

# Holiday Gift Guide



The holidays should be a fun and festive time, not frustrating and stressful, especially when it comes to shopping for loved ones. All of us have a wide spectrum of friends and family to buy for, from the studious college kid to that hippie friend who just won't adapt to the new millennia, and even that person who is a shameless self promoter (or as we like to call them, "attention whores").

So, what *do* you get them for Christmas? REVUE dispatched staff, writers and minions to scour West Michigan to find the seasoned hot spots and gift ideas for our second annual gift guide. We asked the experts and compiled their suggestions for each personality to make this gift giving season merrier.

And the best part? Avoiding massive department store lines. With every personality type, you'll find five different categories (shop, eat, do, watch, listen), each with a suggestion of a local West Michigan retailer, restaurant, theatre, band, etc. to go and explore. Got a beer lover in your circle? Take them down to **Bell's Eccentric Café** in Kalamazoo for a day of food and beer (not to mention a chance to dress like your alter ego). For the sports lover who yells at the TV, there's nothing better than taking them *to* the game. And the movie buff? Why, a day of independent films at the **Urban Institute of Contemporary Arts** should be on your list, too.

If you don't like our suggestions, at least it'll be a springboard for ideas. So go ahead, brave the cold and happy shopping.

ILLUSTRATED BY MATTHEW REIDSMA

**Lee's Adventure Sports**  
311 W Kilgore Rd., Portage  
leesadventuresports.com, (269) 381-7700

## SHOP

When braving the different elements, your favorite t-shirt and backpack can only go so far. Any would-be traveler should stop by Lee's Adventure Sports. Lee's is the best place for travelers to get their gear because it "offers a great selection of luggage, travel accessories and travel clothing to meet any traveler's needs," says Store Owner Skip Lee. For those braving the cold, Lee endorses a warm fleece layer or the popular Patagonia down sweater that he owns. For those fortunate enough to be traveling to warmer climates, check out the ExOfficio Baja shirt with venting and sun protection.

**Schuler Books & Music**  
Three Grand Rapids Locations  
schulerbooks.com, (800) 331-1727

## DO

If you're looking to avoid cultural ignorance and build language skills for a more pleasant journey, be sure to stop by Schuler Books & Music. Promotions Coordinator Emily Stavrou-Schaefer says Schuler is an ideal place for any traveler because it "features a wide variety of multicultural language and reference books as well as a huge selection of travel books that will accommodate every traveler's needs." Schuler Books hosts a Japanese culture and language group that meets every third Monday of the month at its Alpine location. Its 28th Street location also hosts an Italian club that meets every second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

**88.1-FM WYCE**  
711 Bridge St. NW, Grand Rapids  
grcmc.org/radio, (616) 459-4788

## LISTEN

It may be somewhat odd to recommend a local radio station for people who are trying to get away from their surroundings, but with its wide selection of jazz, rock, blues, folk and worldbeat music, WYCE is anything but an ordinary radio station.

**Ferris Coffee & Nut**  
227 Winter Ave. NW, Grand Rapids  
ferriscoffee.com, (616) 459-6257

## EAT

The first rule of traveling is to always be prepared. The good people at Ferris Coffee & Nut will be able to tide you over with their great variety of nuts, coffee, candy and personable service. Barista Christina Mrozik finds the cherry-berry mix, which is filled with cherries, blueberries, cranberries, pecans and almonds, to be particularly good because "it's sweet and salty and is easy to pick up with your fingers."

**Celebration Cinema North**  
2121 Celebration Dr. NE, Grand Rapids  
celebrationcinema.com, (616) 530-7469

## WATCH

Let's face it; even though it sounds simple to just pick up and leave everything behind for a while, traveling is expensive, and some of us just don't have the money or vacation days. Maybe a mental trip is in order instead. Celebration Cinema North has your ticket to a wide variety of destinations. Perhaps watching George Clooney play an executive efficiency expert that travels from office to office collecting frequent flyer miles in *Up In the Air*, opening on Christmas Day, will help. If you're looking to leave the planet, James Cameron's *Avatar* is opening Dec. 18 and promises to transport audiences to an alien world filled with imaginative creatures and spaces.

GIFT GUIDE /// by David Coba

## TRAVELER

For those who always want to get away.



# BEER SNOB

*The term “light beer” does not exist in this person’s vocabulary. When it comes to beer, it’s about the flavor, ingredients, brewing process, and one-up factor when this person brings their favorite microbrew to a party serving the beer that cannot be mentioned.*

**Siciliano’s Market**  
2840 Lake Michigan Dr, Grand Rapids  
sicilianosmkt.com, (616) 453-9674

**SHOP** If your beer lover has not yet dived into the world of home brewing, Steve Siciliano, owner of Siciliano’s Market, suggests buying a beer making kit as a gift. “If you can make chili, you can make beer,” he says. A kit at Siciliano’s costs \$105, with an average of \$40 per batch, which makes two cases. For those already dabbling in home brewing, try brewing a batch as a gift. Even if you’re a n00b, your friends will enjoy the bragging rights that come with knowing a home brewer. If your snob is not ready to take that home brewing dive, Siciliano’s has every one of its beers offered in singles for gift-buyers to mix and match a six, or 12-pack.

**A show at Founders Brewing Company**  
235 Grandville SW, Grand Rapids  
foundersbrewing.com, (616) 776.1195

**WATCH** Not only does Founders have some of the most unique brews in West Michigan, it also has quirky and fun bands stopping by to compliment its beer. Recently, Founders had Boston-based band, Rubblebucket stop by for the second time, as well as Terrapin Flyer, which features Tom Constanten, who played with The Grateful Dead and Jefferson Starship.

**Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys**

**LISTEN** With her standup bass, Bettie Page bangs and badass attitude, Ms. DeWylde could probably knock back a few brews with the best of ‘em. And why wouldn’t she? This lady and her gents can be found at bars and breweries all across West Michigan. In fact, this past winter, DeWylde and her boys bundled up to play

outdoors at the Michigan Winter Beer Festival. But watch out, she may break your “Honky Tonk Heart.”

**HopCat**  
25 Ionia Ave, Grand Rapids  
hopcatgr.com, (616) 451-4677

**EAT** Domestic are not welcome at the number three beer bar in the world (according to Beer Advocate). Grab your beer snob and head over to HopCat for some dinner to compliment your drinking. The bar features an array of microbrews – you know, the classy kind with the higher alcohol percentage – from Michigan, the United States and various countries. HopCat also has food to accompany your beverages. “Our whole menu is designed to go with the beer,” said Ringleader Garry Boyd, who lists HopCat’s pretzel with mustard, meat and cheese plate, and build-your-own macaroni and cheese as good accessories to brews. For the gift-giving season, HopCat is running a special on gift certificates: you buy \$100-worth for your friends and family, and you get \$20 for yourself.

**Eccentric Day at Bell’s Eccentric Café**  
355 E. Kalamazoo Dr, Kalamazoo  
bellsbeer.com, (269) 382-2332

**DO** Bell’s not only offers fantastic brews, but has local, regional and national acts coming through three days a week, as well as events unique to the Eccentric Café. On Dec. 4, Bell’s is hosting Eccentric Day, where attendees are encouraged to come dressed as their alter ego. “The idea is to cut loose a little bit, dress a little funny ... dig deep into your psyche and discover your alter ego,” said Jason Reicherts, retail/bar manager. “It’s just a big party.” The event is free with complimentary food, which includes caviar, smoked meats and cheeses, for those who attend the event. And as always, Bell’s famous beer will be available for purchase as well.



**JUST A FEW REASONS TO COME DOWN TO HOPCAT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON:**  
**01. CRACK FRIES ARE WAY BETTER THAN AUNT GLORIA'S GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE**  
**02. LISTENING TO YOUR DAD'S NEW WIFE IS LIKE NAILS ON A CHALKBOARD**  
**03. 48 CRAFT BEER DRAFTS BEAT UNCLE LARRY'S CRANBERRY PUNCH**  
**04. RATED THE #3 BEER BAR IN THE WORLD BY BEER ADVOCATE MAGAZINE (UNCLE STEVE'S HOUSE, NOT RATED ANYTHING.)**  
**05. TURKEY BRUSCHETTA BURGER BEATS TURKEY LEFTOVERS HANDS DOWN**  
**06. AMAZING AMBIANCE VS. YOUR NIECE SINGING HANNAH MONTANA KARAOKE OVER AND OVER**  
**07. PUMPKIN ALE IS WAY BETTER THAN PUMPKIN PIE**  
**08. 150 CRAFT BEER BOTTLES INSTEAD OF SPARKLING GRAPE JUICE**  
**09. FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, IF YOU BUY \$100 IN GIFT CARDS, YOU GET A FREE \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE**



HOURS OF OPERATION: MON - SAT 11:30AM - 2AM, SUNDAY NOON - 2AM  
WWW.HOPCAT.COM (616) 451-HOPS (4677) 25 IONIA AVE. SW (IONIA & WESTON)



# THESPIAN

Maybe they're melodramatic, but the theatre person's magnetic personality cannot be denied. Also, in an area rich with productions of everything from treasured favorites to the delightfully obscure, they're easy to shop for.

