



# SISS! BOOM! BAH!

## LIONS INSIDE

# NOT FEELING COMCASTIC?

Neither Are We Part Three of A Now Four Part Series

*By Anthony Brancalone*

**My next billing date for Comcast** was 10/14/10 with a due date of 11/09/10 and was among the more confusing bills I have had to navigate when it finally arrived in the mail. Comcast made adjustments to the account stemming from 07/28 all the way through 10/24 - three months of incorrect billing.

The bill stated that my previous balance was \$284.82 minus \$72.46 in "Partial Month Charges & Credits" and an additional \$39.95 in "Other Charges & Credits" totaling \$112.41 of credits to my account. Comcast had overcharged my account by approximately Forty Percent (40%). Forty Percent - and that's only the overages I was able to catch.

“Imagine if Comcast was doing this to all of their customers,” I thought. “How many people open their bill and scrutinize all of the charges each and every month? Shouldn’t good customer service mean, in part, that my cable bill should come correct each month based on my contract?”

“Even if Comcast’s average percentage of billing errors is in the single digits,” I thought. “They would still gross a significant amount of money by allowing poor customer service through improper billing.” As I set my October

bill on the table, “Total new Charges” a negative \$55.19 and a new “Total Amount Due” of \$109.63, I asked myself these questions and more.

"What would happen if I paid Comcast 40% less than the money owed? What if I decided not to return their phone calls in a timely manner?" I poured myself a Bourbon and considered the angles.

The November bill came in and all looked fine. Comcast had charged a total of \$57.22 for their service. My total Due Bill was now \$166.85, so I promptly wrote a check for \$100 and mailed it in: 40% below the total due but arriving two weeks before the due date - “that ought to throw em”, I thought.

Over the holidays I scaled back the payment to 50% of the Due Bill because - well, because it was Christmas and I felt that Comcast would like for me to have a small gift.

In January 2011, I caught up with the bill and by February Comcast decided once again to flex a little muscle. My service jumped from \$57.22 to \$72.21 - approximately fifteen percent (15%). Coincidence? Human error? Computer malfunction? Revenge? Who knows?

I got back on the phone, dialed 1.877.842.6622, followed the directions and waited on hold for twenty minutes before chatting with several customer service reps for another forty minutes of empty conversation. Obviously, I was going to have to go back into the Customer Service department to get what's mine.

**It was a cold afternoon** in mid February when I gathered the data and made my way to the Royal Oak branch. Once again, the line was long so I took my place behind the row of broken spirits, heads held low, shoe

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**READ LOCAL  
THINK GLOBAL**

## The Crisis of the European Union: Causes and Significance

Václav Klaus

You may like the old Europe—full of history, full of culture, full of decadence, full of fading beauty—and I do as well. But the political, social and economic developments here bother me. Unlike you, I am neither a visitor to Europe nor an uninvolved observer of it. I live here, and I do not see any reason to describe the current Europe in a propagandistic way, using rosy colors or glasses. Many of us in Europe are aware of the fact that it faces a serious problem, which is not a short- or medium-term business cycle-like phenomenon. Nor is it a consequence of the recent financial and economic crisis. This crisis only made it more visible. As an economist, I would call it a structural problem, which will not, by itself, wither away. We will not simply outgrow it, as some hope or believe.

It used to look quite different here. The question is when things started to change. The post-World War II reconstruction of Europe was a success because the war eliminated, or at least weakened, all kinds of special-interest coalitions and pressure groups. In the following decades, Europe was growing, peaceful, stable and relevant. Why is Europe less successful and less relevant today?

I see it basically as a result of two interrelated phenomena—the European integration process on the one hand, and the evolution of the European economic and social system on the other—both of which have been undergoing a fundamental change in the context of the “brave new world” of our permissive, anti-market, redistributive society, a society that has forgotten the ideas on which the greatness of Europe was built.

I will start with the first issue, because I repeatedly see that people on other continents do not have a proper understanding of the European integration process—of its effects and consequences. It is partly because they do not care—which is quite rational—and partly because they accept a priori the idea that a regional integration is—regardless of its form, style, methods and ambitions—an exclusively positive, progressive and politically correct project. They also very often accept the conventional wisdom that the weakening of nation-states, and the strengthening of supranational institutions, is a movement in the right direction. I know there are many opponents of such a view in your country but it has many supporters as well.

Continued on Page 5





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# SEPTEMBER

Letter from the Editor



## ONE HOT MINUTE

Well, it was a short, hot run, wasn't it? Another summer is over and I still cannot wrap my mind around it. Yes, I know, it isn't official until the 22nd - I think - but I have always regarded Labor Day weekend as the end of one season and the beginning of the next, a slow transition from the wild and uninhibited heat of adventure to the more sophisticated, mysterious moments of expression.

Football, scholarship, the arts and fashion all come together to remind us that competition is good, that the betterment of oneself is once again at the fore of our thought process. After a period of lazy afternoons in the sun, it is time to refocus, rebuild and prepare for the long, cold season ahead.

And, what's wrong with that? It is the cycle of life that continues with or without our permission, so it is probably best to lean forward and get everything out of it that we can. Look back in appreciation, look forward with desire.

Now, go squirrel your nuts,  
*Anthony Brancaleone*

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Warning: This paper has not been proof read! And probably never will be... Please see Letter from Editor in our November 2010 issue online.

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SEPTEMBER Emails to the Editor

FaceBook Friend

DEAR I WORK AT THE AIRPORT FOR 3 YEARS AGO AND STILL READ THIS MAGAZINE SO GREAT FOR EVERTHING YOU DO

Looking For Kunis

I just picked up a copy of the Metropolitan and saw the thing you wrote about Mila Kunis (Aug 2011). Did you really meet her? I have never pined over an actress or model in my life but there is something about that girl that is amazing. She seems cool too.

*Hope you have a great August,  
Dan Colucci, Metro Detroit*

Not Feeling Comcastic, Anymore?

Great cover, great coverage, great commentary but where is part 3 of the Comcastic series (Aug 2011)? Rarely, do I find myself laughing out loud about a subject that has given me such frustration. I had Comcast but hated the service, or lack thereof. It is good to see that someone is taking on the big businesses that refuse to play fair.

*Katie Holmes-Long, Wyandotte MI*

Tony (is it alright if I call you Tony?),

First off, I would like to send my thanks to you and your fellow writers for the perfect distraction from the tedious task of completing 1,498 pages of summer reading that should have been finished weeks ago. What can I say, I'm a loyal partner to my lover known as procrastination. But I diverge. Not only did I whisk through the 15 pages that this newspaper held, I craved more by the end, and to my lover's delight, started the paper over, and reread every article. Each topic that was covered held my attention and interest to the nth degree. Not only were there relevant concerns, but also lighter sections, such as the PB&J responses (My personal favorite is Cafe Muse's version: toasted bread, jam, peanut butter, and a slice of mascarpone cheese all oozing through my chubby fingers.) My only criticism would be to enlarge the font in the comic strip section. Yes, a very persnickety request, but I needed to nitpick in order to find a flaw that was even mentionable. The Metropolitan d'Étroit is, in a word, magnifique!

Thank you for brightening the day of the average 17 year old female. I hope this short note did not take up too much of what I assume is a busy schedule.

*Best regards,  
Madeline Bernhard  
Student/Waitress  
Royal Oak MI*

P.S. Please tell Matt I thoroughly enjoyed the manly moonshine and moustache articles.

All History And News Is Told With Bias

The bias is found in what the teller chooses to include and exclude. It is heightened by what the teller chooses to emphasize and de-emphasize. My bias should be obvious from my posting. I believe in protecting and expanding workplace democracy. It is as essential as the founding values of this great nation. Mark Mix, author of the front-page piece on labor relations (Aug 2011) has a quite different POV.

Mix' piece on right-to-work neglects to point out that the high rate of unionization following WWII was also the time when the middle class grew the fastest making the American Dream a possibility for the ordinary average worker. Union density was critical to both directly (collective bargaining) and indirectly (spill-over affect on non-represented employees in union workplaces and on non-union employers who had to compete for employees in a labor market) insuring that the nation's wealth was broadly shared.

"I think American labor unions get a large share of the credit for making us a middle-class country." George Will, conservative columnist 1977

"There are always going to be people who take advantage of workers. Unions even that out to their credit. We need them to level the field between labor and management. If you didn't have unions, it would be very difficult for even enlightened employers to not take advantage of workers on wages and working conditions, because of [competition from] rivals. I'm among the first to say that I believe in unions." Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah)

Also omitted:

1. The 22 right-to-work states have the lowest standard of living in the nation.
2. There actually is no "right-to-work" in the U.S. If employers don't have a job, the government does not step in and become the employer of last resort. Without labor unions, which were our nation's first successful anti-poverty programs, employees would have no meaningful voice in the workplace.
3. None of the workplace rights or protections, which are no taken for granted, were introduced or advocated for by large employers or their business associations. In fact they were resisted by those organizations because they were seen as unfairly restricting the employer's unilateral right to make any and all decisions about what happens in the workplace.

There are more omissions and corrections (among them...Boeing executive vice president Jim Albaugh's comment that the reason for relocation was to move away from a union workplace which violates the NLRA and Mike Fishman is a local SEIU union leader not the head of SEIU), but correcting them would make this much longer than it needs to be to make the point.

*John Kretzschmar  
Omaha, Nebraska*



Monte's Grille

What could be better? - Greek salad with spinach, pita and the latest Metropolitan d'Étroit. Awesome.

