



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Collection of erasers

An 11-year-old from Farmington Hills might well be on her way to a spot in the "Guinness Book of Records" for having the largest collection of erasers in the world. The collection includes erasers in the form of musical instruments, sports and leisure equipment, animals, foods, fads, and just about every

known kind of transportation. Some come in sets with any number of parts. Some have movable parts. The sixth grader says when she needs to use an eraser in Dunckle Middle School she uses the one on the end of her pencil.

There's a murder mystery to be solved at Longacre

You've been invited to attend a high-class party at an old country chateau. The year is 1927.

When the clock strikes seven, the cocktail hour begins with the villain performing his dreadful deed.

Enter the Homicide Host Group who will challenge your deductive reasoning powers.

After a buffet dinner — hope that it's not tainted — those guests who have surmised the chilling outcome will receive a bounty of champagne and autographed literature.

The event is a "who dunnit?" mystery theater to be presented Saturday, Jan. 16, in Farmington Community Center.

The difference in this theater is that you're invited to be in the cast. "Murder Mystery at Longacre" is part of a trend in adult entertainment that offers participation in a staged event. It lets the audience become part of the plot and the performance by making the entire room a stage.

To help the audience become more involved in the production, you are encouraged to dress in the style of the "Roaring '20s." When you look the part, it helps in creating the spirit of the event.

"PEOPLE ARE always looking for a way to bring their fantasies to life. We go to the movies and fantasize we are as tough as Clint Eastwood, as beautiful as Grace Kelly, as suave as Sean Connery and as inspirational as Katherine Hepburn," said Robert Striks, speaking for the center.

"We've dedicated a national holiday to fantasy. Halloween allows us the chance to be someone or something else for an entire day.

"Anyone with just a few quick lessons can play 'air-guitar' or 'air-drums' at the next concert they attend. We tap our foot, play the imaginary piano on our thighs and sing with the band," he said.

"When we watch a good play, we are identifying and relating to the characters or situations in the production. The thing that stops us from actually becoming a part of the presentation is the presence of an imaginary wall at the end of the stage. With this wall removed, we are more than spectators, we are the cast.

"It's the reverse of what happened in Woody Allen's 'The Purple Rose of Cairo.' In that film, a movie-lover identifies so closely with the actors on the screen that one of the actors actually comes off the screen in a

surrealistic attempt to be with her," he said.

IN "MURDER Mystery at Longacre," the fantasy of being with the actors becomes reality as the observers are drawn into a scenario that takes place around them. They are now part of a script that is acted out live and unrehearsed.

This form of theater is a derivative of the timeless "Theater-in-the-Round," which dates back to the Roman Empire. It's nothing unusual to have a troupe of performers interact with an audience.

"What is unusual is having these performers permeate that imaginary wall that protects us and lets us be voyeurs. We are no longer invisible. The actors have invaded our personal space and the thrill is exhilarating.

"Do you want to be part of the action?" says Striks.

The cost to be in the cast of "Murder Mystery at Longacre" is \$25 per person and includes the play, food and wine. Reservations should be made in advance by calling the Farmington Community Center at 477-8404.



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The Children's Tree

The children of members of Farmington Area Community Women gather under the Christmas tree created to receive gifts for those less fortunate than themselves. The tree is one of six, in the three Metro National Banks of Farmington, the First Federal Savings & Loan of Farmington, Farmington City Hall and Farmington Hills City Hall, decorated with tags, carrying names, ages and sizes of a needy child. Passers-by are asked to take a tag and return a wrapped gift under the tree. The children are Claire Larson, held by her brother Michael, (at left) Andrew Ratanatharathorn, Megan McAlister, Margaret Ammann, Jennifer Ammann, and Steven Paul. Their mothers hope to gather 183 gifts for youngsters in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

TAP stages revue for dinner theater

A new holiday musical revue is scheduled for Saturday evenings in December for the Novi Hilton's Bed & Broadway theatre package.

Theatre Arts Productions (TAP Ltd.) of Farmington Hills will perform the family-oriented revue in format. The up-tempo revue follows in the footsteps of the highly successful "Applause on Broadway" and "Fascinatin' Rhythms," two of the shows that TAP Ltd. and the Novi Hilton offered as their opening pro-

ductions in what has now become the only professional musical revue theater season in the metro area.

Besides including some one-time Christmas favorites, several original Christmas songs will be highlighted.

Spearheaded by producer Michael J. Klier of West Bloomfield, the new Christmas songs have been written in collaboration with Rick Ingram of Detroit, who, when not performing at the Premier Center in Sterling Heights, has been seen in many of

TAP's musical revues and "Rebecca" of West Bloomfield, who serves as TAP's musical director and in this case arranger of the new music.

"This new music of the holiday season is as good as any of the old time Christmas carols," says Klier, who commissioned the talents of Ingram and Rebecca for this project.

"They're memorable, finger snapping tunes of the traditional Chris-

mas spirit."

The show includes TAP performers impersonating celebrities as they might sing some favorite holiday tunes along with the standard sing-along section and their version of name-that-tune to win a holiday gift.

Reservations are limited and a must. For more information and reservations call the Novi Hilton at 349-4000 or TAP Ltd. at 683-1827.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

IGA boosts the boosters

The IGA market in the shopping strip on the corner of 10 Mile and Orchard Lake Road will donate a percentage of its receipts from now until March 1, 1988, to Farmington High School Booster Club.

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<p>Fine gold and diamond ring with 2 brilliant-cut diamonds set in 18 kt. yellow gold - \$1,200.</p>	<p>Ruby and diamond ring in 18 kt. yellow gold, 4 marquise rubies and 4 brilliant-cut diamonds - \$1,160.</p>	<p>Diamond/emerald ring in 14 kt. yellow gold, 3 marquise emeralds and 1 brilliant-cut diamond - \$340.</p>	<p>Men's custom initial ring in 14 kt. yellow gold - \$420.</p>
<p>Diamond/emerald earrings in 14 kt. yellow gold, 6 marquise emeralds and 2 brilliant-cut diamonds - \$520.</p>	<p>Ear spray jackets with 6mm cultured pearl, 16 brilliant-cut diamond jackets in 18 kt. yellow gold - \$1,385. Pearl earring studs - \$80.</p>	<p>Men's diamond and gold tie tacks with 1 brilliant-cut diamond in each. Double triangle 18 kt. yellow and 14 kt. white gold - \$200. Double circle 18 kt. yellow gold - \$235.</p>	

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