## Scavenger Hunt

117 S Division Ave., Grand Rapids  
scavengerhuntclothing.com,  
(616) 454-1033

### SHOP

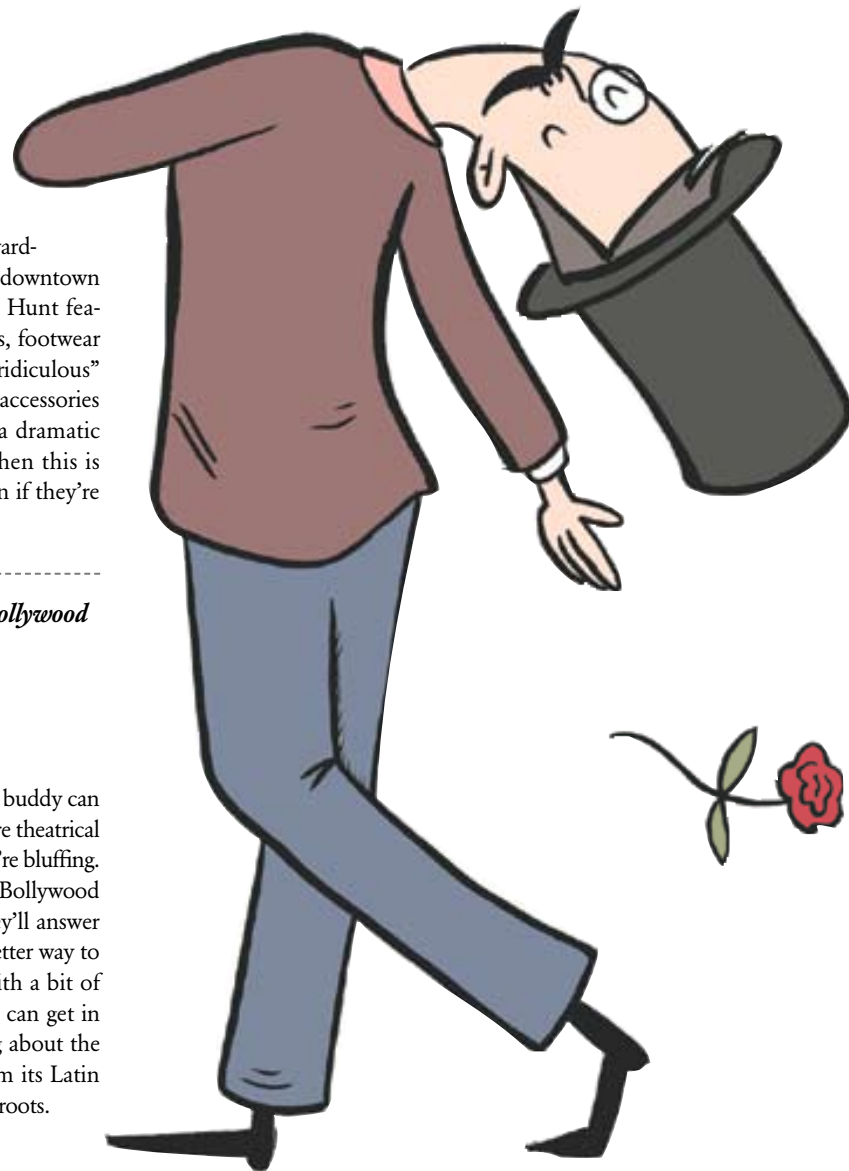
A theatrical person deserves a theatrical wardrobe, and this snazzy downtown thrift store has just that. Scavenger's Hunt features decade costumes, vintage pieces, footwear and hats which fall into the "beyond ridiculous" category, in addition to a plethora of accessories and jewelry. If all your pal needs is a dramatic brooch to finish off an ensemble, then this is the place. It's also an ideal destination if they're looking for an entire outfit.

## "Basement Bhangra Dance: The Bollywood Craze"

Armenta Studio  
955 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids  
lauraarmenta.com, (616) 235-9642

### DO

If your theatre-loving buddy can name something more theatrical than Bollywood, they're bluffing. Ask any given thespian if they have a Bollywood title in their DVD collection, and they'll answer "yes", however shamefully. So what better way to complement that secret love than with a bit of Bhangra dance? You and your friend can get in on some cardio action while learning about the origins of the Bollywood craze - from its Latin American influence to its East Indian roots.



Starfarm  
starfarmband.com

### LISTEN

For the thespian, theatrics are everything, even when it comes to music. There are few bands more theatrical than Starfarm. A group of Adidas tracksuit-wearing guys fronted by a girl sporting Lycra and leg warmers, Starfarm is all about the '80s and a little bit of '70s, performing stellar covers of everything from "Tiny Dancer" to "The Safety Dance". Whitney and the boys frequent the Grand Woods Lodge, so strongly encourage your thespian pal to head on over next time they're around. Cover bands have never sounded this radical.

## El Arriero

2948 28th St. SE, Kentwood  
(616) 977-2674

### EAT

Be as loud as you want to in El Arriero, and the friendly staff will forgive you. Also forgiving? The menu pricing, where entrees are consistently under \$15, and drinks rarely stretch your wallet beyond a five dollar bill. The cuisine and libations are worth far more than that at El Arriero, where the food is authentically Mexican, the atmosphere raucous and the portions generous. Even the pickiest eaters will find something to their liking here, whether something mild from the vegetarian menu, a stuffed poblano pepper or a traditional burrito with the restaurant's signature sauce.

## "Cirque Dreams Illumination"

DeVos Performance Hall  
303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids  
Jan. 26-31  
broadwaygrandrapids.org, (616) 235-6285

### WATCH

If your chosen thespian is kicking themselves for never having caught a "Cirque Du Soleil" performance, then Broadway Grand Rapids is solving that problem in January, when "Cirque Dreams Illumination" plays at the DeVos Performance Hall. Broadway theatrics, performance artistry and a little bit of circus antics are drawn together in the Cirque series, making for a night of theatre unlike any other. You'll "ooh" and "ahh" and your companion will find the show simply jaw-dropping. For once, they may even find themselves speechless.



This holiday season offer a gift like no other—the gift of art. Whether it's a night at the opera or ballet, an event at the UICA, or a stroll through Meijer Gardens, your gift won't have any trouble expressing itself, and leaving a lasting impression on those you love. To find out more, call 616.459.2787 and be sure to visit our new site (coming soon)!

whatsyourartgr.com

Arts Council  
OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS

# ARTIST

*Ah, the tortured soul that is the artist. Called to carry the burden of their genius as well as the weight of humanity's issues, the artist can be testy and euphoric within the same afternoon.*

## BOHEMIA TOO

10 Weston SE, Grand Rapids  
bohemiatoo.com, (616) 454-2323

## SHOP

Chock full of unique men's and women's clothing, imported décor, antique furniture and beads, Bohemia Too will help you find that perfect something for your artist that appreciates their individuality and creativity. Formerly called Little Bohemia, this fun store boasts a wide selection of everything from Billabong t-shirts to Buddha statues.

## CLASSES AT THE URBAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

41 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Grand Rapids  
uica.org, (616) 454-7000

## DO

Get your artist a membership to the UICA and they'll benefit from discounts on special events, classes and films, as well as the opportunity to use the ceramic and photography facilities. Help them diversify their skills and broaden their exposure to a variety of kinds of art. In December, the UICA's exhibitions will include works made of silk, ceramics and watercolor.

## DEVENDRA BANHART (WARNER BROS.) OR BASEMENT JAXX (ULTRA)

Corner Record Shop  
1710 W. Main, Kalamazoo  
cornerrecordshop.com, (269) 381-0218

## LISTEN

Depending on their mood, the artist might withdraw into their studio for days or go 100 miles per hour. Complement their melancholy disposition by giving

them Banhart's new CD, *What Will We Be*, a "trippy hippy" folk album that will help the creative juices flow freely. Jump start your artist's inspiration by giving them *Scars* by Basement Jaxx, a high-energy album of house dance that will get them moving. The Corner Record Shop in Kalamazoo is stocked with both albums, but if the store is out, helpful employees can order it for you, such as April Morris did for us.

## ZAZIOS ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Located in the Radisson  
100 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo  
zazios.com, (269) 384-2650

## EAT

Zazios is all about the experience and the process of creating delicious and beautiful dishes. The dining room is full of energy and lit with hot pink and lime green chairs, and the artist will appreciate the open design and varying textures in the materials. At the chef's table, dinner is prepared from fresh ingredients right in front of your eyes. The preparation and presentation is given proper attention, and the artist is sure to appreciate the result as well.

## CELEBRATION CINEMA WOODLAND

3195 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids  
celebrationcinema.com, (616) 530-7469

## WATCH

Known to most as "the cheap theater," Celebration Cinema's Woodland Mall location is a great place to catch arthouse movies for a very reasonable price. Mingle with the commoners as you join a small, select crowd with enough taste to have selected *500 Days of Summer*, or whatever indie-marketed flick is in town.



GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM  
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1910 - 2010

100  
100 YEARS  
ART • LEGACY • VISION

## Christmas Party of the Century & Holiday Happenings



### Tree Lighting & Opening of Rosa Parks Circle Ice Rink

Friday, December 4, 2009

5:30 - 5:45 PM Ceremony  
5:00 - 9:00 PM Galleries open

- Tree Lighting
- Figure Skating Performance
- Live Music
- Horse-drawn Carriage Rides in collaboration with Downtown Alliance

MEMBERS ADMISSION IS ALWAYS FREE  
NON-MEMBERS \$5 Friday Night rate

#### Sponsored by

Daniel and Pamela DeVos Foundation  
Consumers Energy  
Wege Foundation  
New Life Arboricultural Services, Inc.

### Members Annual Children's Holiday Party

Saturday, December 5, 2009

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Holiday Party  
1:00 - 2:00 PM Ballet Performance

- Santa Claus
- Art Projects
- Cookie Decorating
- Family-Friendly Holiday Films
- Horse-drawn Carriage Rides
- Abbreviated performance of *The Nutcracker* by balletmore dance studio.
- Meet the Dancers

### WINTER BREAK FAMILY ACTIVITIES

DROP IN ANY TIME!

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

December 22 - 26 & December 29 - January 2

Closed Christmas and New Year's Day

#### Step Back in Time

Discover the art of the past 100 years as GRAM celebrates the holiday season and its upcoming Centennial Year. Visitors to the education studio can sip hot cocoa, strike a pose in the photobooth, and learn about the history of the Art Museum and works of art collected over the years.

