#### Greater Detroit's Original Cultural Events Weekly, Thursday, August 24, 2017

# 

The *165th Michigan State Fair* along with the *111th Detroit Shrine Circus* will take place simultaneously at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi beginning Thursday, August 31 and running through Labor Day Monday, September 4.

DOWNTOWN

This year's State Fair offers Midway rides, live music and entertainment, traditional fair food vendors and contests, a large Farmer's Market, agriculture and livestock exhibits, racing pigs, the Celebration Beer Garden and much more, including the fabulous Detroit Shrine Circus (see *more about the Circus on Page 3*).

Hours for the Michigan State Fair are Thursday, August 31, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 1, 2, and 3, each day from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Labor Day Monday, September 4, from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

The *Third Annual Michigan State Fair Labor Day Parade* will take place Monday, September 4 beginning at 10 a.m.

Attendance last year topped 150,000 and this year's Fair is expected to be even bigger and better. For ticket details and other information see MichiganStateFairLLC.com.

The 2017 Michigan State Fair at the Suburban Collection Showplace will take place at 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi.

# **SHOWINGS**

# 'Painting the Natural World' On Display in City of Westland

Three Cities Art Club and the City of Westland present *Painting the Natural World (a body of work by Durwood Coffey)*; on exhibit at the Gallery at City Hall located in Westland's City Hall during the month of September. The Gallery is open whenever City Hall is open, during business hours and for council meetings and events in the banquet and conference rooms.

The art of Durwood Coffey, explores the vast variety of wildlife within the animal kingdom.

Coffey, a local resident of Westland, spent his working career as an Illustrator. In 2001 he decided to focus entirely on his own paintings.

His work has been shown all across the country and seen around the world and in many publications.

Coffey says: "I'm amazed that pieces of artwork that I've produced in my studio in Westland, can be found in Russia, Germany and many other countries. It's such an honor."

The Gallery at City Hall is located in Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland.

For information about this and other exhibits, call (734) 377-5847 or (313) 231-3939.



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# SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Detroit Shrine Circus at Michigan State Fair

For the 111th year, the venerable *Detroit Shrine Circus* will open the largest circus Big Tent in the world to appreciative audiences.

Since its beginnings in Downtown Detroit in 1906, the Shrine Circus has returned to its hometown annually, with its trademark clowns, dazzling acrobats, animal acts (their motorcycle-riding bear is pictured at right), and other world famous performers. Once again setting up alongside the revived Michigan State Fair at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace, performance times are Thursday, August 31, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 1, 2 and 3 at noon, 2:30, 5, and 7:30 p.m. and Labor Day Monday, September 4 at noon, 2:30, and with the last show at 5 p.m.

For more information about tickets and performances, see michiganstatefair llc.com.

The Detroit Shrine Circus at the Michigan State Fair takes place at the Suburban Collection Showplace located at 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi.

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#### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

**Detroit's Waldorf School** 

**Ruth Crystal-Zaromp** 

The beginning of the school vear is coming shortly. The quality of public schools depends on the region, and even in the more affluent districts some people have needs that are not met to their satisfaction. Private schools, while costly, often serve to fill that gap. The music school that is connected to the Max is among the lucky ones that is publicly funded and offers special programs to the committed students.

These days, we are witnessing downsizing and fund limitations in the public-school system, which most of us considered to be a natural right to our intellectual independence. I think that we have all tried to find alternative ways to provide our children with the elements of socialization, basic intelligence and artistic availabilities, as well as a physical education that will train their bodies to be more competent.

Parochial and private schools try to offer more, but their price is prohibitive for many of our people. A school that has been mentioned to me many times is the Waldorf school, presenting a specialized program that allows the students to be enriched with arts and music as well as the core curriculum of math, science, English, history, and Geography. I spoke to two people who are serving on the faculty of Detroit Waldorf School (located in Indian Village, 2555 Burns Ave, Detroit 48214). Waldorf Schools were begun in 1921 by Rudolf Steiner in Germany. The schools have spread through many countries over the years. Two such schools in Michigan are here in Detroit and Ann Arbor. The Detroit chapter was available. A certain histori-



founded in 1965. That facility teaches children from PreK through 8th grade. The school in Ann Arbor covers both elementary and high school. The school programs are accredited by the International Waldorf Institute.

