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## Society Confidential: Get the lowdown on Motown gala

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### Motown lowdown

We read the "breaking news" that **Berry Gordy Jr.** is to attend the Nov. 21 Motown gala at the Detroit Marriott -- er, yes, that news broke, a month ago, in this space. **Stevie Wonder** isn't performing a set per se, but will do a song or two in tribute to his mentor, museum founder **Esther Gordy Edwards**, Gordy's sister and manager/mother figure to Stevie. "We're still working out what Stevie will do, but he's looking forward to showing his love for her," said **Robin Terry**, Motown Historical Museum director and Edwards' granddaughter. "She set up a trust fund for him and got him enrolled in the (Lansing) school for the blind, and he cherished the fact that she took that kind of interest in him." Edwards, whose health has been fragile, will nonetheless be there. She loves "soaking up the love" from the Motown family, Terry says. **Otis Williams' Temptations** will be the headline performers, **Sinbad** will emcee, and other Motown and non-Motown acts will be announced soon.

### Regis has left the building

Last week's Dior Smooth Style Beauty Bash at the Townsend Hotel was heavily attended by the rich, the powerful and even **Regis Philbin**. Early guests among the 300 who attended included furniture mogul **Art Van Elslander** and Sinai Grace Hospital president **Conrad Mallett**, and bringing up the rear were high-powered attorney **Norman Yatooma** -- he was late because he was picking up a friend at the airport -- and last to arrive was Philbin, in town for a show at Andiamo's. Reegee complained that he was in a great deal of pain and, in fact, did most of his Andiamo's show sitting on a stool -- something about a presumed groin issue that turned out to be a pulled tendon in his leg. We hate it when that happens.

### Breezin' with Zonjic

Smooth jazz flutist **Alexander Zonjic** may have lost his morning gig when smooth jazz WWMV-FM flipped to an all-hits teenage format, but he did very well kicking off spa1924grille's weekly live entertainment last Saturday, drawing an impressive audience on the first night. Singer/guitarist **George Benson** and his band came in before and after their concert at the Masonic, then "American Idol" songbird **Kelly Clarkson** -- in town for a show at the Fox on Sunday -- popped in to dine and soak up some Jazz Age-era Detroit atmosphere, along with the music. Benson was also feted at a bash at **Herb Strather's** penthouse apartment later on.

### Scattershot

**Steve Harvey** will broadcast his "Morning Show" live from the MotorCity Casino's Sound Board from 6-10 a.m. Nov. 6, along with sidekicks **Shirley**, **Tommy** and **Carla**. Fans can attend and watch the broadcast for

free on a first-come, first-served basis; best to get there by 5:30 a.m. Harvey's show airs in Detroit on WMXD-FM (92.3). ... News of the Wednesday shoot-out between the FBI and a radical group led nationally by **H. Rap Brown** sent us into an acid flashback that is just now abating. What's next, SDS rallies at Wayne State? ... Birminghamites are wondering, if **Dulce Fuller**, wife of über-developer **Ted Fuller**, is elected to the city commission next week, will she recuse herself from any votes that affect her husband's business? He owns a raft of buildings in that town.

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