- Art-making stations inspired by key pieces within the collection
- Interactive photobooth
- FREE hot cocoa
- Festive music
- Films on art
- Holiday-themed Family Activity Guide to help young visitors explore the galleries

### New Year's Eve Countdown Party 2010

Thursday, December 31, 2009

5:30 PM - 12:30 AM

- Dance Music
- Cash Bar
- Gallery Mystery Games
- Family Activities
- Snacks
- Party Favors
- Countdown to New Year 2010

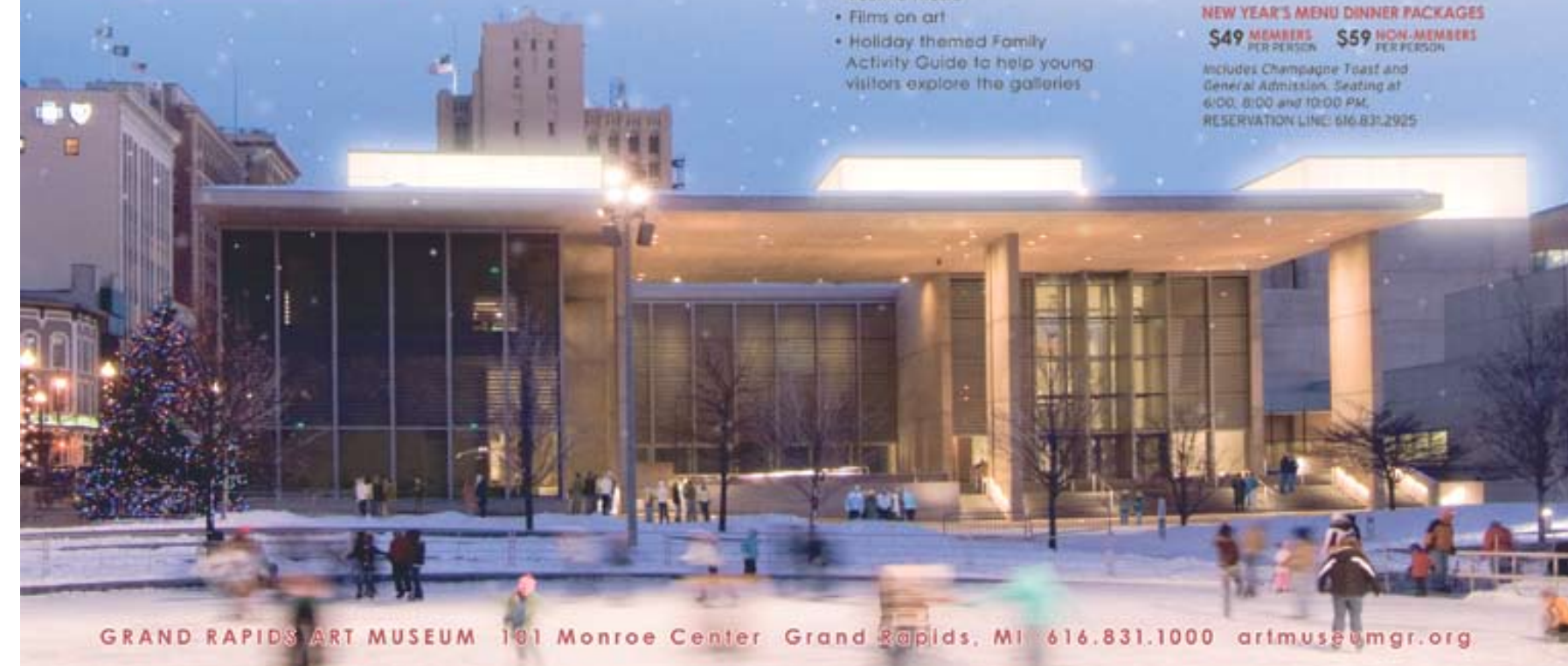
MEMBERS ADMISSION IS FREE  
NON-MEMBERS \$10 ADMISSION

Arrive early to ensure entrance to the party! Once of capacity, only guests wearing wristbands will be allowed to re-enter. Wristbands available at Visitor Services desk beginning at 5:30 pm, December 31.

#### NEW YEAR'S MENU DINNER PACKAGES

\$49 MEMBERS PER PERSON \$59 NON-MEMBERS PER PERSON

Includes Champagne Toast and General Admission. Seating at 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 PM.  
RESERVATION LINE: 616.831.2925



GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM 101 Monroe Center Grand Rapids, MI 616.831.1000 artmuseumgr.org

# COMEDIAN

The guy in your group that doesn't take himself seriously. Daily interactions and conversation only serve as a means to a punch line.

**Flashback and One Man's Junk**  
450 Leonard St. NW, Grand Rapids  
(616) 459-0097

**SHOP** For the prop comedian or a comic who is looking for a gimmick, you can find everything from vintage clothing and stage props to space ships. "I've accumulated and obtained lots of one-of-a-kind props," said Tim Garrod, who owns the store. "Not really flash powder or rubber chickens. We've had lots of people come in and buy props. We've had people shoot movies in the store. We've had fashion shoots in the store. There's nothing like it around. Come on down and get inspired and see if it'll work for you."

**Dog Story Theater**  
1115 Taylor Ave. NW, Grand Rapids  
dogstorytheater.com, (616) 821-8955

**DO** Every Monday is comedy night at Dog Story. There are two hour-long shows, one starting at 8 p.m. and the other at 9 p.m. You can see one show for \$5 or both for \$7. At the end of the two shows, there is a free improv session on stage. The beauty of this is that anybody can join in, no matter how experienced or uncomfortable they are. People with experience from theater or comedy backgrounds will put you at ease while you get the feel for it.

**"Unbalanced Load" by Doug Benson**  
Available at Amazon.com

Think what you want of the title of Doug Benson's latest comedy disc. With a resume

**LISTEN** that includes "Last Comic Standing", VH1's "Best Week Ever" and short snippets on primetime sitcoms, you can expect Benson to be funny. If you liked the 420-friendly comic before, this new CD will not disappoint. Also, if you haven't checked out his spoof of Morgan Spurlock's *Super Size Me*, titled *Super High Me*, it's certainly worth the effort.

**Sunday Night Funnies**  
Landing Lounge  
Radisson Hotel 270 Ann St. NW, Grand Rapids

**EAT** Dining out for the comedian is any place that offers laughs for free and food for cheap. This is an open-mic showcase for many of the area's aspiring stand-up comedians, usually featuring between 10 and 15 comics every Sunday night. It starts at 8:30 p.m. and runs for about two hours. If you are interested in more information, or want to sign on to perform, check out the Facebook page for Sunday Night Funnies.

**River City Improv**  
Ladies Literary Club  
61 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Grand Rapids  
rivercityimprov.com, (616) 752-8570

**WATCH** River City is considered a short-form improv built around specific games, rules and suggestions from the audience. It is similar to television series, "Whose Line is it Anyway?". The improvisation team members are Calvin College alumni or Calvin supporters. They look to provide clean humor and you can check it out Dec. 5 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. It is \$8 at the door.

# BOOKWORM

Holed up with paperbacks, everyone knows a bookworm, even if they only see them at Harry Potter parties and on Library Street. No matter what book you give them, they'll take, absorb and enjoy it.

**Argos Book Shop**  
1405 Robinson Rd. SE, Grand Rapids  
argosbooks.com, (616) 454-0111

**SHOP** If your bookworm is so over Barnes & Noble and the bestseller list, there's only one destination to direct them to: Argos Book Shop in Eastown, which has taken residence on the corner of Lake Drive and Robinson Road for more than 30 years. If your pal is on the hunt for used comics and magazines, vintage books and antiquarian literature, once they step through the doors of Argos, you'll have to pry them out.

**"James McNeill Whistler and the Romance of Great Cities"**  
The Grand Rapids Art Museum  
101 Monroe Center St. NW, Grand Rapids  
Oct. 2 to Jan. 10  
artmuseumgr.org, (616) 831-1000

**DO** Sometimes visual artists can't help transcending into the written word. James McNeill Whistler was one such artist. The 19th century painter and sketcher doubled as a playwright. The Grand Rapids Art Museum's exhibition features sketch work of some of Whistler's favorite cities, namely London, Venice and Paris. In Whistler's own words, this is "art for art's sake" and a fine complement to any number of literary works depicting those same places. Any art enthusiast would eat it up, even if their art typically consists of words on the pages of a tattered paperback.

**Caravelle Village**  
myspace.com/theivingtree

**LISTEN** Looking for a lighter touch for your bookworm's MP3 player? Caravelle Village, formerly known as The Giving Tree, is a great bet. The folk rockers from Grand Rapids, who frequent the DAAC and other

local venues, deliver poem-worthy lyrics and sweet melodies accompanied by acoustic guitars and the occasional smack of a triangle. If your bookworm buddy is willing to leave the house, take them out to a Caravelle Village show. They won't regret going, even if they hide in the back and shuffle their feet during the concert. Current show dates and information can be found on Caravelle Village's MySpace page.

**Green Well Gastro Pub**  
924 Cherry St. SE, Grand Rapids  
thegreenwell.com, (616) 808-3566

**EAT** The perfect venue for hushed conversation and reading a book in a cozy corner, the Green Well offers cheap weekly specials, a uniquely gorgeous LEED-certified environment and delicious, locally grown cuisine. The pub also offers a wide variety of wines and beers, so whatever your taste in libations, they've got you covered. Take your chosen bookworm out for a Michigan harvest salad and a plate of goat cheese and you'll have found them their new favorite restaurant.

