



The Gilbreths crowd into the family car for a Sunday drive. The vintage Pierce Arrow was

loaned to the players by Tim Pollard, 29672 Colony Circle



Mother and father Gilbreth, standing, call a family council to discuss work assignments

Mrs. Gilbreth is played by Yvonne Dixon. Mr. Gilbreth by Jerry Sawyer

The Family Players stage 'Cheaper By The Dozen'

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

Fourteen area families are now involved in the production of "Cheaper By The Dozen," set to open in the Franklin Community Church Thursday, April 1.

The newest players group in town call themselves the Farmington Family Players, which developed out of a theatrical workshop held last spring and is led by Sally Sawyer. The workshop in turn stemmed from Mrs. Sawyer's senior project while she was working for a bachelor's degree in theater.

Emphasis is on the family members working toward the spring production with periodic family parties, family outings and once a month meetings held in the Farmington Hills Community Library.

Mrs. Sawyer, who is both director and producer of the play, brought some of her own family into the act. Her husband Jerry will be on stage as Mr. Gilbreth and the Sawyer's daughter Terry will play Lillian, one of the Gilbreth children.

TECHNICAL advice for the production is Sara Abowd, a mother of 12 children, and she has been known to tell the cast members that the more level should be raised.

Mrs. Abowd and her daughter Michelle form a mother and daughter team on stage in the parts of the 4-to-10-year-old son and her daughter. Her son, David, takes the part of Jackie, the boy who takes the part of Bill Gilbreth. Michelle takes the part of Fred Gilbreth, and her daughter Paula takes the part of Paula Gilbreth.

The youngest member of the cast is 11-year-old Maureen Dixon who recites one line as Baby Jane. She plays with her mother, Yvonne, who takes the part of Mrs. Gilbreth and her sister Doris who plays the part of Ann Gilbreth.

Laddie, a member of the Charles Bates family, makes his stage debut as the Gilbreth family's dog. His owner is Todd Bates, who takes the part of Larry.



Mondays, March 22, 1976

(F-18)

Family friend and doubles with flowerman Abowd, handling the stage lighting. Todd's mother, Yvonne, is handling publicity for the production.

Mrs. Sawyer called Laddie, the gentlest sight I have ever seen and probably the star of the show.

CINDY GREENSPAN and her son Stuart are both on stage. She is Mrs. Brill, a school teacher, and he is Frank Gilbreth.

Mike Bissick, working as hair stylist for the company, and his son Mike will be on stage as Tim Gilbreth.

Elenna Brown takes the part of Emma, the Sun Targoon takes the part of Martha. Chris Jablonski takes the part of Joe Scales, a cheerleader, and David Adams takes the part of Dr. Burton.

Richard Abowd is house manager. The production will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 1-3, with an 8:15 p.m. curtain each evening in the church on Franklin Road between Thurston and Fourteen Mile.

Tickets are priced at \$2.50 for adults, \$1.25 for children, and are available through Mrs. Sawyer, 429-1400.



Caught in the act of holding hands, Larry and Anne are confronted by kid brother Bill. The players are from left: Todd Bates, Denise Dixon and Steve Abowd.

'Miss Reardon' next for Players

The light offering of the season by the Farmington Players will be "And Miss Reardon Drinks A Little," a bittersweet comedy in three acts by Paul Zindel.

This tragic-comedy reveals various levels of fear, sadness, loneliness, hate and despair in the lives, past and present, of the Reardon sisters.

The setting is the apartment of sisters Anna and Catherine Reardon, unmarried schoolteachers slightly past their prime.

Anna is on leave from teaching after being accused by one of her pupils of making improper advances. Attempts are made on the part of Carl, a bird sater who represents the school administration

to solve the problem but the intervention of other characters complicates them.

The play is skillfully punctuated with visual and verbal humor throughout.

Director is Bill Salisbury, assisted by Joanne Vassell, producer is Harry Brenner and stage manager is Philip Schenck.

Members of the cast are Gail Orman, Ellen Dietrich, Jan Salisbury, Frances Carter, Kathleen Monticelli, Stu Orman and Ted Johnson.

The play will be seen April 30, May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14 and 15 in the Farmington Players Barn, 2222 Twelve Mile between Orchard Lake and Farmington Road. Box office phone 431-5508.

David Phreaner comes to Farmington Church

For the past year, the Universal Unitarian Church of Farmington Pulpit Committee has been searching for a new minister candidate. That search is over.

At Candidate Week in February, church leaders Chuck Gallagher, Pat Morril and Marilyn Christie joined the parish in welcoming the committee's choice, Dr. David Phreaner. According to public character and newsletter editor Dawn Ingram, the new candidate will officially open the church year on Sept. 12.

Dr. Phreaner is a 1968 honors graduate of Amherst with a major in psychology. He has an MA from University of Chicago Divinity School and a doctorate with honors from Meadville-Lombard Theological School.

FIELD WORK of the new candidate has been with Family Service Center of Oak

Park and River Forest. First Unitarian Church of Chicago, Freshford Center and as a teacher in Chicago, Deerfield, Ill. and Milwaukee.

Dr. Phreaner has been employed at Lexington Family Service and Mental Health Center, Franklin Park, Ill., as a part-time instructor in psychology at Central YMCA Community College and since 1974 as Minister of Education and Program, Unitarian Society of Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

"I as minister, see myself as supporting, enabling and confronting where necessary persons who are in the process of working, struggling, playing towards their own understandings of life's meanings," said Phreaner.

Facilitator-leader is the image he hopes to achieve through "good preaching, counseling, teaching and by providing programs and structures in the church which will support individuals' life processes."

Nichols opens series

The Garret Studios and Gallery, 3310 Farmington, will hold the first of a series of one-artist shows with works by Alice Nichols of Farmington.

The exhibit opens Friday, March 26, with a 7:30 p.m. reception and continues through Saturday, April 10.

The reception and a second one, March 28, 2-4 p.m., are open to the public. The theme of Mrs. Nichols' show is "American Scene" and the 35 works on display were inspired by family vacations to the west coast, midwest and far west. They are done in pen and ink, watercolor, mixed media, oil and acrylic.

A former public school art teacher now teaching at Oakland Community College, Mrs. Nichols has a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan and a master's degree from University of Michigan.

Her paintings have been in many juried shows, including the 1974 Holland show, the 1973 Michigan State Fair exhibit and recent Palette and Brush and Farmington Artists Club shows.

She has had one-woman shows at University, Litterell School and the West Bloomfield Orchard Mall.

Mrs. Nichols has won many awards locally, the most recent of which have been in the Farmington Artists Club juried shows. In 1972 she won a blue ribbon for water colors, another blue for pen and ink and a best of show.

Mrs. Nichols and her husband, Donald, have two sons, Kelvin and Tim. She is business manager of the Garret Gallery, directs the senior citizens painting classes and the picture lady program in elementary schools.

Yves St. Laurent
Rive Gauche

we're heralding the arrival of the magnificent Yves St. Laurent-Rive Gauche Boutique collection. The Parisian Master of design and innovation has surpassed even his own genius this time—cool, casual summer cottons, soft Marrakech influences, classic blazers and suitings, dramatic evening smockings and torso silhouettes. The moods are many, all lovely. The collection will be shown on Thursday, March 25, in Birmingham and Friday, March 26, in Grosse Pointe.



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