

THE MONITOR

CARved – Life-Size Ice Sculptures of Cool Cars in Campus Martius

The 12th Annual Quicken Loans Season of Winter Magic is presenting the inaugural installation of CARved – a showcase of seven spectacular ice sculptures of full-size cars, representing iconic automobiles from Detroit and the world.

The three-week show will display the ice-cars in and around Downtown's Campus Martius Park, throughout January and all during the North American International Auto Show. The full-size ice replicas will be installed on Friday, January 8, if the D's Downtown temperature stays cold enough.

Three of the ice model cars will have interactive elements, allowing visitors to get in and take them for a stationary 'test drive.'

All seven will have lights within the sculptures to bring them to life at night.

"CARved is a great addition to all the fun activities and attractions Downtown and will be appreciated by kids and car enthusiasts alike," said John Marcicky, Quicken Loans Director of Placemaking.

Here is a list of the makes and models of the ice cars:

★ 1957 Chevy Nomad – Interactive sculpture, located in Cadillac Square.

★ 1961 Chrysler 300G – Located in Cadillac Square.

★ 1966 Ford Mustang – Interactive sculpture, located at The Chase Building.

★ 1969 Lamborghini Miura – Located at 1 Campus Martius.

★ 2017 Lamborghini Aventador – Interactive sculpture, located at 1 Campus Martius.

★ 2017 Audi R8 – Located at 1 Kennedy Square/ Ernst Young Building.

★ 2017 Bugatti Chiron – Located at The Chase Building.

The 300G, Mustang and Miura classics were chosen as an accompaniment to the actual cars which are part of *The Drive Home*, an 11-day road rally from Tacoma, WA to Detroit, coinciding with the opening of the North American International Auto Show on January 17.

The CARvings are the work of Ohio's Ice Creations, where owner Chad Hartson is one of the nation's premier ice sculptors.

For information, see campusmartiuspark.org.



Greg Butauski and Stephan Koch from Ice Creations, CARving an Audi R8 (that's the Real Thing, Below)



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Sports Highlights and Low Points of 2015

George B. Eichorn
The Sporting Life

What a year in sports! 2015 was as crazy as they come, as the national sports scene was dominated by such names as American Pharoah, the New England Patriots (and Deflategate), the Kansas City Royals, Golden State Warriors, Jordan Speith, Serena Williams and the sad passing of Yogi Berra, Frank Gifford, Moses Malone and Ernie Banks.



Late Lions Great Charlie Sanders

Right here in Detroit, we had our own headlines with the

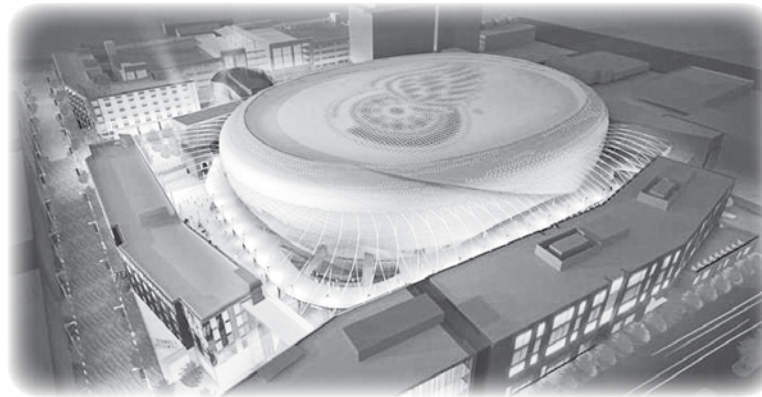
great debacle of the Tigers once-promising season, the house-cleaning from the feisty Ford matriarch of her family's long-owned Lions; a new Red Wings stadium complex breaking ground Downtown; and the Pistons new look, with no-nonsense Stan Van's to-the-point coaching.

We also saw the passing of some of Detroit's most notable sports heroes, with this summer's deaths of Lions' Hall of Famer Charlie Sanders, All-Pro Mel Farr, and Flip Saunders, who coached the Pistons to a team record most wins, with a 64-18 record in the 2005-2006 season.

