

Joan Reddy is Vota (loft), Gene Ewald is Elwood P. Dowd and Amy Duchesneau is Myrtle Mae in the Birmingham Village Play-ers production of "Harvey," opening Friday, Jan. 31. For ticket information, call 646-3094, 879-6080 or 474-5390 anytime.

### upcoming

things to do

• FILM PREMIERE FILM PREMIERE
CHAIN, Children of Holocaust-survivors Association in Michigan, will
sponsor the Detroit-area premiere of
a new Him, "War and Love," at 7:30
p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, at the Northland Theatre in Southfield. The Him is
an adventure-love story that take
place during the Holocaust. Proceeds
will go to the Holocaust Memorial
Center. Tickets are available by colling Art Kirsh at 557-6089.

 POGO BENEFIT • POGO BENEFIT

"A Tribute to Pogo" and a benefit for Pogo, who played cocktail lounge piano for six years at the Kingsley inn, will be 4-9 pm. Sunday, Feb. 9, at the Kingsley in Bloomfield Hills. Three bands will play at the event. Two bands that have been announced are the Sterling Band of Livonia and Dick Murphy's Band. Tickets at \$10 may be purchased in advance at the cocktail bange or at the door, flors doesn't and a cash bar will be available.

• NEW REVUE

The "Peanut Butter & Jelly Revue"
will be Wednesdays and Fridays beginning Feb. 5 at Archibald's in Birmingham. Wednesday evenings will
feature Archibald's Peanut Butter &
Lable accelerate with American ly performers, with arrangement ated by Robert Leider of Bloom-

field Hills and Rebecca of West Bloomfield, the show's accompanist. Two shows nightly offers vocabs Elizabeth Poter of West Bloomfield and Nick Beassanki of East Detroit. The Penaut Butter Z Jelly Revnewill feature jazz and tap-style dance at 9 and 10.30 pm. Fridays. Beeky Frazer and Jan Winhaham, owners of Dance Collective of Orchard Lake, will appear in the Friday shows. For Curther information, call Archibald'a at 64:3-9409 or TAP LTD. of Farmington, Hills, which is producing the show, at 855-4293.

#### AREA PREMIERE The Detroit-area

• AREA PREMIERE

The Detrolt-area premiere of Wayaide Moior Inn' will be presented by a cast of both students and professional across from the area on Priday, Peb. 7, at the Oakland University Studio Theater in Rochester Hills Commenter of the Commenter of the

# Timing is too slow in 'Table Manners'

By Barbara Michala special writer

British playwight Alan Ayckbourn chronicles the folbles and absurdities of middle-class life with wit and style. The Farmington Players current production of Ayckbourn's "Table Manners' captures the wit, but the style is disappointingly flat.

While some of the individual characterizations are satisfying, director Sandra Sutherland does not always get her players to interact convincingly. Comic timing is ponderous at key moments, especially on curtain lines. Like a traditional comedy of manners, "Table Manners' takes place during a weekend in the country, the action set entirely around a family dining room table. Although the larder is inerplicably bare (guests were, after all, expected, ablett not this many), this family devours one another at each meal, then complains of emotional indigestion.

Annie (Sue Rogers) is the single sis-

#### review

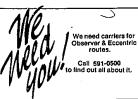
family conflicts. Smitham has a casual, understated delivery that suits the role admirably.

As played by Paula Myers, Reg's wife Sarah is a British version of Lucy of the "Peanuts" comic strip. She is a fussbudget and busybody, domineering and shrill. Myers is generally convincing, but her early speeches are so shrill and her accent so nearly incomprehensible that she takes some getting used to.

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Annie (Sue Rogers) is the single sister, bogged down with an invalid mother and a dead-end relationship with the local veterinarian (Bobb Locks). Feelig used and manphulated, Annie longs to be free of her family's well-meaning but inept prodding. Rogers gives Annie a breezy naturalness that works exceedingly well.

BOB SMITHAM is well-cast as Reg. Annie's easy-going but self-centered from ther. Regs main concern is feeding his stomach, while he pretty much ignores his unhappy wife and the growing label to bounce right off his shoulders. While Sarah sees her motherhood as

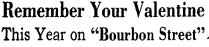




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