the sounds (and philosophies) of Indian music with the rollicking sounds of the Hammond B-3 organ, the screaming wah-wah electric guitar, and a sprawling production by John Leckie. Laced with, to use their words, "a much needed dose of lysergic chemicals," the results could be a musical extension of the Beatles' "Helter Skelter"—loud, dissonant, driving and mystical. Couple this sonic perspective with their tight vocal harmonies and esoteric lyrics and one gets a very accessible and appealing recording.

Although the entire CD is strong, two cuts stand out: the irreverent "Grateful When You're Dead (Jerry Was There)" and the brilliant "Tattva." The first sort of mixes Eastern mysticism with Grateful Dead mantra drone music and swirling psychedelia. It's as if the Dead had incorporated more Indian instrumentation and feelings into their extended jams—far out in oh so many ways. "Tattva" is again Eastern in flavor but is propelled musically by Western melodies and harmonies. The result is a very catchy tune imbued with idiosyncratic textures and sounds—á la the Beatles in their Maharishi period. If you have a friend looking for new, good and different pop music, pick this one up as a holiday gift.

Rock For Choice • O Come All Ye Faithful • Sony

Rock For Choice was founded in 1991 by the all-female rock band L7, music journalist Sue Commings, and the Feminist Majority Foundation. Since that time they have garnered support from the rock community, including members of Pearl Jam, Fishbone, Rage Against the Machine, David Byrne, Iggy Pop and others, and organized concerts to galvanize both the music community and fans in the support of abortion rights. Now they have released a CD featuring some of the best alternative music purveyors around. Entitled "O Come All Ye Faithful," this 13-song disc compiles the works of Henry Rollins, Sponge, Juliana Hatfield, Bush, Luscious Jackson, The Presidents of the United States, and others.

This should make a fine stocking-stuffer. It opens with a recitation by Henry Rollins of the seasonal chestnut "Twas The Night Before Christmas." Replete with eerie sound effects—helicopters, missiles, and gun shots—it is a good representative piece of Rollins' poetic performance style. Dance Hall Crashers do a rocking number on their "I Did it For The Toys." It's loud, fast, just the thing to go with spiked egg nog.

Juliana Hatfield does a wonderful job on her "Make It Home"—raspy, melodic, touching, acoustic. Shudder To Think shows that a seasonal recording does not mean just Christmas. Their rendition of the traditional "Al Hanisim" is stunningly beautiful. Wool does a heavy version of their "Xmas It's Christmas." One has to love the line: "Another Christmas in LA, Another sunny



alternative spirit. Bush's "Good King Something-orother" is a live recording sounding like an egg nog orgy. The slurred words of the opening carol slide into a ragged ren-

a ragged rendition of "Hey Joe (Where You Going With That Gun In Your Hand)."

Luscious Jackson does a compelling job on their "Queen of Bliss." Sounding mid-Eastern in texture and incorporating some unusual rhythm patterns, this is perhaps the strongest musical piece of the recording. Mike Watt and The Crew of the Flying Saucer combine dual drummers and squealing dissonant guitar on their aberration called "The Little Drummer Boys." Probably the funniest cut on the CD is the Presidents of the United States Of America's "Christmas Piglet." Chanting "Holy Piglet, Ho-Ho-Ho" over and over again, the marching ragtime piano accompanying howling idiots makes for great fun.

Another strong cut is John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War Is Over)" sung by Cranes. Although the message of the tune is mixed (or is it?), this version is as strong as Lennon's original and a valued addition. Face To Face do a rather tipsy version of Elvis' "Blue Christmas." The harmonies waver slightly, but the two-step rhythm compels one to stare longingly into the eyes of one's partner as you sashay under the mistletoe. Deep Forest and Wes Madiko end the recording with a world music number entitled "Nemene." The production is luscious and the high-tenor harmonies are exquisite.

All in all, I'd recommend this fine recording to all your politically correct friends and to those who want to hear a very good holiday recording.



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Send your Literary Events for the JANUARY issue of AGENDA by Dec. 15 to: AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

1 Sunday

Rhythm Writers: Shaman Drum Bookshop 2 pm, 315 S. State St. Micro-workshop on "Where Poems Come From" by LAURENCE W. THOMAS. Featured writers are IRV BARAT, a Canadian poet known for his humor and keen insight, and CHARLES ZWINAK who says one of the reasons he writes poetry is "Once when I was 10, I rolled out of bed and could not walk." Open Mic at 3:30 pm. Music, munchies, even prose. Donations accepted. (810) 652-8568

"Kerry Tales—Time for Toys & Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops 2 pm, Workbench, 2nd floor children's furniture, 410 N. Fourth Ave. Mother Goose, TRUDY BULKLEY, entertains with rhymes, riddles & good fun. 769-3115

2 Monday

Reading: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. With lyricalstyle Detroit poet, ARIA. Also featuring MONICA POPE, organizer of Monroe's Sole Hole Poets. 913-4574

3 Tuesday

Drop-In Storytime: West Branch Library 9:30-10 am, Westgate Shopping Center. Stories and songs geared for ages 3 and up. 994-1674

Drop-in Storytime: A2 District Library 4-4:30 pm, Youth Dept., 343 S. 5th Ave. Stories about snow and winter geared for ages 3 and up. 994-2345

Reading: Green Room & EMU 7:30 pm, Intermedia Gallery, McKinney Union, EMU, Ypsi, Graduating Creative Writing M.A. students, HEATHER SWEENEY and GARY LINTON, will read fiction and poetry. 482-9774

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam: Heidelberg 8 pm, The Heidelberg Club Above, 215 N. Main. Featuring RAY McNIECE, an artist known for his poetry, music, storytelling, acting and video work. Open mic, \$3 cover. 426-3451

4 Wednesday

Drop-In Storytime: Loving Branch Library 9:30-10 am. Stories and songs geared for ages 3 and up. 994-2353

Drop-In Storytime: A2 District Library 6:30-7 pm (see 3 Tue)

Reading: Borders Books 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. ROY F. BAUMEISTER will read and sign copies of his new book, "Evil: Inside Human Violence and Cruelty." The author takes evidence from psychology, criminology, anthropology, sociology, etc. to provide insights on the "whys" of evil through current and historical examples. 668-7652

Reading: Shaman Drum Bookshop 8 pm, 315 S. State. Internationally best-selling author JAMES ELLROY reads from his new book, "My Dark Places." Here he tells his own tragic autobiography. In 1958 when Ellroy was ten years old his mother was murdered, her body left on a roadway. Her murderer was never found. Her son became a radically provocative writer of crime novels. Reception to follow. 662-7407

5 Thursday

Drop-In Storytime: Northeast Branch Library 9:30-10 am, Plymouth Mall.
Stories and songs geared for ages 3 and up. 996-3180

Harlem Renaissance Reading: Borders Books & Links, Inc. 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Inspired by the University Musical Society's production of "The Harlem Nutcracker," Borders Books will present a multi-media evening for adults on this exciting period. DR. HAZEL TURNER will read and talk about the works of LANGSTON HUGHES; DR. SHIRLEY JENKINS-PHELPS will talk about the art of AARON DOUGLAS; and



Author JAMES ELLROY will be reading from his latest novel, "My Dark Places," at Shaman Drum. (see 4 Wed)

KELLIE M. WINGO will present and talk about her video "The Artistic Influence and Contribution of DR. EVA JESSYE, Harlem Renaissance Artist, to the Ann Arbor, Mich. Community." 668-7652

Reading: Shaman Drum Bookshop 8 pm, 315 S. State. SHIRLEY GEOK-LIN LIM reads from "Among the White Moon Faces: An Asian-American Memoir of Homelands." The book lays bare her life in colonized and war-torn Malaysia, her immigration to the U.S., and her struggles to find a voice as a writer and Asian American. Reception to follow. 662-7407

6 Friday

Reading: Shaman Drum Bookshop 8 pm, 315 S. State St. MICHAEL ERIC DYSON reads from his new book "Race Rules: Navigating the Color Line." This former welfare father, Baptist minister and Professor of Communications Studies is best known for his passion for popular culture and commitment to urban youth. 662-7407

Reading: The Mark Webster Reading Series 8 pm, West Conference Rm., Rackham Hall. Featuring the fiction of JOHNFULTON and the poetry of TASHA ANTONELLO, both 2nd-year students in U-M's MFA Creative Writing Program. Reception to follow. 764-6296

Tribute to Jim Gustafson—First Fridays: Galerie Jacques 9 pm, 616 Wesley. A Tribute to beloved Detroit poet Jim Gustafson. With KEN MIKOLOWSKI, SARAH PETERS, DENNIS TEICHMAN, MICK VRANICH, CHRISTINE MONHOLLEN, GLEN MANNISTO, DEREK MILLER, MARK GRAFE, THOM JUREK, RON ALLEN, and MAURICE GREENIA, JR. 665-9889

7 Saturday

Harlem Renaissance Children's Hour: Borders Books and Links, Inc.11 am, 612 E. Liberty. Program: "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a talk about the song and the man who wrote the lyrics, JAMES WELDON JOHNSON will present the opportunity to learn or relearn an important part of our history and African-American heritage. With DR. NORA MARTIN and DOLORES ANDERSON, 668-7652

