

Thriller opens on Halloween

Performances of the Meadow Brook Theatre production of "Ten Little Indians" continue through Nov. 24 on the Oakland University campus in Rochester Hills. For ticket information call the box office at 377-3300.

By Keely Wygonik
staff writer

"It's a wonderful, thrilling evening in the theater to see this mystery unfold," said Maureen McDewitt who plays Vera Claythorne in Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians" which opens tonight at Meadow Brook Theatre.

McDewitt, a graduate of Farmington Harrison High School, still lives in the area. When she's not on stage, McDewitt appears in radio and television commercials, and industrial training films.

A graduate of Oakland University with a bachelor's degree in communication arts, McDewitt earned a master of fine arts from Wayne State University where she was a member of the Hillberry Repertory Company.

After graduating from college, she moved to New York, and later Los Angeles.

"Detroit was my home, my family lives here. It made sense to my heart," she said explaining why she moved back to the area.

Last spring, McDewitt portrayed Nora in the Atlantic Theatre's production of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll House."

PREVIOUS MEADOW BROOK Theatre performances include "Romeo in 'Cyano,'" Cecily in "The Importance of Being Earnest" and Ghost of Christmas Past in "A Christmas Carol."

"Each role presents any number of problems to solve," said McDewitt describing her approach

toward acting.

"You have to learn to love the character you're playing. Vera is wonderful. She's a secretary caught in a desperate situation who is trying to cope. 'Ten Little Indians' is a very well written script. There's a lot of information."

"Ten Little Indians," a tale of multiple murders at a macabre house party, began as a serial in the Saturday Evening Post under the title "And Then There Were None."

It has been adapted for the screen three times, most notably in 1945 with Walter Huston, Sir Aubrey Smith and Judith Anderson. It has also been performed under the title of "The Nursery Rhyme Murders."

"It's fun to open on Halloween, and we have a fun cast of characters," adds McDewitt. Birmingham native Richard Schrot is also appearing in the show.



Simple fare at new Muer restaurant

By Keely Wygonik
staff writer

Hard boiled eggs and salami at the bar, and a straightforward, simple presentation of food await diners at Johnny Magnum's which opened Oct. 24 in the former Clandiggers restaurant, 30555 Grand River in Farmington.

The high top booths, except for two facing the bar are gone. Original Audubon prints decorate the walls and the table and chairs don't match giving the restaurant a hunt club feel.

Even the music played on the sound system is nostalgic — no rock and roll here, only classics and easy listening including Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Mel Tormé, James Taylor, Ella Fitzgerald, and Anita Baker.

"This is what a restaurant used to be," said Tony Beszyko director of operations for Chuck Muer's newly acquired restaurant. "We're giving people with big appetites a place to go. Couples can order a magnum cut and share it."

A magnum cut is bigger than a regular cut. For example, a regular cut of filet mignon is about eight ounces, and costs \$14. A magnum cut is about 12 ounces, and costs \$20.

A HOUSE specialty is the whole roasted chicken, \$11.50 that is carved at the table. A two pound chicken that's cooked real slow," said Beszyko. "It's crisp on the outside, and moist inside."

Appetizers include regular and magnum size, shrimp cocktail, Texas BBQ shrimp and Cedar Point Oysters. Other choices include escar-

got, fried provolone cake, black bean cake, and garlic toast.

Soups and salads are ala carte. Diners can choose from black bean soup, French onion soup, slice of iceberg with dressing or Caesar salad.

Entrees are served with bread and butter, and choice of vegetable or potato.

There's quite a range of beef and seafood offerings including — short ribs, Tenderloin a la Dutch, London Broil, Top Sirloin, Kansas City Sirloin, Filet Mignon, Boston Scrod, Whitefish, Salmon Steak, Tuna Steak, Swedish Steak, and Maine Lobster.

Diners who want to share a magnum cut, can order an extra plate with choice of vegetable or potato for \$5.

For smaller appetites, sandwich choices include the Magnum 10 oz.

burger, regular burger and grilled tuna.

Wine is available by the glass or bottle. For dessert, chocolate banana cream pie, strawberry rhubarb pie, pumpkin cheese cake, "Cannon Ball" goldbrick and pecan plated Magnum ball of vanilla, lemon sorbet, and vanilla ice cream.

Restaurant hours are 4-10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, bar open until midnight; 4 p.m. to midnight, Friday and Saturday, bar open until 1:30 a.m. For more information, call 478-2010.

Noteworthy performers

The Los Angeles Plano Quartet, highly esteemed in the United States and abroad, will perform Tuesday, Nov. 5, in the Cranbrook House Library on Long Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills, as the Cranbrook Music Guild chamber series continues its 40th season. Call 751-2435 for information. The quartet's auspicious 1977 debut has led to appearances with the most prestigious music series and critical acclaim. Known for bold, exhilarating performances and exploration of interesting repertoire, both old and new, the quartet has recently released a Dvorak/Schumann recording on the MusicMasters label.

table talk

Kruse and Muer

Restaurateurs Bill Kruse and Chuck Muer recently opened the Rochester Chop House and Oyster Bar at 306 Main Street. Their new restaurant occupies the space formerly

held by Cooper's Arms. The interior has been completely redone.

The 160-seat traditional chop house has dining rooms on two levels, the Steak room and the Lobster room. Dinner offers an extensive variety of chop house style entrees including, prime cuts of beef, rack of lamb, live lobsters, veal chops and

poultry. Fresh fish selections such as Hawaiian Yellowfin Tuna, Strawberry Halibut, Poached Salmon and Atlantic Swordfish, round out the menu.

Dinners range from \$5.95 to \$11.95 in Kabin Kruse's Oyster Bar and \$10.95 to \$23.95 in the chop house. Call 651-2266 for information.

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