

# Combined efforts produce 'Music Man'

By MARIANNE NELSON

Tonight at 8 p.m. a spirited group of 125 men, women and children of all ages will parade on stage to the tune of "76 Trombones" and other great songs.

They will present the Family Theatre's 1980 production "Music Man" at Southfield-Lathrup Auditorium. And that's only half the story because another 125 thespians who compose a separate cast will later get their turn.

Music will reverberate through Sunday with four scheduled performances. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday evenings and 2 p.m. Sunday.

In addition to the actors, a 20-piece orchestra and a willing stage crew went through the four weeks of concentrated rehearsals. Family Theatre 1980 is sponsored by the Lathrup Recreation Department and combines the talents of two theater groups: The Lathrup Youththeatre and St. Bede Players, along with a host of newcomers.

Josanne Lamun of Lathrup directs the 12-year-old Youththeatre which is one of the largest child performing groups in the country. St. Bede Players was formed 15 years ago. It is a communal

and ecumenical group of persons joined in "fellowship through music and song."

THE FELLOWSHIP Commission of St. Bede Parish sponsors the players who are directed by Dallan Kaminski.

Family Theatre 1980 was created to correspond to the celebration of this year as the Year of the Family. From the time auditions were announced, many large family groups responded. No one was turned away which resulted in the two casts.

Actors were needed to play persons from toddlers to septuagenarians and they turned out. Actually, the youngest cast member is an 8-month old baby whose mother carries him on stage, accompanied by seven brothers and sisters.

Cast members come from all over the metropolitan area. The orchestra is directed by Joe Gamache, assisted by Ruth LeBay, David Kelm and John Spears. Choreography is by Bambi Mansfield and Kathy Whitehouse assisted directors Lamun and Kaminski.

Costume director Dolly Schabelhuber, helped coordinate authentic 1912 costumes.

"Music Man", of course, takes place in 1912 and involves a travelling "con artist" who passes himself off as a music professor and uses the "think method." He manages to sell a great many band uniforms and instruments, and usually gets out of town before people catch on.

IN RIVER City, Iowa, the fly in the ointment is that Professor Harold Hill falls in love with the librarian, a comedy miss called Marian, and that's the story line for the lively musical.

Talk about authenticity, Fran Cogger, who long played the role in real life, plays the mayor's wife, and sets include an authentic player piano and other furnishings of the era.

Playing Harold Hill will be attorney Thomas Murphy, who is a regular with St. Bede Players and the Michigan Opera Theater.

Marian Paroo is played by Judy Cullen, a professional organist and vocalist as well as music teacher.

## Five youths win awards

Five winners of the Meyer and Nathan Fishman Israel Award were recently announced by Robert Canvasser, chairman of the scholarship committee at Congregation Shaarey Zedek.

Selected from more than 30 applicants for outstanding scholarship, effective leadership and community service are Aryeh Koenigsberg, Adam Cooper, Lise Jacobs, David Baruch, and David Gottfried.

Judges for the awards were Rabbi Gerald A. Teller of United Hebrew

Schools, Mrs. Richard Zatzkin of Temple Israel, and Rabbi Alan B. Lucas of Congregation Shaarey Zedek.

The Fishman Awards were established six years ago as a program designed to encourage the most committed and outstanding Jewish high school students of the community and enable them to spend a summer in Israel.

Fishman Award winners and their parents were recognized at a special brunch recently.



"Music Man" leads Thomas Murphy as Professor Harold Hill and Judy Cullen as Marian the librarian hit the high notes at a dress rehearsal recently. The show is a joint endeavor the Lathrup Youththeatre and St. Bede Players who will offer four performances this weekend. (Staff Photo).

## Shaffer band slated July 20

John Shaffer's Concert Jazz Band is the feature at the July 20 free concert at Prudential.

Founded and directed by John Shaffer six years ago, the band remains the only regularly city co-sponsored jazz orchestra in Southfield. They are regularly featured at the Silverdome for the Detroit Lions.

They will perform promptly at 7 p.m. outside the Prudential Town Center, Northwestern at Civic Center Drive in Southfield.

The public is invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs to the event.

This year's concerts are a joint project of the Prudential Town Center and the city of Southfield Department of Parks and Recreation. This is the sixth year of the free concert series.

In the event of rain, the performance will move to the Southfield Pavilion, Evergreen at Civic Center Drive. For more information call 354-9603.

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## Sidewalk sales set

Applegate Square, on Northwestern and Exeter Road, will have sidewalk sales from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 17 and 18.

High fashion apparel for men, women and children as well as books and toys, cookware, jewelry, yarn and

handbags will be on sale. Salespeople will wear red Applegate Square T-shirts and white pants.

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