Reception & Book Signing: Shaman Drum Bookshop 1-3 pm, 315 S. State St. NORMAN G. FINKLESTEIN will be on hand to celebrate the publication of his new book, "The Rise and Fall of Palestine: A Personal Account of the Intifada." The book focuses on the daily lives of a Christian Palestinian family from two Refugee Camps. 662-7407

Reading: Shaman Drum Bookshop 8 pm, 315 S. State GEORGE RABASA will read from his new book of short stories, "Glass Houses," and JONIS AGEE will read from her new work. "Glass Houses," Rabasa's first book, brings together stories of people striving for safety and security who fall vulnerable to unexpected disruptions. 662-7407

9 Monday

Reception & Book Signing: Shaman Drum Bookshop 4-6 pm, 315 S. State Receptionfor Californiastatesenator TOM HAYDEN to celebrate his new book, "The Lost Gospel of the Earth: A Call for Renewing Nature, Spirit, and Politics." The book articulates a call for reclaiming the ecological wisdom of Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism and Native Traditions for the 21st century. 662-7407

Reading: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Featured are the complex, emotion-filled works of Community High School student LAURA ANDERSON, and poems associated with urban upheaval, children and race by Hamtramckwriter, HEATHER BOTTORFF. 913-4574

10 Tuesday

Drop-In Storytime: West Branch Library 9:30-10 am (see 3 Tue)

Booked for Lunch: A2 District Library 12:10-1 pm, Multi-Purpose Room, 343 S. 5th Ave. Discuss the writer's craft with nationally-known bestselling mystery and western author, LOREN ESTLEMAN. 994-2352

Drop-In Storytimes: A2 District Library 4-4:30 pm, Youth Dept., 343 S. 5th Ave. Nighttime stories geared for ages 3 and up. 994-2345

Reception & Book Signing: Shaman Drum Bookshop 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. In 1983, U-M Anthropologist VAL DANIEL "walked into the ashes and mortal residue" of the violence that had occurred in his homeland of Sri Lanka. His planned project, the study of two women's folksongs as ethnohistory, was immediately displaced by his feelings of responsibility to recount the horrors he witnessed there. He will be on hand to sign copies of the result, his newbook, "Charred Lullabies: Chapters in an Anthropology of Violence." 662-7407

"Word of Mouth": The Green Room 9 pm, 206 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsi. This monthly (2nd Tue) multimedia series tonight features poets JOE MATUZAK and SARA GROSKY and music by AB-DURRAHMAN BARIS. 482-9774

11 Wednesday

Drop-In Storytime: Loving Branch Library 9:30-10 am (see 4 Wed)

Drop-In Storytimes: A2 District Library 6:30-7 pm (see 10 Wed)

Book Discussion: A2 District Library 7-9 pm, Multi-Purpose Room, 343 S. 5th Ave. DR. DEBORAH GRAYSON will lead a discussion of the Harlem Renaissance work, "The Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man," by JAMES WENDALL JOHNSON. 994-2333

Fiction Writing Workshop 7:30 pm, call for location. Fiction-writer, editor and teacher, JOSHUA HENKIN, will lead a free sample fiction-writing workshop. Discussion will focus on plot and structure, character, dialogue, tone, voice and suspense. 761-9865

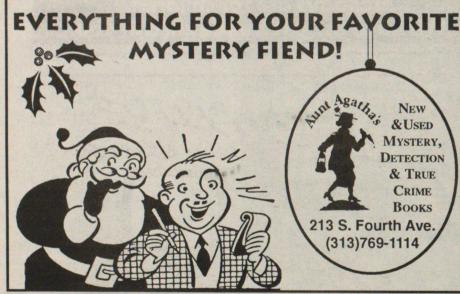
Reading & Book Signing: Borders Books 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Five Detroit News Reporters puttogether "A Legacy of Champions," the history of U-M football. Some or all of the writers — BOB WOJNOWSKI, JOHN BACON, ANGELIQUE CHENGELIS, CHRIS McCOSKY and JOE FALLS — will be there to field questions. 668-7652

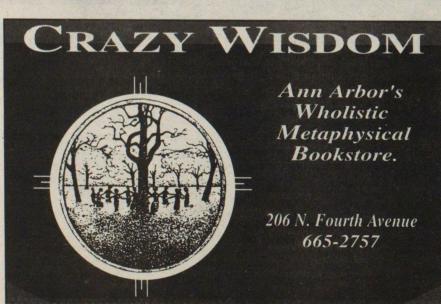
12 Thursday

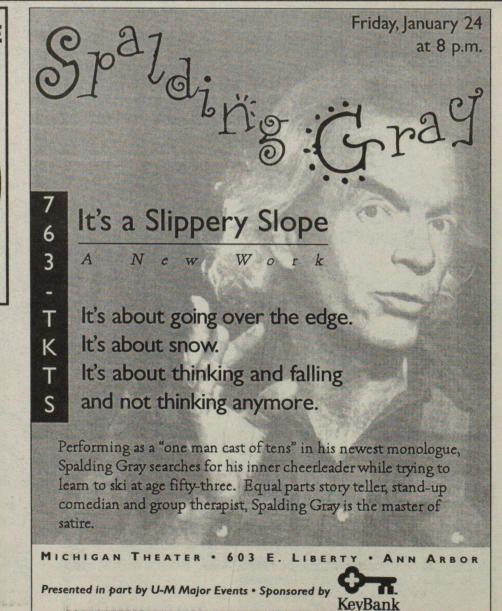
Drop-In Storytime: Northeast Branch Library 9:30-10 am (see 5 Thu)

13 Friday

Publication Celebration: Shaman Drum Bookshop 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. U-M Professors, IRA KONIGSBERG and LAURENCE GOLDSTEIN will present their co-edited book "The Movies: Texts, Receptions, Exposures." Both men are professors of English and Konigsberg is also







professor of Film/Video Studies. Their book describes in deep-focus detail and from a variety of perspectives, the history, art, and technology of motion pictures through visual art and writing. 662-7407

Reading & Book Signing: Borders Books 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. DON CANHAM will be on hand for a Q & A session about his book "From the Inside: A Half-Century of Michigan Athletics," the story of his 50 years from athlete to athletic director and how U-M rose to become a major contender in intercollegiate athletics. 668-7652

14 Saturday

Children's Hour: Borders Books 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. ANNETTE BOW-MAN will be in the guise of the Winter Fairy to tell stories about the fun of the

Readings from the Harlem Renaissance: A2 District Library & Links, Inc. 2-4 pm, Main Library, Multi-Purpose Room, 343 S. 5th Ave. Poetry and readings from this vital era, as well as personal stories by members of the A2 Chapter of the Links, Inc. (a sional women's organization engaged in educational and intercultural activities). 994-2333

Slide Presentation: Shaman Drum Bookshop 8 pm, 315 S. State. This summer KARL POHRT, Shaman Drum's owner and founder, traveled with Dordogne cave-drawing expert and EMU Professor, CLAYTONESHLEMAN to Paleolithic cave sites in France. Come see the slides of the drawings and hear the two men talk about the history of the sites. "They are wildly beautiful, and they rekindle in the viewer a sharp sense of wonder about our place in the larger scheme of things," says Pohrt. 662-7407

CRIME MEMOIR

MY DARK PLACES

By James Ellroy Knopf, 1996 360 pages, \$25

By Jamie Agnew Owner of Aunt Agatha's

mno New Critic — when I read I can't help but wonder how the text relates to the author's life — how much of it is "true." When I read James Ellroy I really have to wonder, mostly be-cause it's no secret that his mother was murdered when he was ten.

When it was revealed that as an adolescent, Anne Perry had a hand in the killing of a friend's mother I was shocked. I would never have guessed, although now that I know, of course, I think I can see the cracks of an autobiographical pattern through the surface of her books' fictive veneer, the traces of the strategy she uses to deal with such a past. Perry's character William Monk is an amnesiac, and the more he remembers about his stranger self's history, the more unsettled he becomes. As she writes in

her latest novel in paperback, "Cain His Brother": "He had no idea what lay in his past beyond the last couple of years, and perhaps even more frightening than that, what lay in his character ... Memories of those awful moments were still there, buried in his mind, sometimes

troubling his dreams."

But instead of trying to dam up the rush of the past by classifying it as an un-knowable country when the self was another person, Ellroy has submerged himself in the crime and the time, aspects of it playing out in all his books, but never more so than in his new crime mem-oir, "My Dark Places." Like Sylvia Plath, another great writer who lost an opposite sex parent at the vulnerable age between separation and adulthood, Ellroy has made mythology out of his trauma, worrying the primal wound into a magnificent scar which gives power and distinction to his corpus.

"My Dark Places" is divided into four distinct parts. The first is a Jack Webb justthe-facts style cop-eye view of Jean Ellroy's murder, young James (or Lee Earl as he was then known) glimpsed in the third person periphery

as a strangely unmoved ten year old. After cutting through cross section of lower middle class 1958 California USA, the investigation grinds to an inconclusive halt.

