

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

# 'Pinocchio' good family entertainment

By LARRY PHYSIK  
SPECIAL WRITER

Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main Street, Northville, presents "Pinocchio," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through April 28. Tickets \$6.50. Call (810) 349-8110.

The "nose knows" and so does the audience that "Pinocchio" is good family entertainment. And speaking of the nose, the main character, played by Irene Hublick, does a really good job of putting on a long, long nose when required during the performance. As the story line goes, Pinocchio's nose gets longer every time he tells a lie.

Hublick is one of a handful of talented adults who work with equally talented children to bring this adaptation of a child-

ren's classic to life. Another adult who gives an outstanding performance is Jackie Marns of Canton who portrays Geppetto. His foreign accent makes him believable and lovable as a toy maker and Pinocchio's father/creator. One area child who really stands out in this happy, little production is Lindsay Fortune of Farmington Hills who plays "Jeremy Cricket." Fortune gives an excellent performance with exaggerated expressions and movements while serving as Pinocchio's caretaker, a job given the cricket by the beautifully costumed Blue Fairy, played by Heather Place of Northville.

Another Farmington Hills resident, Michelle Roberts, plays "Candlewick," the ruffian who leads Pinocchio astray and convinces him to forget school and escape to Pleasure Island. She is very convincing as a "bad boy" with solid movements and a strong voice.

Other area children who add to this fine production include Lauren Fisher and Treasa Martelli of Farmington Hills, Kate Comben and Colleen Law of Livonia, and Sarah Kipperman of Bloomfield Hills. These are but a few of the youngsters who make up the Children's Chorus. They appeared as dolls, students, toys and even as Pleasure Island and tie the show together.

Another aspect of this production of note is the extraordinary costumes, created by Inge Zayti and Linda Pelhmann. The cast members came alive as dolls, animals and soldiers with the realistic, creative and elaborate costumes.

Although this is a superb production overall, one thing could have been avoided.

"Pinocchio" is primarily geared for an audience of children. Because of this, the pushing and shoving between the Fox, played by Joseph French, and the Cat, played by Laurie Boloven of Northville, should be kept to a minimum. It isn't.



Marquis Theatre  
Taking a break: Pictured behind a fence on stage are (left to right) Jackie Marns (Geppetto), Laurie Boloven (Cat), Lindsay Fortune (Jeremy Cricket), Michelle Roberts (Candlewick), and Heather Place (Blue Fairy). Irene Hublick (Pinocchio), is in front.

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## Concert features Phil Marcus Esser

Phil Marcus Esser and Barbara Bredius join musical forces at the Birmingham Temple 7:30 a.m. Sunday, April 21. Their program will feature selections from "Jacques Brel," folk and labor

songs, and the love songs that have spanned their career. An afternoon with the performers follows. Tickets are \$14, students and senior citizens \$12. Call (810) 288-3953 or (810) 647-4632. The temple is at 28811 W. 12 Mile Road, (between Inkster and Middlebelt), Farmington Hills.

Esser has performed, produced, and written hundreds of shows including "Jacques Brel," "Cole Porter at the Book," "A Tribute to Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya."

Bredius has embellished

Esser's shows with soul-stirring performances. Together they are known for their dramatic flair and impassioned musical style.

Also of note: Soprano Jan Rae, tenor Enrico La Ricca, and Billy Rose and his Gypsy Musicians will present a concert 6 p.m. Sunday, April 28 at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 Maple Road. Tickets are \$12, call (810) 471-1604 or (313) 427-0040. Tickets will also be on sale at the door before the concert at 5 p.m.

Rae and La Ricca began singing together when they were

chosen to sing the La Boheme Quartet at Aurora Peralli's opera workshop. In Detroit La Ricca formed a concert format with the Gypsy Musicians and later called in partner Jan Rae. For several years Jan and Enrico have done shows in the area, and through the years have been asked to sing with the gypsy concerts held in various night clubs and supper clubs throughout Michigan.

Currently, the Billy Rose Quartet is playing at the Escalibur in Southfield, Tuesday through Saturday.

## Local bookstore happenings

Local bookstores are planning these special events:

- Murder, Mystery & Mayhem, formerly located in Livonia, has reopened at 35167 Grand River (Drakeshire Plaza) in Farmington.
- A special weekend celebration will be held at the bookstore April 13 and 14 with giveaways and refreshments for customers on those days. A drawing is

scheduled for April 30.

First prize will be a mystery weekend at Marsh Ridge Resort in Gaylord. Store hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Call (810) 471-7210.

• Two of the country's most popular nature authors, Don and Lillian Stokes, will present a talk and slide show on "The Amazing World of Birds," and sign copies of their new book at Wild Birds Unlimited, 29405 W. 12 Mile Road (just west of Middlebelt Road) in the Rainbow.

Their latest work is "Stokes Field Guide To Birds," a photographic field guide to all birds in

North America. The guide is available in eastern and western editions and is a culmination of the Stokes' life work, taking over three years to research and prepare.

Center, Farmington Hills 6 p.m. Monday, April 22.

The Stokes will discuss fascinating bird behavior, tips to bird identification and the importance of backyard bird conservation. Their presentation will begin at 6 p.m. Because seating is limited, reservations are required, and may be made in advance by calling the store (810) 471-7334 during business hours. Book signing will follow 6:30-8 p.m.

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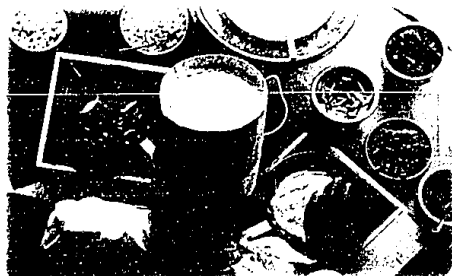
## Stars share favorite reads

In conjunction with National Library Week, April 13-20, the Friends of the Southfield Public Library are presenting "Reading with the Stars."

Local radio and TV personalities will read from their favorite books 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 18 in the Southfield Library's Marcotte Room. Star readers include Amyre Makupson UPP

50 News; William Kionzie, author of "The Rosary Murders," Ruth Langan, romance novelist, Thomas Sullivan, author of "Phases of Harry Moon," and Wyn and Harold Landis, local authors. There is no charge, and everyone is welcome. Parking is available at the Southfield Civic Center, 28000 Evergreen, Southfield. Call (810) 948-0470 for more information.

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This Sunday, have your Sunday Brunch at the Wyndham Garden Hotel-Novi. Delicious entrees (including made-to-order omelettes), prepared salads and salad bar, fresh baked goods, and some very sweet desserts. It's a great meal, a great atmosphere, and a great value any day of the week. Call 810-344-8800 for more information. And on holidays, call us about our special brunches (prices may vary).

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