



Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "The Heiress" features Linda Gehring and Peter Gregory Thomson in leading roles. The drama opens Thursday, Feb. 23.

## upcoming things to do

### MUSICAL COMEDY

Johnny Crawford, who appeared in the long-running TV series "The Rifleman," will star in the Broadway musical hit "I Love My Wife." Friday, March 2, through Sunday, April 1, at the Birmingham Theatre, 211 S. Woodward, Birmingham. The show's book is by Michael Stewart of "Hello, Dolly!" fame and music is by Cy Coleman, who wrote the music for "Sweet Charity." Crawford portrays a suburban husband who wants to be a part of the "in" crowd. Previews will be at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 2-3, and 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 4. Regular performances begin Tuesday, March 6. For ticket information, call the box office at 644-3553.



TV's Johnny Crawford stars in "I Love My Wife," opening Friday, March 2, at the Birmingham Theatre.

### ITALIAN STYLE

Hundreds of items including a travel package to Rome for two will be featured at an auction/benefit at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at Brookside School, Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. Called "Brookside Kaleidoscope Goes to Italy," the evening will be celebrated in Italian style with an open bar, buffet table, dessert table and coffeehouse, all for \$25 per person. Entertainment will be provided by RCA's Dino Valti and the Strolling Venetians and several Michigan Opera Theatre performers. For ticket information, call 645-3500.

### THE HEIRESS

Meadow Brook Theatre will present "The Heiress," based on the Henry James novel "Washington Square," opening a four-week run at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, on the Oakland University campus near Rochester. Directed by Terence Kilburn, the production will star Linda Gehring in the title role of the plain but wealthy young woman, Peter Gregory Thomson as the fortune-seeking suitor, and Doug Symington as the suspicious father. Individual tickets are available at all CTC/Ticket World outlets or at the box office, 377-3350.

### BIG BAND

The 12-piece J.C. Heard Big Band is appearing Mondays through March as the first group to play for listening and dancing at "Big Band Mondays" from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Marlowe's, 29110 Franklin Road, just north of Northwestern Highway, Southfield. Heard's career spans 45 years and includes performances and recording dates with some of the biggest names in traditional jazz and popular music. Contemporary dance music by Strider is offered after 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays through March 10 at Marlowe's, in the lower level of the Vineyard restaurant.

### TRYOUTS OPEN

The Ridgevale Players will hold tryouts for the musical "Once Upon a Mattress" at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at the playhouse, 205 W. Long Lake Road, Troy. Those auditioning should come prepared to sing a song from the show and dressed for dance auditions. For more information, call Sue Walsh at 523-8868.

### HIPPO SANDWICH

Other Things & Co. performers will present their "Hippopotamus Sandwich" program to students from ages 5-12 at elementary schools throughout the area during March. The dance and musical theater group from Oakland University will appear at schools including Pine Lake in Orchard Lake on Wednesday, March 7; Bemis in Troy on Thursday, March 8; Allen in Plymouth on Wednesday, March 21; North Hill in Rochester on Friday, March 23; and Green in West Bloomfield on Monday, March 28.

### DANCE BANDS

Top 40 band Silk appears through Saturday, Feb. 25, at Fanny's in the Troy Hilton Inn. Sapphire, also a Top 40 band, opens Monday, Feb. 27, and continues through Saturday, March 3. Citizens is the group playing Mondays-Saturdays from Feb. 27 through March 31 at the Northfield Hilton in

### COBO ARENA

Boy George and Culture Club, which boasts the nation's No. 1 single, "Karma Chameleon," will perform Saturday, April 7, at Cobo Arena in Detroit. Tickets at \$12.50 and \$15.50 are on sale at the Joe Louis Arena Box Office and all Ticket World outlets.

## Theater offering classic films

"A Day at the Races" starring the Marx Brothers continues through Thursday, Feb. 23, in the winter/spring line-up of classic motion pictures at the Washington Theater in downtown Royal Oak.

Humphrey Bogart films will be screened from Friday, Feb. 24, through Thursday, March 1.

The fulltime program, daily through April 5, provides classic movies in an atmosphere reminiscent of the periods in which the films were produced. The Washington Theater, which opened its doors in 1922, may be the oldest operating movie theater in Michigan. Its art-deco surroundings have been maintained throughout the years as a last vestige of a bygone era.

## Polish drama ends film series

"Death of the President," a historical drama based on the assassination of the first president of independent Poland, will be shown at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, in Friends Auditorium at the Main Library, 5201 Woodward, Detroit.

This is the concluding film in the 1984 Polish Film Festival. The Polish-language film will be shown with English subtitles. Admission is free.

Jerry Kawalerowicz directed the 1977 film, which reconstructs the tragic episode from the first days of Poland's independence following World War I to the assassination of the country's first president, Gabriel Narutowicz, in 1922. The film is in color and runs 144 minutes.

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