



WSU hit

Thomas Suda is Sir Toby Belch, Melanie Metcalf is Olivia and Paul Amadio is Malvolio in Shakespeare's romantic comedy "Twelfth Night," continuing through March 2 at the Hilberry Repertory Theatre at Wayne State University in Detroit. For ticket information, call the box office at 577-2972.



'Blithe'

Jeff Dolan is Charles Condomine, Angela Yamine is the spirit, Elvira, and Lynne Kadiah is Ruth Condomine in Noel Coward's most popular play, "Blithe Spirit," playing in repertory through Jan. 19 at the Hilberry Theatre at Wayne State University in Detroit. For ticket information, call the box office at 577-2972.

Future seems bright for regional winery

Circumstances recently forced me into northwestern lower Michigan and enabled me to spend part of a morning with Bruce Simpson, winemaker and owner of Good Harbor Vineyards.

The vineyards is located a mile or two below Leland, in lovely Leelanau County. Simpson is rapidly establishing himself as the dean of the regional wineries, even though his winery is still the newest of six in the Leelanau-Traverse City region.

The family's 400 acres of cherry and apple trees bankroll the 4,000-case-a-year winery, and it will not be until it attains nearly 15,000 cases a year before the wine operation fully pays for itself. But with extensive plantings of vintages and seval, the future looks good. His growth plans include possible plantings of chardonnay, pinot noir and a hybrid from New York that is a cross between seval and chardonnay.

FOR NOW, he focuses on white wines. Gone are the days of producing foch and a couple of roses from purchased grapes. His future, he believes, is with estate-grown grapes that will ripen in the bitter Michigan winters up there.

The waters' tempering effect only goes so far in allaying the viticultural conditions. The bitter cold of January and the killing frosts of April make planting most vinifera grapes wholly impractical. Only the early-ripening grapes of burgundy and riesling stand a survival chance there. That much is already established in this young area of our state.

The problem in Michigan summer is generating enough heat to ripen grapes to the 20-22 brix needed to produce wines with fruit. Acidity there is, usually, in abundance. That he has succeeded so far is shown in his 1983 white wine, a blend of seval and vignoles, a truly exceptional wine, and in his about-to-be-released 1983 vignoles.

When the latter was tasted, it had not yet come together, but it seems likely to be a stunning wine by the spring of 1985. Given decent bottle-age, it will evolve into a fruity, most pleasant thing by the time it enters our market.

Good Harbor has no wood barrels for either fermentation or aging, though Simpson has plans to acquire some French wood. "I would then blend wood-treated wine," he explained, "with steel-fermented, and get just a bit more complexity without, I hope, increasing the price per bottle."

SIMPSON is now represented by a local distributor, so his wines may be found in some of our better



wine
Richard
Watson

stores. But the problem of distribution continues for him, as it does for all of our boutique wineries.

The image of Michigan wines is not good. Too much pink catawba and lives has been put out by the Paw Paw wineries. Today, 85 percent of Good Harbor's wines are sold from the winery and in the immediate Traverse City area. While that cuts down on overhead, one's broadcast must be larger to attain the size he needs to survive.

"We need wine drinkers who are willing to take a chance on local wines," Bruce asserted.

The problem is not the cost. Most Good Harbor, Mawby, Leelanau Limited and other competent wineries from the area sell wine for \$4-\$6 a bottle. "It is," Simpson said, "one of familiarity. People drink what they feel comfortable with."

I can only support this most strongly. The hybrid grapes being grown in this area produce sound wines. Those made from vignoles and seval in the north and Vidal in the south, when it ripens well, are excellent and should be tried by all of us.

THE FUTURE at Good Harbor may also hold some sparkling issues as well. Requiring decent white grapes that mature at 18 or 19 brix, the region is well endowed for this. When I was there, Simpson had some chardonnay fermenting that would be well-suited for such a venture. Sparkling wines from such chardonnay can make wonderful wine, far superior to the stuff used in the southern part of our state.

Good Harbor also produces some excellent apple and cherry wines for those so inclined. These sell well, without hype. It is with "the hybrids that we want to make our name, however," soft-spoken Simpson said. "That's where our real future is."

Tree fruit does not make wine of the complexity and subtlety of grapes, and it is with the latter that Simpson and other have cast their future in Michigan.

Try some. You'll like it.

Blues guitarist plays

Lennie Brooks, the Louisiana-born, Chicago-bred blues and rock 'n' roll guitarist, will appear at 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29, at Rick's, 811 Church, Ann Arbor.

Brooks is back in the United States following his fourth tour of Europe. The three-week tour included playing sold-out houses in Paris, Zurich, Copenhagen and Norway and headlining the Amsterdam Blues Festival.

