

Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



Thursday, March 23, 1989 OLSF

(OISF)

upcoming things to do

Deadline for the Upcoming calendar is one week ahead of publication. Items must be received by Thursday to be considered for publication the following Thursday. Send to: Ethel Simmons, Entertainment Editor, The Observer & Eccentric, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

AT BIRMINGHAM
"Broadway Bound," final installment of Neil Simon's semi-autobiographical trilogy, opens a five-week engagement at the Birmingham Theatre on Tuesday, April 4, through Sunday, May 7. Peter Birkenhead, who appeared on Broadway in "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and then on tour in "Billie Blue," appears once again as Eugene in "Broadway Bound." Peter Lawrence, who directed the smash comedy "Social Security" at the Birmingham Theatre last season, directs "Broadway Bound." Previews will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, April 4-6 (tickets \$16.50) and at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 5 (\$13). For more information call the Birmingham Theatre box office at 644-3533. Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets.



Peter Birkenhead plays Eugene in "Broadway Bound," coming to the Birmingham Theatre.

days and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturdays through June 17. Show only is \$12.50, dinner at Sebastians and show is \$29.50 (dinner reservations can be made for before or after the performance). For reservations call 649-6625.

CHILDREN'S SONGS
Barry Louis Pollsar will star in the April fund-raiser for Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham. Pollsar will sing his own songs about the real world of childhood at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at the Birmingham Theatre. Individual tickets cost \$12 at the library and the theater. Proceeds go to the Baldwin Library Trust Fund and will be used to buy children's material for the library. For more information call Baldwin Library at 647-1700.

JAPANESE ENTERTAINERS
Summer Festival of Japan '89 is in need of additional area families to host Japanese entertainers for six days surrounding the three-day gala. The committee for the nonprofit celebration is seeking area families who can play host to some 40 Japanese entertainers and agents who will be traveling to Southfield for the festival. Host families will be responsible for transportation of their guests to and from Metro Airport and for transporting them to and from the festival. Please turn to Page 7

BENEFIT PERFORMANCE
A benefit performance for the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, at the Birmingham Theatre. Tickets are \$22 per person for performance only, \$50 for patrons, \$100 for benefactors and \$1,000 for sponsors. Patrons, benefactors and sponsors are entitled to attend an afterglow reception at the Machus Sly Fox in Birmingham. For more information, call the CLF state office at 353-8222 or 661-1946.

PUPPET PLAYS
The Pippin Puppets starring Robert Papineau will perform 1:30-2:15 p.m. Saturday, April 15, in Room 115 at the Parks and Recreation Building in Southfield. Pippin Puppets will present two live puppet-plays in which the audience takes part in the story. Tickets at \$2 each may be bought at the door. For more information call 354-4717.

'SING SPRING'
Phil Marcus Esser will perform in a new revue of songs to celebrate the season in "Sing Spring," opening Saturday at Semser's Mall in Troy. Performances continue at 9 p.m. Friday.

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Broadway lights

They shine for star of 'Les Miz'

By Kevin Teevens special writer

JOE KOLINSKI can look out his apartment window and see his name in lights — on Broadway.

"I live up the street from the Broadway Theatre, and there I am," said Kolinski, by phone from his New York apartment.

Kolinski, a Detroit Catholic Central graduate and former student at the University of Detroit, is performing in the lead role of Enjolras in the Broadway musical production of "Les Miserables."

The actor, 35, is well known to Detroit-area audiences. He found his calling in high school, when he appeared in numerous musicals at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

Although Broadway is quite a distance from where he started his career, the road trip has been worth it.

"We haven't played to an empty seat in the house since we opened in 1987," said Kolinski.

PRIOR TO APPEARING as Enjolras, Kolinski played the role of Frollo, and then lead in "Les Miz," as it has come to be called.

"It has been a busy time. Life is very concentrated here. You can accomplish a great deal in a short time," he said.

Kolinski has performed on Broadway in "Sunday in the Park

with George," "The Three Musketeers," "The Human Comedy" and "Dance a Little Closer." In 1981, he sang the role of the celebrant in the 10th anniversary production of Bernstein's Mass at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

From 1974 to 1976 he was a student at the University of Detroit and performed in the Marygrove Theatre program. He had lead roles in many productions including "A Cry of Players," "The Me Nobody Knows" and "Godspell." In 1977 he sang the role of Leo in the Michigan Opera Theatre production of "Regina." His last metropolitan Detroit appearance was in the 1985 production of "Kumi Leml" at the Birmingham Theatre, in the role of Max.

Growing up and performing in the Detroit area had a very strong impact on Kolinski's career. He said two major influences were Dominic Missimi of the University of Detroit and Larry Teevens, chairman of the music department at Mercy High School.

MISSIMI, WHO currently teaches at Northwestern University, was then acting chairman of the U-D Theatre Department.

"I was working in O'Halloran's flower shop on McNichols, and Dominic came in and said he could get me into the program at U-D/Marygrove. I jumped at it like a shot," Kolinski said.

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Joe Kolinski, who performed in musicals at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, is now on Broadway as Enjolras in "Les Miserables."

table talk

English tea

Teatime at the Townsend is a new offering 3-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays in the lobby of the elegant, new Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Pauline Palazzolo, the tea hostess, greets guests who are seated in comfortable, floral-patterned sofas and

chairs. She is assisted by the tea server, Francine Line of Australia, in starched uniform.

No reservations are required for teatime. From 16-18 guests can be accommodated at a time, in the cozy, airy setting. Tea is presented in traditional English style, with a choice of seven teas poured into Royal Doulton china cups.

Accompanying the tea are decorative, finger sandwiches including cucumber and cream cheese, Scottish smoked salmon, watercress, egg and chicken. Scones and Devonshire cream, strawberry preserve tarts and miniature pastries also are served. In addition, there's a tiny, tasty cup of soup and a cheese straw. Tea is \$8.50 and no reservations

are required, at present. **THE TOWNSEND** also has been serving meals in its Rugby Grill dining room. It's open for breakfast, lunch (with sandwich bar) and dinner (including tableside service), serving from noon to midnight weekdays and to 1 a.m. Fridays-Saturdays. More Please turn to Page 6

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