The second part is by far the strongest. In it Ellroy unleashes his autobiography, as wild a beast as any of his fictions. With a cold eye and frightening honesty he reveals all his twisted inspirations and sublimations, exposing the deepest roots of his writing, his prose soaring and be-bopping to new heights. This is what his fans have been avid to read, and Ellroy doesn't fail them, testifying a true confession that fascinates even as its lan-

The third part introduces Bill Stoner, the Homicide Detective assigned to the Un-solved. Eliroy presents Stoner as a prototypical Ellroy Cop, justice-driven and corpse-obsessed, a living, brilliant precis of contemporary LA crime.

The final part goes back into the first person, recounting Stoner and Ellroy's attempt to track down Jean's killer almosī 40 years later. There's a second headlong race through the facts, faces and photographs of the case,

this time with computers and 800 numbers, but it all hangs up into the same dead end.

In time, however, both Ellroy and the reader realize that the true mystery is not the identity of the putative killers, the "swarthy man" and his blond, pony-tailed accom-plice, but the identity of Jean Ellroy herself. Unlike Plath who adored her father in life then grew ambivalent after his death, Ellroy disliked his mother at the time of her murder, preferring his slothful father and his negative vision of his ex-wife. It's only through his process of cog-nition and research that he's able to not simply despise or idealize her, but begin to see her something like she really was, and through the reflec-tion of her into his own real self. For a writer who has resolutely charted the heroic and destructive aspects of male behavior, it's a breaking out of the female anima, a reconciliation of the warring parts of his nature and our

Just as all fiction has an element of autobiography, so all autobiography has an ele-ment of fiction; in the end "My Dark Places" is an amazing, mind-blowing, unclass-ifiable, incredible fucking book. James Ellroy's audacity, poetry and veracity are aralleled in contemporary writing and this book is a magic key, not only to his life and work, but to the mysteries of our dark and violent

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16 Monday

Reading: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. JERRY MEREDITH will share his clever series of greeting cards and poet PAMELA GOLDEN will read her free

22 Sunday

Reading & Book Signing: Michigan Theater & Borders Books 1-3 pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty. GARRISON KEILLOR and JENNY LIND NILLSON will be signing copies of their newbook, "The Sandy Bottom Orchestra." This is a children's story

about Rachel Green and her eccentric parents. Hermothercrusades against bad grammar and her father cries when he hears classical music. Rachel fears that she is becoming a nerd due to their influence. The book tells the story of how she grows up and grows away from childhood. 668-7652





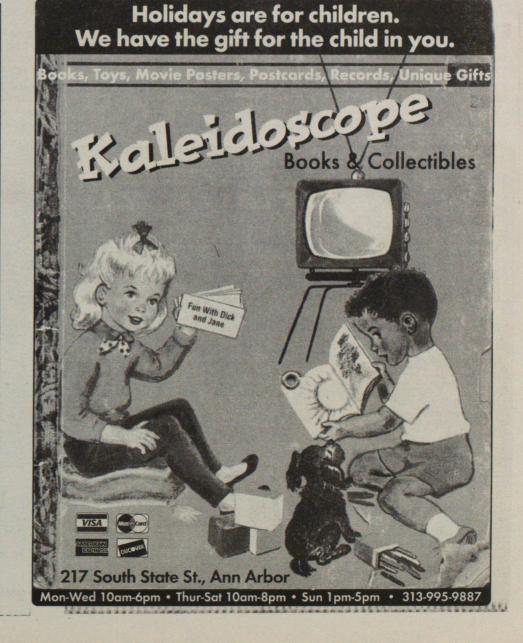
Thanks to YOUR patronage, we've not only survived our FIRST YEAR, but we have continued to GROW and add PUBLICATIONS and rearrange our SPACE on Main Street due to YOUR suggestions and input. So THANKS Thanks a lot. Your PARTICIPATION and GENIUS have helped make this happen. STOP IN and SEE US soon.



MAIN STREET NEWS

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DECEMBER

LITERARY EVENTS

Book & Poetry Readings, Publication Parties, Writers Groups, etc. are listed in the LITERARY EVENTS Calendar (pages 16-17).

VISUAL ARTS

Art Exhibitions, Workshops, Artist Opportunities, etc., are listed in the VISUAL ARTS Calendar (page 10).

Unless otherwise noted, all events in this Calendar are FREE and open to the public

To publicize January Calendar events, send information by December 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public. All locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

1 Sunday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 10:30 am, Canham. Kelly 663-0036 or Charley 482-2450

Mulligan Stew: Upstairs at Borders 1 pm, Borders Books & Music, 612 E. Liberty. Holiday tunes with an Irish flavor. 668-7652

Gemini: The Ark 1 & 3 pm, 316 S. Main. A2's family music duo, \$6, 761-1800

Country Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-5pm, Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard. 21st annual Yuletide event with caroling, music, food preparations, and crafts of the holiday. 994-2928

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 2 & 7 pm, 137 Park St, Chelsea. Written by Jeff Daniels: Annie is in for surprises when she gets a lease on Apt. 3A, \$15 (Wed, Thu, Sun)/\$20 (Fri &

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 & 7:30 pm pm, Masonic Temple, Detroit. Andrew Lloyd Weber's mega-musical hit continues. \$20-\$65. 810-645-6666

"Counter Media—Off the Record": Peace InSight 2 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. The 1996 Dem. convention in Chicago—what the media refused to show. 769-7422

"Circles Lines & Squares": Swing City Dance Studio 3-5 pm, 1960 S. Industrial. Workshop in Dances of the British Isles. \$6.668-7782

"it's a Wonderful Life": Croswell Opera House 3 pm, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. The holiday movie comes to life in a song- and dance-laden musical.

\$15 gen. admission, \$13 seniors & students, \$5 children (under 15). 517-263-6868

Meeting: Gay & Lesbian Buddhist Fellowship 4-6 pm, call for location. Meditation, Dharma talk, discussion, and socializing. 313-283-6568

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm, 122 W. Washington. Live music. 761-2530

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan Comm. Church 6 pm, 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 677-1418

U-M Jazz Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 6-9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. With surprise special guests, no cover. 662-8310

Christmas Light Display: Domino's Farms 6-10 pm (every night thru 31 Tue). Proceeds to benefit charities. Donation \$5 per vehicle (weekdays), \$7 (weekends). 663-3555

"The Couch": Performance Network 7 pm, 408 W. Washington. Romantic comedy by Lynne Kaufman, \$9-\$12.

II-V-I Orchestra: Heidelberg 7-9:30 pm, 215 N. Main. Big band jazz, \$3. 663-7758

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm, downstairs (back entrance), 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 721-2081

Reggae & World Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm-midnight, 114 E. Washington. Live music with the PM Brothers, no cover, 213-1393

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm, 208 S. First St. Guest musicians join house band, The Terraplanes, \$2. 971-2469

Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm-1 am, 207 S. Ashley. With Paul Finkbeiner & Friends, no cover. 662-8310

"Echoes": WUOM 91.7 FM 10 pm-12 midnight. Weekly radio program of music and artist interviews. Tonight's program: "A Society of Siblings" with Robert Bly 764-9210



SUZANNE WILLETS BROOKS and ERNIE NOLAN are featured in the Performance Network's production of THE SILENT PRINCESS (see 13 Fri-29 Sun)

2 Monday

Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus call for time and place. A Lesbian, Gay, Bi, and Trans chorus open for all. Meets every Mon. 741-8000 x140

Career Networking & Support Group: Soundings—A Center for Women 10-11:30 am, 4090 Packard. Meets weekly, \$10 session. 973-7723

Women's Support Group: LGBPO 5 pm, LGBPO Lounge, Mich. Union 3rd Floor. Meets every Mon. 763-4186

"Gettysburg—A Crossroad in American Democracy": Lifespan Learning 7 pm, Depot Town Center, Ypsilanti. Lecture. \$10, 487-0407

"Finding Our Creative Selves" Workshop: Soundings 7-9 pm, 4090 Packard. Weekly through Dec. 9, \$120. 973-7723

Shiron Committee Meeting: Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Group dedicated to compiling a pluralistic songbook with a sampling from each minyan at Hillel. 769-0500

"Evening Voyages: Tunes & Tales": A2 District Library 7-7:45 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave, Lower Level Multi-Purpose Rm. For listeners 6 and up only. 994-2345

"A Cello Christmas": Borders 1 pm, 612E. Liberty. Maestro Santa (Geoffrey Simon) will visit to share stories and candy cane batons and to promote his new CD! 668-7652

HIV & Recovery: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm, meets every Monday. For HIV-positive men & women who are chemically dependent. 800-578-2300 "On A-I-R": WUOM 91.7 FM 8 pm. Broadcast of "Artists-in-Radio" program featuring soprano Lauren Wagner in conversation and recital. Tonight's Program: "Frenchand Spanish Songs." 764-9210

"Letters Home": Talk to Us Theatre Troupe/Hillel 8 pm, place TBA. Interactive theatre troupe deals with the subject of college life. 769-0500

