

Greater Detroit's FREE Cultural Events Weekly for Over a Half Century • Thursday, August 4, 2016

DOWNTOWN MONITOR

167th Annual Highland Games



Bagpipe and Drum Bands will Perform

The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit will host its 167th annual Highland Games on Friday and Saturday, August 5-6 at **Livonia's Greenmead Historical Park**. The Greater Detroit games are the oldest continuously held games in all of North America.

Founded in 1849, the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Scottish heritage through art, customs, dress, literature and traditional games.

The *Highland Games* will begin with a traditional *Celidh* (party) on Friday evening, August 5, from 5-11 p.m. featuring live entertainment, that will also be featured during the games on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Two stages of continuous entertainment will feature national and regional Celtic and Scottish artists, including the chance to see authentic **bagpipers and traditional dancers**. Other highlights of the Games, besides the popular *Pipe Bands and Highland Dance and Fiddle* competitions, include *Heavy Athletic* games, featuring the *Caber Toss*, where participants throw a 19.5 foot tall tree trunk, or caber, weighing over 175 pounds, a *Hammer Throw* contest, and other games of strength involving heavy weights, and even a traditional *Haggis Hurl!* (Haggis, is the ancestral Scottish food of savory pudding encased in a sheep's stomach).

Other activities and participatory events include a *Massed Band* presentation taking place Saturday at 12:30 p.m., a *Tug-O-War*, the *Parade of Clans* at 11:40 a.m. on Saturday, featuring clans from across the U.S., a *Wee Bairns* area for young children, and a large and diverse marketplace of Celtic crafts, merchandise and collectibles with Scottish and other food vendors.

For more information call (248) 526-1849 or see highlandgames.com. Admission to the *St. Andrew's Society of Detroit's 167th Annual Highland Games* is \$20, with children under 12 admitted free. Free parking with free shuttle service will be available from Schoolcraft College, on Haggerty Rd. between Six and Seven Mile Rds. On-site parking is available for \$5, although the lot may fill up after 10 a.m. The Greenmead Historical Park is located on Newburgh Road, south of W. Eight Mile Rd., in Livonia.



Tossing the Caber in the 'Heavy' Athletics Competition

SHOWINGS

Guyton 30th Anniversary Exhibition

Opening August 13 at Inner State Gallery, Detroit's Tyree Guyton will celebrate the 30th anniversary of **The Heidelberg Project** with his latest solo exhibition *Face-ology*, a career spanning showcase, featuring new works by the founder and creative force of the city's most iconic public art installation.

"Face-ology is a reflection of everything that is changing about Detroit; the face of the landscape, the face of the people and even my own face. This show also talks about the challenges we face as a nation. I'm revealing what's underneath the face—I'm pulling off the covers," Guyton (pictured) said from his Detroit studio.

Face-ology is a new body of work including works on paper that capture the faces and emotions of the community that continue to shape Guyton's world. Caricature-styled imagery that completely eludes any reference to race or ethnicity, Guyton's faces are consistent through his bold use of colors and his signature wide-toothed grins. However, this work is layered with an intense and hauntingly raw ambiguity that draws you in and takes you on a journey. Guyton's faces have been his most iconic and most-collected series throughout his career.

"We are celebrating 30 years of making social change through art in many ways," Heidelberg Project Executive Director Jenenne Whitfield said. "Guyton's work is not slick and shiny, it's raw and it's real and that makes it great!!"

Saturday, August 13, from 7-10 p.m., will be a public reception of Guyton's new work *Face-ology*. This event is free and open to the public. For information call (313) 744-6505. Inner State Gallery is located at 1410 Gratiot Ave., in Detroit's Eastern Market neighborhood.



'Detroit Photography' Exhibit at Ferndale Library

An exhibition of photographs by two Detroit artists depicting their unique perspectives of the city, entitled *Detroit Photography* will be on exhibit at **Ferndale Area District Library** now through August 27, with a reception on Thursday, August 4 from 6-8 p.m.

More than 20 original photographs by J. Gordon Rodwan and Breanna Garvin will explore the architecture, landscape and visual character of the city, by employing interesting angles and vantage points to shift the viewer's perceptions of popular city spaces.