My Top 10 Local Stories:

1. 90-year-old Martha Firestone Ford fires Lions president Tom Lewand and GM Martin Mayhew as her team struggles and misses the NFL playoffs.

2. Coach Mark Dantonio leads the MSU Spartans to a National Football College Playoffs semi-final appearance on New Year's Eve only to lose



Concept Drawing of the New Downtown Red Wings Arena

38-0 to Alabama in the Cotton Bowl.

3. Jim Harbaugh Mania strikes Ann Arbor as he's hired to succeed Brady Hoke as the team's head football coach and goes 10-3 in his first season.

4. After dealing stars David Price, Yoenis Cespedes and Joakim Soria, Tigers GM Dave Dombrowski's 14-year tenure in Detroit was done, as owner Mike Ilitch taps Al Avila to be the new GM. Shockingly, the Tigers finish dead last in the AL Central Division.

5. For the seventh time,

Coach Tom Izzo takes the MSU Spartans to another NCAA Final Four appearance. They lost in the men's basketball national semi-finals, 81-61, to Duke in Indianapolis.

6. Mike Babcock leaves the Red Wings for big money with the Toronto Maple Leafs, as understudy Jeff Blashill takes the reins of the Detroit bench at Joe Louis Arena.

7. Stan Van Gundy puts his stamp on the Pistons' roster as he signs guard Reggie

Jackson to a huge multi-year deal and lets center/forward Greg Monroe leave town for Milwaukee. Center Andre Drummond leads the Pistons to a better-than-.500 mark at the end of 2015.

8. Miguel Cabrera wins his fourth batting title in five seasons.

9. Red Wings' Nick Lidstrom and Sergei Fedorov enter the Hockey Hall of Fame as does Compuware founder Peter Karmanos.

10. Carlos Munoz and Sebastien Bourdais win the two Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix IndyCar Series races on Belle Isle.

10. Tie. Kurt Busch and Matt Kenseth win the June Quicken Loans 400 and August Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races, respectively, at Michigan International Speedway.

In summary, it was a year in sports that centered on key storylines. The ownership

See Eichorn, Page 6

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Famous Jewish Stories

The Jewish Ensemble Theatre (JET) continues their series of *Famous Jewish Stories* at Congregation Beth Ahm with a reading of *The Odessa Tales Part 2* by Isaac Babel, on Sunday, January 10 at 2 p.m.



Isaac Babel

Read by Sam Pollak and directed by Henrietta Hermelin-Weinberg, the reading will be followed by a discussion with Dr. Howard Lupovitch, Director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. More information and the rest of JET's well-received dramatic reading schedule can be found at jettheatre.org. Tickets are \$8 per reading, available at (248) 788-2900 or jettheatre.org. Congregation Beth Ahm is located at 5075 West Maple Rd., in West Bloomfield.

Zoo's Wild Winter Weekends

See the Detroit Zoo in the wintertime on Wild Winter weekends January 16-17 and February 6-7. Wild Winter activities take place at the Ford Education Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and are free with admission. Said Ron Kagan, the Zoo's executive director and CEO. "While it's too cold for the giraffes and rhinos to be outside, there are indoor viewing areas where visitors can see these majestic animals year-round."



Many animals are active in the colder winter months, including gray wolves, tigers, polar bears, arctic foxes and red pandas. There are also many indoor areas to see, including the Butterfly Garden, Great Apes of Harambee and Penguinarium. For info, call (248) 541-5717 or see detroitzoo.org. The Detroit Zoo is located at the intersection of Woodward Ave. and I-696, in Royal Oak.



L to R: David Roberts, Sandria Haney, Jose Cabrera

Abba's Cold War Musical, Chess at Grosse Pointe Theatre

Grosse Pointe Theatre's 68th season continues with the politically charged Chess, The Musical. The eight performance run has 2 p.m. matinees on Sunday, January 17 and 24, and 8 p.m. shows on January 21-23, and January 28-30. Set during the Cold War, the U.S.-Soviet rivalry plays out through an international chess championship. Freddie Trumper, the brash American Grandmaster arrives with Florence Vassy, his Hungarian-American female chess second, who falls in love with Anatoly Sergievsky, the intense Russian champion. From Bangkok to Budapest, the players, lovers, politicians and spies all struggle to get the upper hand. The songs, by two members of the group ABBA, include the international hits *One Night in Bangkok* and *I Know Him So Well*. For more information, visit www.gpt.org or call (313) 881-4004. All performances are \$24 and are held at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Theater, located at 32 Lake Shore Drive in Grosse Pointe Farms.



