

**upcoming things to do**

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Tuesday-Thursday, Nov. 17-19, in the Varner Studio Theatre on campus in Rochester Hills. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. For details, call the Varner Studio box office at 370-3013.

**BACHELOR'S AUCTION**  
Bachelors and single women are wanted for the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Bachelor's Auction at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, at Hurley's at the Northfield Hilton in Troy. Hurley's will auction off date packages to professional business bachelors to help raise money for more than 40 neuromuscular diseases. Drink specials will also be a part of the evening's entertainment. Call 879-2100 for more details.

**ARENA CONTEST**  
Win seats for life at the Auburn Hills Arena by entering the Name-the-Arena contest at all Farmer Jack locations. Entries will be judged by a committee consisting of representatives from sponsors of the contest. The official name for the arena and contest winner will be announced at half time during the Detroit Pistons home game against the Boston Celtics on Friday, Dec. 4. See official entry ballots for complete rules and judging details.

**NEW AWARDS**  
Silver Circle awards have been created this year by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, known for its Emmy Awards, to acknowledge pioneering service to the TV industry by veterans of 25 years or more. The first Silver Circle awards will be presented at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at the Danish Club of Detroit. Seven awards will be presented, followed by a panel discussion on "How We Choose the News" by five area TV news chiefs. The event is open to the general public; tickets are \$10. For reservations and more information, call 855-3592.

**ABOUT 'HARVEY'**  
Rosedale Park Players will present



STEPHEN CANTRELL/staff photographer

Laura Ralsch is Gladys and Don Brown is Prez in the Birmingham Village Players production of the Broadway musical hit "Pajama Game," opening Friday, Nov. 20. Performances run through Saturday, Dec. 5. For ticket information, call 844-2075.

ent "Harvey," the comedy about a six-foot pooka. The show runs from Friday, Nov. 13 to Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Rosedale Park Community House. For more information and tickets, call 835-1103.

**TRIO PERFORMS**  
Barbara Jacob Smith and Trio perform from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays-Fridays at Hunter's Run in Livonia. The trio plays dinner music. For more information, call 522-5600.

**Female 'Odd Couple' is hilariously funny duo**

"The Odd Couple" by Neil Simon, presented by the Troy Players, continues through Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Troy Community Center. For ticket information call 879-1285.

The Troy Players production of the female version of "The Odd Couple" is bright, earthy and spirited. Aply directed by Connie Patrick, Neil Simon's funny script is in the hands of cast members who obviously relish every line. Act I is a bit long (no fault of the cast), but Acts II and III lift-off into the stratosphere, and the evening flies by as characters fly in and out of Olive Madison's apartment.

I want to commend Cyndi Summers and George Hotz for designing and constructing a set that looks very Riverside Drive, down to the long hallway off the large living room and the lights eternally on in skyscrapers seen through the window.

Sandy Boak, a tall glamorous lady, plays Olive, the news producer with a heart as big as the city, with a wonderful brittle overlay. Boak gives us an Olive who is brisk, sunny, inelegantly messy, (not really the total stob that Oscar Madison was), longing to enjoy life, and altogether too good to deserve Florence Ungar.

SHIRLEY BRIGGS as the hysterical, manically neat Florence Ungar, raises her voice like a profes-



Helen Zucker

sional soprano. Briggs contorts her body into a variety of postures delineating slipped discs, tense neck muscles. She screams like a moose with blocked sinuses or else she vacuums with the concentration of Einstein discovering the atom.

When not cleaning, Florence cooks gourmet meals (no other kind allowed), and Briggs makes us understand that living with the likes of Florence for more than three weeks requires the patience of Job. We wind up sympathizing with the husband who's asked her to leave, and pitying the friends and neighbors who take her in.

Richard Fleming and Christopher Locke as Manolo and Jesus Costazuola, the brothers who live upstairs, have some of the wittiest lines, and they deliver them with wonderful perceptivity. Simon does clever puns on Spanish and English, and the brothers' arrival for cocktails and a dinner that never takes place is hilarious.

But it's the verve displayed by the four friends who meet to play Trivial Pursuit every Tuesday night who

keep this show bouncing. The foursome is pretty Philomena Somers as Sylvie, who finally manages to get pregnant, lively Deborah Cargile as Mickey, the cop who has something to say about everything, funny Marilyn Stepanak as Vera, the not-quite-with-it, and lovely Tamara Johns, who plays quiet Renee and manages to make herself indispensable.

I enjoyed "Rock Around The Clock" and the theme from "The Odd Couple" but the songs are from different eras. Women who are 35 years old in the '80s would probably end up singing "Leaving on a Jet Plane" or something less jarring than music from the '60s when Chuck Berry did his thing. The intermission music and the allusions to "music we listened to when we were 17" were confusing. Other than that, congratulations to everyone who had a hand in this production.

Helen Zucker has many years experience reviewing for newspapers and magazines in Michigan, New York and Massachusetts.

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DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

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**Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Dearborn.**

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