August 4th's reception will include an Artist's Talk by J. Gordon Rodwan and his son, John Rodwan, discussing the photographs, poetry, and essays from their book *Detroit Is*.

Rodwan, is an award-winning photographer, a member of the Photographic Guild of Detroit and a photography mentor in Focus: HOPE's "Focus on the Mission" program.

Garvin is a young, African-American woman who became captivated by photography's potential in her first years at college. Despite these differences, the artists share a deep roots in Detroit; Rodwan has been a resident for over forty years and Garvin is a native-born Detroiter.

Hueco Tanks will perform at the reception and refreshments will be served. For more information, call (248) 546-2504. The Ferndale Area District Library is located at 222 E. Nine Mile, in Ferndale.



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CITY SCENE



ARISE Detroit! 10th Anniversary

Laydell Harper

ARISE Detroit! and get ready for an amazing 10th Anniversary of the annual Detroit *Neighborhoods Day: Renewing The Village*, on Saturday, August 6. More than 300 neighborhood events are scheduled for this citywide celebration. Stretching from north to south, east to west, from the Detroit Riverfront to Eight Mile, there is something for everyone to get involved.

ARISE Detroit! It's time to do great things in your neighborhood, meet new people, establish new relationships and discover new resources that will help energize and restore Detroit neighborhoods to viable, thriving places to live and work.

"It's amazing to see the phenomenal growth of Neighborhoods Day over the past 10 years," comments Luther Keith, ARISE Detroit! Executive Director. "We have hundreds of organizations and thousands of people involved all over the



Two Participants at Last Year's Neighborhoods Day

city. This year we will set a record of more than 300 registrations from neighborhoods all over the city."

Keith continues, "Neighborhoods are an important part of Detroit's resurgence, too." You know, and I know, that there are hundreds of organizations and thousands of people quietly getting things done in the city's neighborhoods, establish-

ing businesses, running programs to help children, planting community gardens and nudging the quality of life in the right direction against incredible odds.

We want the nation and the world to see the other side of Detroit, thousands of people coming together in a spectacular demonstration of community pride."

A new addition this year is

Crime Stoppers of Michigan. Keeping our neighborhoods safe is an important part of creating strong, vibrate neighborhoods. This year Crime Stoppers will join *ARISE Detroit! Neighborhoods Day* to teach people how to work together to make safer communities.

Also, new this year: There will be four community peace walks in neighborhoods around the city, focused on public safety and teaching the community to stand up to crime.

In just 10 years ARISE Detroit! has accomplished more than some community organizations have accomplished in many years of existence. The brain child of Keith, former managing editor at The Detroit News, the mission of the organization is to inspire a community of active engagement, personal responsibility and hope by connecting people to opportunities and resources to transform the quality of life for all Detroiters.

The idea behind the event is to create an opportunity to showcase the pride and spirit of neighborhoods and forge relationships that can help improve the quality of

life for city residents going forward.

Come out and be a part of an array of events. Here's just a few:

- Peace and Safety Walks
- Community Clean-up campaigns
- 28 McDonald's restaurants will offer special prices.
- 10th Annual Backpack
- Giveaway Block Party
- Block Club Events

Volunteers are still needed for various projects. For a complete list of all Neighborhoods Day events and activities, see arisedetroit.org.

Neighborhoods Day exemplifies the real spirit of Detroit. If you'd like to get involved to show your positive Detroit spirit, call (313) 921-1955.

Also, don't miss *ARISE Detroit! Thank You Detroit Festival* at **Campus Martius Park**, a whole day of entertainment and fun on August 13 from 11 a.m., to 7 p.m. The **Thank You Detroit Festival** is in partnership with the *Starr Commonwealth Art of Resilience Festival*, which will have hundreds of youth performing acts.

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9th Annual Livernois 'Jazz On The Avenue'



The **Livernois Avenue of Fashion Association** will celebrate their annual *Jazz On The Avenue*, customer appreciation day on Saturday, August 6, from noon until 9 p.m.