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THE MONITOR is published weekly on Thursday and is distributed free throughout Greater Detroit. MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS are \$45 per year, mailed first class. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher.



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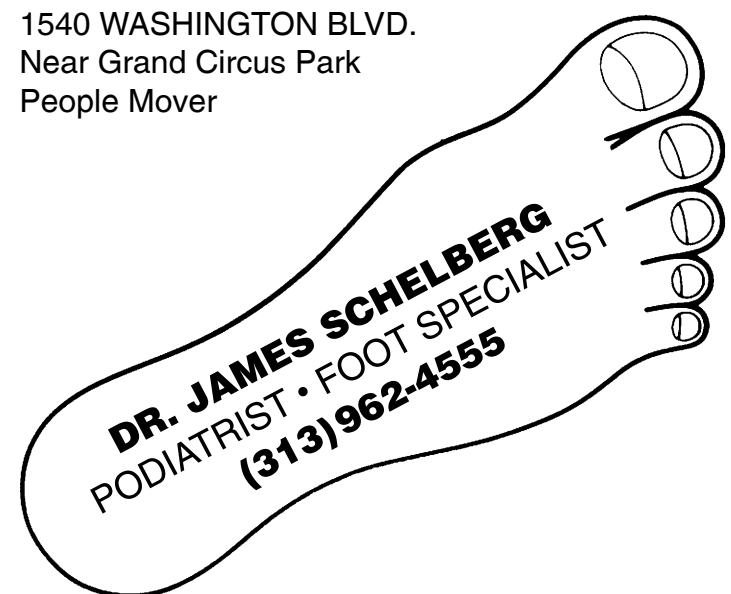
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SHOWINGS

Janice Charach Gallery Features Figures

The Janice Charach Gallery will host a new exhibition beginning Sunday, January 10, focusing on the human body entitled 'Exploring the Figure.' The show features paintings, photographs and drawings from well-known Greater Detroit artists Bruce Giffin, John Hegarty, Deborah Marlowe, Kashdan Bowen Kline, Camille LaMontagne, Tony Roko, Michelle Tanguay, Paula Zammit, and of special interest to the pop culture crowd, Niagra and Slaw (see some of Slaw's art, to the right.)

For more information, call (248) 432-5579, or see charachgallery.org. The exhibition runs January 10 - February 18 and is free and open to the public. The showcase will have a special opening reception from 1- 4 p.m., on Sunday, January 10, with the artists in attendance. The gallery is located within the Jewish Community Center for Metropolitan Detroit, located at 6600 W. Maple Rd., in West Bloomfield.



Textiles & Mixed Media at Northville Art House



Fava 1 & 2 by Susan Moran

The Northville Art House present an exhibition of textiles and mixed media by Barbara Bushey and Susan Moran, two established fiber artists whose work develops from close observation of the Michigan landscape. They find inspiration in the details of surfaces and structures, of our woodlands and waterways, throughout the seasons of the year. They use the techniques of resist dyeing, quilting, collage and stitching to construct, enhance and emphasize their imagery.

Barbara Bushey, Associate Professor and Chair of the Hillsdale College Art Department, says, "My work is an exploration of what is hidden and what is revealed — whether in a visual, emotional or historical sense."

Susan Moran, Instructor at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit, states that her goal as an artist is "to study and master the traditional techniques of dyeing and printing on fabric, and adapt them to my own purposes. I find inspiration for my work in daily walks through the wooded places of southeast Michigan."

Both of these award-winning artists have had their work in exhibitions and collections throughout the United States. Barbara Bushey has work in the White House permanent collection in Washington D.C., and Susan Moran's work is collected in both the Cardiovascular Center and the Medical School of the University of Michigan.