*William Whan, Birmingham MI*



# WORD

## In Like A Lion

With the new Lion's season upon us, Word on the street has been about our chances this year. We asked our friends on FaceBook what their prediction for 2011 was and this is some of what they had to say:

**Jack Doline, Birmingham MI**

Better than last season, if they stay healthy. We shall see what the Lions make happen. They're not bad! Rock 'em sock 'em football! Welcome to 2011! Awesome Baby!!!!

**Rob G, Detroit MI**

Play off bound. I will wear my hat regardless (Answer received the most votes with 7).

**Nick Brancaleone, Metropolitan Staff**

10-6. Quarterback gets hurt 4th game in.

**Mike Curths, Traverse City MI**

They have a team in Detroit? - (Answer received 4 votes from out-of-state).

**Victor, Royal Oak MI**

I think they will play like they always do, crappy.

**Rosemary Rosin, Rochester MI**

Hope they win at least half of the games but then I am a MSU die heart too!

**Jennifer DeMott Bucy, Livonia MI**  
I like to believe!!!

**Diana Jellinek, Troy MI**

Do like the Three Stooges and your bound to win!!!!

**Amy Sargent Oles, Up State NY**

They are always loosing to win but it will be under water after 2012 anyway (received 4 votes - whatever that means?).

**Daniel Cascardo, Huntington Woods MI**

The only Lions I know about are the ones living next door to us at the zoo. Unless the Detroit Lions make it to the playoffs I'll root for the furry ones.

**Jeanette Frost, Metropolitan staff**

Unless you're talking about the Red Wings I'm generally uninterested in sports. But I do wish the Lions well and hope they surprise everyone. I love supporting the underdog. Lions Super Bowl all the way baby!

**Zack Plastow, Franklin MI**

Super Bowl, of course!



## Changing One Life At A Time / Sept 10th @ Top Tech

The Sabrina Black Foundation works with Detroit area cancer hospitals to eliminate the hospital debt of cancer patients. The Foundation was established in 2006 after the late Sabrina Black, who had fought Hodgkin's Lymphoma for more than six years.

Clawson and you will receive **ONE FREE OIL CHANGE** with your donation to the Sabrina Black Foundation. While you wait help yourself to Free Pizza courtesy of Mark & James White of Jet's Pizza!

Join top Tech Auto Repair & NAPA for a fundraiser on Saturday September 10th from 10am-4pm at Top Tech Auto Repair, located at 664 South Rochester Road in



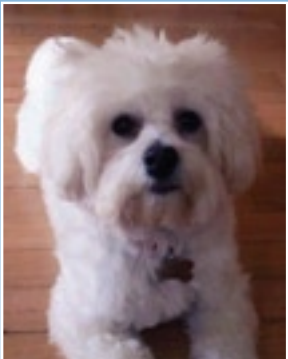
## Dognapped! Stanley's Story

Stanley was stolen during a home invasion/robbery in Dearborn Heights, MI on 6/30/11 around 9:30 a.m. He was in his dog crate waiting for his mom to come home for lunch. When she came home the house was ransacked, and numerous items of value were taken. But the worst part is, the crate was gone, and so was Stanley. His mom, Brandi, is devastated. She doesn't care about any belongings that were taken. She just wants Stanley back.

The police think that Stanley was taken to be sold, or may have been given away. If that is the case, then some unsuspecting adopter will likely take him to the vet or to be groomed. Please pass this on to anyone who works in a vet's office or pet store, pet groomers, or to any place you can think of where someone with a new dog may go. Tell them to watch for a new client that might be Stanley. He is 5 years old, a Bichon/Maltese mix, about 12 pounds. He has allergies that cause him to gnaw on his feet, giving them a slight reddish tinge.

**If you see a dog that might be Stanley, or if you've adopted a dog that might be Stanley, please call Brandi at 313-303-3338 or 1-800-HELP-4-PETS (1-800-435-7473). There will be no questions asked.**

## Stolen! \$2000 REWARD



## NOT FEELING COMCASTIC?

Continued from Front Page

gazing, while the Comcast propaganda machine spewed the good word about customer service through wide screen monitors mounted on the wall.

An argument broke out between a customer holding a modem and a woman sitting behind the protective glass. I began to wonder how many people came through Comcast's doors on a daily basis. How many man-hours were wasted over people trying to get quality Internet and cable service?

If my few trips to the Royal Oak office were any indication it must have been hundreds each day. Multiply that by how many Customer Service centers there are in the state, how many in the country, and it quickly began to add up to a possible contributing factor of our poor economy.

Americans need the Internet to be productive and many utilize cable as an "affordable" way to relax after a hard day at work. "No wonder production is down," I thought. "We're spending thousands upon thousands of hours each week arguing with the cable company."

"I can help the next in line," a service rep said; so I made my way to the protective window that separated our two stations in this opera and both raised and answered it's own question regarding the necessity of its presence.

Producing my bills and my original contract, I explained the problem to the service rep as best I could while she keyed words and numbers into the computer and viewed the results. "Your bill has gone up because your six month introductory offer is over," she said.

"If you'll look at my contract you'll see that the introductory offer is for twelve months," I replied. She reviewed the contract and said, "You'll have to call the sales rep to straighten this out; I can't do anything here."

"I've already done all of that," I explained. "In fact, the last time I was here the service rep said the same thing. But, I really don't think it's my duty to track down a sales rep who may or may not be with the company anymore; especially, when I have my contract right here."

"I'm sorry but there is nothing I can do. You'll have to call the Customer Service number," she said. "I've been calling Customer Service and they couldn't help me. That's why I'm here."

"We're not able to change that in the computer," she said, and began to display signs of being uninterested and completely bored with our conversation. No smile. No eye contact. No service.

"Let me speak to your manager, please." I was back to the beginning and realized this was once again going to take some time. The rep stood up, sighed, rolled her eyes and without saying a word exited through the door behind her.

Alone at the counter, I relaxed a moment and looked around the room. The line behind me was long, and by chance my eyes met with a man who quickly looked toward the ceiling. Despite the audio from the monitor promoting Comcast's Customer Service Guarantee - very similar to the ad on television - and assuring us of Comcast's dedication to provide 100% customer satisfaction, I wasn't feeling Comcastic.

Minutes passed. "Did something happen to make them install the protective glass," I wondered. "Or, did Comcast have it put in to begin with?" The rep returned and said, "She isn't in. You'll have to come back later."

There was silence as we gazed into one another's eyes. "Write her number down for me, please." The yellow sticky read *Dawnna*, (248).808.6191. "And, could I have your name?" I asked. "Ivory," she replied, after a pause. "Thank you," I said. "Mmm Hm..."

**Over the next week I called Dawnna several times** and left messages on her voice mail about the account and when she could contact me. She never returned my calls. Or, should I say, I never received a return phone call from Dawnna.

About that time, however, a call came from Comcast regarding new digital cables and boxes, with a question about scheduling an appointment for installation. We agreed on the date but Comcast was unable to give an exact time for the appointment, preferring instead to have me available throughout a four-hour period until they were able to arrive.

"What's the point of scheduling an appointment if you can't pick a time," I asked. The representative explained that Comcast is busy and has many calls to make. "Yes, I am sure you are but isn't that why we schedule appointments?"

The rep continued to explain how Comcast had many service calls but seemed proud to offer me the choice between three convenient time slots; morning, afternoon or evening. "That's a half day of work," I said. "Maybe, if I were calling you, asking you for a repair, but you're calling me. Can't we narrow it down to, say, an hour?"

Two weeks later, an install tech named, Adrian, came to the house half way through my waiting period and very politely introduced himself. Rebels were on TV, in the midst of an Egyptian revolt, and I was spinning *'Egypt, Egypt'* by *The Egyptian Lover* as a sign of support for something I knew very little about.

Adrian put on little blue footies, out of consideration for my floor, when I invited him into the 'liberation party' and offered him his choice of a cup of coffee or a spot on the floor to 'Break Dance' to the beat of freedom. He chose neither, but got to work quickly, efficiently and with a smile. "At least one guy at Comcast had a sense of humor and knew how to do his job," I thought.

As he was leaving, Adrian handed me a neon orange card addressed, 'Dear Valued Customer', from the office of Comcast's Technical Operations Manager, Carl Erickson. On it, the card declared - among other things - to 'answer my question at my convenience', to 'provide me with a clear bill', to 'quickly address any problem I may experience' and to 'schedule appointments at my convenience'.

Adrian circled his supervisor's name, Sharon Cheatham, which was also on the card, along with her number, (248). 808. 6133, in the event that I had any problems with the new system. Two days later, the cable wasn't working. I found the orange card Adrian had given me and dialed Ms. Cheatham's number, only to discover that it wasn't working either.

To be continued...



READ LOCAL THINK GLOBALContinued from Front Page

A positive evaluation of developments in Europe over the past 50 years can be explained only as an underestimation of what has been going on recently. In the 1950s, the leading idea behind the European integration was to liberalize, to open up, to remove all kinds of barriers which existed at the borders of individual countries, to enable the free movement of goods, services, people and ideas across the European continent. This was undisputedly a step forward, and it helped Europe significantly.

But European integration took a different course during the 1980s, and the decisive breakthrough came with the Maastricht Treaty in December 1991. Political interests that sought to unify and create a new superpower out of Europe started to dominate. Integration had turned into unification, and liberalization had turned into centralization of decision-making, the harmonization of rules and legislation, the strengthening of European institutions at the expense of institutions in the member states, and what can even be called post-democracy. Since then, Europe’s constituting elements—the states—have been consistently and systematically undermined. It was forgotten that states are the only institutions where real democracy is possible.