**"A Little Princess"**  
Master Arts Theatre  
75 77th St. SW, Grand Rapids  
Nov. 19 to Dec. 12  
\$13-\$15  
masterarts.org, (616) 455-1001

**WATCH** There's just something about a favorite childhood book, and in the case of a bookworm, Frances Hodgson Burnett's "A Little Princess" is most likely one of them. Even if your buddy isn't all too familiar with the story of an orphaned Sara Crewe and how she overcame abandonment by everyone around her, they'll still love this literary delight, with its moments of tragedy combined with soft humor and universal message of childlike heroism.



# STUDENT

The life of a college student is fairly predictable, generally found in one of three places: the library, a coffeehouse or bar. Perpetually tired and over-caffeinated, the student survives on high-sodium foods and late-night TV.

**ALDI**  
2120 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids  
aldi.us, (616) 248-3216

**SHOP**

ALDI has propelled itself to one of the leading discount grocery chains in the country. Despite the omnipresence of Meijer in West Michigan, some college students seek an alternative for affordable groceries and house wares. The answer lies in the bare-bones shopping experience of ALDI, where 95 percent of items sold are exclusive ALDI select brands. Encouraged by ALDI's double guarantee—return an unsatisfactory item for a full refund and replacement—college students can explore the no-name brands with confidence.

**Redbox**  
More than 17,000 locations  
redbox.com

**WATCH**

Ditch the rental stores and find a Redbox near you. Use a credit card to rent as many movies as you like for only a dollar a day. College students are constantly seeking cheap instant gratification, and Redbox fulfills that need. Conveniently located in Meijer, outside Walgreens or any number of places, Redbox has some of the newest movies and an unbeatable price. No news on gift cards yet, but consider a prepaid VISA or MasterCard.

**New York Pizza**  
2915 28th St., Grand Rapids  
newyorkpizzagr.com, (616) 575-0303

**EAT**

Located in a convenient spot near Woodland Mall, the 99-cent slices of New York-style pizza lure in college students looking for a quick bite. The thin-crust pizza is made with a secret sauce and plenty of fresh mozzarella cheese. The lunch buffet is \$5.99 for all-you-can-eat pizza and a beverage. Also tempting is the College Special: \$6 for a large, one-topping pizza delivered free to any college campus. Gift certificates are available.

**Mulligans Pub**  
437 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids  
myspace.com/mulliganspub, (616) 451-0775

**Yesterdog**  
1505 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids  
yesterdog.com, (616) 336-0746

**Wolfgang's Restaurant**  
1530 Wealthy St SE, Grand Rapids  
mattwolfgang.com, (616) 454-5776

**DO**

This powerful trio is a college essential. The night begins at Mulls, a dark, smoky bar with strong drinks and free popcorn. From there, head over to Yesterdog, which is flooded right around 2 a.m. Make sure you order quickly and correctly, or face the ire of its staff. Find a place to crash, because after a night of Mulligan Stews and cheddardogs, you're not going anywhere. Rouse yourself at daybreak and visit Wolfgang's for the Early Bird Special, where you can get two pancakes and three strips of bacon or three eggs and toast for \$1.99.

**Pandora Radio**  
pandora.com

**LISTEN**

Perfectly in line with the college student's budget, Pandora is a free online radio service that creates a station based on a song or artist that is entered. It uses the results from the Music Genome Project, which analyzed thousands of well-known and obscure songs to identify different attributes. An upgrade to Pandora One for \$36 allows unlimited listening, eliminates ads and improves the audio quality.

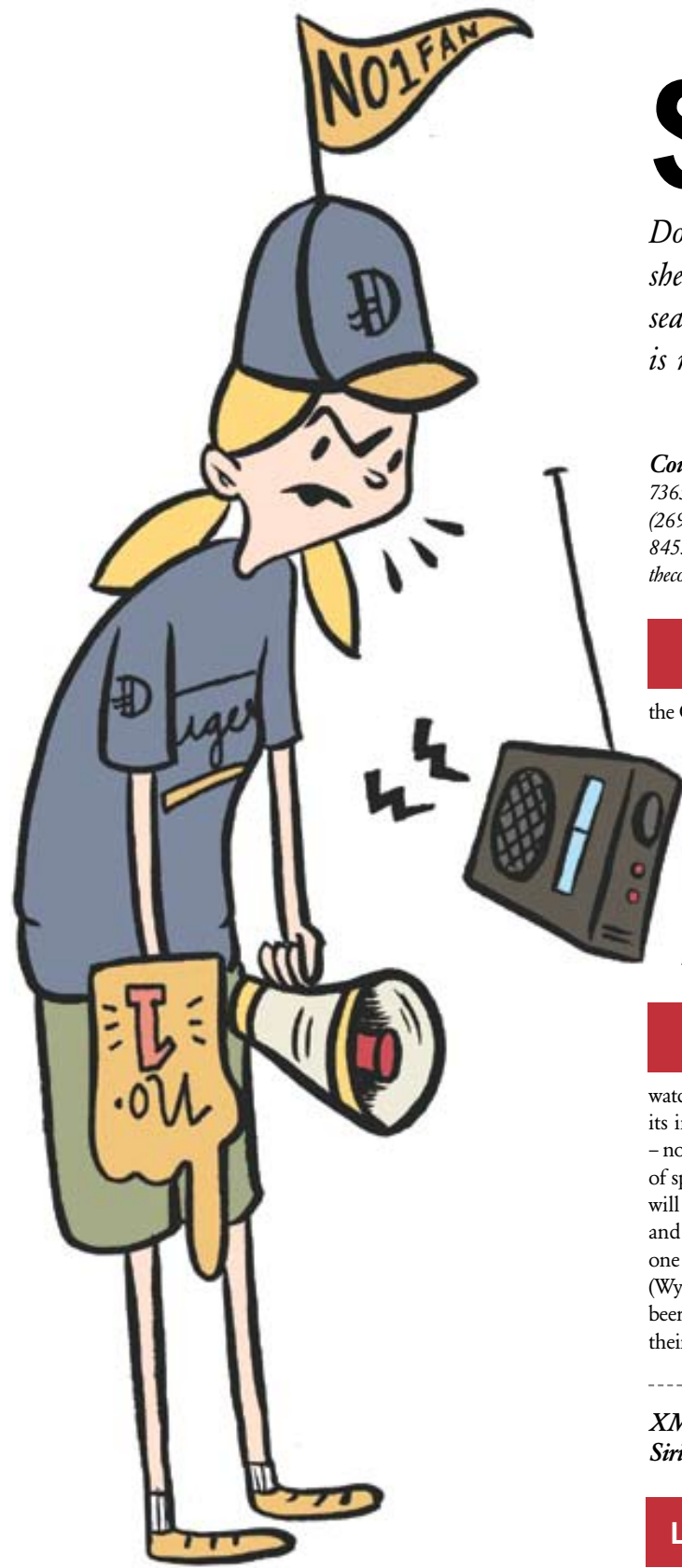


2010

105.3  
**HOT FM**  
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY  
Downtown Grand Rapids - Rosa Parks Circle  
Featuring free performances from

GIANT BALL DROP AT MIDNIGHT  
NEW FAMILY AREA BY THE GRAM  
MORE NATIONAL ACTS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

**BOYSLIKEGIRLS**  
WWW.HOTNEWYEAREVE.COM



**GIFT GUIDE** /// by Jayson Bussa

# SPORTS NUT

Do you have a loved one who wastes half-an-hour of your life explaining why he or she benched Terrell Owens on their fantasy football team? Does Christmas take a back seat to March Madness as holiday of choice? Yup, that's a sports addict and treatment is no longer an option. Just feed their addiction with some of these sports goodies.

## CourtHouse

7365 S. Sprinkle Rd., Portage  
(269) 329-0033  
8455 Byron Commerce Dr. SW, Byron Center  
thecourthouseac.com, (616) 878-7600

### DO

For that former second-string high school basketball player that can't let go of their youth, try a membership to the CourtHouse, an establishment named for their plentiful basketball courts, but which also contains a full fitness center. With a boatload of programs and classes to choose from, memberships to local YMCAs are a similar option.

## Uccello's

2630 East Beltline Ave. SE, Grand Rapids  
uccellos.com, (616) 954-2002

### EAT

'Sports fan' and 'big appetite' are synonymous. Gift certificates to places where fans can feed their gullets and watch the big game is a surefire crowd-pleaser. Ever since its inception in Grand Rapids back in 1996, Uccello's - now with four locations - has become the gold standard of sports bars. Chock full of big screen TVs, a sports fan will be perfectly content surrounded by huge screens and a wide selection of food and beer. Or, tell a loved one "Merry Christmas" by sending them to Frankie V's (Wyoming) to catch a game while sipping an infamous beer tower. Sports fans in Kalamazoo will also feel quite in their element at Old Burdick's, located in the Radisson.

## XM Radio, xmradio.com

Sirius Satellite Radio, sirius.com

### LISTEN

Make those long road or business trips an enjoyable one for a die-hard sports fan by picking up XM or SIRIUS satellite radio. These gifts will give fans access to all the

games they're missing on TV along with analysis from self-righteous sports pundits (bonus!). Both satellite radios are sold at major electronic retailers.

## Campus Den

Locations in RiverTown Crossings Mall, Grandville;  
Woodland Mall, Kentwood; Crossroads Mall, Portage  
campusden.com

## Legends Sports and Games

CenterPointe Mall, Kentwood  
legendsportsandgames.com, (616) 940-1676

### SHOP

The Campus Den is a must-visit when shopping for that die-hard college sports fan. Specializing in all major collegiate programs in Michigan, Campus Den offers an extensive selection of not only apparel, but also the memorabilia and decor needed to deck out that man cave. Looking for a more personalized keepsake for a collector? There is plenty to pick from at Legends Sports and Gaming. Legends buys, sells and trades sports cards and signed memorabilia, occasionally bringing in athletes for autograph sessions.