Charis Calender-Suemnick is Director of Admissions in Detroit. She has been with Waldorf for seven years. As enrollment and outreach director, she is a certified Waldorf teacher and functions to educate the community and parents about the institute. Linda Williams teaches grades 4 through 8. She progresses with her students from one year to the next, to maintain continuity. She holds a doctorate degree from Michigan State University in Curriculum and Teacher Education. Her master's is from U of D Mercy, where she also received her Waldorf certification.

The Waldorf curriculum is set to allow students to learn new intellectual subjects in as many ways as are

cal period is taught together with the music that was known at that time, dances and languages that might have been timely then, the art, economics, world geography as known then, etc. Thus, by the time they graduate from eighth grade, they have certain backgrounds in the knowledge of string instruments, drawing and sketching abilities. Thev have studied Euclid Geometry, quadratic equations, and can pursue their education further. Socialization occurs since the time of inception into Waldorf, by allowing adequate play time outside, performed independently but with adult supervision on the scene. Recesses and free play help to provide creativity of the mind as well as physical function. The students have yearly trips leading up to three days of field trips and camping. Some of their parents tend to go with them for reinforcement. For more information, see DetroitWaldorf.org, or call

(313) 822-0300.

### Greater Detroit's Cultural Events Weekly DOWNTOWN MONITOR

The Downtown Monitor, in its 54th year of continuous publication, is circulated free to all points of Greater Detroit and the City Proper.

Paul Arlon — Editor & Publisher Roger Smith — Advertising Director

> **Mailing Address:** Downtown Monitor P.O. Box 888 Hazel Park, MI 48030

**Phone and Email:** (248) 439-1863 DetroitMonitor@gmail.com TheNewMonitor@gmail.com

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# **Book Beat's 35th Anniversary**



On Sunday, August 27, Book Beat will celebrate its 35th Anniversary with a party in the store from 12 noon-5 p.m.

Hundreds of local and nationally known authors have made their way through the venerable indy bookstore's doors since husband and wife owners Colleen Kammer and Cary Loren (pictured, above) first opened it in 1982.

Over the past three decades, Book Beat has garnered a national reputation for its eclectic selections, specializing in art, photography, quality literature and

children's books.

On Sunday, the 27th, many Michigan authors and illustrators will make appearances to help the much-respected bookstore celebrate. Following is just a partial list of the many guest authors expected to be in attendance at this special party:

Patricia Abbott, a mystery writer whose latest book Shot in Detroit has been nominated for an Edgar Award. She appears at 2 p.m. Barbara Madgy Cohn, the author of The Detroit Public Library: An American Classic, a tribute to one of the city's

most impressive structures, signs from 1-3 p.m.

Stephen Mack Jones has just published his first mystery August Snow set in Detroit and The Harvey Weinstein production company recently optioned the book for a television series. He'll be signing from 1-2 p.m.

Charlie LeDuff will be signing his book Detroit: An *American Autopsy* at 2 p.m.

Michael G. Smith, an architectural historian and author of *Designing Detroit:* Wirt Rowland and the Rise of Modern American Archi*tecture*, will be signing from 1-3 p.m.

Gregory Sumner JD, PhD, the author of Detroit in World War II, will be signing from 2-4 p.m.

Paul Vachon, the author of Lost Restaurants of Detroit will be signing from 12-2 p.m.

Of extra special note is that Book Beat recently made a list of the 50 best bookstores in America from the Huffington Post.

For more information, call (248) 968-1190. Book *Beat* is located between 10 and 11 Mile Rds. at 26010 Greenfield Ave. in Oak Park.