After the fall of communism, the Czech Republic wanted to reassume its place among European democracies. We did not want to sit aside—as we were forced to do throughout the communist era—and European Union membership was the only alternative.

Nothing else legitimizes a country in Europe these days. Therefore we joined the EU in May 2004. However, for those of us who spent most of our lives in the authoritative, oppressive, and non-functioning communist regime, the ongoing weakening of democracy and of free markets on the European continent represents something we did not expect and did not wish for in the moment of the fall of communism.

The most visible European problem today is the European monetary union, which was presented as the most important unification achievement following the Maastricht Treaty. The realization of this monetary union has not delivered the positive effects that—rightly or wrongly—had been expected from it. It was intended to accelerate economic growth, reduce inflation, and protect member states against external economic disruptions or so-called exogenous shocks. It has not worked. After the establishment of the euro zone, the economic growth of its member states slowed down relative to previous decades, thus increasing the gap between the rate of growth in the euro zone countries and that in other major economies. The internal disequilibria—such as trade imbalances and state budget imbalances—became larger, not smaller. And there is no indicator pointing towards a growing convergence in the euro zone countries. During its first decade of existence, a common currency has not led to any measurable homogenization of the member states’ economies.

It should have been clear to all, as it was to me, that the idea of a single European

currency was essentially wrong—that it would create huge economic problems and lead inevitably to an undemocratic centralization of Europe. To my great regret, this is exactly what has been happening. The euro zone, which comprises 17 countries, is not an “optimum currency area” as defined by economic theory. In a currency or monetary union—which amounts to an extreme form of fixed exchange rates—it is inevitable that the costs of establishing and especially maintaining it exceed its benefits. Most economic commentators were satisfied by the ease and apparent inexpensiveness of the establishment of Europe’s common monetary area. In recent years, however, the negative effects of the straightjacket of a single currency have become more and more evident. When good economic weather prevailed, no visible problems arose. But when bad economic weather set in, the lack of homogeneity manifested itself quite strongly.

It is difficult to speculate about the future of the euro. I suppose that it will not collapse, because a huge amount of political capital was invested in its existence. It will continue to exist, but at a very high price in terms of large-scale fiscal transfers—the shuffling around of problems between countries, which amounts to a non-solution—and of low economic growth rates.

The second reason for European economic problems—not specifically European, but worse in Europe than elsewhere—has to do with the quality, productivity and efficiency of its economic and social system. Europe



is characterized by a seemingly people-friendly, non-demanding, paternalistic and—in consequence—insufficiently productive economic and social system called die soziale Markwirtschaft, or social democracy. This system, with its generous social benefits, weakened motivation, shortened working hours, prolonged years of study, lowered retirement ages, diminished the supply of labor—both at the macro level and structurally—and led to very slow economic growth.

In Europe, we have witnessed a gradual shift away from liberalizing and removing barriers and towards a massive introduction of regulation from above, an ever-expanding welfare system, new and more sophisticated forms of protectionism, and continuously growing legal and regulatory burdens on business. All of these weaken and restrain freedom, democracy and democratic accountability, not to mention economic efficiency, entrepreneurship and competitiveness.

Europeans today prefer leisure to performance, security to risk-taking, paternalism to free markets, collectivism and group entitlements to individualism. They have always been more risk-averse than Americans, but the difference continues to grow.

Economic freedom has a very low priority here. It seems that Europeans are not interested in capitalism and free markets and do not understand that their current behavior undermines the very institutions that made the past success possible. They are eager to defend their non-economic freedoms—the easiness, looseness, laxity and permissiveness of modern or post-modern European society—but when it comes to their economic freedoms, they are quite indifferent.

The critical situation in Europe today is visible to everybody. It is not possible to hide it. I had believed that this spectacle would be a help to the cause of political and economic freedom in Europe, but this is not proving to be the case. Of course, with the way your American government has been going, you might be able to catch up with us—in terms of our problems—very soon. But you are not as far along yet. So maybe seeing Europe’s crisis today will at least help you in America turn back toward freedom.

**Václav Klaus is the president of the Czech Republic**

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PHILANTHROPY

CHRIS ROBERTS-ANTIEAU TO SERVE AS HONORARY CHAIR

FOR THE “PINK WITH A PASSION” FUNDRAISER



Clawson, MI –Chris Roberts-Antieau has been selected to serve as honorary chair for this year’s “Pink with a Passion” fundraiser in Clawson, MI. Leon & Lulu, the home furniture and accessories shop, teams with Buddy’s Pizza of Farmington Hills, and Ray’s Ice Cream of Royal Oak to benefit the Karmanos Cancer Institute at Wayne State University. **The event takes place September 30th from 6-9pm.**

Roberts-Antieau became nationally known for her unique “fabric painting” composed from freehand-cut cloth shapes, hung behind glass in hand-painted frames. She’s been featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine* and had one of her pieces hung in the White House during George Bush’s time in office. Roberts-Antieau is most inspired by things that are close to home, taking everyday joys and freezing them into unbelievably detailed pieces. Roberts-Antieau is a contributing artist to the American Craft Exposition, which exhibits artist’s work to raise money for breast cancer research. Leon & Lulu is thrilled to select this Michigan artist as the honorary chair for “Pink with a Passion.”

“The Institute works tirelessly to unlock the mysteries of cancer through scientific discovery so that we can bring this terrible disease under control. This work would not be possible without businesses like Leon & Lulu, Buddy’s Pizza and Ray’s Ice Cream,” said Nick Karmanos, Vice President of development at Karmanos. “It’s a tremendous community effort to support cancer research and one that we all can be proud to support. Real progress is being made and we must continue to do everything we can to ultimately cure cancer.”

Leon & Lulu, Ray’s Ice Cream, and Buddy’s Pizza, sponsors of the event are happy to join hands to raise money for the valuable work Karmanos Cancer Center performs. Buddy’s Pizza will feature the special “Leon & Lulu” pizza, featuring carrots, spinach and broccoli on a whole grain crust, for the month of October with a donation going to Karmanos.

BUSINESS

COMPANY CREATES JAMES BOND GADGET FOR CONSUMERS CAR

Strives To Improve Driver And Child Safety Through New Belt

Brett Homovec

The British Press recently announced that the white suited mystery driver known to millions around the world as “The Stig” in the hit TV series Top Gear, is none other than top ranked race and stunt driver Ben Collins.

Collins, the stunt driving double for 007 in James Bond’s “Quantum of Solace” and other top box office blockbusters, secures himself with a CG-Lock safety device when he can’t use racing harnesses.

“Sliding forwards or laterally in the seat when driving isn’t just frustrating, it’s also dangerous,” says Collins. “In the event of a sudden avoidance reaction, hard braking or a collision, the lack of movement from use of the CG-Lock can make all the difference in avoiding injury.”

The CG-Lock clips onto the seatbelt already in the car, and is designed to lock the lap belt portion from gentle to “racing harness tight”. The shoulder belt is unaffected, allowing one to still reach and move. Installation time is 5 minutes or less.



Pennsylvania based Lap belt Cinch, Inc., developers of the CG-Lock technology plan to increase safety for both the driver and passenger alike. In addition, the product has been developed to enhance

the driving experience for people suffering with back problems while on the road.

“While we are elated with the acceptance our CG-Lock has received by top drivers, as well as osteopaths,” states Charles Carter, CEO of Lap belt Cinch, Inc., “we

are really excited with the application of the CG-Lock technology for child safety in our newest product: SeatSnug.”



Formal crash tests, using 6 year old instrumented test dummies, “crashing” at almost 30 miles an hour, demonstrated the addition of SeatSnug to a typical seatbelt, securing a child in a booster seat, can very significantly reduce the injury potential in frontal, lateral, and inversion events.

“Children are our most precious resource. As parents and concerned adults, it is our responsibility to keep children safe as they are met with numerous hazards growing up in a world built for adults,” said Carter. “This is especially true today for children riding in motor vehicles, where ‘one-size-fits all’ seats and seat belts designed to fit adults are not designed to fit children and their fragile bodies.”

Recently, Seat Snug won the Popular Mechanics Editor’s Choice Award for “Outstanding Achievement in Design and Innovation” and “The National Parenting Center Seal of Approval”.

**LEGAL HELP**

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# Bohemian Rhapsody

## Grinding Through The Coffee Houses Of d’Etroit – Vol. I

Marquis d’Etroit

It was Albert Salomon who said, in his *Tyranny Of Progress*, Noonday Press, 1955 that “Ideally, coffeehouse intellectuals are bohemians - that special brand of learned men who have not submitted to the rules of social and professional careers, which the society around them takes for granted. Above all, they are men who are utterly indifferent to the sources of their income. Whether they are married or not, their responsibilities may be sloughed off, and they do not care to pursue the organized channels of literary or academic advancement. It is the beauty of the café that one can sit there all day or all night, surrounded by poets, astronomers, military tacticians, revolutionaries, card-players, and philologists, and never be touched at all, for the coffeehouse offers a genuine guarantee against reality. It is only the spatial zone where talk constitutes truth, where giant plans and blueprints, utopian dreams, and anarchist plots, may have assumed to have taken place without one’s ever leaving one’s seat.”