Mondays in Leonardo's: Pierpont Commons 8-10 pm, 2101 Bonisteel, North Campus. Randy Napoleon & friends play jazz, classic and original. 764-7544

Monday Night Out Group: LGBPO 9 pm, Lord of Light Lutheran Church, 801 S. Forest. Weekly social for lesbians, bisexual people, and gay men. 763-4186

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm-1 am, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley. 12-piece big band jazz, \$3. 662-8310

3 Tuesday

"Downtown Sounds": A2 District Library 12:10-1 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave, Lower Level Multi-Purpose Rm. Featuring: The Ypsilanti Chamber Singers. 994-8513

Meeting: LILA/LGBPO 12:15 pm, 405 West Hall. 763-4186

String Figure Fun: A2 District Library 6-7 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave. Marcia Gaynor leads an instructional session for ages 8 and up, pre-register. 994-2345

Israel Tuesday News Schmooze: American Movement for Israel 6 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Kosher dinner, news updates, and discussion. 769-0500 Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6-10 pm. For gay & bisexual men. Confidential. 800-578-2300

Tenant Talk: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-6:30 pm. Call-in radio show with Pattrice Maurer of the A2 Tenants Union. 763-3500

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm (walkers) & 6:30 pm (runners), meet outside Food & Drug Mart, Packard and Stadium. 747-8947

Meeting: Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm. Meets every Tue. Call Alan or Joe for location, 662-2222

"Dancing Through Menopause": Lifespan Learning 6:30 pm, Depot Town Center, Ypsilanti. Lecture, \$10. 487-0407

"Fist Stick Knife Gun": Peace InSight 7 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. Broadcast of Oct. talk by Geoffrey Canada about youth and violence. 769-7422

Druidic Lore & Magic Tradition: Shining Lakes Grove 7-8:30 pm, Ancient Formula Natural Foods, 1677 Plymouth Rd. Workshop series. 485-8632

"Travel Secrets at the End of the Rainbow": Queer University 7-9 pm, call for location. ALTR Travel workshop on queer travel issues. 763-4186

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm, every Tue. Support groupformen & women. Call HARC for info. 800-578-2300

University Choir: U-M School of Music 8 pm, First Congregational Church. 764-0594

Early Music Ensemble: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Blanche Anderson Moore Hall. 764-0594

Guest Recital: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Recital Hall, Moore Bldg., U-M North Campus. 764-0594

Video Planning Meeting: Peace InSight 8 pm, Expresso Royale Caffell, 214 S. Main. Help produce shows for local cablecast on peace & social justice issues. 761-7749

Gillian Welch: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Bluegrass-inspired performer, \$10.761-1800

"Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm, Kimball High School, Royal Oak. Charley 482-2450 or Kelly 663-0036

Live Jazz: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pmmidnight, 114 E. Washington. With the Kneset Jazz Quartet, no cover. 213-1393 "Hit and Run": Residence Hall Repetory Theatre/Hillel 9 pm, Mosher Jordan. An exploration of sexual, verbal and physical assault through music, poetry, dance, improvisation, and comedy. 332-8932

Acid Jazz Night: Prism/Bird of Paradise 9 pm-1 am, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley. DJ Bubblicious spinning hipbop and acid jazz favorites, \$3. 662-8310

4 Wednesday

Tyke Program—Mid Winter Dream: A2 Parlss & Rec 10-11:30 am & 1-2:30 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver. Ages 4-5 will learn secrets of winter through readings, games and demos, \$25/child for 3 Weds., pre-register. 662-7802

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks and Rec 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. Special activities for children, rink admission \$2 youths & seniors, \$2.50 adults. 971-3228

Opera Workshop Performance: U-M School of Music 5 pm, McIntosh Theater, Moore Bldg., U-M North Campus. Operatic and Shakespearean scenes. 764-0594

Gay Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm. Closets R 4 Clothes (6 pm) shares the hour with Radio Q (6:30 pm). News and more for the Les/Bi/Gay communities, 763-3500

"Cooking with Chef Marilyn—Exceptional Holiday Appetizers & Garnishes": Lifespan Learning 6 pm, Depot Town Center, Ypsilanti. Lecture, \$25, 487-0407

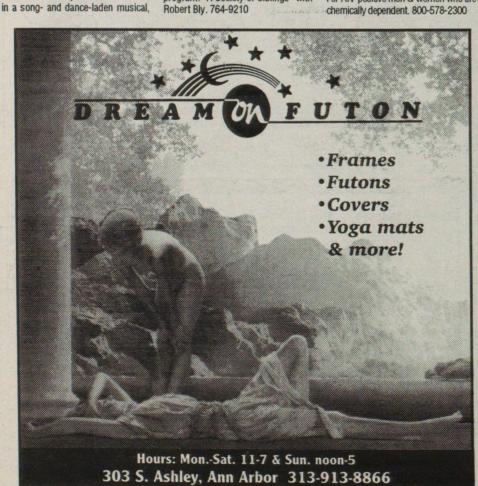
Lesbian Survivor Support Group 6:30-8 pm, SAFE House, 4100 Clark Rd. Weekly meeting for lesbian survivors of lesbian battering. 973-0242 x201

Meeting: Reform Chavurah 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Services, social events, speakers, educational programs & social action projects. Lisa 669-0388

Men's Support/Discussion Group: LGBPO 7 pm, LGBPO Lounge, Mich. Union 3rd floor. Meets every Wed. 763-4186

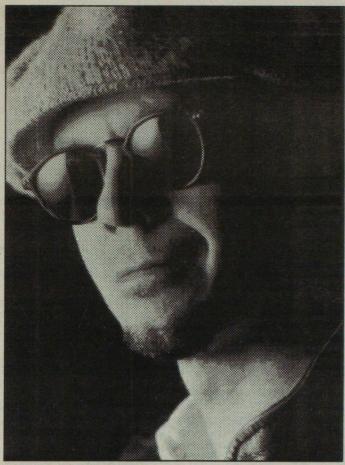
Holiday Party: VINE 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. A2 vegetarian group invites you to share in a festive food-sharing party. Bring a vegan dish and your recipe to trade with others, \$1 if you bring a dish, \$4 if you don't bring one. 426-8525

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm, every Wed. Support group for men and women. Call HARC for info. 800-578-2300



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JERE STORMER is just one of a slew of local entertainers including Dick Siegel, Frank Allison, and Lisa Hunter — who will take the stage at The Ark in a Benefit for Striking Newspaper Workers, (see 5 Thu)

Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council 7:30 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. Simplified approach to shamanic traditions, 665-3522

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Perform or listen, \$3. 761-1800

"Orange Then Blue": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Highly respected, Brooklyn NY-based, 12-piece jazz ensemble, \$15. 663-0681

Britton Extravaganza: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. 4th Ave. Kevin Blysma, pianist & Friends perform songs written by Benjamin Britton, \$5-\$10.769-

Jazz Ensemble: U-M School of Music 8 pm. Rackham Aud. 764-0594

Chanticleer: University Musical Society 8 pm, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 2270 E. Stadium. Highly esteemed, all-male vocal ensemble performing a selection of sacred music ranging from Renaissance to contemporary gospel music, \$20 gen. admission. 764-2538

U-M Folk Dancing Club: Pierpont Commons 8-10:30 pm, Leonardo's, 2101 Bonisteel, North Campus. Learn a variety of international dances, beginners no partner needed. 662-4258

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Irish Night: Arbor Brewing Co. 8:30-11:30 pm, 114 E. Washington. Live mu-sic with the A2 Irish Ensemble, no cover. 213-1393

Invasion of Improv: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Featuring the Portuguese Rodeo Clown Company, \$6/\$3 students. 996-9080

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm-1 am, 207 S. Ashley. With Bassist Ron Brooks, pianist Rick Roe, drummer Pete Siers. \$3, 662-8310

Meeting: East Quad Group 9-11 pm, call for location. A social group for students who are lesbians, gays, and bisexuals Shawna 763-2792 or Mark 764-3630

5 Thursday

Kwanzaa Festival 5 pm, McKenny Union, \$3-\$5.487-3798

Opera Workshop Performance: U-M School of Music 5 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Group organized to address the problems of poverty and

Shulchan lvrit: AMI/Hillel 5:30 pm. downstairs, Cava Java, 1101 S. Univ. Practice your Hebrew in a fun, social atmosphere. 769-0500

homelessness, 930-0601

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

"Midlife Transition-Strategies for Men and Women": Lifespan Learning 6:30 pm, Depot Town Center, Ypsilanti. Lecture, \$10, 487-0407

Support/Discussion Group: LGBPO Women of Color 7 pm, 3110 Mich. Union. For all lesbian, bisexual, and questioning women of color. Meets every Thu. 763-4186

"Philadelphia": TVQ 7 pm, LGBPO Lounge, Mich. Union 3rd floor. Hit movie starring Tom Hanks. 763-4186

nukah Party: Hillel & others 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Candle-lighting, latkes, games of dreidel, & more. 769-0500

Drum Circle: Oz's Music 7:30-9:30 pm 1920 Packard. Open stage with host Reba DeVine. Perform or listen. 662-8283