## Grand Rapids Griffins

griffins-hockey.com

## Arena Racing Grand Rapids

arenaracinggr.com

### WATCH

With the hockey season hitting full stride, put some tickets under the tree to see West Michigan's three minor league teams - Grand Rapids Griffins, Kalamazoo Wings and the Muskegon Lumberjacks. The Griffins offer \$1 hot dogs and beers on Friday nights at VanAndel Arena. That auto-racing fan doesn't have to spend the holidays suffering from seasonal depression, either. Pick them up tickets to Arena Racing Grand Rapids at the DeltaPlex with 10 events still on slate after Christmas.



**Make This Your Epic Season!**  
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Can not be combined with any other offer. Valid at downtown Peppino's location only.

# MUSICIAN

The same innate pickiness and obliviousness to the world around them that makes a musician able to manipulate sound into beauty can also make them aggravating to be around, let alone buy a gift for.

**"Rent a Trumpet"**  
Meyer Music  
675 E Lakewood Blvd., Holland  
meyer-music.com, (616) 396-6583

**SHOP** If your musician writes and records their own stuff, sooner or later they'll wish they had some other instruments. Even if they don't, it's good for them to learn a little bit about how different musicians think. Nothing drives that home like learning a new type of instrument. If they play winds, give them strings. If they play drums, hand them a trombone. Go in with somebody and get them a few lessons – it couldn't hurt.

**"BachFest Christmas"**  
Stetson Chapel, Kalamazoo College  
1200 Academy St., Kalamazoo  
Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.  
kzoo.edu/bach, (269) 337-7407

**DO** If your careless musician always breaks things, give them something that's already baroque – a late afternoon of non-stop 17th century madness by the Bach Festival Chorus and Western Brass Quintet. Also including material from the Renaissance to more modern fare, listening to music without electric guitars and drums might actually stimulate some critical thought and may be a refreshing reminder of what a little music theory can help accomplish.

**Vertigo Music**  
129 S Division Ave., Grand Rapids  
vertigomusiconline.com, (616) 742-5106

**LISTEN** If they don't have it, they can find it. Specializing in vinyl and more eclectic fare, the helpful folks behind

the counter can certainly give you some suggestions when it comes to picking just the right disc. Make sure you ask your musician some innocuous-sounding questions like "heard any good music lately?" or "hypothetically, if I were to get you a CD..." and come in with a list. Gift certificates are always nice and there's a healthy used section, certainly one of the most fun places to browse in the city.

**New Holland Brewing Company**  
66 E. 8th St., Holland  
newhollandbrew.com, (616) 355-6422

**EAT** You can take your musician out Friday nights after band practice to grab a boatload of hummus and check out some of the finer local acts in West Michigan. With a full menu of sandwiches, pizza and appetizers, not to mention the plethora of beer, it would be surprising if you couldn't find something to please even the most snooty or barbaric representations of the breed.

**"Les Paul: Chasing Sound"**  
Recordings & More  
917 W Broadway Ave., Muskegon  
ramcd.com, (231) 759-0172

**WATCH** Arguably one of the most important musicians and inventors of the 20th century died earlier this year. Help your musician learn about the man who essentially invented the electric guitar and multi-track recording, revolutionizing the way we hear and understand music (for better or for worse). Before you hop online, remember that a well-cared for, used DVD plays just like a new one. Try Recordings & More in Muskegon.



**Musicians!** RIT MUSIC IS THE COOLEST MUSIC STORE IN WEST MICHIGAN. (At least that's what our customers keep telling us...)

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RIT MUSIC SOUTH  
72 East 8th Street Holland, MI 49423 • 616-494-9433  
Downtown Holland

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MUSIC STORES

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**food bank** OF SOUTH-CENTRAL MICHIGAN

The Food Bank of South Central Michigan is the non-profit recipient of donations (\$1 from each pint sold and \$2 from each admission paid).

# FASHIONISTA

*When the world lets you down and your arm-candy goes sour, just remember that those rhinestone-studded, pink patent leather shoes will always fit.*

**JB and Me**  
36 W 8th St., Holland  
jbandme.com, (616) 392-8902

**SHOP** Every fashionista needs a new look for the holiday season. JB and Me of Holland offers hair accessories, leg wear, jewelry and clothes from top designers. This season, finish your look with skinny jeans and heels or sequined tops which are already sizzling this season. "Our over-the-knee Lucky Brand boots have also been selling like crazy," said Owner Jamie Grasman. "They're flat, but still have a very sexy appeal." Another expected hot seller this season is statement necklaces with extra bling or pearls, according to Grasman. "It's a good way to dress up a holiday look."

**The Creative Fringe**  
210 Washington Ave., Grand Haven  
(616) 296-0020, thecreativefringe.com

**DO** Why not make that fashionista in your life something special this holiday season? Or better yet, bring your trendy diva to Grand Haven and learn how to make jewelry together. The Creative Fringe offers classes from the basics of stringing, glass bead making and wire wrapping to advanced classes in silver and metal-smithing. Check out its Web site for more classes, times and prices. Private lessons are available for whatever jewelry project you're currently working on as well as open studio times to utilize tools and advice.

**Cherie Inn**  
969 Cherry St. SE, Grand Rapids  
(616) 458-0588

**EAT** What says "high class" better than breakfast in Paris? Heading overseas may not be in the budget, but

you can still enjoy baguettes, crepes and fruit on a side street café right here in our very own Grand Rapids—tin ceiling and little tables included.

**"Cinderella"**  
Grand Rapids Civic Theatre  
30 N. Division Ave., Grand Rapids  
Nov. 20 to Dec. 20, \$16 - \$30  
grct.org, (616) 222-6650


**LISTEN** The best fashion accessory? A fairy godmother. Well, we may not all have this luxurious privilege, but we are all able to experience the music and costumes of the Rogers and Hammerstein's, "Enchanted Edition of Cinderella". The performance, based on a version starring Brandy and Whitney Houston, will consist of original music, as well as several new songs. As expected, Cinderella will go from rags to high fashion with the help from local Grand Rapids seamstresses.

**"An Afternoon of Fashion and Tea"**  
Grand Rapids Public Museum  
272 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids  
Dec. 5 and 11; 12:30 to 2 p.m.  
\$10 members; \$12 non-members  
grmuseum.org, (616) 456-3977

**WATCH** View authentic 19th and 20th century clothing and enjoy tea and treats in the streets of old Grand Rapids inside the Grand Rapids Public Museum. "It's kind of like opening Grandma's trunk in the attic and being able to see some period pieces," said Kristy Harrington, GRPM public relations manager. "It's a nice change and a nice event to spend with someone."

Also included with admission is a guided tour of the "Streets of Old Grand Rapids" exhibition and a ride on the 1928 Spillman Carousel. Advance reservations are required.



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# PARENT

*Yoked with (uh...I mean blessed with) the responsibility of fulfilling the sugarplum dreams of little ones, parents are flabbergasted if they find a gift for themselves under the tree. Rather than waiting for a holiday miracle, they might as well treat themselves.*

**Global Infusion**  
143 Diamond Ave, Grand Rapids  
globalinfusion.net, (616) 776-9720

**SHOP** Parenthood is nature's way of saying you've slept enough, so paramount on any parent's wish-list is more sleep. Since that is not available for purchase, helping rest-deprived 'rents induce alertness is the next best thing. With more than 100 different coffee and tea blends, including its specialty Chai Tea, Global Infusion is a mecca of caffeinated choices. Shop for gifts ranging from herbs and essential oils to finger puppets, household items and bohemian clothing accessories. All items are from fair trade distributors.

**Bella Vita Spa**  
119 Butler St, Saugatuck  
bellavitaspabiz, (269) 857-8482

**DO** Once the babies are made, intimate time together is hard to come by. Bella Vita Spa can help parents who are starved for private time. Dimmed lighting, soothing background music and a personal set of massaging hands for each remind them that they were a couple before they were parents. Choose from a relaxing Swedish massage or a tension-relieving deep tissue massage. The 25 to 75 minutes of private time, at \$90 to \$190, is the ultimate reward for, and relief from, parenting duties.

**Kimya Dawson and Friends' Alphabutt**  
Available at Schuler Books & Music, \$14.99

Parents' CD choices have been narrowed to countless different versions of the same classic childhood favor-

**LISTEN** ites, due to children taking over the family entertainment center. This anti-folk CD is a relief to parents mind-numbed by row, row, rowing their boats and wondering if the proverbial "she" will ever come around the mountain. With lyrics like "F is for fart, G is for gorilla fart, H for huge gorilla fart" Dawson cracks the little ones up. At the same time, witticisms and embedded political agendas keep mom and dad from tearing their own ears off.

**CG's Prep Kitchen**  
1200 East Paris Ave, Grand Rapids  
cgsprepkitchen.com

**EAT** At CG's Prep Kitchen, parents order wholesome, family-friendly meals from a monthly menu online, making a homemade meal as simple as take-out. Another option is to make it a family event, preparing the meal together with the chef's help then eating in the kid-centric café, complete with a miniature table for little ones and a family restroom with the tiniest toilet and sink.

**The Blindside**  
Celebration Cinemas

**WATCH** Loveable Quinton Aaron and Sandra Bullock star in this film that reminds parents how powerful their love and support really is. The importance of family, blood-related or not, is paramount in this warm fuzzy tear-jerker. The true story surely inspires parents to shrug off feelings of burn-out to keep pushing their children to reach their full potential.