Solomon continues, “it is the salon of homeless thinkers, poets, and scientists, the drawing room of underpaid writers, their means of escape from abysmal physical conditions under which they live. Poverty has always been the supreme condition of the bohemian, the disaster from which he flees to the comparative warmth of the coffeehouse. Obviously, the inescapable fact of poverty has brought with it a set of defenses which have become, since the eighteenth century, standard procedure for non-conformists: the anarchical attitude towards the established goods of social conduct; the refusal to accept the normative requirements of manners, fashions and conventions. True, there have been intellectuals who have made genuine contributions to intellectual independence

in the very act of conforming. Goethe, for example, knew that true freedom itself consisted of possessing the flexibility to conform to the standards of the social group to which one aspired. Nevertheless, the routine requirements of society have often forced men with a specific spiritual destination - Baudelaire, for example, to escape into Bohemia.”

It is difficult to ascertain what Salomon finds more disagreeable, the coffeehouse or the Bohemian. But, I am sure he was taking a cup of coffee - quite possibly with Danish - while he struggled with both in *Tyranny*.

Of course, today, Salomon would, more than likely, transmit his ideas via Podcast, from a laptop inside of Starbucks, while he lovingly nurtured his Frappuccino. Not that I accuse the great Sbx of being synonymous with conformity, I don’t. Nor, am I suggesting that today’s society could turn Salomon into Baudelaire, I’m not. But, I do believe the lines have blurred.

Society, economy and technology have conspired to bring all of us back to the Coffeehouse. In his book, *Onward*, Starbucks CEO, Howard Shultz, calls it the “third place” - the other two being home and office. Whether or not we champion Starbucks is immaterial, we understand its language and utilize its iconic status as a point of reference.

So, what do some of Detroit’s other “third places” look like? The following is a list of indie Coffeehouses for New Bohemians, a place for Detroit’s Intelligentsia to plot and plan. Oh, and by the way, Mr. Salomon, for better or worse, the American, French and Russian Revolutions were all born from coffeehouses and cafes that provided “comparative warmth” to those men and women who lacked the capacity to conform.



### Common Wealth - Birmingham

Modern, sleek design, gray slate and stainless steel, minimalism. Coffee is fresh roasted on site and served by usually knowledgeable baristas, though they, and the disproportionately uber hip crowd, seem to both be trying to too hard. No matter. At least they try. Have enjoyed my espresso each and every time and will do so again. 300 Hamilton Row (248) 792. 9766

### Zuma - Birmingham

Open 24 hours, with good coffee, this indie café has developed an eclectic clientele, with businesspeople in the afternoon, students and hipsters throughout the night. With many books to be discovered in the shop’s read-in-house-only library - everything from illustrated art books to Patti Smith to early 80’s National Geographic magazines - and a board game selection that includes Chess, Boggle, Scrabble, and Backgammon - *Jack Doline* 207 S. old Woodward Ave (248) 593. 1027

### Bean & Leaf - Royal Oak

Fair Trade organic blends, biodegradable eco cups, you know the drill. But, what you may not know is how incredible Bean & Leaf’s tea selection is. Highly recommend the Silver Needle, Genmaicha, Peppermint and Darjeeling teas. Independently owned, the Bean & Leaf offers a very friendly staff and comfortable atmosphere just perfect for work or conversation. Exhibits quality local art on their walls. 106 S. Main St. (248) 586. 9602

### Café Du Marquais - Royal Oak

The Revolution will be served with Turkish coffee! This little Bohemian coffeehouse harbours free-thinkers, intellectuals, hipsters, radicals and those secretly plotting to make Metropolitan Detroit a better place to live - the antithesis of establishment. 204 W. Fifth (248) 398. 4169

### Warren’s Coffee Stand - Royal Oak Farmer’s Market

Good coffee and quality tea, friendly mademoiselle pouring the caffeine, great atmosphere inside the market and an interesting collection of regulars to converse with.

### Torino Espresso Bar - Ferndale

The new Italian inspired espresso bar brews organic blends, offers French Press coffee and uses Premium Illy Espresso, exclusively. Serves Salads, Paninis and Meats and Cheese. Full Bar with specialty Cocktails. Torino’s simple, clean design is reminiscent of Philippe Stark’s work in the mid 90’s. Torino draws a stylish crowd and provides a good setting for business lunches or reading *The Metropolitan*. 201 East 9 Mile Road (248) 247.1370

### Urban Grounds - Eastern Market & Campus Martius, Detroit

What better place to enjoy your early morning coffee than with the sun rising over Eastern Market? Located in Shed 2, the sophisticated red coffee cart provides hot coffee and fresh baked goods in the heart of Detroit. Listen for street musicians and Michigan farmers offering samples of produce, or hustle up a political debate with one of the many activists.

## BREAKFAST MONTE’S GRILL

Royal Oak MI

by Anthony Brancaleone

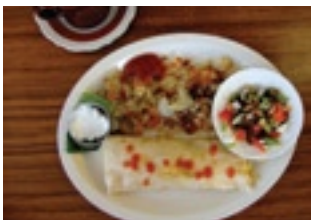
My father brought me to Monte’s Grill for steak & eggs, as a reward for not having any cavities after a trip to the dentist. In fact, Monte’s is where I discovered that I could have steak & eggs for breakfast, a fantastic idea when you’re very young. The little counter top diner, sitting alongside Woodward Avenue, was always busy, full of life, and had good food.

Time went on and I discovered other things. Monte’s became a distant memory. On one occasion, when I was feeling a bit nostalgic, I revisited the Grill only to find it was under new ownership and, well, as author Thomas Wolfe said, “You can’t go home again.”

Until now . . .

It was an old friend, Willie Whan, who informed *The Metropolitan* that Monte’s was back in business. And, while Willie raved about Monte’s Friday fish-n-chips (a *Metropolitan* favourite), it was the breakfast I was after, and that feeling of being somewhere familiar.

Writer, Matt Counts, and I entered Monte’s and found a place at the counter. A Romanian beauty, Maddy, greeted us with coffee and a charming smile. Owner and cook, Alex, worked the grill and presented plate after plate of incredible looking diner fare. Within moments, I knew I was home.



The Breakfast Special is served between 7-9am, and we chose the Breakfast Burrito, with salsa and Hashbrowns - grilled onion in mine - served with sour cream (\$2.45). Simply amazing! The entire meal was made with fresh ingredients, and the flavours so delicious and complex that we continued to be surprised with each bite. This guy can cook.

A quick lesson in Romanian history, a little conversation with the regulars, and the beginnings of a new friendship with a genuine grill cook, who made his way to this country in pursuit of the American dream, all for around five bucks.

Monte’s Grill is better than ever.

28300 Woodward Ave Royal Oak MI 48067 248. 547. 4151

## BRUNCH ATLAS BISTRO

Detroit MI

by Anthony Brancaleone

Not to toot our own horn, but it was the coverage of Atlas Global Bistro in *The Metropolitan*’s ‘Business Or Pleasure’ section, August issue, 2011 that prompted me to give the downtown bistro’s Sunday Brunch a go. For this outing, I brought *Metropolitan* writer, lover and expert of all things ‘sweet’, Nette Kovacs, for a second opinion.

We arrived near the tail end of Brunch and found the Bistro to be comfortably populated by a mix of sophisticated and casually attired *Metropolitans*. The main dining area was buzzing, and well lit with natural light pouring through large windows. In the bar, patrons seemed to be intrigued with the Bloody Mary and Mimosa.

The Brunch menu at Atlas is by entrée, rather than buffet, and the Bistro offers a dizzying array of breakfast items, sandwiches, salads and small plates, ranging from \$7 for *The Classic American Breakfast* (Two eggs, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Potatoes, Fruit and Toast), to the \$13 *Steak & Eggs Benedict* (Red Wine poached eggs, Herb Infused Flat Iron Steak, Bearnaise Sauce, English Muffin and fruit).

After careful deliberation, Ms. Kovacs chose the *Pain Pardu Upside-Down French Toast* (Cinnamon Swirl Brioche dipped in Custard Royale, with Pecan Sticky Caramel, served with Bacon and fruit, \$8) and continued to smile from her selection until it arrived at the table.

We sipped coffee and chatted, noticing the manager of the Bistro, a young man named Joe, work the room, inquiring about the customer’s meals and doing other sundry business reserved for his position. A longer look around the room revealed a great many smiling faces, which is usually a good measure of the both the food and service.

Our French Toast arrived at the table to much fanfare from Ms. Kovacs. It looked delicious and carried with it the aroma of warm cinnamon and smoky bacon. Our manager, Joe, noticed our excitement and said, “And, it tastes even better than it looks.”

Joe was right . . .



311 Woodward Avenue Detroit MI 313. 831. 2241



# THE DETROIT FOOTBALL LION’S

## All Hail Holder, Nick “Laces Out” Harris



The Sparrow,

There has been a lot of talk of Ndamukong Suh in Detroit, and whether or not Stafford will hold up throughout the season during the Lion’s run for the playoffs. Perhaps, too much talk. Many have cited another victorious pre-season as a sign of things to come, and have already determined what co-worker’s car they will roll when pandemonium hits the streets after Detroit wins its first Superbowl. That’s all fine and good. I too am a believer. But, I’d like to discuss the contribution of one fine athlete who continues to go overlooked in these discussions, Kick-Holder, Nick Harris.

Wearing number 2, Nick Harris spends most of his time on the field as the Punter, averaging 42.4 yards a boot. Harris punted seven times last year in a game against the Jets and is the Lion’s all-time leader in Punts (627), punting yards (27,074) and places second in gross punting average (43.2). If that is not enough, ‘Hang-Time’ Harris served as Chairman for the 17th annual Detroit Lion’s Invitational golf outing that raised more than \$100,000 for Detroit Lion’s charities.

“He adequate. He gets the job done,” says life long Lion’s fan, Zack Plastow of Franklin, Michigan.