Family, Friends & Caregivers Support Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm, meets alternate Thursdays. Group addresses the emotional needs of indiduals who care about/for people living with HIV/AIDS, 800-578-2300

Thursdays in Leonardo's: Pierpont Commons 8-10 pm, 2101 Bonisteel, North Campus. Live jazz. 764-7544

Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Rackham Theater, 764-0594

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Eddie Clark: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Former U.S. marine & city police officer hits the stage, \$10. 996-9080

Live Call-In: Peace InSight 9 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. Hosted by Thom Saffold, President ICPJ. 769-7422

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 9 pm, Wolverine Room, Mich. Union. Campus activist group fighting homophobia and heterosexism. 763-4186

II-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm, 1585 Franklin, Detroit. Big band jazz, \$2 313-259-1374

ogie Woogie Blues: Arbor Brewing Co. 9:30 pm-12:30 am, 114 E. Washington. Live music with Al Hill & The Love Butlers, no cover. 213-1393

Jonny O'Neal Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 Native of Detroit pianist, \$7, 662-8310

6 Friday

4th Annual Clothing Drive: KOOL 107-FM, The Kerrytown Shops & Bethel A.M.E. 6 am-6 pm, live broadcast and llection, The Kerrytown Shops, N. Fourth Ave. and Kingsley. Bring your good, well-conditioned clothes. They will be cleaned and distributed to those in need. 930-0107

Bryant Community Center Winter Cloth ing Give Away: A2 Parks & Rec 9:30-11 am, Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Warm coats, sweaters and other apparel for adults and children are available at no cost. (Clothing donations of new and slightly used items may be brought to the Center daily from 10 am-5 pm.) 994-

Concert: Emu Bands & Symphony Orchestra 10 am & 12:45 pm, Pease Aud., EMU, Ypsilanti. Program: "The Wacky World of Animals." 487-2255

Delivering Shabbat Meals: Hillel 3:15-4:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Volunteer to help Jewish senior citizens. Dan 213-1459

Paul Klinger's E-Z Street Sextet: Bird of Paradise 5-8 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Dixieland and swing selections, no cover. 662-8310

"Fist Stick Knife Gun": Peace InSight 6 pm (see 3 Tue)

Winter Holiday Benefit Party: Solidarity 7-11 pm, International Institute, corner of John R and Kirby in Detroit's Cultural Center. Benefit for the Detroit newspaper strike: Pasta Feast, Silent Auction and Dance featuring the music of "That Jive," \$13 at door, \$2 for strikers and family, kids under 10 free. 313-841-0160

Rollie Tussing III: PJ's Used Records & CDs 7-8 pm, 617-B Packard. Acoustic instore performance by Tussing, whose National Steel Guitar playing and downto-earth singing bring out the timeless quality of his original and traditional tunes.

Christmas Caroling Through Historic Downtown: A2 Parks & Rec 7 pm, meet at Kempf House 312 S. Division. Annual event led by the Salvation Army Band, refreshments. 994-4898

"Harakiri" (1959): Center for Japanese Studies 7 pm, Natural Sciences Aud. Free movie series. 764-6307

Flaming Menorah Party: Ahava—Jew-ish Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Collective 7 pm, place TBA. Chanukah fling! Bernard 332-6149

21st Annual Christmas Parade: City of Saline 7 pm, downtown Saline. Tree-lighting ceremony and parade (pre-parade gathering at the Saline Shopping Center from 4:30-6:45 pm). 429-4494

Meeting: Queer Asian/Pacific Islanders 7:30 pm. call for location. Meets every Fri

Benefit For Striking Detroit Newspaper Workers: The Ark 8 pm (door open at 7:30 pm), 316 S. Main. All-star cast of performers includes Dick Siegel, Frank Allison, Jay Stielstra, Lisa Hunter, Chris Buhalis, drivetrain, K.C. Groves, Rollie Tussing III, Brian Lillie, Jo Serrapere, Audrey Becker, David Mosher, and Jere Stormer. Tickets available at the door only, \$15 gen. admission, \$5 strikers and their families. 761-1800

"The Play Called Noah's Flood": EMU Theatre 8 pm, Sponberg Theatre, EMU, Ypsilanti. A play brimming with spectacle, slapstick, music, and verse. Susan Zeder melds biblical story with medieval theatre to present a vision of community through cooperation, \$8-\$12 (children \$5). 487-1221

Women's Chorus 8 pm, Holy Trinity Chapel, Ypsilanti. 487-2255

Opera Workshop Performance: U-M School of Music 8 pm (see 4 Wed)



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Control of the Contro

"It's a Wonderful Life": Croswell Opera House 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Eddie Clark: Mainstreet Cornedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm, Dondero High School, Royal Oak. Charley 482-2450 or Kelly

Firebird Balalaika Ensemble: Cafe Zola 9-11 pm. 112 W. Washington. Russian & E. European music performed on traditional instruments. 769-2020

Johnny O'Neal Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Friday Dance Jam: People Dancing 10:30 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Eclectic, recorded dance music (bring your own tapes). Smoke-and alcohol-free, children welcome, wheelchair accessible, \$2.996-2405 (10am-

7 Saturday

Kol Hakavod in Concert: Hillel time and place TBA. U-M a cappella group sings a wide variety of Jewish music. Tickets available at Hillel. 769-0500

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 10 am-2 pm. For gay and bisexual men. Confidential. 800-578-2300

Holiday Program: Gray Panthers of Huron Valley 10 am-noon, A2 Senior Center, Burns Park, 1320 Baldwin. Annual get-together presenting a sa tirical skit. refreshments. 769-7530

Holiday Book Sale: A2 District Library 10 am-4 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave. Friends of the Library put Christmas records and hundreds of used books on sale, proceeds go to support Library projects.

4th Annual Clothing Drive: KOOL 107-FM. The Kerrytown Shops & Bethel A.M.E. 10 am-6 pm (see 6 Fri)

Croissant Concert: Kerrytown Concert House 11 am, 415 N. 4th Ave. Classicto-popular holiday fare with Today's Brass Quintet, includes refreshments, \$9-\$12,769-2999

Holiday Origami: Upstairs at Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Learn paper folding art for the holidays from A2 origami master, Don Shall. Paper will be supplied 668-7652

German Family Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-4 pm, Kempf House 312 S. Division. Observe a traditional turn-of--century German Christmas, \$1. 994-4898

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 & 8 pm (see 1

"The Play Called Noah's Flood": EMU Theatre 2:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

A Nicaraguan Christmas: 3-5 pm, Northside Community Church, 929

Barton Dr. Musicians from the First Bap-Church, Northside Comm. Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation come together to celebrate their Sister Church relationships with several Nicaraguan institutions. Donations go to support projects in Nicaragua, \$5 adult, \$2 children. For more info. contact one of

"It's a Wonderful Life": Croswell Opera House 3 & 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Drum Circle: Magical Education Council 6-9 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. Non-professional free-form drumming.

Raise The Roof: Performance Network 8 pm (6:30 pm reception), 408 W. Washington. Performance Network's 11th annual fundraiser showcase featuring Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, Jeffrey Willets, Suzanne Willets Brooks, Noonie Anderson, Malcolm Tulip Whitley Setrakian, and One Fell Swoop with emcees Peter Birkenhead and Tracy Leigh Komarmy, \$20 gen. admission, \$35 preferred seating. 663-

Koko Taylor & Her Blues Machine: EMU Performing Arts 8 pm, Pease Aud., EMU, Ypsilanti. Warming up for the undisputed "Queen of the Blues" will be perennial A2 blues favorites Big Dave & The Ultrasonics, \$12-\$18 adults, \$10-\$16 seniors & children (under 12). 487-1221

Tom Paxton: The Ark 8 pm. 316 S. Main. His only A2 show this year, \$12.50. 761-1800

Handel's "Messiah": University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Auditorium. The UMS Choral Union's 118th consecutive year of performing this beloved musical, \$8-\$16. 764-2538

Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Rackham Theater 764-0594

Massage Class for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm, 209 W. Kingsley. David 662-6282

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Eddie Clark: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Jonny O'Neal Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 11 pm, & 12:30 am (see 5 Thu)

8 Sunday

4th Annual Clothing Drive: KOOL 107-FM, The Kerrytown Shops & Bethel A.M.E. 10 am-6 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Make Your Own Backyard Ice Rink" Clinic: A2 Parks and Rec 10:30 am. Park Service HQ, 415 W. Washington. Learn how to build and maintain a natural ice rink. 994-2768

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 10:30 am (see 1 Sun)

Second Sunday Stroll-Wonderful Winter Decorations: A2 Parks and Rec 1-2:30 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Gather craft materials Mother Nature with naturalist Michelle Gage, \$4/person or \$15/family, preregister. 662-7802



KOKO TAYLOR and Her Blues Machine will be at EMU's Pease Auditorium (see 7 Sat)

Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music 1 pm. 1920 Packard Rd. Open stage for the young ones. 662-8283

Michael Bryce: Upstairs at Borders 1 pm, Borders Books & Music, 612 E. Liberty, A Victorian Christmas with guitar and vocals, 668-7652

Country Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-5 pm (see 1 Sun)

