

# LET'S GO!

Your guide to suburban entertainment

Let's go to the Theater



Let's go Dining



Let's go to the Movies



Let's go Traveling

Let's go listen to Music

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1994

ON THE MARQUEE



KEELY WYGONIK

## Garden City gal stars in 'Bye, Bye, Birdie'

Look for Stacy Stolz of Garden City in the Bonstelle Theatre production, "Bye, Bye, Birdie," opening 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28 at the theater on the campus of Wayne State University. Shows weekends through Nov. 6. Call (313) 577-2960 for tickets. "Bye, Bye, Birdie," a Tony award-winner and family favorite for years, promises family fun and non-stop entertainment.

Featured players include Joshua Neda-Fox as the "Mamma's boy" agent, Albert Stolz as his cunning secretary/fiancee, Margaret Exner as Albert's mother, and Taras M. Los as Conrad Birdie, rock idol turned military inductee. The show is the not-quite-fictional portrayal of the drafting of "Birdie," a 1950s rock 'n' roll idol. Musical mayhem ensues when a desperate agent and his want-to-be-wed secretary send Birdie off to small-town America for one last publicity stunt.

We're shrieking with delight over the great response to our request for information about your favorite Halloween Haunts. Thanks for all your input. Turn to our Halloween Happenings calendar for fun and scary things to do during this frightfully fun season.

If you're looking for a "creepy" place to eat during Halloween go to Farwell & Friends, 6051 Middlebelt, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail, (313) 421-6990. It's all decorated for Halloween. I've heard their Christmas decorations are spectacular! The food is good, and so is the service.

I know, this is really scary, but we're already thinking about New Year's Eve. What do you like to do? What advice would you give a couple who just moved to the area if they asked "where are some nice places to ring in the new year?" Send or fax in your comments today.

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## Now showing



**The Double Dragon Restaurant** in Westland offers good food, service and value.



Check out **Entertaining Choices** for information about shows playing at community theaters in your neighborhood.



See **John Monaghan's** review of "The Shawshank Redemption," a prison drama.



**Ann Kalvelage** and her family did their homework before they embarked on a weeklong trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.



The members of **Madame Butterfly** rehearse before they say about the Detroit music scene.

## Looking ahead

Check out the **entertainment calendar** for more information on what's coming up in the area.

## SCHOOLCRAFT

PRESENTS

# 'INSANE' DRAMA



By BOB WEINEL  
Special Writer

Schoolcraft College's dinner theater package is one of the area's finest. Much of the credit goes to director, James Hartman, and Schoolcraft's vice president, Dr. Conway Jefferson who encouraged Hartman to enhance the school's arts program.

When Hartman arrived at Schoolcraft in the early 1980s, shows were staged in the cafeteria for one weekend. He was advised to continue the steady diet of light comedies if he wanted an audience.

"I don't understand that thinking," said Hartman. "I believe you can get an audience with good theater. With challenging theater. With theater that expresses ideas, be they in comedic or dramatic form."

Well as they say — the rest is history.

Hartman established a theater department to provide an academic background for a pool of trained performers. He moved the venue to Schoolcraft's marvelous 174-seat theater.

Over the past 10 years, Schoolcraft's dinner theater playbill has included comedies like "Piazz Suite" and "Arsenic and Old Lace" together with classic pieces such as "A View From The Bridge," "Waiting For Godot" and "Long Days Journey Into Night."

It has proven to be a successful formula: Many shows are sell-outs, and the mailing list has grown from 300 to over 5,000!

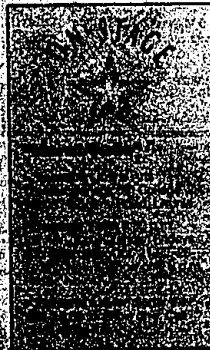
Opening October 21st, is the seldom-performed "Marat Sade."

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STAFF PHOTO BY ART ZAKARVILLE

Stage challenge: **Kelley Oxley** (left to right, top), **Beth Anderson**, **John Norman** and **Mary Zak** in a scene from "Marat Sade." **Sagina Varghese-Turnbull** (Charlotte Corday) is a demented patient, and **Steve Geary** (Marat) in the play.



## Dentist sinks her teeth into MOT role

By MARY JANE DOKER  
Special Writer

When the chorus of girly girls open their mouths to sing "Opera sul mare" with Madame Butterfly in Michigan Opera Theatre's perennial favorite opening this weekend at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit, dentist Susan Goode Friedman will not be doing her usual thing — examining their teeth.

The lyric coloratura soprano, mother of three children, a dentist by profession, will be singing with the women's chorus, her first opera.

"When I was given the part I had to go out and rent the video to find out what it was about," said the exhilarated West Bloomfield resident.

Last June's audition was not Friedman's first audition. The winner of numerous musicals at Kings Island, University of Michigan, and the West Bloomfield area, and a former voice major at 11-34 auditioned twice before.

### "Madame Butterfly"

Michigan Opera Theatre's presentation at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. Shows 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Oct. 21 (8:30-9:30 p.m.) Sunday, Oct. 23 (2 p.m.) Sunday, Oct. 30 (2 p.m.) Tickets: \$11 to \$25. Call (313) 577-3300.

"My mind was made up," said Friedman. "I had decided I was just going to keep going down to those auditions until they took me." "Take her they did and now Friedman is sinking her teeth into the Italian score and living what she calls her dream — to sing in an opera.

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