

# POPPING THE BUBBLE: Baby it's cold outside

Each issue, we bring you some fresh activities and places to try during the cold weather outside of the G.P. community

## Garden Bowl

Asia Simmons  
INTERN

Glow bowling offers a modern twist on a classic game. Bowling in a dark atmosphere with a great choice of music and a hint of colorful neon lights emitted from the bowling lanes, carpets, pins and balls is a very interesting experience, but it isn't mind-blowing or life-changing.

Also known as cosmic bowling, glow bowling is typically classified as a tough sport, but has no professional leagues. However, there were several teams playing against each other at Majestic Cafe, a local multiplex located in Midtown with a bowling alley called the Garden Bowl 100.

While glow bowling can relieve boredom during a cold winter day, its expensive price of \$25 per game is a drawback. This price doesn't include the additional \$6 for bowling shoes or any food or drinks being bought at the alley. Bowling at the Gar-

## Bowling with a twist: Garden Bowl offers a fun glow-in-the-dark experience for everyone

den Bowl would be more suited for larger groups to divvy up the price, but for hanging out with a few friends, a classic game of bowling would provide just as much entertainment for a cheaper price. At the end of the night, the bill ran about \$75 for just two people.

The games usually last between 30 minutes and an hour, depending on how many games you would like to play or how much money you would like to spend.

Bowling in the dark is an interesting variation, since reduced visibility means players are unsure if they bowled a gutter ball or a strike. It also creates some competition with the unknown competitors in the next lane. Glow bowling also offers the advantage of getting an experience on a different side of the bowling world. The glow-in-the-dark effects enhance the fun of the recreational sport.

There isn't a significant difference between regular bowling and glow bowling except for the price range and the different color lights. However, for those who like to get out on a Friday or Saturday night to bowl with family and friends, glow bowling offers a fresh and different experience for those who are tired of the classic version.

## MARVIN'S MARVELOUS MECHANICAL MUSEUM

By Emma Puglia  
WEB EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Stepping into this eclectic arcade, viewers are automatically overwhelmed with possibilities. Marvin's Marvelous Mechanical Museum, located in Farmington Hills, is a one-of-a-kind mish mash of antique games, interesting animatronic dummies and a unique ambience.

The locale's owner, Marvin Yagoda has collected vintage coin-operated machines since 1960, and wished to display his assortment of gadgets to the public. He opened his location in 1990, and it is now listed in the World Almanac's 100 most unusual museums in the United States.

Marvin's offers a range of games from ancient to modern, including pinball machines from the 1960s, a flat-screen sized version of Fruit Ninja, classic skeeball and various fortune-telling robots.

It's easy to find hidden gems around each corner, such

## Marvin's Marvelous Mechanical Museum displays everything imaginable under one roof. It's weird, but a good weird

as performances from miniature figurines for only a penny, or a statue of the world's tallest man, Robert Pershing Wadlow, at almost nine feet.

Not only is there entertainment in the form of striking sights, but visitors can win tickets from more contemporary games and exchange them for a selection of prizes. Marvin's offers typical arcade gifts, ranging from candy to stuffed animals to 2008-style digital cameras.

However, the highlight is the mechanical band of instruments that strike up a tune for only one dollar. Although occasionally out-of-tune, the self-playing pianos, xylophones, horns and drums are part of an eye-catching invention that brings joy through songs like "Hakuna Matata" and "Rainbow Connection."

Those who are claustrophobic may find themselves discomforted by the overpowering amount of things crammed into the building, but Marvin's makes it easy to take a breather with a small eating area in the center of the building.

The museum is centrally located in a consumer-friendly area, surrounded by department stores and restaurants such as Coney Island and California Pizza Kitchen. Farmington Hills offers plenty of options for food and fun after your time in Marvin's is over.

Even though the building may feel small enough to move through quickly, it's easy to spend a great amount of money, a children's form of gambling. Each game costs at least 25 cents, a number that can add up in an attempt to win the jackpot.

The owner himself, Marvin Yagoda, is known to wander through the building and make sure the customers are enjoying themselves. The kind, humorous man sometimes will stop a person, offer \$20, then give them a gag shredded \$20 bill. And as the sign on the front door boasts: "This place is highly recommended by the owner."

## ZAP ZONE

FUN CENTER

WWW.ZAP-ZONE.COM

Caitlin Bush  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Zap Zone's Glo Golf provides an exciting twist on the original 18-hole miniature game. Their version incorporates black lights, neon colors and a glow-in-the-dark attraction to make the putt putt experience more memorable.

Zap Zone has eight locations around Michigan, including Utica, Farmington and Taylor. None are that close to the Grosse Pointe area, but the entertainment factor makes the drive worth it. Each location offers a different themed Glo course and activities. This is a commendable feature, considering if you are disappointed with what the specific Zap Zone had to offer, the company can redeem itself with a variety of other locations.

Placed within a separate room in the Zap Zone building, Glo Golf displays a bright, fun atmosphere inside the course. There is always something new to look at, whether it is the enticing motifs or decor.

## Mini golf like you've never imagined. Zap Zone has endless courses full of fun

The Glo course emulates lively themes and offers a globe-trotting adventure that will take you to places such as the streets of New York City, festive carnivals, worldly wonders such as the pyramids of Egypt, along with exotic locations such as underwater retreats, tropical rainforests and prehistoric lands. Each theme has props appropriately placed on the courses blocking the holes, doubling as decorations and obstacles. Murals painted on the walls make each theme more elaborate and visually appealing. The overt hard work put into the course pays off, allowing the course to be as creative and realistic to the decoration as possible.

This family-friendly experience is a great place to hang out with friends, especially because the cost of an \$8 game won't put a damper on one's wallet.

The 18-hole course itself is feasible for all ages. A hole-in-one is rare, but you don't have to be a pro to achieve par. Navigating through each hole can prove difficult because of the way they're set up, but each hole is labeled to make the task simpler.

However, the Glo Golf room isn't dark enough for the full glow-in-the-dark effect to be achieved, a definite downside to the game. This makes the experience fall flat on its name and entertainment value.

Zap Zone has many more thrilling activities to offer, such as laser tag, miniature bowling and bumper carts, but you must hit the Glo course first. In comparison, every other attraction makes the Glo Golf experience seem inadequate.

If you're looking for a unique version of a classic activity, try Glo Golf during the offered hours: Monday-Thursday 4 - 10 p.m., Friday 1 p.m. - Midnight, Saturday 10 a.m. - Midnight and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.