Brooks has twice been nominated for Grammy awards, most recently for his performance on the best-selling LP "Blues Deluxe," a live album recorded at the world's largest music festival, Chicagofest.

In 1979 he received his first nomination for his performance on Alligator's "Living Chicago Blues" anthology series. His debut album "Bayou Lightning" won the 1979 Grand Prix du Disque award for "Best Blues Album of the Year," from the Montreux Jazz Festival.

Walk in or Appointment.
Whirlpool, Saunas,
Showers,
Oriental Staff,
Muscle Pressure
Massage,
Private Rooms for
Men and Women

TOKYO ORIENTAL HEALTH SPA
28841 Orchard Lk. Rd.
in the Mt. Everest Plaza
(Between 12 & 13 Mile)
Farmington Hills
553-2898

SHOGUN ORIENTAL HEALTH SPA
23100 Telegraph Rd.
North of 9 Mile
356-7310
Monday-Saturday 10-2 A.M.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ON THE TOWN

January special savings!

January 6 & 13 Departures
St. Thomas SAVE UP TO **\$340** PER COUPLE!
December 29 & January 5 Departures
Casa de Campo SAVE UP TO **\$300** PER COUPLE!
January 5 & 12 Departures
Acapulco SAVE UP TO **\$260** PER COUPLE!
Puerto Vallarta SAVE UP TO **\$260** PER COUPLE!
January 4 & 11 Departures
Aruba SAVE UP TO **\$180** PER COUPLE!
Bonaire SAVE UP TO **\$140** PER COUPLE!

Sale prices are effective with reservations made on Monday, December 17, and are non-refundable. Savings vary according to choice of accommodations and departure dates.

See Your Travel Agent
For Full Details

Samson Tours
© 1984 Samson Tours, Inc.

FARMINGTON HILLS CAROUSEL TRAVEL 24352 Halsted Road Farmington Hills, MI 48018 477-8200	PLYMOUTH EMILY'S WORLD 708 S. Main St. Plymouth, MI 48170 455-5744
---	--

Christmas Lamb To Go!

For Less Than \$4.50 Per Person

- 5 lb. Roast Leg of Lamb (boned, rolled & tied)
- Buttered Green Peas & Mushroom Gravy
- Fresh Mashed Potatoes
- Natural Jelly
- Rice Pilaf

Serves 8-10 People
\$44.50

Orders must be placed by Thursday, Dec. 20 and picked up by 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 21. Advance deposit required. Major credit cards accepted.

For Reservations Call
557-4800
Sheraton-Southfield Hotel
17017 W. 9 Mile • Southfield • 557-4800

Merry Christmas

from the **Troy Hilton Inn**

Let Our Chefs Prepare Your Christmas Dinner!

Turkey To Go

8-10 servings **\$34.95**

- 12-14 lb. Whole Roasted Turkey
- Country Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes
- Corn O'Brien
- Homestyle Dressing
- Whole Cranberry Sauce

Pumpkin Pie or Mince Meat Pie Extra

Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Orders must be placed by Thursday, December 20 and picked up at a pre-arranged time.

583-9000 x502
TROY HILTON INN
1455 Stephenson Hwy., Troy, MI 48064

Perfect? Hmph!

At Ways & Means, we think being perfect is highly over-rated...after all, what would the world be like without individuality, without distinction, without character?

But, just because things aren't perfect doesn't mean they can't be easier. At our Ways & Means Capability Centers, we've got everything you need to make the most of life's imperfect situations. Like our Minichop food processor or Stitch-me-quick mender when you're short of time, our Easi-turn tap turner or Travel Agent luggage carrier when you need an extra measure of strength or our See and Hear Clock or AT&T Volume Control Handset when you're

hard of hearing. In fact, at Ways & Means we've got over **1,000** convenience products for everyone on your Christmas list, all in one convenient place.

We admit it. We're not perfect. Then again, what is?

Christmas hours:
Mon. - Fri. 9-9
Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5

Birmingham store location:
Maple at Bates, three blocks west of Woodward

1-800-888-8888

Ways & Means
The Capability Center

movies

AMADEUS (PG) Superb rendition of Mozart's life with Tom Hulce and F. Murray Abraham. Directed by Milos Forman.

CHOOSE ME (R) Comedy about radio talk shows and other things, with Genevieve Bujold, Keith Carradine and Lesley Ann Warren.

THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY (PG) Nomadic tribesman discovers Coke bottle and believes it's a magic talisman. Comedy from South Africa.

OH, GOD! YOU DEVIL (PG) George Burns is back for his third try as God. He does a pretty good job for an amateur. Enjoyable comedy.

PLACES IN THE HEART (PG) Sally Field as young widow, in Depression Texas years, faced with supporting herself and two young children.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE
G General audiences. All ages admitted.
PG Parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for pre-teens.