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616-891-5958 take out

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616-735-5522 take out

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**GIFT GUIDE** /// by *Conor Bardallis*

## MOVIE BUFF

*The movie buff lounges in a Craigslist-special recliner at the edge of his giant plasma screen's benevolent glow. Raising a soda can to the cardboard cutout of Scarface, who sprays bullets from the shadows with a frozen grimace, he settles in for a special features marathon.*

**Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts**  
41 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Grand Rapids  
[uica.org](http://uica.org), (616) 454-7000

### SHOP

The UICA shows a handful of great indie films each month, and this holiday season it's offering film pass packages for the indie buff in your life, complete with caramel corn. A handful of other goodies are available as well, including artsy garb, note cards and ceramics, all designed in-house by students in the ArtWorks program. Even better, 100 percent of all proceeds go right back to UICA educational, therapeutic, youth and community programs.

**Meanwhile Film Series**  
Wealthy Theatre / The Meanwhile Bar  
1130 / 1005 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids  
[meanwhilebar.com/meanwhilefilmseries](http://meanwhilebar.com/meanwhilefilmseries)

### DO

You've seen it in our indie listings, and you've heard about it from your friends. In a brilliant partnership between The Meanwhile Bar and the Wealthy Theatre, just a stone's throw apart in Grand Rapids, the Meanwhile Film Series combines about four cult classics per month with some great drink specials to follow each. Have a drink, watch a movie, have another drink. Hey, it's the holiday season.

**Michael Jackson's This Is It soundtrack**  
Available on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) for about \$10

### LISTEN

After the death of the King of Pop in June, you couldn't escape a stereo blaring "Beat It." Now that things have calmed down, MJ fans and movie buffs turn

to *This Is It*, a film chronicling Jackson's preparation for the 2009 summer tour scheduled prior to his untimely demise. The film's two-disc, stand-alone audio companion, also titled *This Is It*, features remastered album versions of Michael's greatest hits, as well as unreleased versions of these hits, a poem written and read by Michael himself, and the brand-new track "This Is It," featuring backing vocals by members of the Jackson family.

**Tre Cugini**  
122 Monroe Center St. NW, Grand Rapids  
[treugini.com](http://treugini.com), (616) 235-9339

### EAT

If you caught the premiere of Myron A. Stanley's *Movie Logic 101* at the Wealthy Theatre in October, you may have noticed a scene shot in Tre Cugini. This authentic Italian eatery was among many Grand Rapids locations featured in the Stanley's film. Your movie buff may have to shed the sweatpants for something more sophisticated, but to experience a piece of West Michigan that recently made the silver screen, call for reservations and pack an appetite.

**Harry Potter Years 1-6 DVD Gift Set**  
Available on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) for about \$45

### WATCH

Part One of *Harry Potter's* seventh year won't hit theaters until Dec. 2010, so now is the perfect time to start catching up. The first six films are available on widescreen DVD as a single box set starting Dec. 8 of this year. Don't be shy; we know you've read them all, and we've seen the way you ogle Daniel Radcliffe and/or Emma Watson.

When our little brewery first opened, our founder Kosmos Spoetzl took to putting **COLD SHINERS ON THE FENCE POSTS** of the fields where the local farmers were working. That way when the farmer finished plowing that row, he got a cold refreshment, and Shiner Beer got another loyal fan. Here's to 100 years of Shiner Beers!

*Prosit!*



# ATTENTION WHORE

*A fabulous personality with a keen, otherworldly ability to detect the presence of a camera at any distance, whose audacity is maddening yet alluring and who happens to be incapable of wearing anything khaki.*

**The Bookman**  
715 Washington Ave., Grand Haven  
bookmangrandhaven.com, (616) 846-3520

**SHOP**

Perhaps you want a not-so-sly way to educate your attention whore about their limelight-seeking ways. "Look at Me! The Fame Motive From Childhood to Death" by Orville Gilbert Brim is an erudite, yet fascinating glimpse into the psychology behind glory seekers. Brand spankin' new, your favorite megalomaniac can feign being attuned to the literary world. If only mirrors counted as books...

**Moxie Beauty & Hair Parlor**  
4329 Kalamazoo Ave. SE, Grand Rapids  
(616) 281-8699

**DO**

Attention whores love a distinct, head-turning look. Styling enough to please across gender lines, a makeover by Moxie Beauty & Hair Parlor promises iconic hairdos from "retro" to "modern and rock & roll". Moxie even offers "Look Packages," which will turn any attention monger into a Marilyn Monroe, Jean Harlow (or James Dean). Add a photo shoot into the mix, and star power is achieved instantly.

**The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars** by David Bowie  
Corner Record Shop  
1710 W Main St., Kalamazoo  
cornerrecordshop.com, (269) 381-0218

**LISTEN**

Sexy glitter rock, like David Bowie's 1972 mega album, *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* will fire up any attention whore before a night on

the town. Wild make-up, a modernized hipster mullet and classic Bowie jams will up the look-at-me quotient. Hot sounds, skintight pants and an androgynous look paired with cell phone paparazzi photos destined for Facebook and a self-made celeb rendezvous is complete. For glam gods/goddesses in training, read up on Bowie's rise to glam icon with the recently released *Bowie: A Biography* by Marc Spitz.

**Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) Café**  
101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids  
artmuseumgr.org, (616) 831-1000

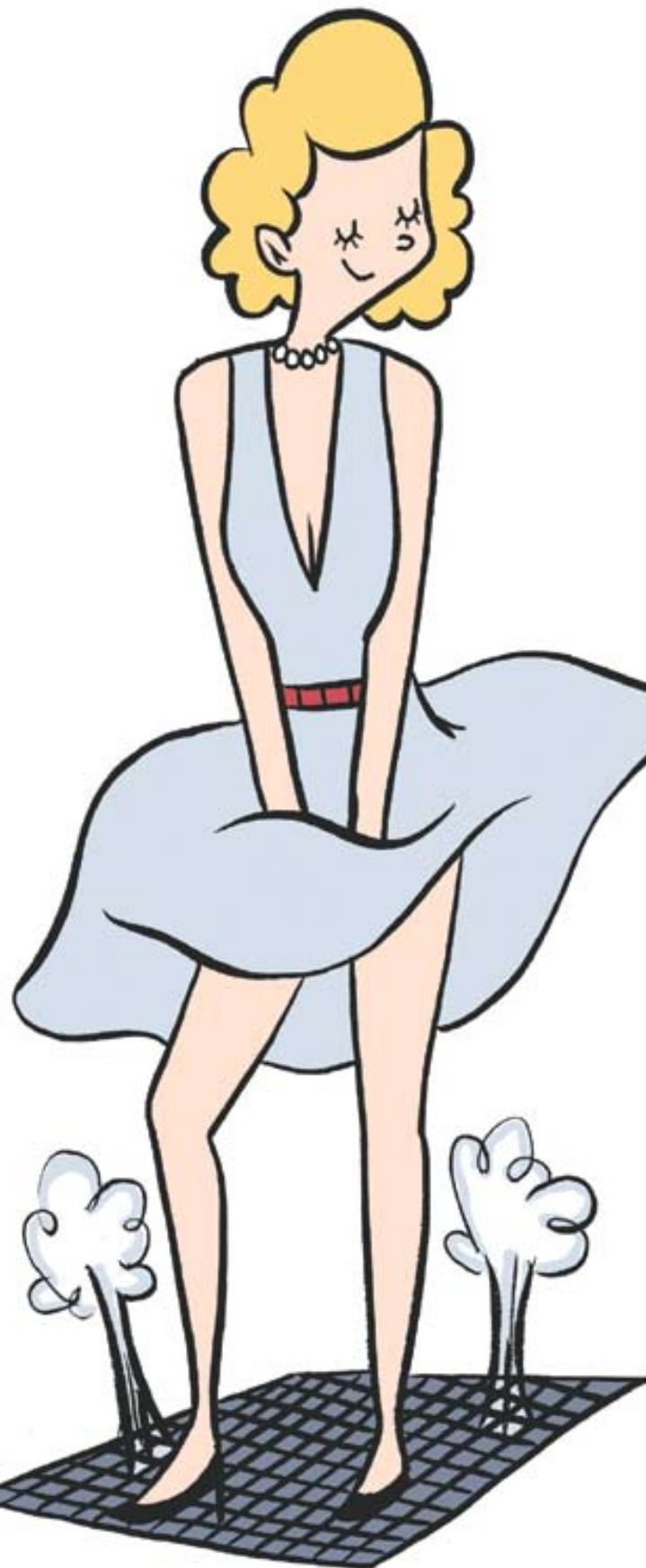
**EAT**

Lush foodstuffs and seemingly mile-high windows make this prominent café a place to eat and be seen. Take your attention grabber out for a refreshing lunch infused with portabellas, asparagus and goat cheese or a fancy salmon bagel. Friday nights feature a decadent buffet complete with flowing spirits. Take in a bit of culture and dine in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, all while letting your attention whore show off that spangled outfit to passersby.

**Abbott and Costello in Hollywood**  
Red Barn Theatre  
3657 63rd Street, Saugatuck  
redbarnsaugatuck.com, (269) 857-5300

**WATCH**

Your attention whore might forget aspirations of Youtube fame and focus on old-fashioned techniques of high-speed upward mobility slapstick style in *Abbott and Costello in Hollywood*. Homemade video be damned, the silver screen beckons on Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. A \$5 donation is encouraged. Spend a buck at the concession stand and get free popcorn ... perfect for throwing at the screen in an attention-grabbing style.