On Friday, August 25, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at MacRay Harbor on Lake St. Clair (pictured), the 24th Annual Benefit on the Bay will take place with 100% of the event's proceeds benefitting the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Organizer Mike Schodowski's second-generation family-owned business, Shelving.com, will be underwriting the entire cost of the event.

Jay Towers, Fox 2 News and 100.3 WNIC, will again serve as the event's Master of Ceremonies. The event will feature two bands. Un-Synced will feature jazz and easy listening music. Musical group Same Old Guys will also be on hand. Special musical guests will be the Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir.

A \$65 ticket includes appetizers, dinner at 7:30 p.m., dancing, beer, wine, and desserts. There will be live auction items with the silent auction featuring over 100 items. Popular speed artist, Dave Santia, will be creating portraits as a live auction item.

For tickets, if available, call (313) 579-2100 ext. 153. MacRay Harbor on Lake St. Clair, is located at 30675 North River Road, in Harrison Township.

#### ConteXture Dance's 'Cosmia' Showcase

On Friday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m., Detroit's ConteXture Dance Company will present Cosmia, an original collection of choreography, showcasing the work of artistic director and founder, Tracy Halloran Pearson, and ConteXture Dance Detroit.

This year, the company will also host the works of Jillian Hopper, Zandria Lucas, and the Company C Dance Club.



ConteXture Dance Detroit is a non-profit contemporary modern dance company based in Detroit. Its mission, as part of the burgeoning arts explosion in the City, is to explore and expand the urban dance identity of Detroit. Tickets at \$10 can be purchased online contexturedancedetroit.com, or through a company member. Cosmia will be performed at the College Marygrove Theatre, located at 8425 W. McNichols, in Detroit.



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# our "STEAMy DPSCD" booth for school information, and to pre-enroll your child in a DPSCD school. \*Free give-aways to families who pre-enroll and also to DPSCD parents who bring a non-DPSCD parent to the event to pre-enroll. For more information, visit detroitk12.org to enroll.

#### **Teacher Recruitment Fairs**

August 17 and August 31, 2017 5 pm - 7 pm Benjamin Carson High School of Science and Medicine

571 Mack Avenue | Detroit, MI 48201

The Detroit Public Schools Community District is currently recruiting highly-qualified, dedicated and motivated educators to fill open positions for the 2017 - 2018 school year.

Applications are being accepted for all teaching positions, but there is a critical need for teachers in the following areas: Mathematics, Science/Integrated Science, English language Arts, Special Education, Music Education, Spanish, K-5 Elementary, Social Studies and Career Technical Education.

DPSCD is also hiring retirees in Special Education, Science, Mathematics and Spanish.

On-the-spot conditional offers may be provided to qualified candidates. Candidates who are interested in employment are encouraged to visit detroitk12.org/employment and complete an online application. This event is for new applicants only. Teachers already employed by the district do not need to attend.



# **Back-to-School Expo in Detroit** Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) will host a

Back-to-School Expo, Saturday, August 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

at the Wayne County Family Aquatic Center with the theme: "We're saving a seat for your child."

The expo will be an opportunity for families to enroll new students, celebrate teachers and build excitement for the upcoming school year. DPSCD staff will be on hand to enroll students before the school year starts on September 5 and answer questions about DPSCD schools and academic programs. In addition to enrollment



activities, the Expo will include an ongoing program featuring DPSCD student/staff talent showcases, water park activities and prize giveaways. Prizes will be given away every 15 minutes, starting at 11 a.m. Expo attendees will be eligible for free admission to the Aquatic Center.

For more info see detroitk12.org. The Wayne County Family Aquatic Center is located at 12600 Chandler Park Drive, just east of Conner on Detroit's eastside.

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#### **CINEMA CULTURE**

# The Hitman's Bodyguard

Paul Arlon

I wasn't expecting much from this movie. Samuel L. Jackson is one of the most over-exposed actors of current times – in the past three years, he will have appeared in 18 films, two video games, two TV series and countless TV commercials. Let's just say that we don't have to worry about him. He can pick up the tab at dinner. Forever.

