

upcoming things to do

Deadline for the Upcoming calendar is one week ahead of publication. Items must be received by Thursday, to be considered for publication the following Thursday. Send to: Ethel Simmons, Entertainment Editor, The Observer & Eccentric, P.O. Box 3503, Birmingham 48012.

JEWISH FILMS
"Jewish Immigration, A Film Experience" is the theme of the sixth annual Adas Shalom Jewish Film Series continuing at 7 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 17 and 31, at the synagogue in

Farmington Hills. "Exodus," Otto Preminger's award-winning film that tells the story of the birth of the State of Israel, will be shown Jan. 17. The series concludes Jan. 31 with "We Were So Beloved," Manfred Kirchheimer's documentary celebration of the German-Jewish community of Manhattan's Washington Heights neighborhood. Film critic Dan Greenberg, who reviews movies for the Observer & Eccentric News-papers, will introduce the films and comment on them. Admission is free. For more information, call 851-5100.

VILLAGE PLAYERS
"Picnic," a drama by William Inge, will be presented by the Village Players of Birmingham on Friday-Sunday, Jan. 22-24, and Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. There is also a matinee at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24. The play is produced by Bond Young and directed by Gene Ewald, who is assisted by Jane Nannberg. The two female leads are played by Tamara Okowski as Madge Owens and Diana Clark as Rosemary Sydney. The male leads are Dennis Worsch as Hal Carter and Sheldon Scott as Howard

Bevans. Tickets are available at the door but reservations are recommended. Adult tickets are \$6, students tickets are \$5. Reservations may be made by calling 644-2075. The playhouse is on the corner of Hunter and Chestnut, south of Maple.

OPEN AUDITIONS
Village Players of Birmingham will hold open auditions for the musical "The Boyfriend" at 7:30 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Jan. 24-25, at the playhouse. Singers and dancers are

needed. There are parts for five young men, five young women and four older characters.

SOUTHFIELD STARS
Magician Harry Blackstone, songwriter Paul Williams and trumpeter Chuck Mangione are the star-studded lineup for three evenings on the Southfield Star Series at the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion. Blackstone does his magic Saturday, Jan. 30; Williams croons Saturday, April 16; and Mangione blows his

own horn Saturday, May 21. All concerts start at 8 p.m. Season tickets, from \$10 to \$14 a ticket, provide discounts and a chance to meet the stars after the performances. Call 354-4717 for more information.

LAUSANNE JAZZ
Mike Balos of Troy and Jim Kissing of Rochester are part of the Wayne State University Jazztet that has been invited to perform in Lausanne, Switzerland, from Monday, Jan. 25, through Monday, Feb. 1.

Superstar Wayne Newton to open Omni Star Theatre

Wayne Newton and his Las Vegas show with laser lights and fog effects will open the new Omni Star Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 25, in Livonia.

Newton's show kicks off the Omni's first season of performances by superstars such as Lou Rawls and the Temptations. The performing arts theater at Plymouth and Farmington roads formerly was the Mai Kai Theatre, a movie house.

Newton will appear at 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 25-26, and at 4 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 27-28. Tickets are \$28.75. Called the most successful performer in Las Vegas history, Newton has been a headliner in that city's major showrooms 30 weeks a year for 20 years. He has been seen live on stage in Las Vegas by more than 12 million people.

In recent years, the entertainer

has traveled more than 401,000 miles to 115 cities from Los Angeles to London, breaking box office records wherever he appeared. Last summer he appeared in concert at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on the Oakland University campus in Rochester Hills.

Newton's appearance at the Fourth of July concert on the Mall in Washington, D.C., attracted 325,000 people, largest crowd for a single performer in the history of the annual event.

OTHER SHOWS at the Omni will include "A Very Special Evening with Patti Page and Jerry Vale," Thursday-Sunday, March 3-6, tickets \$19.75; the McGuire Sisters and Jack Jones, Thursday-Sunday, March 13, tickets \$19.75; "Together Again," Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds, Thursday-Sunday, March 17-

20, tickets \$22.75; Bobby Vinton, Thursday-Sunday, March 24-27, tickets \$22.75; Lou Rawls, Thursday-Sunday, April 7-10, tickets \$19.75; and "The Fabulous Temptations," plus special guest star, Thursday-Sunday, April 21-24, tickets \$21.75.

Series tickets at \$135 are available from Ticketmaster outlets and at the box office, 33330 Plymouth Road, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Fridays, or by phone at 422-6664. Visa or Mastercard is accepted.

Individual show tickets will be available beginning Monday. Each of theater's 1,450 seats is said to provide an unobstructed view. All seating is reserved.

Concessions will feature healthy snacks, specialty coffees and soft drinks, with no alcoholic beverages served on the premises.

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