The *Jazz On The Avenue* event will mostly happen from Pembroke to Clarita (one block south of 7 Mile) and is supported by residents from Sherwood Forest, Palmer Park, The Golf Club Estates, University District and the Bagley Community.

The Avenue of Fashion features walkable access to an eclectic mix of trendy and upscale couture & urban fashions, bakeries, a ceramic studio, art galleries and dining establishments. The 9th annual event will also feature outdoor venues, live jazz entertainment, music, food, art, unique shopping opportunities and family activities throughout the event.

For information about *Jazz On The Avenue*, call (313) 879-3414 or see avenueoffashion.com.

SYMPHONIC NEWS



Ruth's Music Notes...

Ruth Crystal-Zaromp

On August 6, at 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the **Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, in Grosse Pointe Shores**, *Headstrong* a one-act opera, will be featured. The performance will be followed by a talk with the author, Rachel Swaby.

Headstrong's music was composed by Wesley Fishwick. Fishwick is known to me in particular because he was one of the more outstanding students of legendary DSO pianist Misha Kottler, and studied with Kottler for some years. Following the receipt of his master's degree from Wayne State, Fishwick performed in Greater Detroit and won quite a number of competitions, here and in Europe, culminating with his taking part in the Tchaikovsky competition in Russia. Today, Fishwick is married with five children. He has made a career for himself in the teaching profession.

The 'book' writer, Rachel Swaby has written many works through freelance and editorial jobs. *Headstrong* is the story of women of our time and before, who have made their mark in the arts and sciences and because of their accomplishments can serve as role models for the rest of us.

The opera will be directed by Betsy Graham Marsh. It deals with three women scientists:

Gerty Cori, a Czech-American and Nobel Prize-winning biochemist for her groundbreaking work on carbohydrate metabolism (glycogen).

Chien-Shiung Wu, a nuclear physicist who was dubbed the 'First Lady of Physics' (uranium isotopes).

Rachel Carson, an American marine biologist and conservationist whose book *Silent Spring* is credited with founding the environmental movement. *Silent Spring* deals with the use and effects of pesticides and other human-made poisons on the biology



Composer Wesley Fishwick

and life as we know it.

Participating in the opera are: Dorothy Duensing, a mezzo soprano with the Michigan Opera Theatre and adjunct professor for voice at Wayne State University;

Jie Wang, an assistant researcher at Wayne State University and professionally trained soprano; Jinsheng Zhang, professor at Wayne State University School of Medicine and operatic singer; and Mary Grivas, a soprano and veteran liturgical singer in the metro Detroit and Windsor area.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for Ford House members and students, and are available at www.fordhouse.org. Edsel & Eleanor Ford House is located at 1100 Lake Shore

Road, in Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan 48236. Call (313) 884-4222 for more information.

Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor, this coming weekend of August 4-6, will feature the Brass Tacks Ensemble in *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde. Performances take place at 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and on Saturday there are performances at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

For further information, call (734) 769-2999 or check www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com. The Kerrytown Concert House is located in the historic Kerrytown neighborhood of Ann Arbor, at 415 N. 4th Avenue, just across from the Kerrytown Market.



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DOWNTOWN MONITOR

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Mailing Address:

**DOWNTOWN
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P.O. Box 888

Hazel Park, MI 48030

Phone and Email:

(248) 439-1863

TheNewMonitor@gmail.com

DetroitMonitor@gmail.com

Paul Arlon

Editor & Publisher

Roger Smith

Advertising Director

Columnists

George Eichorn

Laydell Harper

Ruth Crystal-Zaromp

Marian Sakalauskas

Douglas MacGeorge

Donald N. Campbell

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Your podiatrist may prescribe orthoses or fitted inserts to restore normal foot function and remove pressure from the cramped area, or he may advise a wait and see attitude — only an examination will determine the best course.

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Tour the Dossin



Visitors can take a guided maritime tour of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Saturday, August 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn about the geographic, economic, social and cultural development of the Detroit River and the Great Lakes waterways.

Tour tickets are \$7 per person, and can be purchased online at detroithistorical.org or by calling (313) 833-7979.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is now open five days a week, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday until Labor Day. These hours are the same as the nearby Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory and Belle Isle Aquarium (although the aquarium is only open Friday through Sunday). Visitors can go through all three attractions while on the island.

