

## CURTAIN CALL

Curtain Call lists upcoming theater performances. Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is 591-7279.

## AUDITIONS

**NANCY GURWIN**  
Open auditions for singers, dancers and actors for "Fiddler on the Roof," 6:30 p.m. (children ages 8-16), 7:30 p.m. (Adults 17 and up) Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 17-18, at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. Call (810) 352-2797 or (810) 354-0545, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily for information.

**SCHOOLCRAFT**  
Singing and non-singing parts for Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt's musical, "The Fantasticks," 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 25-26 at Schoolcraft's Liberal Arts Theatre on campus, 18000 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile Roads, Livonia. Call

462-4400, Ext. 5270.  
**AVON PLAYERS**  
Open auditions for the comedy "Run For Your Wife," will be held 7 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Jan. 16-17 at the playhouse on Tienken Road, 1/4 mile east of Rochester Road in Rochester Hills. Search is on for five men and two women, ages 25 and up. The reading will be from script. Call 541-8409.

## COMMUNITY

**AVON PLAYERS**  
"Nunsense" opens 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and runs for four weeks through Feb. 5. Shows start at 8 p.m., except for the 2 p.m. Sunday matinee at the theater on Tienken Road, 1/4 mile east of Rochester Road in Rochester Hills. Tickets are \$10 with senior, student and group discounts available. Call 375-1390.

**ST. DUNSTON'S**  
"Cole," based on the words and

music of Cole Porter, opens 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and runs week-ends through Jan. 29 at the playhouse on Lone Pine Road just west of Cranbrook. Call 644-0527. Benefit performance, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5 features gala night of dining and dancing the music of Cole Porter performed by the Joe Vitale Orchestra at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Tickets are \$100. Call 647-0625. Event proceeds will go toward renovating the theater pavilion.

**PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD**  
General membership meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18 at the Water Tower Theatre on the campus of the Northville Regional Hospital, 41001 W. 7 Mile, Northville. Call 349-7110 for more information.

**OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
"The Pied Piper" a children's play will be presented 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 at the Royal Oak campus. Call 544-4903.

**PARLOUR THEATRE PRODUCTIONS**  
"Steel Magnolias" at the Botaford Inn in Farmington Hills, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22. Admission, \$8, dinner available for additional cost. Call (810) 477-5540.

**FARMINGTON PLAYERS**  
Arthur Miller's "All My Sons," opens 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11 and runs through Feb. 26 at the playhouse on Tienken Road, 1/4 mile east of Rochester Road in Rochester Hills. Call 553-2955 for tickets.

**VILLAGE PLAYERS**  
"The Music Man" opens 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, and runs through Feb. 12 at the playhouse, 782 Chestnut, Birmingham. Call 644-2075.

**ATTIC**  
"Beehive" the musical tribute to the girl groups and pop queens of the 1960s Thursdays-Sundays, through Feb. 6. Call 875-8284.

## BBSO salutes music legends

Pianist Pauline Rubin joins the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony, under the direction of conductor/music director Felix Resnick, in salute to Leonard Bernstein and George Gershwin 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, at Temple Beth El, 14 Mile at Telegraph, Birmingham. Tickets are \$15, available at the door or by calling, 645-2275.

Martin of West Bloomfield will be performing Gershwin's "Concerto in F" and "Rhapsody in Blue."  
This Lite Classical Concert also features Bernstein's Overture to "Candide," Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story," and Gershwin's "Lullaby."



Guest soloist: Pauline Rubin will perform with the BBSO on Jan. 16.

## GET OUT OF THE DARK.



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Consumer Information Center  
Department TD, Pueblo, Colorado 81009

## Delightful, talented cast in 'The Wiz'



"The Wiz," the current Nancy Gurwin production at the Jewish Community Center, showcases a wide range of talent among its cast of youngsters, teens and adults, and is often delightful.

A 1975 reworking of "The Wizard of Oz," the Charlie Smalls musical was originally an all-black production, but works equally well with Gurwin's bi-racial cast.

Twelve-year-old Janet Patton as Dorothy is an accomplished actress with enormous stage presence. She consistently uses facial expressions to full advantage and sails through the dance routines

## REVIEW

## ON STAGE

## "The Wiz"

\*Theater: The Jewish Community Center with Nancy Gurwin Productions at the Jewish Community Center, in the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theatre, 6600 West Maple, West Bloomfield.

\*Curtain time: 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 15; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16. Shows Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 28.

\*Tickets: General admission, \$15, seniors \$12.50, students, \$10. Call 661-1000, 354-0545 or Ticketmaster 645-6666.

with ease, but on opening night she often struggled vocally.

Dorothy's friends on the road to Oz, the Scarecrow (Les Jones), the Tinman (Jerry Ripple), and the Lion (Hekiah Williams) are absolutely wonderful, exuding charm and personality.

Jones' loose-limbed Scarecrow tumbles athletically about the stage, shedding straw from his colorful patchwork costume, and he has a pleasing laid-back delivery. Ripple sings with great polish and gives his Tinman real zest though it is the role traditionally hardest to give distinct individuality. Beneath his excellent silver make-up and cleverly designed metallic costumes, this Tinman has a strong persona.

Inevitably, the cowardly Lion proves to be a show stealer, and Williams more than lives up to

expectations. His booming baritone is nothing short of dazzling, and he matches it with an energetic, lovable characterization. In addition to the Lion's false bravado and embarrassment at being scaredy-cat, Williams also adds some aspirations toward tom-catin'.

The three witches are all excellent as well. Terri Marie Lowe is amusing as the slightly scatterbrained but well-intentioned Adelphe, Rhonda Freya English is an intimidating Evillene, belting out "No Bad News" and delighting in having men grovel at her feet. As Glinda, Lisa Jacobs is a frothy, fairy-tale "good witch" with a good vocal delivery.

Barbara Michals is an inveterate playgoer who regularly catches up on all the New York productions.



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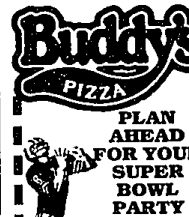
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SATURDAY 1:30 P.M., 3:15 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:30 P.M., 9:15 P.M., 10:45 P.M., 12:15 A.M.  
SUNDAY 2:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 6:30 P.M., 7:30 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:45 P.M.  
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