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always **THE PLACE TO BE**

## DECEMBER'S HIGHLIGHTS

<b>THURSDAYS</b>		<b>DESIGN 1 LADIES NIGHT</b> Thursday Nights at 6pm complimentary services, \$1.99 happy hour all night, giveaways & much more!
<b>BOOK NOW!</b>		<b>BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY @ THE B.O.B.</b> Menus Start at \$9.95 Call Angela Shea at 616.356.2627 x32
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<b>J BAR</b>		<b>NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATE IN STYLE @ J BAR</b> Call 616.356.2000 for reservations
<b>NYE 2010</b>		<b>NEW YEAR'S EVE 2010</b> Progressive Dinner Package — \$42 pp includes: cover, stationed dinner, dj & dancing, live entertainment General Admission: \$20 pp (after 9pm)
<b>12.31.09</b>		<b>DR. GRINS NYE 2010</b> Grins NYE Package — \$61 pp includes: cover, stationed dinner, comedy show with Kevin Bozeman, dj & dancing, live entertainment

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**SUNDAY**  
INDUSTRY NIGHT — 9pm / 18+ welcome  
LIVE MUSIC — 2nd floor / 9pm

**TUESDAY**  
THE B.O.B. Wii LEAGUE — sign up now to play!

**WEDNESDAY**  
LIVE MUSIC — 2nd floor / 9pm

**THURSDAY**  
MUG CLUB — Monkey Bar / 6:30pm  
JAZZ NIGHT — Gill's Blue Crab Lounge / 6:30pm  
DESIGN 1 LADIES NIGHT — 6:30pm  
• hundreds in giveaways  
• \$1.99 Happy Hour all night for ladies  
LIVE MUSIC — 2nd floor / 9pm  
COMEDY — Dr. Grins / 9pm / tickets: \$5  
CRUSH THURSDAYS ROCK — no cover  
18+ welcome / drink specials

**FRIDAY**  
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE — only \$19.95 pp  
Includes 3 course dinner, comedy show, & live entertainment  
DJ AND DANCING — ladies get in free 9-11pm  
Crush Nightclub 9pm / eve 11pm  
COMEDY — Dr. Grins / 8pm and 10:30pm  
LIVE MUSIC — 2nd floor / 9pm

**SATURDAY**  
LIVE MUSIC — 2nd floor / 9pm  
COMEDY — Dr. Grins / 8pm and 10:30pm  
DJ AND DANCING —  
Crush Nightclub / 9pm and eve / 11pm

20 Monroe Ave / Downtown GR / 356.2000  
For full list of events, visit [www.thebob.com](http://www.thebob.com)

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# YUPPIE

For those born after the '80s, yuppies are young urban professionals who abandoned their ideals to flaunt their conspicuous consumption. For those in West Michigan, yuppies have something called jobs and they can buy stuff with what's known as money and not their Bridge Cards.



SCHEDULE GIFT GUIDE SIGHTS | SOUNDS | SCENE

**Vespas of Holland**  
13001 New Holland St., Holland, [vespa-holland.com](http://vespa-holland.com), (616) 399-7704

**AK Rikk's Menswear**  
5761 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids, (616) 957-3242, [akrikks.com](http://akrikks.com)

**SHOP** When shopping for a yuppie, you should buy gifts that are conspicuously luxurious while still tasteful. A Vespa LXV 150 from Vespas of Holland would be much appreciated. Outfitted in Portofino Green with a leather seat, this ultra-scooter is stylish and easy to ride.

Jim Murray of AK Rikk's thinks you should buy a grey tweed blazer from Hugo Boss for that special guy in your life. Preppy and nostalgic, this blazer has lots of personality. "A stylish piece that fits well gives the wearer a sense of authority, regardless of the price," Murray said.

**Grand Rapids Symphony**  
[grsymphony.org](http://grsymphony.org), (616) 454-9451

**DO** According to the Grand Rapids Symphony's Jacalyn Huizenga, "The fashion conscious should consider the symphony an opportunity to explore cool combinations – dress up in a gown or go hippie chic couture. But please, no trucker caps." The symphony will perform "Voices of Light" by Richard Einhorn on Jan. 28-30 as part of its popular SymphonicBoom program. Einhorn's hauntingly beautiful music was inspired by the silent film *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, which will be projected throughout the performance.

**One Trick Pony's Hat Trick Series**  
136 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids  
[onetrick.biz](http://onetrick.biz), (616) 235-PONY  
7:30 p.m.

**LISTEN** One Trick Pony's Hat Trick Series starts right after quittin' time, which is perfect for yuppies looking for a little time to listen to music, and rub elbows – but not too hard, or they'll damage their Armani suits – after work.

**Alpenrose Restaurant & Cafe**  
4 E 8th St., Holland, [alpenroserestaurant.com](http://alpenroserestaurant.com), (616) 393-2111

**The Grand**  
22 Washington Ave., Grand Haven, [barborrestaurants.com/thegrand](http://barborrestaurants.com/thegrand), (616) 847-8944

**EAT** The classic ambiance of Holland's Alpenrose Restaurant & Café is the ideal restaurant for an upwardly mobile couple. Assistant manager Priscilla Prys picked out a yuppie feast for less than \$100. Entrées include an alpen cut 16 oz. prime rib, with blue cheese sauce and pretzel-crust walleye. She recommended a bottle of Le Grand Noir Cabernet-Shiraz, and for dessert, a handmade ice cream bar with Hudsonville Ice Cream dipped in chocolate ganache and rolled in pecans.

With a handful of tables tucked into a wood-paneled century-year-old theater lobby, The Grand offers a highly romantic dining experience. Try a half-dozen Chesapeake Blue Point Oysters or the night's feature oysters. For sushi, the Tahitian Moon Rolls with mango, tuna and avocado come recommended.

**Mason Street Warehouse**  
400 Culver St, Saugatuck, [masonstreetwarehouse.org](http://masonstreetwarehouse.org), (269) 857-4898

**WATCH** Theatre is an important part of the yuppie lifestyle with its glitz and glamour. The Mason Street Warehouse produces professional, New York-quality theatre in the Saugatuck Center for the Arts in the former freezer of Rich's Pie Factory. Mason Street produces highly rated musical productions, like *The Full Monty* in 2009. The \$38 flex pass is a great gift idea.

**MONSTER 696**  
Full Stop. Fast Forward.

World Champion

Not since its introduction in the early 1990's has the original naked bike seen such a revolutionary redesign. The 696 represents the next generation naked and a statement of individuality. The engine of the new 696 is an evolution of the previous 695 version and boasts a power increase of 9% to 80hp and an 11% increase in torque to 50.6lb-ft.

Come check out our many Ducati demos this month!

Life Cycle, LLC  
3103 Lake Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048  
269-388-5590  
[lifecyclemotorcycles@tds.net](mailto:lifecyclemotorcycles@tds.net)

**DUCATI**

# HIPPIE

The war protestor wearing peace signs and hemp jewelry. Politicians are self-serving, corrupt and controlling. Rain is nature's gift and so is Phish.

**Ideal Collective**  
idealcollective.com

**SHOP** Check out this Grand Rapids-based Web site. It sells handmade bracelets and original art. The current collaborative bracelet project started with an original piece of art that was created by 10 Grand Rapids artists. The painting was sectioned-off into pieces to create the bracelets and a one-of-a-kind piece of artistic fashion to enjoy.

**Grand River Folk Arts Society**  
grfolkarts.org

**DO** There is plenty for all the groovy people of West Michigan to do here. You can go here for contra dance on Dec. 4 and international dance on Dec. 11. If dancing isn't your thing, you can check out acoustic music on Saturday nights including Ralston Bowles on Dec. 12 and an open mic night on Jan. 9. If you prefer improvising jams, GRFAS arranges "Sunday Song Circle" on the second Sunday of every month, including Dec. 13. You can bring an instrument, your voice or both.

**Valentiger**  
Power Lines to Electric Times  
myspace.com/valentigermusic

**LISTEN** Valentiger isn't a hippie band. It is simply a band that hippies might enjoy. *Power Lines to Electric Times* is the latest from this Grand Rapids-based folk/indie band. The influences have a range from Pavement, The Kinks, Pink Floyd and Neil Young. Drummer Scott Rider describes the music as organic. "We simplify a lot of things," Rider said. "We shoot for really good songs instead of production. We go for the real end of the spectrum. The songwriting has

matured from our previous albums. It has a good feel and melody for everybody."