The exhibit is free to the public and opens with a reception on Friday, January 8, from 6 - 9 p.m.

The exhibit runs through January 30, during Art House hours, Tuesday - Friday 12 - 5 p.m. and Saturday 12 - 4 p.m.

For more information call (248) 344-0497, or see northvillearthouse.org. The Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street, in Northville.



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Eichorn, Cont'd from Page 3

groups of the Lions, Tigers and Pistons made significant changes. The quarterbacks at Michigan State and the University of Michigan led their two football programs to big winning seasons. Owner Martha Firestone Ford hired the Ford family personal financial adviser, Rod Wood, as the club president yet we look forward to seeing who gets the GM role and if Jim Caldwell stays or leaves as head coach.



Miggy Wins The Title...Again

The Tigers are anxious to see if the removal of Dave Dombrowski pays dividends as Al Avila puts his stamp on the 2016 club, one that could be a make-or-break season for owner Mike Ilitch and his dream of celebrating a Tigers World Series championship.

Pistons management is set now that owner Tom Gores brought sports business standout Arn Tellem as the organization's vice chairman and Gores' go-to-guy at The Palace. Tellem will try and integrate downtown Detroit's resurgence with the Pistons emerging new roster and management team.

The quarterbacks at MSU (Connor Cook) and U-M (Jake Rudock) are moving on to the NFL in all likelihood so their respect teams have the huge challenge of replacing their talent and leadership skills. Look for MSU and Mark Dantonio and U-M and Jim Harbaugh to again have successful seasons in 2016.

I predict the Pistons and Red Wings will make their post-season playoffs but fail to get past the first or second round. The Tigers will come up short in winning their division but should grab a wild-card playoff spot. And the Lions will follow up their 7-9 season of 2015 with a 9-7 campaign in 2016, missing the playoffs.

Big progress will be made in 2016 on construction of the new hockey arena in the stadium district of Detroit. Lastly, watch the television for quite a few Michigan athletes to participate in the Summer Olympic Games in Rio comes August as they "Go for the Gold."

Reach George Eichorn at geichorn@yahoo.com.



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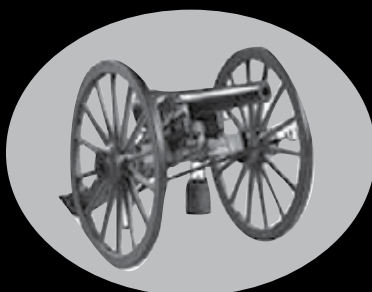
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STREAM SCREENS



Jonesin' for More Marvel on Netflix

By Paul Arlon

As a little kid, there were a couple of things that ruled my attention more than others – baseball and comic books. Every week throughout a couple of summer vacations, I would ride my bike down to the corner drugstore (a misnomer, if I recall, as the most abundant ‘drug’ available there was of the self-prescribed 90 proof variety), and spend .35 worth of my allowance on the *Sporting News*, and 12 cents on a comic book. Sometimes, I’d just go big and slap down a full half-dollar on four comic books, or a couple of Eighty-pagers. Those were the halcyon days of the Silver-Age Comic Book. And, some of the very last times that I ever had a carefree day all to myself, without even one shackle of responsibility. Now, some of those glossy

covered 12-cent ‘graphic novels’ are worth more than most people’s cars, especially if they’re early titles from DC or Marvel – the two dominant names in comic book media, today. I say comic book media, because, now, these companies are so much more than the publishers of kid stuff. They’ve morphed into revenue-generating behemoths, producing comic books, of course, but also every other kind of printed material, huge box office movies, games, and streaming media.

While seeing as many movies as I do each year, I also watch my fair share of television, simply because I have to, to keep me in tune with popular culture and also, because television has never been better. I’m not a sedentary couch potato, by any means, but some of the TV offerings from these former “just comic book publishers” are elements of cultural ‘literature’ that I believe are well worth seeking out. Much like I could recommend a great novel, or a terrific film, or a superior stage production, there are now a few television series that I would suggest fall nicely into the spectrum of those media savvy folks that want to be culturally well-versed. Yes, I might be putting too much of a spin on it, by saying that watching TV is a kind of high cultural pursuit, but in our information-age era, with all of the media that streams into most people’s everyday-every-waking-hour consciousness, yes, I do believe that TV does have a place in today’s cultural awareness.