German Family Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-4 pm (see 7 Sat)

Alternative Holiday Fair: First Baptist Church & Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 2-6 pm, 1st Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Gifts that give twice by helping those in need: handcrafts from around the world and more. Participants include SERVV, Self Help Crafts, and many more. Live farm animals. Refreshments. 663-9376

Handel's "Messiah": University Musical Society 2 pm (see 7 Sat)

"Fist Stick Knife Gun": Peace InSight 2 pm (see 3 Tue)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 2 pm matinee (see 1 Sun)

"Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 & 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

"It's a Wonderful Life": Croswell Opera House 3 pm (see 1 Sun)

Jennifer Harbury: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 4 pm, meet to carpool to Univ. of Detroit (call for location). Harbury, attorney and wife of a murdered Guatemalan resistance leader, delivers talk titled: "You Will Know the Truth." 663-1870

Percussion Ensemble: U-M School of Music 4 pm, McIntosh Theater, Moore Bldg., North Campus. Performing Steve Reich's "Drumming." 764-0594

Michigan Chamber Players Concert: U-M School of Music 4 pm, Recital Hall, Moore Bldg. North Campus. 764-

U-M Jazz Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Chanukah Party in Markley: Hillel 6:30 pm, Concourse Lounge. Traditional foods, games, & songs, with lighting of the menorah. 769-0500

Grads & Young Professionals Chanukah Dinner: Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Traditional foods, games, & songs, with lighting of the menorah.

Meeting: Amnesty International Community Group 7-8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

II-V-| Orchestra: Heidelberg 7 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 7 pm (see 1 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Martin Sexton: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Sexton plays '70's Black pop with jazz, blues, and ragtime. Opening is Kelly Joe Phelps, \$10, 761-1800

Brass Ensemble Recital: U-M School of Music 8 pm, McIntosh Theater, Moore Bldg., North Campus. 764-0594

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8-10 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Novices to veterans, \$2.50.

Current Events Discussion: Israel Michigan Public Affairs Committee/ Hillel 8:30 pm, call for location. Topic events in the Middle East, 769-0500

Reggae & World Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 1

Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9

"Echoes": WUOM 91.7 FM 10 pm. with Nicki Scully. (see 1 Sun)

9 Monday

Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus (see 2

Huron Hills Cross Country Ski Center Opening: A2 Parks & Rec 10 am (weather permitting), Huron Hills Golf Course, 3465 E. Huron River Dr. Trail fee \$2.50 (weekday), \$3 (weekend).

Career Networking & Support Group: Soundings 10-11:30 am (see 2 Mon)

Preschool Movies: A2 District Library 11-11:30 am and 7-7:30 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave, Youth Dept. Story Rm. "Curious George," "Danny & the Dinosaur" and "Harold's Fairy Tale," registration re-

Women's Support Group 5 pm (see 2 Mon)

Holiday Gingerbread House: Community Education & Rec 5:45-8 pm, Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Teams will decorate fanciful houses with frosting and candies, \$22 per house. 994-2722

"Unknown Heroes of the Civil War": Lifespan Learning 7 pm. Depot Town Center, Ypsi. Lecture, \$10. 487-0407

Business Meeting: Labor Party of Washtenaw County 7 pm, Wooden Spoon Books, 200 N. 4th Ave. Organizing on behalf of the U.S. Labor Party.

Chanukah Party in South Quad: Hillel 7 pm, West Lounge. Traditional foods, games, & songs, with lighting of the menorah. 769-0500

HIV & Recovery: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Monday Night Cabaret: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. 4th Ave. Call for reservations 769-2999

"On A-I-R": WUOM 91.7 FM 8 pm. Tonight's Program: "American Songs (see 2 Mon)

Mondays in Leonardo's: Pierpont

Commons 8-10 pm (see 2 Mon) Rebroadcast of Live Call-In: Peace

InSight 9 pm (see 5 Thu) Group: Monday Night Out 9 pm (see 2

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see

10 Tuesday

Meeting: LILA/LGBPO 5:15 pm (see 3

Winter Reception: UMGALAS 6-8 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 215 S. 4th Ave. Second annual event features

A2 News Rated 9 of 10 Food, 7 of 10 Service, 7 of 10 Atmosphere by Laura McReynolds, Ann Arbor News Reviewer, 6June96

holiday warmth, cheer, and refreshments. 663-0036

Tenant Talk: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-6:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6-10 pm (see 3 Tue)

Israel Tuesday News Schmooze: American Movement for Israel 6 pm (see 3 Tue)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

"The Effect of Military Spending on Social Programs, part 2": Peace InSight 7 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. Broadcast of panel discussion featuring Adm. Eugene Carroll, Ret., of the Center for Defense Info., Washington, D.C., and Carol McCabe of Avalon Housing, Inc., A2. 769-7422

Chanukah Party in Alice Lloyd: Hillel 7 pm, Blue Carpet Lounge. Traditional foods, games, and songs, with lighting of the menorah. 769-0500

Origami Demonstration: A2 District Library 7-8 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave. Paper folding projects for the entire family, registration required. 994-2345

Meeting: Amnesty International Group 61 7:30 pm, Mich. Union. Local chapter of independent worldwide movement. 668-0660

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

University Symphony & Philharmonia Orchestras: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Hill Aud. Performing with the Chamber & University Choirs. 764-0594

Concert: EMU Collegium 8 pm, Holy Trinity Chapel, Ypsilanti, 487-2255

U-M Folk Dancing Club: Pierpont Commons 8 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun) Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim

Team 8:45 pm (see 3 Tue)

Live Jazz: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see 3 Tue)

Acid Jazz Night: Bird of Paradise 9pm (see 3 Tue)

11 Wednesday

Tyke Program-Mid Winter Dream: A2 arks & Rec 10-11:30 am & 1-2:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Gav Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm (see 4 Wed)

Lesbian Survivor Support Group 6:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Rosh Hodesh & Chanukah Party: Jew-ish Feminist Group 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Creative, feminist service with a Chanukah flair. 769-0500

Chanukah Party in Stockwell: Hillel 7 pm, MGS Lounge. Traditional foods, games, and songs, with lighting of the menorah. 769-0500



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JOEL MABUS plays The Ark (see 14 Sat)

Men's Support/Discussion Group: LGBPO7 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meeting: Reform Chavurah 7 pm (see 4 Wed) Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Council 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Music of the bayou, \$12.50. 761-1800

Concert: EMU Jazz & Percussion Ensembles 8 pm, Pease Aud., EMU, Ypsilanti. 487-2255

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Irish Night Live Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 8:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Invasion of Improv: Mainstreet Comedy 8:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see

Meeting: East Quad Group 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

12 Thursday

Dinnerfor the Homeless: Volunteers in Action/ Hillel 3-7 pm, 1st United Methodist Church. Prepare & serve dinner. Llana 764-6710

Holiday Concert: Shaman Drum Bookshop 4:15-5:30 pm, 315 S. State. The preparatory Boychoir of A2 will perform. 662-7407

Shulchan lvrit: Hillel 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

Chanukah Party in East Quad: Hillel 7 pm, Greene Lounge. Traditional foods, games,

and songs, with lighting of the menorah. 769-

Meeting: LGBT People of Color 7 pm, Mich. Union, 669-0964

Support/Discussion Group: LGBPO Women of Color 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Positive Women's Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm, meets alternate Thurs. Group for HIV-positive women, 800-578-2300

Songwriters Open Mic: Oz's Music 7:30-9:30 pm, 1920 Packard Rd. Songwriters perform and talk about their songs. Open stage with host Jim Novak, 662-8283

Herdman, Hills & Mangsen: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Folksongs of the winter season, \$12.50.761-1800

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm

Thursdays in Leonardo's: Pierpont Commons 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Frank Vignola: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Cynical comedy, \$10.996-9080

II-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 9 pm (see 5

Boogie Woogie Blues: Arbor Brewing Co. 9:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

13 Friday

Bryant Community Center Winter Clothing Give Away: A2 Parks & Rec 9:30-11 am, Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Warm coats, sweaters and other apparel for adults and children are available at no cost. (Clothing donations of new and slightly used items may be brought to the Centerdaily from 10 am-5 pm.) 994-2722

Paul Klinger's E-Z Street Sextet: Bird of Paradise 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

"The Effect of Military Spending on Social Programs, part 2": Peace InSight6 pm (see

Moonlight Serenade Opening: A2 Parks & Rec 6:30-9 pm (weather permitting), Huron Hills Cross Country Ski Center, 3465 E. Huron River Dr. Ski on specially lighted paths, \$6 ski rental, \$2.50 trail fee. 971-6840

Bardic Night: Magical Education Council 7-11 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. Workshop on Seasonal Chants (7-8 pm) followed by free-form drumming & singing. 665-8428

Second Friday Discussion: Older Lesbians Organizing (OLO) 7:30-9:30 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 215 S. 4th Ave. Topic TBA. Open to women of all ages. 482-2996

Meeting: Queer Asian/Pacific Islanders 7:30

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Musical retelling of a classic fairy-tale, directed by Joanna Woodcock with music direction by Ben Cohen, \$12 gen. admission, \$9 seniors & students, \$6 children under 12. 663-0696

