Bill Kircher (lett) is Jud Fry, Gary Jones is Curly and Karen Teegarden is Laurey in the St. Dunstan's Guild production of the musical "Oklahomal" opening Friday, May 29, at the outdoor Greek Theatre at Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. The show runs through Saturday, June 6. For ticket Information call 644-0527. ns through Saturday, June 6. For ticket infor-

upcoming

things to do

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL
WDET's cighth annual Bluegrass
Festival will be held from noon to 7
p.m. Sunday, May 31, at the Meadow
Brook Music Festival site at
Baldwin Pavilion on the Oakland
University campus in Rochester
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AUDITIONS OPEN

Lathrup Youtheatare will hold auditions for its summer production of "Listen to the Children," an adaption of Hans Christian Andersen's The Emperor's New Clothes," at the Lathrup Yullage, Children, ages 5-18, regardless of residence or experience, are being invited to participate in the program sponsored by the Lathrup Recreation Department. There is a \$10 membership fee. For more information contact Jo Anne Lamun, producer/director, at 559-3893.

Audience shares in show's fun

TAP rhymes with clap. And — like it or not — that's what you'il wind up doing at the Novi Hilton's first try at dinner theater. Maybe even some woo-woolng.

Clapping, singing and musically tooling your horn are all part of the TAP act designed to get the audience involved. And it works.

Appropriately called "Applause on Broadway," the rollicking hourlong slow is a presentation of West Bloomleid-based Theatre Arts Froduction (its actorym is TAP), headed by Michael Kiler.

And it's act where passivity is a miningredient.

dinner theater where passivity is a main ingredient.

"Applause" has a lot of fun sandby the TAP performers who "work" the audience like the pros they are. Much of the merriment is generated by the audience listelf at the persistence of a clever and versatile cast that is somewhat hindered by a smallish stage.

tence of a clever and versatile cast that is somewhat hindered by a smallish stage.

"Applause" begins rather benignly with a sit-back-and-listen format: TAP's accompanist Rebecca at the keyboard playing the southing "Clair the Gune." You've just had dinner in the Garden Place, and Debussy provides agreeable music to digest your meal by. It's almost too good to be true.

true.

But just as you're settling down in the comfy theater-like seats in the Hilton's Forum miniamphiteater, the tempo quickly changes as the TAP performers come charging down the alsie with a combined version of "Celebration" and "Welcome to the Theater."

GET OUT OF THE DARK. The Consumer information Catalog will entighten you with herbful consumer informatio (It's free by writing —

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review

And before you know what hit you, they have you shaking hands and noddigh hello to everyone around you to the tune of "Consider Yourself at Home." It's an "itcheraker" technique that works well. And things are never quite the same again for the rest of the evening.

The many moods and melodies of Broadway music highlighted in the show are done well by Rick Ingram, Larry Johnson and Earl Vinson, all betrolters who also appear at the

Detroiters who also appear at the Premier Center, and Melanie Churella, the current Miss Farming-

Charella, the current Miss Farmington.

The "bebop" music of the '60s was especially good. So was ingram's "Ain't Misbehavin." Larry Johnson's "Mama" was a polgnant offering — especially since Mother's Day was the next day.

More fun comes when the audience is invited to add "woo woo" after verses of "Chatanooga Choo Choo." The fun crescendos with a name-that-clue segment in which the cast sings the introduction of a song indicated on a clue sheet and the audience tries to name the tune — but not before the end of the intro. Winners are rewarded, of course.

The success factor of total audience involvement is evident in men's vs. women voices in "Take Mo Out in the Ballgament is evident in men's vs. women voices is the content of the Ballgament is evident in men's vs. women voices is the content of the Ballgament is evident in men's vs. women voices is the content of the Ballgament is evident in men's vs. women voices is the content of the Ballgament is vident in men's vs. women voices is the content of the ballgament is vident in men's vs. women voices is the content that Richeston also to make the state of the properties of th

test that itchecca is asked to make the call. (The women won.) It should be noted at this point, however, that the cast changes from good tastes

Mon Jin Lau

through June 13.

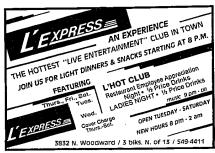
Dinner choices in the Garden Cafe

Dinner choices in the Garden Cafe

action swordfish or prime rib

week to week "to keep it fresh," Klier notes. But the show's format remains basically the same.

The Novi is offering three dinnertheater packages: dinner and theater
for \$25 per person; dinner, theater
and "bed and breakfast," which includes overnight accommodations
and breakfast in bed for \$55 per person; or the show alone for \$9. Show





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