DC, with *Supergirl* airing on CBS, and *Arrow* and *The Flash* airing on The CW Network, has produced some very good television. The Marvel Universe, as it’s known, has given us some really worthwhile shows on ABC, with *Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, and the renewal of the upcoming *Agent Carter*, starting again on Tuesday, January 19 at 9 p.m. I’d like to talk about a couple of other shows, but not the ones that are aired on the major networks. Of special note, are the two Netflix series, produced by Marvel, *Daredevil* and *Jessica Jones*. If anyone doesn’t already know, the progenitor of most of the Marvel Universe of superheroes, is the venerable Stan Lee, now 93 years old as of last



Charlie Cox as Daredevil; Deborah Ann Woll as Karen

December 28, and still as active a self-promoting comic book icon as ever. Lee wrote the original story for *Daredevil* in 1964, and the Netflix series is spot-on accurate to Lee’s creation. Basically, Matt Murdock (played by Charlie Cox) is a blind attorney, working for the under-represented in a seedy section of New York City, called Hell’s Kitchen. As a child, Murdock was blinded by a chemical spill. But, instead of leaving him without sight, the freak accident gave Murdock superhuman senses. He just ‘sees’ the world in a different way, and with powerful abilities to boot. By day, he’s a meek-looking, blind lawyer, scraping the bottom of the legal system barrel. By night, he is a vigilante, policing Hell’s Kitchen with superhuman powers, and one other significant mental ability – he is without fear. No fear. None.

In the first season, *Daredevil’s* foe was the villainous Kingpin, Wilson Fisk (played superbly by Vincent D’Onofrio). All the characters from the comic book are in the series: Foggy, Matt’s law partner (Elden Henson), and their secretary Karen Page (Deborah Ann Woll). This is just plain terrific visual, small screen theatre. D’Onofrio is the best depiction of the Kingpin I could ever want to see and this is the best version of the *Daredevil* character outside of Stan Lee’s brain. *Daredevil’s* second season is slated for March 2016.

Marvel’s other Netflix series that I feel deserves attention is *Jessica Jones*, starring the incomparable Krysten Ritter, as the title character. There isn’t another actress that looks like her, and there’s no two ways about it, this role was hers and hers only.

Jessica Jones awakes from a deadly car crash that took the lives of her parents, to find that as an orphan she’ll go to live with her friend, Trish (Rachael Taylor), a child TV star. When Trish’s abusive business manager-mother starts hammering on her friend, Jessica intercedes, revealing that the accident that killed her parents, also gave her superhuman strength. As she moves into womanhood, Jessica tries being a superhero but things do not go well. Another superhuman, named Kilgrave (played by the exceptional ex-Dr.

Who David Tennant), a master of mind control, takes over her life and makes her do things for which she can’t forgive herself.

After breaking free from Kilgrave’s mind-control, Jessica falls into an alcohol-fueled existence as a quick-tempered, black-humored private detective in Hell’s Kitchen (yes, same place as no-fear DD).

She battles her external and internal demons with terrific aplomb, encountering both extreme passion and vicious hatred all at once. This series also introduces us to Marvel’s first black superhero, *Power Man*, as well.

Due to some scheduling conflicts, the second season of *Jessica Jones* may have to wait until Netflix completes its Marvel series called *The Defenders*. But, Krysten Ritter was just nominated for Best Actress in a Drama Series by the *TV Critic’s Choice Awards*, so that might ramp up the timetable for seeing Jessica a little sooner. I hope that happens. I wasn’t a Netflix fan. I never found their selection of movies and other video offerings to be worth the \$8 a month subscription. Until now... Take it from somebody who used to spend his bright and shiny quarters on the original comic books — Marvel and Netflix have given us some of the best and most original television/streaming media available today.



Krysten Ritter as Jessica Jones

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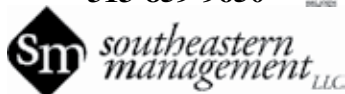
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