For more information, call the Museum at (313) 833-5538 or see detroithistorical.org.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle.

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DOWNTOWN BOUND

Summer Saturday Nights and Sunday Brunch in Capitol Park



Capitol Park, the center of a growing residential neighborhood, surrounded by the Detroit skyline and unique retail shops, is once again hosting *Summer Saturday Nights and Sunday Brunch Specials in August* as part of **Quicken Loans Summer in the Parks**. The historic park offers beautiful greenery and comfortable seating areas, creating a feel reminiscent of a mini Soho within the city of Detroit. The events will offer an assortment of mouth watering options from Detroit's favorite restaurants and food trucks along with live entertainment. Specialty drink options are a new addition to this year's brunch as well as visual arts as part of the entertainment mix.

Summer Saturday Nights offers four special themed food and drink experiences every Saturday evening from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. for the 21+ crowd. Each event includes food samplings and drink specials from a dozen or more Detroit restaurants, bars and breweries, a commemorative glass, and a keepsake photo along with live music, games and giveaways. A complete schedule is below:

August 6: Bourbon, Brews & BBQ - Savory samplings from Detroit's best BBQ joints, delectable desserts from Detroit's sweets boutiques and over a dozen barrel aged bourbons with a variety of craft beers. Enjoy music by Priceless Live.

August 13: Tacos & Tequila - Mexican and Latin influenced offerings from Detroit restaurants and eateries along with plenty of tequila, margaritas and Mexican beer samples. Plus live Latin Jazz by Sean Blackman and the In Transit Trio.

August 20: Taste of Italy - Take a tour of Italy's most popular regions by sampling famed dishes featuring authentic Italian recipes that originated in Palermo, Tuscany, Naples and Rome. There will also be Italian themed wine and cocktails. Ben Sharkey will provide the entertainment with his renditions of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Harry Connick Jr, Michael Buble and others.

August 27: Summerfest - This end of summer celebration will feature a summer cookout themed menu and samples of refreshing summer cocktails and craft beers. The Infatuations will be playing live. Tickets for the *Summer Saturday Nights* series are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, visit CapitolParkEvents.com.

Every Sunday in August from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the tasty downtown Sunday Brunch in Capitol Park will offer delicious and affordably priced food and drink choices from a variety of Detroit's favorite food trucks. New this year, specialty cocktails such as bloody marys, mimosas and tequila sunrises will be available for purchase. There will also be live entertainment including Detroit Institute of Music Education (DIME) acoustic performers and visual artists.

Participating food trucks are High Octane, Shredderz and Bear Claw Coffee Company. For a schedule of specific weekly participants, visit the Capitol Park tab at downtowndetroitparks.com. The complete schedule listing for all 2016 Quicken Loans Summer in the Parks activities is at downtowndetroitparks.com.

Participants subject to change without notice. Capitol Park is located at the intersection of State St. and Griswold St., in Downtown Detroit.

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Fri, August 5: LayeRhythm, A Jam session of music & dance!

Tues, August 9: Indian Winds, Strings and Percussion

Tues, August 16: Upfront Detroit

Thurs, August 18: Polyfold Summer Residency:

Music of Levine, Malis and Shadik
Tues, August 23: Taiko Drums and Percussion

Thurs, August 25: Polyfold Summer Residency

Tues, August 30: Opera MODO

And More!
Thurs, August 4: Community Art Project

Fri, August 5: Artist to Artist talk: Poor Man's Art Collective

Fri-Sat August 12-13: Trinity Int'l Film Festival

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LIVE THEATRE



'American Wee Pie' Serves Up Well Done Food for Thought

By Paul Arlon

I've written aplenty about the inviting and attractive setting of the Tipping Point Theatre. But, as redundant as it may be to voice praise about the Tipping Point's physical appearance and location – an architecturally handsome stand-alone playhouse nestled just downhill from Northville's spotless picture-postcard downtown – among other accolades that I keep at the ready, is this one: I've never seen a poorly done production at the Tipping Point.