Dance: PFLAG Ann Arbor 8-11 pm, St. Andrew's Church, across from Community High. Alcohol, smoke, and drug-free dance for lesbian, gay & bi youths & friends. 741-0659

Empatheatre: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. 4th Ave. Improvisational situations enacted at audience's request, \$6-\$8. 769-2999

Musical Theater Workshop: U-M School of Music 8 pm, McIntosh Theater, Moore Bldg. North Campus. 764-0594

Sally Fingerett: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Singer/songwriter, formerly of the Four Bitchin' Babes, \$11. 761-1800

Kathleen Battle & Friends: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Jazz hotshots Cyrus Chestnut, James Carter, Christian Mc-Bride and Cyro Baptista join opera queen Kathleen Battle for an evening of music from Ellington to spirituals to lullabies from Battle's hit CD "So Many Stars," \$18-\$46. 764-2538

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Frank Vignola: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm & 10:30 pm (see 12 Thu)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 1 Fri) The 2nd Hand String Band: Cafe Zola 9-11 pm,

112W. Washington. High energy folk, bluegrass & new acoustic originals. 769-2020

Christmas Celebration Weekend: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm-1:30 am, 207 S. Ashley. Various artists TBA, \$5. 662-8310

14 Saturday

Peace Team Training for Ku Klux Klan Rallies in A2: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 9 am-5 pm, call for location. Led by Rev. Peter Dougherty and others from the Lansing-based Faith & Resistance Peace Team \$10 663-1870

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 10 am-2 pm (see 7 Sat)

"Homeopathic Resource"—Software Demo: Whole Foods Market 1-6 pm, Whole Foods Market, 2398 E. Stadium Blvd. Instore demonstration by A2's Dennis Chernin, MD, MPH, of his newly developed software program, "Homeopathic Resource," which shows how to select and use homeopathic remedies safely and effectively. 971-3366

German Family Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-4 pm (see 7 Sat)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 2 pm (see 13 Fri)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Skate With Santa: A2 Parks & Rec 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. Santa will be on the ice with special goodies for the kids, \$2 youths & seniors, \$2.50 adults. 971-3228

Sing-Along with Santa & Sam: A2 Symphony Orchestra 4-6 pm, Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. 4th Ave. Traditional family gathering of caroling and holiday surprises with AASO Music Director Sam Wong at the piano, \$10 adults, \$5 children (under 12), \$25 families up to 6 members. 994-4801

Joel Mabus: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Songs about modern midwestern life, \$11. 761-1800

Quorum Chamber Arts Collective: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. 4th Ave. Cuttingedge contemporary chamber music with unique instrumentation, \$5-\$12.769-2999

"Songs of Starlight & Inner Vision": Norma Gentile 8 pm, University Reformed Church, 1001 N. Huron. An evening of poetry, music & silence in candlelight, \$6-\$10, 332-4606

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Massage Class for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm (see 7 Sat) Frank Vignola: Mainstreet Comedy Show-

case 8:30 pm & 10:30 pm (see 12 Thu)

Christmas Celebration Weekend: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 8 Fri)

15 Sunday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 10:30 am (see 1 Sun)

The Ethnic Connection: Upstairs at Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Klezmer music for the holidays. 668-7652

Santa on Ice: A2 Parks & Rec 1-3 pm, Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. Santa will be on the ice with special goodies for the kids, \$3.25 youths & seniors, \$4 adults. 761-7240

German Family Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec 1-4 pm (see 7 Sat)

Bluegrass & Old-Time Country Music Jam Sessions 1:30-5 pm, Ypsilanti Freighthouse, Depot Town. Rain or shine, acoustic music only, \$2 donation. 930-2680

Meeting: Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays/PFLAG Ann Arbor 2 pm, First Unitarian Universalist Church 1917

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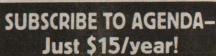
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A. Amechi Osime Mark Pavach

Washtenaw. Program: Robin Ashlock from LGBPO will talk about bisexuality.

"The Silent Princess": Performance Net-

work 2 pm (see 13 Fri) "Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 2

pm (see 1 Sun) "The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Effect of Military Spending on Social Programs, part 2": Peace InSight 2 pm (see 10 Tue)

Holiday Carillon Recital: U-M School of Music 4 pm, Burton Memorial Tower. 764-0594

Meeting: Gay & Lesbian Buddhist Fellowship 4-6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Holiday Festival Concert: A2 Symphony Orchestra 6 pm, Michigan Theater. Excerpts from "The Nutcracker Suite," followed by Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" and holiday audience sing-along, \$15-\$25, 994-4801

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

U-M Jazz Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 7 pm (see 13 Fri) "Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 7

pm (see 1 Sun) II-V-I Orchestra: Heidelberg 7 pm (see 1

Sun)

Festival of Lessons & Carols: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 7:30 pm, 306 N. Division. The public is invited to participate in this traditional service of lessons from Scripture

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

and carols. 663-0518

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9pm (see 1 Sun)

Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9pm (see 1 Sun)

Reggae & World Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Echoes": WUOM 91.7 FM 10 pm. Program: "Miracles in Permaculture" with Bill Mollison. (see 1 Sun)

16 Monday

Career Networking & Support Group: Soundings 10-11:30 am (see 2 Mon)

Preschool Movies: A2 District Library 11-11:30 am and 7-7:30 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave, Youth Dept. Story Rm. "Sylvester & the Magic Pebble," "Strega Nona," and "Patrick" will be shown, registration required. 994-2345

Women's Support Group 5 pm (see 2 Mon)

"Common Threads—Stories From the Quilt" Benefit: A2 AIUS Memorial Quilt Display & HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7 pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty 1989 film, narrated by Dustin Hoffman, tells the stories of five people whose names are commemorated on the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. A portion of the night's proceeds will benefit the A2 Quilt Display scheduled for February, and the Ypsilanti-based HIV/AIDS Resource Center, \$6.50 adults/\$5 seniors, students & children, 913-9629

Play Reading: NetWork PlayWrights 7 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. "The Maze in the Aquarium," by Hopwood award-winning playwright Lyn Coffin, \$3 suggested donation. 663-0681

HIV & Recovery: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

"On A-I-R": WUOM 91.7 FM 8 pm. Featuring Michele Cooker and the Arianna String Quartet. (see 2 Mon)

Mondays in Leonardo's: Pierpont Commons 8-10 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see 2

Group: Monday Night Out 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus (see 2 Mon)

17 Tuesday

Tenant Talk: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-6:30 pm

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6-10 pm (see 3 Tue)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

"The Continuing Need for Strong U.S./ U.N. Relations": Peace InSight 7 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. Broadcast of talk by the U.N.'s Undersecretary General. 769-7422

Film—"Against the Odds: Artists of the Harlem Renaissance": A2 District Library 7-9 pm, Multi-Purpose Room, 343 S.5th Ave. This film recounts the struggles of Black visual artists in the 1920s and 30s to show and sell their work. 994-

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Druidic Lore & Magic Tradition: Shining Lakes Grove 8:30-10 pm (see 3 Tue)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 3 Tue)

Live Jazz: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see

Acid Jazz Night: Bird of Paradise 9 pm

18 Wednesday

Tyke Program-Mid Winter Dream: A2 Parks & Rec 10-11:30 am & 1-2:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Gay Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm (see 4 Wed)

Lesbian Survivor Support Group 6:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

The Harlem Nutcracker: University Musical Society 8 pm, Power Center. World premiere tour featuring the acclaimed dance company, Donald Byrd/The Group, an ensemble of Detroit jazz masters and young people from southeastern Michigan. Interpretation of Tchaikovsky's classic combines the swing of the Harlem Renaissance with contemporary dance, \$16-\$28, 764-2538

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

U-M Folk Dancing Club: Pierpont Commons 8 pm (see 4 Wed)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Irish Night Live Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 8:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Invasion of Improv: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm

19 Thursday

December Fest: A2 Parks & Rec 4-5:30 pm, Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Elementary-aged children are invited to enjoy games, holiday music, and tasty goodies. Reservations 994-

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

Study Group: Foundation for Ethics and Meaning 7:30 pm, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Focus on Michael Lerner's "Politics of Meaning." 663-8997

Jazz Jam: Oz's Music 7:30-9:30 pm, 1920 Packard Rd. Open stage with host Michael J. Sommerfeld. Perform or listen. 662-8283

Family, Friends, & Caregivers Support Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

The Harlem Nutcracker: University Musical Society 8 pm (see 18 Wed)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

John Heffron: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Jokester from Q 95.5 FM. \$10. 996-9080

II-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

Boogie Woogie Blues: Arbor Brewing Co. 9:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

20 Friday

Solstice Firewatch: Shining Lakes Grove sunset, Botsford Recreational Preserve, 3015 Miller Rd. 665-8428

Paul Klinger's E-Z Street Sextet: Bird of Paradise 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

"The Continuing Need for Strong U.S./ U.N. Relations": Peace InSight 6 pm (see 17 Tue)