Over his 11-year career, Harris has perfected the ‘laces out’ hold on extra points, field goals and, on rare windy occasions, during the ‘Kick-off’, earning Harris, perhaps, the more regarded and scintillating moniker of ‘Laces Out’. Sadly, statistics for the position of Holder are more difficult to come by than one might expect, but that doesn’t mean we can’t put two and two together.

Twenty-year veteran, Jason Hanson, is one of the league’s most productive kickers, and is the Lion’s all-time scoring leader with 1,890 points, as well as the all-time leader in field goals (439) and extra points (573). Hanson is only the sixth player in NFL history to connect on 400 career filed goals and has set the all-time record for 50+-yard field goals, surpassing the legendary Morten Andersen.

And, while the Kicker continues to win all the accolades in today’s quicker, faster-paced, corporate sponsored and modernized National Football League, it is safe to say that with each and every football Jason Hanson has put through the Uprights, Nick ‘Laces Out’ Harris was there. Or, at least since 2003, the year the Lion’s signed Harris.

Personally, I am sick and tired of Kickers getting all the press, riding around in the back of limousines, with a string of women chasing them as though they had just discovered a cure for the common cold. It used to be fans appreciated the subtlety and nuance of a finely handled football, as the Holder would Catch, Set and Spin, in a ballet of agility and concentration, all ending in the beautiful ‘laces out’ position.

Not anymore. Today’s game is all about the flashier P.A.T. and that’s too bad, for it takes two to Tango. There are no ‘I’s’ in Kicker. Many great quarterbacks, and several running backs, including the great Barry Sanders, were known for giving thanks - in the form of gifts and cash prizes - to their Front Line for assisting them through a good season. So, prepare to tee up, Hanson, and break it off for “Laces Out” Harris the next time you’re standing in line at Costco. Remember, that pigskin didn’t just stand on end all by itself.

Oh no. It took the likes of one Nick “Laces Out” Harris to see the Detroit Football Lion’s through to the Championship game this season. Siss! Boom! Ah!



**DETROIT LIONS**  
**2011 DETROIT LIONS SCHEDULE**  
(\*\*\* DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*\*\*)

DATE	OPPONENT	NETWORK	TIME (ET)
Sun., Sept. 11	.....at Tampa Bay Buccaneers	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 18	... KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	.....CBS	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 25	.....at Minnesota Vikings	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 2	.....at Dallas Cowboys	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Mon., Oct. 10	.... CHICAGO BEARS	.....ESPN#	....8:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 16	.... SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 23	.... ATLANTA FALCONS	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 30	.....at Denver Broncos	.....FOX	.....4:05 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 6	..... *** BYE WEEK ***		
Sun., Nov. 13	.....at Chicago Bears	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 20	.... CAROLINA PANTHERS	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 24	.. GREEN BAY PACKERS	.....FOX#	....12:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 4	.....at New Orleans Saints	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 11	.... MINNESOTA VIKINGS	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 18	.....at Oakland Raiders	.....FOX	.....4:05 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 24	.... SAN DIEGO CHARGERS	.....CBS	.....4:05 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 1	.....at Green Bay Packers	.....FOX	.....1:00 p.m.

All times Eastern Time; Home Games in BOLD CAPS  
# - Nationally Televised

# Testosterone And Wax

## Pt. 3: A Historical and Philosophical Analysis of the Moustache

Matt Counts

The moustache has been a part of humanity since the Tigris and Euphrates were the center of town. Men, and a select few women, have been growing, maintaining, and promoting moustaches for as long as ink has caressed parchment, and perhaps even since words have been spoken.

The word “Moustache” has gone through some slight changes over the past two millennia, its roots in the Hellenistic Greek Mustax, evolving into the Italian Mostaccio, and then to the French moustache, now commonly in use.



The moustache has been worn by some of the most famous and infamous people throughout history. Imagine, if you can, Dali without his signature ‘stache’, or Hitler without his “toothbrush”? History and culture, as we know it, may not have existed if one of those persons just decided to shave that day.

The Worlds largest moustache belonged to an Indian man named Bajansinh Juwansinh Gurjar, a name I have given up learning to pronounce. His was a record breaking 12 and ½ feet long, as of 2004. Gurjar’s ‘stache’ was his calling card for friends and strangers alike, just as Charlie Chaplin’s ‘stache’ and Frank Zappa’s facial hair became synonymous with their greatness.

However, there is a level of discrimination towards both beard and moustache growers worldwide. This writer has even felt the sting of prejudice, being forced to shave my beard of 3 years, due to a conflict at a previous job, a corporate monolith, who watched over us like Big Brother in 1984.

There is hope though. Beard team USA, as well as the Southeastern Michigan Chapter have in there arsenal lawyers ready to defend our God given right to grow and shape our facial hair to whatever personal standard we set for our self. I should not have to say this, but we are in America and we have the right to Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness. This should include all types of facial hair. It is unconstitutional and, dare I say, un-American to ask another to shave (unless we are talking about the legs of women).

Jesus Himself maintained a beard-moustache combo, as did prince Siddhartha before he left his home to become a Buddha. If moustaches are good enough for these fine gentlemen, there is no reason why anybody should be forced to shave theirs.

Believe it or not, there are still adults who have no idea about the history of the moustache or the care one must take to obtain a proper ‘stache’. Detroit’s own Troy “Champion” Shipman has learned his lessons of testosterone and wax through a baptism of fire, lessons that for most do not come easy. But then that’s what makes a champion, isn’t it?

And, while we may have traveled a long way for a corned-beef sandwich, champions are what we are here to discuss. The National Moustache Competition, presented by Beard Team USA, held this year in Lancaster, PA on October 8, will soon separate the men from the boys.

Of course, The Metropolitan wishes Troy “Champion” Shipman the best of luck in Amish country, where the display of facial hair has been *le dernier cri* for centuries. Go get em’, Troy “Champion” Shipman. Detroit is with you!

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# who what wear

Fotoula Lambros

**who ::** Brad Hicks  
**BUSINESS ::** The BLONDE Collective  
**TYPE ::** Multi-media Art & Apparel



Born in 2009, The Blonde Collective is the brainchild of Detroit, Brad Hicks. As it's mission, Blonde is propelling support to a positive Detroit message, and translates that through different mediums of Art. From graphic designs on Tees and Hoodies to music compilations and local events, the Blonde Collective is full of MADE IN USA apparel, and designed by himself and other influencing artists around Metro Detroit. Blonde's, "Head Logo", is defined by ambiguity. It represents any race, gender, or level of beauty and is clear of

judgment. The Blonde Collective is available for purchase on their website, as well as, GOODS DETROIT (Midtown) and 323EAST GALLERY (Royal Oak). [www.theblondecollective.com](http://www.theblondecollective.com)

**what ::** Fashion Group International Detroit  
**EVENT ::** Business Panel Event  
**DATE & TIME ::** September 13-6:30 Doors/Starts 7pm.  
**LOCATION ::** Michigan Design Center, Troy



Fashion Group International is known for its multi-faceted approach in connecting fashion professionals across the globe. The Detroit chapter has a calendar year full of different types of events, and this month has one particular importance

in mind; Entrepreneurship in the Apparel Industry. Style Editor, Karen Buscemi, will moderate a panel discussion with a diverse lineup of industry pros around Metro Detroit. Panelists include Joe Faris, (a Michigan native, Sterling Heights based Motor City Denim owner/designer, and Project Runway contestant) to Adriana Pavon, designer and owner of Creative Energy Group, a Detroit based showroom designated to connect is designers with the national markets across the country via Los Angeles. Other guests include the Metro area Designer boutique owner, Jenny Dolce Moda owner Jenny Ougliguian, the world traveled gal bringing high fashion back to Detroit since she opened her doors in 2003. COST:: \$15 FGI-Members/\$20 Non-Members/\$10 Students (Includes wine & appetizers). [www.fgidetroit.org](http://www.fgidetroit.org)

**wear ::** The Rustbelt Market  
**TYPE ::** Year Round Indie Market  
**LOCATION ::** 22801 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale  
**TIME:** Weekends-11am to 7pm



Having once thrived as an Old Navy Outlet store at the corner of 9 Mile Road and Woodward Ave, a theatre sized building stood vacant. For many years, some would speculate what was to become of this specific space. In May 2011, after months of renovation and planning, a roster of artists, hobbyists, designers, vinatage collectors and more filled the available dates for months to come. After three full months, the Rustbelt has made its mark in the community. Stylish metro Detroit based brands like Detroit GT, PeaceLuvSpandex,

Wound Menswear, & Dolly Rocker's Vintage and Handmade, are just to name a few of the unique finds available at the Rustbelt. From local musical artists and performers take the mainstage every weekend, it is very hard to leave empty handed. This market is the first of it's kind in the state, and will set a standard to how collective retail outlets should operate. Eclectically [www.rustbeltmarket.com](http://www.rustbeltmarket.com)

[www.fotoulalambrosdesign.com](http://www.fotoulalambrosdesign.com)



## BEAUTY MARK!

By Jeanette Frost

Beauty trends have been around since the beginning of recorded history and most likely prior. By digging into the closet of beauty's past, and reviving those fabulous styles, we can create a sort of modern vintage. Looks like the old saying still holds true "Grandma always knows best".

//**Thayer's Alcohol-Free Rose Petal Witch Hazel Toner** originates back to the Civil War. This astringent is gentle, non-drying, and effectively tones the skin leaving it looking, feeling and smelling beautiful. Incredibly soothing and healing, Thayer's Witch Hazel is also highly effective in fading bruises. After cleansing, apply Thayer's Toner with cotton pads. (Find at Plum Market West Bloomfield, Bloomfield and Ann Arbor MI.)