For sure, live theatre rarely goes through an entire show without a tongue-slip, or a misplaced foot, or some kind of off-the-script imperfection. That's what makes it 'live.'

But, those aren't the only miscues that can happen with live theatre. Other detractors can come from the actors themselves, the technical staging, the direction, and inevitably, the choice of the written material itself. All of these singular elements of a show have to blend together with strengths of their own to be a truly high-level production. And, as I've said, none of these single parts of a show has ever failed the whole of a Tipping Point production.

So it is with their current show, the Michigan premiere of *American Wee Pie*. At first hearing, the name could lead you to believe it's a kid's show – maybe something to do with childhood. And, in a way, that's true. Nothing to do with children, but, everything to do with fully mature adults, disassociating

themselves from the lives they've grown into, and choosing to reinvent themselves. The story is simple: You are never too old to become new again.

Here's the set-up:

Zed (Brian P. Sage), a middle-aged textbook editor has come back to his non-descript little hometown of Gardensend when his mother passes away. He's lived in Chicago for decades, and this is the first time he's returned to his boyhood home.

On the way to his mother's house, he obviously walks into oncoming traffic. He's pulled from harm's way by Linz (Stacey J. Weddle), a completely forgotten-about high school classmate. Linz is effusively upbeat, energetic and aggressively chatty, and invites the morose Zed to visit the cupcake shop that she owns with her eccentric French baker husband, Pableau (Peter Prouty).

Zed doesn't say yes to the invitation right away. He first goes to his mother's house, where he sees his sister (Kelly Komlen), herself not happy at all with the way that her life has turned out.

Zed and his sister talk for a bit about the state of their miserably mundane lives, and Zed professes that his job has sucked the life out of him and everyone who works there, including his cubby-mate, who appears as a raunchy-mouthed bike riding apparition throughout the play. (This part is played by Wayne David Parker, who appears in a trio of roles, each one important to the story.)

Eventually, Zed visits Linz and the strangely focused



Wayne David Parker, Brian P. Sage and Kelly Komlen



Stacey J. Weddle, Peter Prouty

Pableau at their gourmet cupcake emporium. When Zed takes a taste of one of Pableau's peculiarly flavored cupcakes, everyone's life changes...suffice it to say that a first bite could perhaps create a second chance.

Tipping Point's Managing Director James R. Kuhl, talked about the Lisa Dillman play, and put it pretty well: "I think audiences will find a lot of inspiration from *American Wee Pie*. It's very encouraging to any-

one who feels like there may be something more out there for them."

I totally agree.

Tipping Point Theatre performances begin at 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, with matinees at 3 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Ticket prices range from \$22 to \$35. For more information, call (248) 347-0003, or see tippingpointtheatre.com. Tipping Point Theatre is located at 361 E. Cady Street, in Northville.

DAY TRIP

Michigan Honey Festival



The 5th Annual Michigan Honey Festival, the largest assemblage of local honey and bee related products, takes place on Saturday, August 6, in Frankenmuth's Harvey Kern Pavilion. The Festival, happening from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. has a \$5 admission fee, and this year, all proceeds from the Festival will be donated towards the training and equipment needs of Veterans who qualify for grants to start a beekeeping business.

This year's Festival offers over a dozen different styles of local honey for sampling and purchase, as well learning opportunities from experts about bees, honey production and pollinators of all types. Even learn how to plant the right kinds of pollinator-attracting plants and if interested, a greenhouse on-site will offer those plants for sale. In fact, all of the biggest wholesalers of apiary (beekeeping) equipment will be on hand with anything one needs to start producing honey. And, of course, there will be an abundance of mead.

Should we say that there will be some sweet deals at the Festival?

For more information, call (810) 241-6308, or see michiganhoneyfestival.com.

The Michigan Honey Festival is located in the Harvey Kern Pavilion, just behind the Bavarian Inn Lodge, at 601 Weiss St., in Downtown Frankenmuth, MI 48734.

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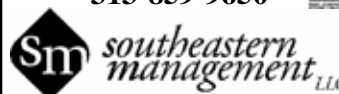
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