Frank Allison: PJ's Used Records & CDs 7-8 pm, 617-B Packard. Acoustic in-store performance by veteran A2 singersongwriter and social commentator. His alloriginal songs and stories are guaranteed to provoke a smile and a sigh. 663-3441

Meeting: Queer Asian/Pacific Islanders 7:30 pm (see 4 Fri)

The Harlem Nutcracker: University Musical Society 8 pm (see 18 Wed)

RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Preemo bluegrass, \$8.75. 761-1800

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun) "The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic

Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun) John Heffron: Mainstreet Comedy Show-

case 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 19 Thu) Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 1 Fri)

Five Guys Named Moe: Cafe Zola 9-11 pm, 112 W. Washington. An eclectic mixture of styles and genres, with a strong emphasis on acoustic swing. 769-2020

Paul Keller/Cary Kocher Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. A2 jazz veterans, \$5, 662-8310

Friday Dance Jam: People Dancing 10:30 pm (see 4 Fri)

21 Saturday

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 10 am-2 pm (see 7 Sat)

Discussion Meeting: Labor Party of Washtenaw County 11 am (see 9 Mon)

The Harlem Nutcracker: University Musical Society 2 pm family show, \$10 children/\$20 adults (see 18 Wed)

Druidic Yule Celebration: Shining Lakes Grove 2-5 pm, Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill St. 665-8428

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 2 pm (see 13 Fri)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Live Broadcast-"A Prarie Home Companion": Michigan Radio 5:40 pm, WUOM 91.7 FM. Garrison Keillor's radio program live from A2's own Hill Auditorium (SOLD OUT). 764-9210

Lord of Light Lutheran Church, 801 S. Forest. Lutheran group for lesbian, gay, and bisexual people. Scott 663-6954

Winter Solstice Family Concert & Hike: A2 Parks and Rec 7-8:30 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver. Songs around the fire followed by candlelight night hike. 662-7802

Pat Donohue: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Virtuoso guitarist-direct from the Prairie Home Companion, \$11.761-1800

The Harlem Nutcracker: University Musical Society 8 pm (see 18 Wed)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

'Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Massage Class for Gay & Bisexual Men

case 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 19 Thu)

Paul Keller/Cary Kocher Quartet: Bird of

22 Sunday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 10:30 am (see 1 Sun)

"The Continuing Need for Strong U.S./

Network 2 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 2

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

The Silent Princess": Performance Network 7 pm (see 13 Fri)

II-V-I Orchestra: Heidelberg 7 pm (see 1

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Temple Theatre 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

man play/performance, \$10.761-1800 A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 1

Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Reggae & World Music: Arbor Brewing

"Echoes": WUOM 91.7 FM 10 pm. Program: "Soulwork and Illness" with Jean Shinoda Bolen. (see 1 Sun)

"A Little Princess": A2 District Library 10 am & 7 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave. Youth Dept. Story Rm. Popular children's movie. ages 6 and up, registration required.

HIV & Recovery: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see 2

Marathon Skate: A2 Parks and Rec 11 am-1 pm (adults) & 1-5 pm (kids), Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. Annual event, \$3.25 youths & seniors/\$4 adults.

Tenant Talk: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-6:30 pm

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6-10-pm (see 3 Tue)

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30

pm (see 3 Tue)

8 pm (see 7 Sat) John Heffron: Mainstreet Comedy Show-

Paradise 9:30 pm (see 15 Fri)

U.N. Relations": Peace InSight 2 pm (see 17 Tue)

"The Silent Princess": Performance

pm (see 1 Sun)

Temple Theatre 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

U-M Jazz Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 6

Meeting: Amnesty International Community Group 7 pm (see 8 Sun)

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre 7 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic

Brian Mallon: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. "Secrets of the Celtic Heart," a one-

Co. 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

23 Monday

Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus (see 2 Mon)

Career Networking & Support Group: Soundings 10-11:30 am (see 2 Mon)

994-2345

"On A-I-R": WUOM 91.7 FM 8 pm. Program: "Christmas Music." (see 2 Mon)

24 Tuesday

(see 3 Tue)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

"Peace Tales": Peace InSight 7 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9. Broadcast of April

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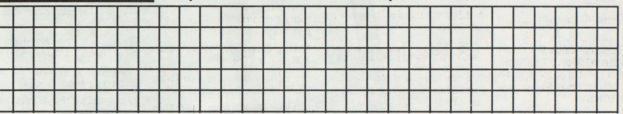
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Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 3 Tue)

Live Jazz: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see

Acid Jazz Night: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 3 Tue)

25 Wednesday

Gay Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm (see 4 Wed)

Lesbian Survivor Support Group 6:30 pm (see 4 Wed) Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource

Center 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

26 Thursday

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue)

Positive Women's Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 12 Thu)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Blair Shannon: Mainstreet Comedy-Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Stand-up comedian, \$12. 996-9080

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

II-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9

Boogie Woogie Blues: Arbor Brewing Co. 9:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

27 Friday

Paul Klinger's E-Z Street Sextet: Bird of Paradise 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Peace Tales": Peace InSight 6 pm (see

Meeting: Queer Asian/Pacific Islanders 7:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Blair Shannon: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 26 Thu)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 1 Fri)

Lisa Hunter & Friends: Cafe Zola 9-11 pm, 112 W. Washington. 769-2020

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm-1:30 am, 207 S. Ashley, With Bassist Ron Brooks, pianist Rick Roe, drummer Pete Siers, \$5. 662-8310

28 Saturday

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 10 am-2 pm (see 7 Sat)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 2 pm (see 13 Fri)

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 & 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

New Year's Eve Potluck: Older Lesbians Organizing (OLO) 7:30 pm, call for location, 428-8824

George Bedard & The Kingpins: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. With Cub Koda, Billy Kirchen & Sarah Brown, \$10, 761-1800

Two Part Invention: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. 4th Ave. Harp duo has a program of "Invitation to the Dance." \$5-\$12,769-2999

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Massage Class for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm (see 7 Sat)

Blair Shannon: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 26 Thu) Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 22 Fri)

29 Sunday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 10:30 am (see 1 Sun)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 2 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Peace Tales": Peace InSight 2pm (see

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 2 & 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 1 Sun) Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

U-M Jazz Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

"The Silent Princess": Performance Network 7 pm (see 13 Fri)

II-V-I Orchestra: Heidelberg 7 pm (see 1

Meeting: Yosilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Jimmie Dale Gilmore: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. West Texas psychedelic blues-rocka-billy, \$17.50.761-1800

Blair Shannon: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 26 Thu)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 1

Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Reggae & World Music: Arbor Brewing Co. 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Echoes": WUOM 91.7 FM 10 pm. Program: "Re-Enchant Your Life" with Thomas Moore. (see 1 Sun)

30 Monday

Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus (see 2 Mon)

"Balto": A2 District Library 10 am & 7 pm, 343 S. 5th Ave, Youth Dept. Story Rm. Children's adventure film about sled dogs, registration required, 994-2345

Career Networking & Support Group: Soundings 10-11:30 am (see 2 Mon)

HIV & Recovery: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Beausoleil: The Ark 8 pm, 316 S. Main. Cajun and zydeco with twists of blues, country, Tex-Mex, and more, \$17.50.

gram: "Lauren's Favorites." (see 2 Mon) Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see 2

"On A-I-R": WUOM 91.7 FM 8 pm. Pro-

31 Tuesday

Marathon Skate: A2 Parks and Rec 11 am-1 pm (adults) & 1-5 pm (kids). Veterans Ice Arena. Annual event, \$3.25 youths & seniors/\$4 adults, 761-7240

Tenant Talk: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-6:30 pm

Free HIV Antibody Testing: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6-10 pm (see 3 Tue)

Frontrunners & Walkers 6:20 pm/walkers & 6:30 pm/runners (see 3 Tue) Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30

pm (see 3 Tue) "Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice 30th-Year Anniversary": Peace InSight 7 pm, CTN, Cable Channel 9.

Broadcast of celebration featuring po-etry, song, dance, and more. 769-7422 Living With HIV: HIV/AIDS Resource

Center 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

5th Annual New Year's Eve "Jazz Revisited" Concert: Michigan Radio 8 pm, Power Center. Program to feature Topsy Chapman, Butch Thompson, James Dapogny's Chicago Jazz Band, and host Hazen Schumacher, \$23. 764-3434

Blair Shannon: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8 & 10:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Laugh in the New Year, \$22.50 early show/\$27.50 later show (includes party favors & champagne). 996-9080

"The Phantom of the Opera": Masonic Temple Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8:45 pm (see 3 Tue)

Scott Morgan: The Heidelberg 9 pm (doors open), 10 pm (music), 215 N. Main. New Year's Eve bash with veteran local rocker, call for cover, 663-7758

Ron Brooks Trio with guest vocalist: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm-1:30 am, 207 S. Ashley. With Bassist Ron Brooks, pianist Rick Roe, drummer Pete Siers, with vocalsit TBA, \$45 singles, \$80 couples.

New Year's Eve Bash: Arbor Brewing Co. 10 pm-2 am. 114 E. Washington. Theme: 1920's underground speakeasy — gangsters and flappers — costimes optional. Live music with the Liberty Street Blues Project, no cover. 213-1393

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