In his latest, The Hitman's Bodyguard, Jackson plays international assassin Darius Kincaid, jailed by Interpol for a long string of killings. At the same time, his fetching and volatile wife, Salma Havek (as Sonia), is also behind bars in a Dutch prison. To secure his wife's freedom, Darius makes a deal to testify against an evil genocidal Balkan despot, Vladislav Dukhovich (played by Gary Oldman). All Darius has to do, is to get to the Hague by a certain time and give evidence against the dictator at his court trial.

To transport Darius, known worldwide as the baddest hitman on the planet, Interpol arranges an armored convoy to move him from prison to the courthouse, all led by babe agent Amelia Roussel (Elodie Yung). Interpol is certain that Dukhovich's men will go to any lengths to stop Darius from testifying. Well, of course, that happens...

Agent Amelia, now strapped to get her witness to the courthouse in one piece, calls upon the only person she knows that can help – her old boyfriend, Michael Bryce (Ryan Reynolds). Bryce, once regarded as the world's premier bodyguard, traveling in the finest fashion, has since fallen far from that position, and is now relegated to moving low-level clients in his beater car. Bryce blames his failed career and his fast descent from the top rung on the bodyguard ladder on one person – his ex, Amelia. But, Amelia is in a tight spot and Bryce, on the D-list and still with mad skills, is offered a chance to redeem his career. All he has to do is to get Darius Kincaid safely to the Hague to testify. And, there's the plot:

Profanely witty smartassed killer Darius Kincaid teams up with downtrodden professional bodyguard Michael Bryce on a gun-toting bullet-drenched buddy roadtrip through the Netherlands, with Kincaid doing it for Sonia, and Bryce doing it for Amelia. Dukhovich and his toadies provide the gauntlet to be run.

Sassy dialogue, decent action and more comedy and laughs than I thought I'd see. Directed by Patrick Hughes and written by Tom O'Connor, this is better than the average Samuel L. Jackson movie... mostly, because everyone else in it, is so good.

\*\*



Ryan Reynolds, Salma Hayek, Samuel L. Jackson

# METROPOLITAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#### September 2017

<b>TUESDAY September 5</b> - Alan Day and Stefan K (Open Jam Night)
TUESDAY September 12 - Denise (Diva "D") Dotson, vocalist,
with Rick Jones, pianist
TUESDAY September 19 - Melissa Behring, vocalist,
with Jake Tobias, guitarist
TUESDAY September 26 - Jackson Steiger, jazz pianist

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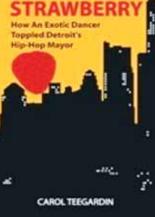
# LIVE THEATRE

#### Strawberry, What Party? at HFC

Carol Teegardin's controversial play *Strawberry-What Party?* will be performed at Dearborn's Adray Auditorium on the Henry Ford College (HFC) campus, Friday, September 8 through Sunday, September 24.

The play tells the story of exotic dancer Strawberry's unsolved murder and cover-up after her fated appearance at Kwame Kilpatrick's alleged Manoogian Mansion bachelor party.

It also explores the fall of Kilpatrick, Detroit's youngest mayor, now in prison after a racketeering conviction. After a sold-out run last January, director Mary F. Bremer-Beer is bringing Teegardin's play to the 400-seat Adray Auditorium. Opening night features a pizza party afterglow and Teegardin's book *How an Exotic Dancer Toppled Detroit's Hip-Hop Mayor* (pictured) will be on sale, with all proceeds going to the real-life



Strawberry's children. Shows are Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 at Brown-PaperTickets.com or (800) 838-3006. Parking is free. For more information about the play and buying the book call (248) 660-7629 or see strawberrywhatparty.weebly.com. Adray Auditorium is located on the HFC campus at 5101 Evergreen, fine arts building F, in Dearborn.

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