

## IN BRIEF

### 'Rom-Com' takes top prize in Box's 'Playfest'

ST. JOSEPH — "Revenge of the Rom-Com," a 10-minute play written by Benton Harbor's Greg Ladewski, was the winner of the two-night "Out of the Box Playfest" on Dec. 6-7 at the Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St.

Ladewski took home \$300 for his sketch of a writer whose work comes back to haunt her. Debra Davis took second and \$200 for "Heart Sounds," and Alice Ford received \$200 and third place for "Two People on a Train."

Judges Linda LaRocque, Phil Sturdevant and Kevin Wurz chose the winners out of six plays selected to be staged during the second annual event. Those six were previously selected out of 18 entries.

"Revenge of the Rom-Com" and "Two People on a Train" tied for Friday night's audience award, while Saturday's audience selected "Heart Sounds."

### Box hosts family fun holiday event Saturday

ST. JOSEPH — "The Jingle Bell Chorus Sing Along" with Mockingbird and the "Hoot Like an Owl" demonstration by Sarett Nature Center's Chuck Nelson takes place from 1-4 p.m. Saturday during a family fun event at the Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St.

Bells and song books will be provided to jingle and sing along to all the Christmas songs and carols. Children are invited to wear their favorite pajamas to compete for best outfit. Winners of the "Owl-i-Days" fabric art challenge and the owl coloring contest also will be announced. Admission is free.

For more information, call 983-3688 or visit [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org).

### Berrien County Dancers present Winter Concert

STEVENSVILLE — The Berrien County Dancers present their Winter Dance Concert at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Lakeshore Community Auditorium, Lakeshore High School, 5771 Cleveland Ave.

The event features works by artistic director Theresa Graziano, and guest choreographers Stephanie Martinez and Elizabeth Schmuhl. Student choreographers are Lakeshore's Elizabeth Feldbruegge, Caitlin Morgan, Jamie Warmbein, Alaina Wells, Gabby Andrews and Mallory Mishler; St. Joseph's Jordan Kunkel; and Bridgman's Brandi Watkins.

Admission is \$5-\$7, free for children 12 and younger. Proceeds will help fund the dancers week-long residency with Giordano Dance Chicago on March 17-22.

For more information, call 428-1402, ext. 2099, or visit [www.berriencountydancers.com](http://www.berriencountydancers.com).

### Auditions scheduled for LMC's 'Island' play

BENTON HARBOR — Auditions for Lake Michigan College's production of "Once on This Island" are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday at LMC's Hanson Theater inside the Mendel Center, 2755 E. Napier Ave.

A third audition is 7 p.m. Jan. 9. Production dates are March 28-30, and April 4-6. Calvin McClinton directs.

In this one-act musical, a troupe of peasants act out the story of Ti Moune and Daniel to a young girl frightened by a storm on a Caribbean island.

Based on Rosa Guy's 1985 novel, which was in turn inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's "Little Mermaid," the story is transposed to an island in the French Antilles, where class status and intra-racial politics collide.

Those auditioning should prepare a short monologue, vocal selection, resume and head shot.

For more information, call 927-8627.

### 'Michigan Beer Film' shown at The Acorn

THREE OAKS — "The Michigan Beer Film" will be shown at 7 p.m. Saturday at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive.

Kevin Romeo's film examines the dreams and aspirations of some of the entrepreneurs behind the growth in Michigan's craft beer industry.

Both Romeo and Greenbush Brewing's Scott Sullivan, who appears in the film, will answer questions following the screening.

A large selection of Michigan craft beers will be available at the event.

Tickets are \$13-\$15.

For more information, call 756-3879 or visit [www.acorntheater.com](http://www.acorntheater.com).

### Detroit Institute of Arts in talks with mediators

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Institute of Arts has been allowed into talks on how to protect city-owned pieces in its collection during Detroit's bankruptcy.

The museum said Wednesday that officials have met with federal mediators and the museum is mobilizing "its considerable public support to help implement a fundraising strategy that will satisfy the city's needs, while ensuring the well-being of the museum."

A judge let Detroit enter bankruptcy Dec. 3.

New York auction house Christie's says art purchased with city money is worth \$450 million to \$870 million.