//**Pond's Cold Cream** has been an American beauty favorite since 1910. A rich cream cleanser packed full of emollients and essential oils. Pond's Cold Cream is super gentle and moisturizes skin while it cleanses making skin soft and supple. An excellent makeup remover!

**\*\*Pro tip:** Massage all over face with cold cream in small circular motions. Using a soft baby washcloth, rinse off face with warm water. For those of us who are always in a hurry, skip rinsing and simply remove with cotton pads. (Find at most drugstores).

//**Crimson Cream Rouge by Besame Cosmetics** is vintage inspired inside and out. Cream makeup was all the rage back in the 1920's and 30's. Smooth this gorgeous rouge on lips and cheeks using your finger tips. Gives lips a lovely stain while adding a slight flush to cheeks. The packaging is very deco, which is what I love most about Besame products. ([www.besamecosmetics.com](http://www.besamecosmetics.com))

//**Diorific Lipstick by Dior** is a luxurious high fashion lipstick. Choose Dolce Vita Red and recreate that 1940's/50's bombshell pinup lip. For a 1920's/30's Cupid's Bow lip choose Magic Wine. First cover corners of lips with concealer and powder. Then use **Dior Contour Lipliner Pencil** to give that heart shape to lip. Top off with Diorific Lipstick. Finish by dusting a little loose powder around outer edge of lips to prevent bleeding of color. ([www.dior.com](http://www.dior.com))

//**Chanel No.5** is the number one best selling perfume of all time. A classic never goes out of style and Coco sure proved that to the world in 1920 with this amazing fragrance. It smells elegant, glamorous and seductive and completely embodies the spirit of flappers and respectable women alike. Containing floral notes of ylang-ylang, neroli, jasmine, rose, and wood notes of vetiver and sandalwood. (Macy's and Neiman Marcus - Somerset Collection, Troy MI)

//**Bag Balm** came on the scene in 1899 originally formulated to soothe and protect chapped cow udders. Through the years, this legendary salve has worked miracles on many skin conditions for animals and humans alike, including chapped hands and cracked heels. Here's an old Hollywood secret: For smooth luscious lips Bag Balm is the ultimate lip salve. I use Bag Balm on all of my clients prior to applying lipstick. (Find at most drugstores & Walmart)

[JeanetteFrost.com](http://JeanetteFrost.com)



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313-408-7269  
www.magentagiraffe.org

This rarely staged play by the master dramatist takes aim at how political motivations can destroy relationships and lives. Johannes Rosmer, whose insane wife committed suicide one year ago, lives at his familial estate with a housekeeper and Rebecca West, friend and caretaker of his late wife. Rosmer and Rebecca have enjoyed a platonic comradeship through the years that is shattered by the entrance of his brother-in-law, Professor Kroll. Kroll asks Rosmer to become editor of his conservative newspaper, but Rosmer refuses, bringing about a number of startling revelations about his late wife, local political gures, Rebecca's past and the impact all of this has on everyone's future.

Sigmund Freud wrote a well-known essay on the psychology that motivates the character of Rebecca West. Rosmersholm provides an intense examination of the all-too familiar territories of radical politics, human relationships and psychology. Audience members familiar with Ibsen's work will not want to miss this piece that, while obscure, is considered by many to be one of his masterpieces. Audience members not familiar with Ibsen's work will enjoy this unique introduction.

Tickets are \$18. Student and industry tickets are \$15. Pay-what-you-can tickets are available for every performance.

# The Sissies Are Back!

Who Wants Cake? Starts Fifth Season With A Revival!

Gay Paris

In honor of their fifth season at The Ringwald, Who Wants Cake? is thrilled to revive its first big hit, **Southern Baptist Sissies**, for an exclusive 3 week run beginning Friday, September 9th.

Del Shores' play follows the journey of four gay boys in the Baptist Church. Storyteller Mark Lee Fuller tries to create a world of love and acceptance in the church and clubs of Dallas, Texas, while desperately trying to find a place to put his own pain and rage. The world Mark creates also includes two older barflies, Peanut and Odette, whose banter takes the audience from hysterical laughter to tragedy and tears.

**Southern Baptist Sissies** opened to rave reviews in Los Angeles during its original run and became the most awarded play of the year, winning the GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding LA Theater Production, as well as multiple LA Weekly Theater Awards, Los Angeles Critics Awards, Ovation Awards, Backstage West Garland Awards.

Opens Friday, September 9th and plays through Monday, September 26th at 8pm on Friday, Saturday and Monday nights with 3pm Sunday matinees.

Ticket prices are \$20.00 for Friday and Saturday performances, \$15 for Sunday shows, and Monday nights are HALF OFF the original ticket price at only \$10 a ticket. Tickets can be purchased at [www.WhoWantsCakeTheatre.com](http://www.WhoWantsCakeTheatre.com)



## Stagecrafters unveils 2011-12 season

Gay Paris

Stagecrafters, at the Baldwin Theatre, announced its fifty-seventh season an ambitious 10-production season, featuring shows never before presented at the Baldwin Theatre.

The Main Stage season includes the All-American musical treasure, **Meet Me in St. Louis**; the haunting classic drama, *The Crucible*; a moving and heartbreaking musical, **Kiss of the Spider Woman**; five-time Tony award winning musical sensation, **Titanic – The Musical**; and a delightfully campy comedy, **The Bad Seed**.

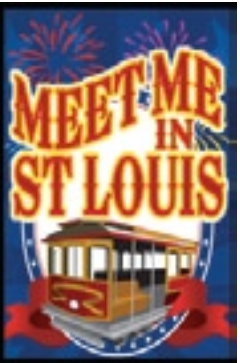
The 2nd Stage season begins with the Pulitzer-winning play, **Wit**, followed by the contemporary song-cycle musical, **The Last Five Years** and ending with a riveting drama set in Detroit, Palmer Park. Stagecrafters' Youth Theatre will present the Prince Street Players musical version of **Cinderella** in December 2011.

"We are constantly looking to challenge ourselves and create new theatrical experiences for our audiences," says Stagecrafters president Linda Zublick. "Stagecrafters 2011-2012 seasons offers us a new exploration of creativity and allows us the opportunity to perform 'for the art of it'."

### THE 2011-12 STAGECRAFTERS SEASON UP-CLOSE:

#### Meet Me in St. Louis

(Main Stage musical)  
**Sept. 16-18, 22-25, 29-30,**  
**Oct. 1-2, 7-9, 2011**  
Directed by Dolly Scheibelhut



#### Wit

(2nd Stage drama)  
**Oct. 14-16, 20-23, 2011**  
Directed by Jody Florkowski

#### The Crucible

(Main Stage drama)  
**Nov. 4-6, 10-13, 17-20, 2011**  
Directed by Ryan S. Moore



#### Cinderella

(Youth Theatre musical)  
**Dec. 8 - 11, 2011**  
Directed by Randy Wrisinger

## Detroits Centry Theatre presents Freud's Last Session

Gay Paris

**Freud's Last Session**, the winner of the 2011 Off Broadway Alliance Award for Best Play by Mark St. Germain will debut at the Century Theatre Wednesday, Sept. 7 – Nov. 20, kicking off the Gem & Century Theatres 20th Anniversary Season.

#### Freud's Last Session

is a clever two-man play that centers on legendary psychoanalyst Dr. Sigmund Freud, who invites a young, little-known professor, C.S. Lewis, to his home in London. Lewis, expecting to be called on the carpet for satirizing Freud in a recent book, soon realizes Freud has a much more significant agenda. On the day England enters World War II, Freud and Lewis clash on the existence of God, love, sex and the meaning of life – only two weeks before Freud chooses to take his own.

Humorous and well written, **Freud's Last Session**, a beautifully presented and provocative play, will have audiences thinking as the two characters assert theories, tell jokes and plunge into tantalizing debates of opposing disciplines.

Playwright Mark St. Germain has written the plays *Camping with Henry* and *Tom* (Outer



Critics Circle and Lucille Lortel Awards), *Out of Gas* on *Lover's Leap* and *Forgiving Typhoid Mary* (Time Magazine's "Year's Ten Best").

With Randy Courts, he has written the musicals *The Gifts of the Magi*, *Johnny Pye* and the *Foolkiller* (winner of an AT&T "New Plays for the Nineties Award") at Playwrights Horizons. Mark co-wrote the screenplay for the acclaimed film *Duma*, and he directed and co-produced the documentary *My Dog: An Unconditional Love Story*.

**Freud's Last Session** stars Mitch Greenberg as Dr. Freud and Cory Krebsbach as C.S. Lewis, under the direction of Tyler Marchant.

Director Tyler Marchant most recently directed Lee Blessing's *Going to St. Ives* at Barrington Stage Company, and was nominated for a 2010 Joe A. Callaway Award for his direction of **Freud's Last Session**.

Detroit's Century Theatre Sept. 7-Nov. 20. Performances run Wednesday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with matinee shows at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$39.50-\$44.50.





stillspotting nyc: manhattan  
To A Great City by Arvo Pärt and Snøhetta  
September 15–18 and 22-25, 2011

While the vitality and stimulation of the urban environment can be pleasant, those living in or visiting densely populated areas, such as New York, can have wildly different experiences. The ever-present cacophony of traffic, construction, and commerce; the struggle for mental and physical space; and the anxious need for constant communication in person or via technology are relentless assaults on the senses. One wonders how locals and visitors can escape, find respite, and make peace with their space in this “city that never sleeps.”