**GALA Café**  
209 Diamond Ave. SE, Grand Rapids  
(616) 454-6233

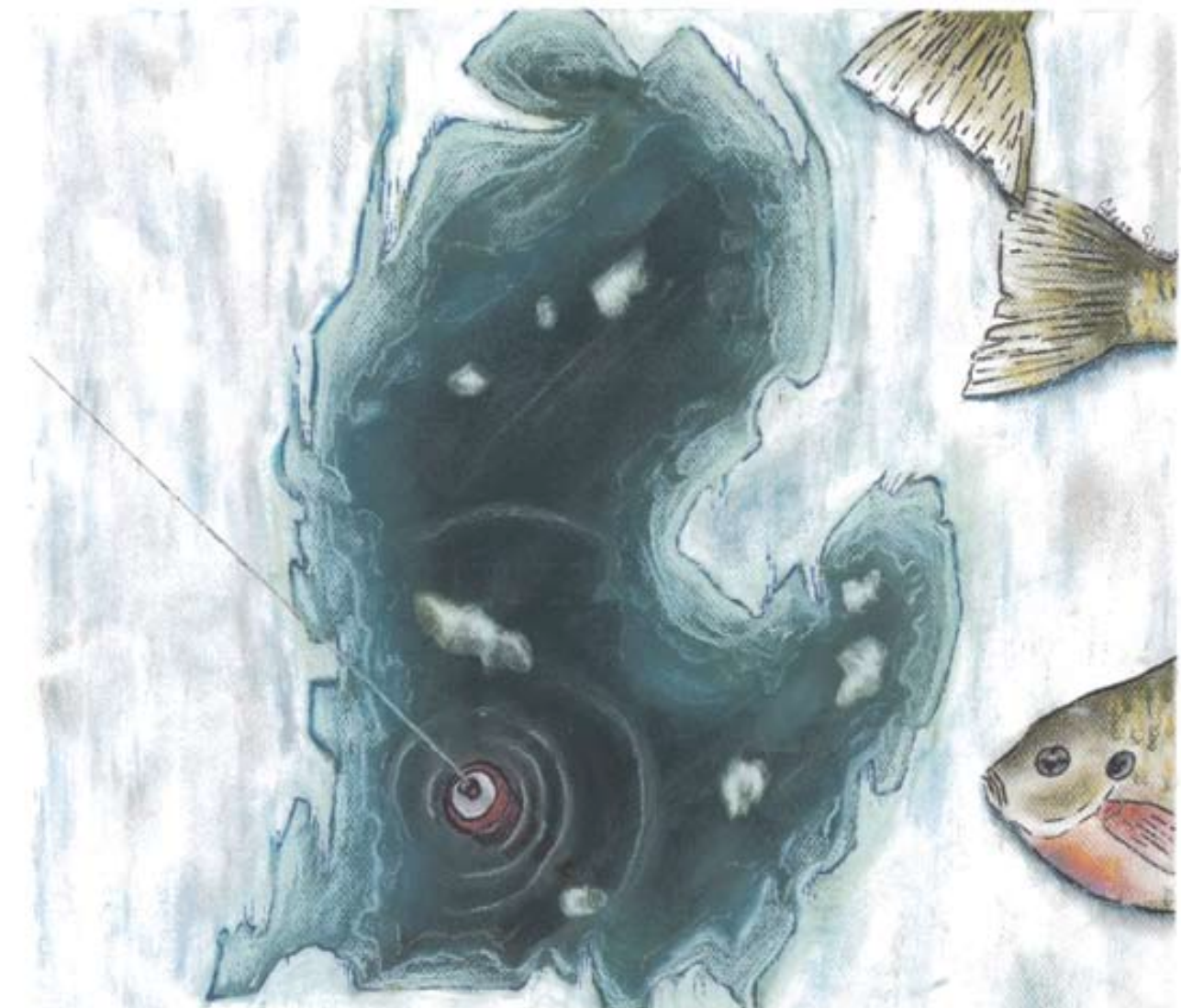
This is a hip vegetarian hangout in downtown Grand Rapids. It has a large selection with soup, salad, artichoke dip, burritos, quesadillas, sandwiches and stir-fry. There is something even for the non-vegetarians.

**Lemonjello's Coffee**  
61 East Ninth St.  
Holland, 49423  
lemonjellos.com, (616) 928-0699

**EAT** Offering coffee, baked goods, tea, smoothies and jams on Friday nights, Lemonjello's occasionally turns into a venue for loud music on other nights as well. Owner Matthew Scott opened Lemonjello's seven years ago with the motto "Coffee, Music, Life." "We want this to be a place where people can come, be themselves and make it their own in some kind of way," Scott said. "A lot of [the music] tends to be either stuff that's indie rock, indie pop or folk/indie. That works well in a coffee shop. We want to build into the local scene. We like to balance between new and young acts with well-known acts in Grand Rapids."

**Harbor Theatre**  
1937 Lakeshore Ct., Muskegon  
theharborthheater.com, (231) 457-4274

**WATCH** Harbor Theater is a great place to check out indie and foreign films in West Michigan. The genres include comedy, drama, romance, horror and documentaries. It's a non-profit theater, so prices are very reasonable at \$4.50 for students and \$6 for adults.



**GREENSKY ★ BLUEGRASS**  
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GREENSKYBLUEGRASS.COM EARTHWORKMUSIC.COM



**GIFT GUIDE** /// by Caitlin O'Leary

## METROSEXUAL

For an astonishingly well-groomed male dressed in designer apparel with a wealthy knowledge of arts, pop music, accessorizing and Smart Cars, often mistaken as gay until caught glancing down his hair stylists' shirt.

### Sydney

100 West Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo  
(269) 226-3174

### SHOP

Located inside of The Radisson, this clothing boutique offers upscale styles from name brands such as Yansi Fugel, Burberry and Tommy Bahama, to name a few. This boutique is perfect for the metrosexual, who will appreciate the location inside a fancy hotel full of out-of-towners. Metros will also be pleased to find that Sydney offers tailoring services as well as personal shopping. Not to mention, Sydney carries a plethora of purses (man purses).

### HQ Salon and Spa

401 W. Kilgore Rd., Portage  
hqsalonandspa.com, (269) 343-3888

### DO

Go ahead, spend a day at HQ Salon and Spa. Wax yourself, don't repress yourself. Trim those sidebums, and shape your eyebrows. Don't be afraid to indulge in a MANicure, pedicure or deep tissue massage, either. Metros are all about appearances and being confident enough in their masculinity to take on "feminine" indulgences. HQ Salon and Spa embraces metrosexuals and offer spa packages that will relax and beautify.

### Ben Harper

The Corner Record Shop  
3562 Chicago Dr., Grandville  
(616) 531-6578, cornerrecords.com

### LISTEN

Ben Harper is a metrosexual's dream, and The Corner Record Shop has his CDs at prices that beat the big box

music stores. Harper sings openly about his love for women, yet he himself is a super-trendy Lenny Kravitz-type with more vocal range, much better grooming and a smaller fan-base. His tattoos give him macho credits with an artful side even, if his goatee screams French prison.

### The Wine Loft

161 E Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo  
thewineloftkalamazoo.com, (269) 343-9227

### EAT

A good metrosexual is up to snuff on his wine and loves being able to impress people with his innate cultural sensibilities for pairing wine and food. The Wine Loft will delight him endlessly as it has a big city, trendy feel (sofas, draperies, electronic music) and inspires people to dress accordingly. Try the Charcuterie Board, a selection of cured meats and sausages with mixed olives, capers, cornichons and assorted mustards.

### "The Reindeer Monologues"

Whole Art Theatre  
359 S Kalamazoo Mall # 205, Kalamazoo  
wholeart.org, (269) 345-7529

### WATCH

Though metrosexuals are generally too posh for holiday festivities, "The Reindeer Monologues" (Dec. 4-19) will tickle his fancy for an alternative holiday jaunt and give him an enjoyable night at Whole Art Theater. Most metros have seen "The Vagina Monologues" and, with similar style, this adult comedy is told through a series of witty monologues from each of Santa's reindeer.

**GIFT GUIDE** /// by J. Bennett Rylab

## HIPSTER

The hipster is a curious creature driven by love for good albums (preferably vinyl), facial hair, television on DVD, local community, found art, independent film and fashionable thrift clothing. Hipsters can either be fanatically healthy, riding bikes and growing their own vegetables, or married to vice, cradling a pitcher of Pabst and dragging off a pack of Parliament Lights.

### Coat of Many Colors

1052 Wealthy SE  
comcovintage.com, (616) 256-6150

### SHOP

Clothing, accessories, artwork, knick-knacks, furniture, shoes, records and more - are all at this locally owned vintage store. Owner Matt Fowler calls shopping here a "type of recycling," and tries to keep things inexpensive for discerning shoppers. "You can find unique things here and we'll work a deal with you," he said. Bearing that in mind, this might be the one-stop shop for one-of-a-kind gift giving, with a variety of options for everyone on your list.

### Retro D'luxe

### DO

For five years, DJ Jef Leppard (Geoffrey Hudson) has been at the helm of the Thursday night Retro D'luxe, an alternative dance scene for those who can't get into Top 40. Recently, Leppard's rogue band of followers have meandered from place to place, proving that Retro D'luxe is not a place, but a movement. You can accredit this to Leppard's skill for pleasing more than just a homogenous crowd - you can hear Danzig, Ministry, Peter Murphy, Lords of Acid, Peaches, Electric Six, The Clash as well as your standard A-Ha and Human League. Keep track of Retro D'luxe on its Facebook page where Leppard will clue you in on its whereabouts.

### Friction Records

frictiongoods.com

### LISTEN

Locally owned and operated label Friction Records is a wise place to look when searching for well-produced, quality albums recorded by Michigan artists. Under the care of music aficionado and all-around good guy Jeff Vandenberg, Friction releases albums on vinyl, with included download codes. Recent 2009 artist releases include the psychedelic

electronic three-piece LSDudes, instrument post-rock band Paucity, post punk group Victor! Fix the Sun and the Motown-influenced rock act Chance Jones.

### Brick Road Pizza Co.

1017 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids, 49506  
brickroadpizza.com, (616) 719-2409

### EAT

Brick Road has spent the past year endearing itself to Grand Rapids diners with its affordable prices, comfortable interior, extensive vegan selections and commitment to meals made from scratch. All their pizza dough and sandwich bread is made in-house, as well as the vegan cookies. "We try our best to be different," Owner Jody Talbert said, and pointed out the array of gourmet, deep-dish and vegan pizzas on the menu. Hits include the black bean burger or the Buffalo Tofu Pizza. Topped with vegan cheese, vegan ranch sauce, sautéed tofu in buffalo sauce and celery, this menu item ranges from \$6.95 (7") - \$15.95 (16").

### Meanwhile Film Series

Wealthy Theatre  
1130 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids  
8 p.m., \$5  
meanwhilebar.com/meanwhilefilms, (616) 301-2371

### WATCH

The Meanwhile Film Series is the perfect choice for the hipster, whose taste for cult and independent film is hardly satiated by Grand Rapids cinema options. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m., Wealthy Theatre will screen a different film for only \$5. The selections vary - one week could be a gory horror movie, the next a cult musical. December films include Peter Jackson's horror comedy *The Frighteners*, John Carpenter's *Big Trouble in Little China*, Wes Anderson's *The Darjeeling Limited* and the fantastical *Dark Crystal*. Refreshments are available, including alcohol for those who purchase a CMC Membership at \$25 per year.