For the second edition of *stillspotting nyc*, composer Arvo Pärt and architecture firm Snøhetta collaborate on a tour of Lower Manhattan that explores the special relationship between space and silence. *Stillspotting nyc*, a two-year multi-disciplinary project that combines urban experiences, public education programs, and means of escape, takes the Guggenheim’s architecture and urban studies programming into New York’s five boroughs. Every few months “stillspots” are identified, created, or transformed by architects, artists, designers, composers, and philosophers into public tours, events, and installations. The first edition of *stillspotting nyc*, *Sanatorium*, was created by Pedro Reyes in Brooklyn.

*Stillspotting nyc* is organized by David van der Leer, Assistant Curator, Architecture and Urban Studies, with Sarah Malaika, Stillspotting Project Associate, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

CURRENTLY ON VIEW  
Lee Ufan: Marking Infinity  
Through September 28, 2011

*Lee Ufan: Marking Infinity* presents the first North American retrospective of artist-philosopher Lee Ufan (b. 1936, Korea). The exhibition presents some ninety works from the 1960s to the present including sculpture, paintings, works on paper, and site-specific installations. In the late 1960s, Lee emerged as the leading theorist and practitioner of Mono-ha (literally “School of Things”), a Japanese movement that arose amid the collapse of colonial world orders, antiauthoritarian protests, and the rise of critiques of modernity. Lee’s sculptures, presenting dispersed arrangements of stones together with industrial materials like steel plates, rubber sheets, and glass panes, recast the object as a network of relations based on parity among the viewer, materials, and site. Lee was also a pivotal figure in the Korean tansaekhwa (monochrome painting) school, which offered a fresh approach to minimalist abstraction by presenting repetitive, gestural marks as bodily records of time’s perpetual passage. Lee has coupled his artistic practice with a prodigious body of critical and philosophical writings, which provide the quotations that appear throughout this exhibition.

*Lee Ufan: Marking Infinity* is organized by Alexandra Munroe, Samsung Senior Curator, Asian Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. Sandhini Poddar, Assistant Curator of Asian Art, and Nancy Lim, former Asian Art Curatorial Fellow, provided curatorial support. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated exhibition catalogue featuring a scholarly essay by Munroe that positions Lee in the context of global Post-Minimalism; a meditation on Lee’s poetics by Tatehata Akira, poet, critic, and President, Kyoto City University of the Arts; and a narrative chronology of the artist’s life and work compiled by Tokyo-based scholar Mika Yoshitake.

**Guggenheim, Manhattan, NY.** Museum Hours: Sun–Wed, 10 am – 5:45 pm; Fri, 10 am–5:45 pm; Sat, 10 am–7:45 pm; closed Thurs. On Saturdays, beginning at 5:45 pm, the museum hosts Pay What You Wish. For general information, call 212 423 3500 or visit guggenheim.org.



ARTIST OPPORTUNITY: CALL FOR ENTRY

Art For The Holidays Show Deadline Sept. 17, 2011

Art For The Holidays is a one-of-a-kind gift shopping experience for all! The gallery transforms from a fine art exhibition gallery to a fun, energetic gift shop featuring all hand-made items by local artists offering a wide range of products and price points. The Detroit Artists Market has been a leader in showing and selling contemporary art works by Detroit area artists since 1932.

ELIGIBILITY

Art For The Holidays is open to all DAM members 18 years and over. Only original works accepted. No commercial kits, prefabricated models, hobby crafts, or green ware. All prints submitted for jury must be from originals only. New and innovative work is encouraged. DAM reserves the right to reject any entry that is unsuitable in size or fragility, does not meet the guidelines specified, or is not representative of work juried. DAM reserves the right to control artist inventory for an appropriate mix of work during the run of the show. As this is a cash-and-carry show, no large-scale works, 2D works up to 24”.

COMMISSIONS

The DAM retains 1/3rd (33.33%) commission on all sales. Payments to artists will be mailed no later than January 31, 2012. Cost of shipping work back is deducted from artist’s payment.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

- Complete all parts of the application form.
- Submit a disc with up to 10 digital images representing the scope of your work.
- Digital images are to be submitted on a Windows capable CD. JPEG format files are preferred.
- Keep files to a maximum of 1.5MB, please.
- Be sure your image file names do not have special characters like quotation marks or slash marks. File names need to be as follows:  
Name\_art title\_entry number.jpeg
- Include a reference sheet with thumbnails of images, dimensions, medium and retail price of each submission.
- Label the CD with the artist’s name.
- Application form, disc, reference sheet, payment submitted to DAM no later than Sept. 17th, 2011.
- NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED! (GOT IT!?! NONE !! DON'T EVEN TRY IT!)

JURY PROCESS

Ten images will be viewed at the same time and compared consecutively with all applicants within the medium. The jury process is anonymous and comprised of artists, educators, gallery professionals and board representatives. Artists will be notified in writing.

If you wish to have your CD returned to you, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return CD. Images of accepted work may be used for publicity during the Art For The Holidays show.

JURY FEE AND MEMBERSHIP

A non-refundable jury fee of \$10 and a \$30 Artist level membership fee (if not a current member). Make checks payable to Detroit Artists Market. All major credit cards accepted.

Mail completed application to:  
Detroit Artists Market  
4719 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48201.

For questions or concerns please contact DAM staff at 313.832.8540 or email at sbalmer[AT]detroitartistsmarket.org or mhanna[AT]detroitartistsmarket.org

FILM

September 9  
**BRIGHTON ROCK** / Maple Art / NR  
Screenwriter Rowan Joffe’s debut feature Brighton Rock embraces the classic elements of film noir and the British gangster film to tell the story of Pinkie, a desperate youth who is hell bent on clawing his way up through the ranks of organized crime. When a young and very innocent waitress, Rose, stumbles on evidence linking him to a revenge killing, he sets out to seduce her to secure her silence. The film stars up-and-coming British actors Sam Riley (Control) and Andrea Riseborough (Made in Dagenham, Never Let Me Go). Helen Mirren and John Hurt co-star as two friends who set out to save Rose from Pinkie’s deviant designs. Brighton Rock is based on the iconic 1939 Graham Greene novel of innocence and evil but the action has been updated to 1964 Britain, the year the Mods and the Rockers were rioting across the South Coast.



September 16  
**CIRCUMSTANCE** / Main / R  
Writer-director Maryam Keshavarz’s debut feature boldly takes filmgoers inside a modern Iran rarely witnessed by outsiders: an exhilarating, invisible realm of illicit nightclubs where young hipsters risk arrest, and their futures, as they experiment with sex, drugs and defiance, all while trying to evade the authorities. Winner of the Audience Award at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. (Fully subtitled)

September 20  
**PEARL JAM TWENTY** / Main / NR  
One Night Only!  
Pearl Jam Twenty chronicles the years leading up to the band’s formation, the chaos that ensued soon after their rise to megastardom, their step back from center stage, and the creation of a trusted circle that would surround them—giving way to a work culture that would sustain them. Told in big themes and bold colors with blistering sound, the film is carved from over 1,200 hours of rarely-seen and never-before seen footage spanning the band’s career. Pearl Jam Twenty is the definitive portrait of Pearl Jam: part concert film, part intimate insider-hang, part testimonial to the power of music and uncompromising artists. Directed by Cameron Crowe



September 23  
**BELLFLOWER** / Main / R  
In filmmaker Evan Glodell’s feature debut Bellflower, best friends Woodrow (Glodell) and Aiden (Tyler Dawson) spend all of their free time building Mad Max-inspired flamethrowers and muscle cars in preparation for a global apocalypse, anticipating the day their imaginary gang, Mother Medusa, will reign supreme.

**LOVE CRIME** / Main / NR  
Within the sterile offices of a powerful multinational corporation, two women come to a face-off in director/co-writer Alain Corneau’s mystery thriller Love Crime. Isabelle (Ludivine Sagnier) is a young executive under the orders of Christine (Kristin Scott Thomas), a powerful woman she absolutely idolizes. Confident of her control over Isabelle, Christine leads her into a confusing, perverse game of seduction and domination. (Fully subtitled)



Main Art | 118 North Main Street, Royal Oak, MI  
(248) 263-2111

Maple Art III | 4135 West Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
(248) 263-2111

MADE IN MICHIGAN

**FIRE HOUSE DETROIT**  
Sunday, September 11, 2011  
7:00 Detroit Film Theatre

Firehouse Detroit is a multi-media event with a live score and choreographed entr’actes, directed by Detroit-based artist Gregory Holm. The film is a record of the recent project that transformed the abandoned Detroit Engine #4 into an art piece, culminating in a performance of original compositions by Detroit composers in collaboration with the Street Poets Society and Detroit Children’s Choir. Unfolding in three parts, Firehouse Detroit pays tribute to both the spirit of Detroit and all firefighters, and features the Detroit Fire Department Honor Guard. Free to the public.

5200 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48202  
313.833.7900



# catherine

Atlus

DharmhXcore

Rage quitting is rather unappreciated. Having such restraint of emotion as to forsake the save spot and shut off your counsel or PC is not to be ignored. I once thought I understood these feelings - after playing *Call of Duty*, *Soul Caliber*, and *Mario Kart* - but NEVER have I played a game so rage inducing that I had to drink to forget - until now.



*Catherine* is a survival horror, puzzle and dating sim hybrid, and that is an insane combination. I suppose it is my fault for never playing *Catherine's* predecessors in the Persona series, but I have never experienced a game in this format. From what I have gathered, Catherine borrows some style from the Persona games, but is itself a stand-alone title.

*Catherine* is the story of Vincent, a 32-year-old computer nerd who has been in a long relationship with his girlfriend Katherine. One fateful night at the bar, he meets his dream girl, Catherine, proceeds to get drunk and surprise, wakes up with her the next morning, but only after having horrific nightmares.

The story that follows is a silent, hellish soap opera of awkward text messages, whiny dialogue, and some wonderful fan service, thanks to *Catherine* (not Katherine), with intermittent moments of puzzle games that make one want to smash one's controller through the f#^\*ing TV. Thank God for the mass amounts of retries, because without them I would be as insane as Vincent slowly becomes throughout the game.

### [In my dreams, I was beautiful and free]

Full of beautiful HD graphics, *Catherine* delights with smoothly cut scenes, and a truly outstanding soundtrack, utilizing both cool jazz and a foreboding classical style that work well with the theme. Another nice feature happens whenever Vincent visits the bar. Every time he finishes a drink, you are given fun and insightful trivia about alcohol. Throughout the game, you are also questioned about your morals, which are then ranked among all the other players across the Internet. Catherine features 8 different endings, all depending on how you play and have answered the questions.

*Catherine* has taught me much about myself. Playing this game, I have used every curse under the sun, as well as every combination of insult that English can provide, as well as some lesser-known Japanese and German phrases, when I grew very angry. Why do I keep playing a game that incites this much inner turmoil? The story is so damn good and I just NEED to know what happens next, a concept that, in real life, toys with my insecurities about what the future may hold. Plus, Catherine is crazy hot! In my mind, I am with her now.

Look for DharmhXcore on XBOXLive

8.5 out of 10.

# The Quirk Factor

By LiLi Dreads

## Sanrio's 50th Anniversary



Happy Birthday, Hello Kitty! 2011 marks 50 years for Japanese company Sanrio, best known for their character Hello Kitty (or, more formally, Kitty White) and all her little animal friends. What is it about the white bob-tailed cat with the big red bow that we all love so much? It's hard to dislike anything that cute and inoffensive, but there's got to be more to it than that.

After a few years in business, Sanrio needed something extra-cute. Hello Kitty first hit the scene in the mid 1970's with a modest beginning: a design on a vinyl coin purse. In the late 90's, when "cute" became a fashion statement, the Sanrio gang picked up steam. Now that it was socially acceptable for older children, teens, and even adults to enjoy childhood designs, the company slapped their designs on anything they could get a hold of. You can find Hello Kitty on everything from children's bedding, to waffle irons, credit cards, and even (ahem!) adult massagers!

But it's not all about the adorable white cat. Most Sanrio fans have a favorite character outside of their number 1 mascot. Mine in particular is Badtz-Maru; a guitar-totin', alligator-walkin', sassy-pants penguin who's birthday is the day after mine. There's an animal or design for just about everyone in the world of Sanrio, and perhaps that is the appeal.

For those of us in the Detroit area, and in desperate need of a Sanrio-fix, there's a Sanrio store at the Great Lakes Crossing Outlets in Auburn Hills. Café Mirai in Novi carries many Hello Kitty products. Most major department stores, such as Macy's, now carry the brand too! Happy Birthday Sanrio! Here's to 50 years of Hello Kitty magi!



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## PORTAL 2:

LAB RAT



**TO BE CONTINUED ...**



# CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Running great Zatopek
  - Musical finales
  - Walk with difficulty
  - "Livin' La Vida \_\_\_\_"  
(#1 hit of 1999)
  - Critic Barnes
  - Home for doves
  - Desserts often served with strawberries
  - "... \_\_\_\_ the fray"
  - Palmer, to his fans
  - Disaster often not covered by insurance
  - College mag subscriber, often
  - Give forth
  - Lincoln or Madison
  - "\_\_\_\_-di-dah!"
  - The line  $y = 0$ , in math
  - Drug agents: Var.
  - \_\_\_\_ Mountains, Europe/Asia separator
  - Use, as a chaise longue
  - 'Hold up!'
  - Medieval instrument
  - 1983 role reversal film
  - Windy City train initials
  - Auto mechanic
  - Newly placed / Telephoner
  - Alphabetic quartet
  - Easily-blamed alter ego
  - Use the backspace key
  - Himalayan priest
  - Place for sketches
  - Hippie's "Understood, man"
  - Soul singer Lou
  - Morales in movies
  - Whale
  - Coup--
  - Illustrator Gustave



- DOWN**
- Lanchester of film
  - Comedian Jay
  - Much-respected person
  - Cattle-catching rope
  - LXXV x IV
  - Rock \_\_\_\_ (jukebox brand)
  - Wild mango
  - With:Fr.
  - Group of six
  - One who doesn't pay parking tickets
  - The vowel sound in "dude"
  - Preminger and Klemperer
  - Crystal-filled stone
  - Old-fashioned news transmitter
  - In the blink \_\_\_\_ eye
  - The Golden Bears, for short
  - Greatest amounts
  - Belittling comment
  - Freight charge deduction
  - Captain obsessed
  - Oceanside strolling areas
  - Certain nuclide
  - Holder of billiard balls
  - Carnivorous bird
  - Tarry
  - What a minor hasn't yet achieved
  - Marcel, Raoul, etc.
  - Lit \_\_\_\_ (college course, informally)
  - Sacred vocal composition
  - Famous Confessor
  - Coddled
  - Survival
  - Escape, as detection
  - Maximum raise at a poker table
  - Dies \_\_\_\_
  - Food pkg. contents measure
  - Lhasa \_\_\_\_: small dog
  - European industrial area.
  - 90's singer Brickell
  - Dockers gp.
  - Jet decommissioned in '03

# SUDOKU



### Sudoku Instructions

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

## LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS

Look for answers for this month's games in next month's issue of The Metropolitan



# DTW

## Make Your Trip Better Using 3-1-1



TSA and our security partners conducted extensive explosives testing since August 10, 2006 and determined that liquids, aerosols and gels, in limited quantities, are safe to bring aboard an aircraft. The one bag limit per traveler limits the total amount each traveler can bring. Consolidating the bottles into one bag and X-raying them separately from the carry-on bag enables security officers to quickly clear the items.

**3-1-1 for carry-ons** = 3.4 ounce (100ml) bottle or less (by volume) ; 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin. One-quart bag per person limits the total liquid volume each traveler can bring. 3.4 ounce (100ml) container size is a security measure.

**Be prepared.** Each time TSA searches a carry-on it slows down the line. Practicing 3-1-1 will ensure a faster and easier checkpoint experience.

**3-1-1 is for short trips.** If in doubt, put your liquids in checked luggage.

**Declare larger liquids.** Medications, baby formula and food, and breast milk are allowed in reasonable quantities exceeding three ounces and are not required to be in the zip-top bag. Declare these items for inspection at the checkpoint. Officers may need to open these items to conduct additional screening.



## TSA GLOBAL STRATEGIES

Each day, hundreds of flights depart foreign countries en route to the United States. So while securing U.S. aviation security is critically important, equally important for TSA is working with international partners to secure the global transportation network.



### TSA Protects Passengers Traveling to the U.S. by:

- Inspecting air carrier operations to the U.S.
- Assessing security of airports overseas
- Flying Air Marshal missions
- Ensuring foreign airport compliance with TSA security requirements
- Advising foreign governments on transportation security
- Training overseas security personnel
- Ensuring implementation of international security standards
- Reviewing threat mitigation strategies for foreign airports
- Working with non-U.S. air carriers to achieve regulatory compliance
- Assisting foreign governments to achieve sustainable security capacity

To carry out TSA's mission internationally, TSA has twenty-one TSA Representatives (TSARs) and more than 50 TSA inspectors responsible for coordinating and conducting security assessments at more than 300 foreign airports and repair stations in more than 100 different countries. TSARs serve as transportation

security liaisons to these host governments in addition to the local U.S. Embassy. TSA inspectors perform onsite security assessments that focus on personnel and equipment preparedness. Through their efforts, TSA has successfully vetted all airports with direct flights into the United States.

TSARs and TSA inspectors work closely with their international partners to share best practices for air cargo screening, employee security procedures, security checkpoints, checked baggage screening and behavior detection. TSA and our global partners continuously share cutting-edge explosive detection technology that advances security through the detection of dangerous materials. These technologies, which can detect explosive materials in multiple forms, are specifically designed to make security effective and to facilitate the travel of passengers.

TSA has developed strong working partnerships with various agencies and organizations, including the U.S. Department of State, the International Group of Eight (G8), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, the North American Aviation Trilateral, and the Quadrilateral Working Group. In addition to working within these multilateral groups, TSA has developed strong bilateral partnerships with many countries in South America, Central America, Europe, North America, Africa, the Middle East, and the Asia-Pacific region.

Through collaborative efforts with international partners, TSA has been successful in harmonizing screening measures (such as the 3-1-1 liquid rule) and other security practices overseas in an effort to meet both international and U.S. security standards. Given the increasing interconnectivity of the transportation network, TSA recognizes the value in learning new approaches from our international partners and looks forward to expanding these efforts over time.





- Pleasant Ridge -

**23810 Woodward Ave Pleasant Ridge**  
**248. 544. 2675**



-Detroit-

**1250 Library St. Detroit MI**  
**313. 962. 8800**



- Troy -

**1515 East Maple Rd., Troy**  
**248.689.2332**



- Westin Hotel (DTW) -

**Westin hotel lobby, DTW. Romulus**  
734.229.6782

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- Plan a refreshing event in the spectacular Venetian or Crystal ballrooms, the famed Italian Garden, or the newly constructed Woodward Ballroom.