

Tour from page B1

"My favorite is The Boy and Bear," said Fisher who resigned as a special education teacher in Pontiac Public Schools 11 years ago to write. She recently finished the second in a series of children's books on Detroit's cultural treasures. A Pewabic Pottery book is scheduled to be released in time to celebrate the historic pottery's centennial in 2003. Like the Fredericks book, the story tracks Pewabic ceramics in the community.

"The Boy and Bear is an emotional attachment, being there at Northland Center as kids and playing there around the bear. As teens we used to

■ 'It's important for children to appreciate what's around them.'

Marcey Heller Fisher
—author

always meet there. Aesthetically, I like the Leaping Gabelle. But it's so difficult to choose. I hosted a tour of the sculptures as an auction item for Birmingham Area Senior Citizens. We went from Pontiac to Detroit and never got off Woodward more than three-

quarters of a mile.

"I know other people who've done the tour and come back and say they enjoy it. With grandparents and grandchildren there's a bonding. It's important for children to appreciate what's around them. I always loved art."

The Outdoor Museum: The Magic of Michigan's Marshall Fredericks is available at Borders, Barnes & Noble, Book Beat in Oak Park, the Detroit Institute of Arts Gift Shop, Detroit Historical Museum, and from Wayne State University Press at (800) WSU-READ.

Village Players of Birmingham

Mark your calendar for another season of comedy, music and award-winning classics at the Village Players of Birmingham.

The community theater group has chosen a slate of plays for 2002-2003, its 80th season.

Chris Crosson, players president, says no other Detroit-area theater has presented two musicals — *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Sidehow* — planned for the Village Players stage next year.

Other shows will include the musical, *The Fantastiks*, a 19th century classic, *Cyrano De Bergerac* and the Pulitzer Prize winner, *The Heidi Chronicles*.

St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook

Neil Simon's *Jake's Women* opens Jan. 18 for a two week run at St. Dunstan's playhouse on Leone Pine 2 block west of Cranbrook Road in Bloomfield Hills.

Paul Gillin of Birmingham plays Jake, a novelist who is more successful with fiction than real life as he tackles a marital crisis by daydreaming about the

women in his life. These wildly comic and sometimes moving flashbacks played out in his mind are interrupted by visitations from real women.

Krystyn Irvine of Rochester Hills, directs the play, with assistance from her husband, John.

The cast also includes Karen Koyle of Bloomfield Hills as Maggie, Marlene Loucks of Bloomfield Hills as Karen, Amy Littlefield-Bousamra of Auburn Hills as Molly (age 21), Jan Markis of Troy as Edith, Lisa Nelson of Rochester Hills as Julie and Kathy Brooks Burch of Royal Oak as Sheila.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Jan. 18-19 and 24-25 and at 2 p.m., Jan. 20 and 26.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for senior citizens, available by calling (248) 644-0527. Visa/MasterCard Accepted.

Ocean Grille in Birmingham will cater a special dinner package at the theater on opening night. For details call Paul Gillin at (248) 593-3093.

Ridgedale Players

Need a few good laughs as

2002 gets underway?

Head to the Ridgedale Player's production of Neil Simon's *The Good Doctor*, Jan. 11-13, 18-20 and 25-27. Show times are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 3 p.m. Sundays.

The Good Doctor consists of hilarious, off-beat independent sketches. Each actor plays several roles. Characters include The Sneezer, a prostitute, a seducer, a man with a toothache, a mistress and a defenseless creature.

The comedy is based on the work of 19th century playwright, Anton Chekhov.

Tickets are \$12, with seniors and students paying \$11 on Sundays. Admission includes a sandwich and coffee afterglow with an opportunity to socialize with actors and crew. Call (248) 988-7049 for tickets and information. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

Check out the player's Web site at www.ridgedaleplayers.com on the Internet.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showtimes

Arden Hills 14
15000 Arden Hills Rd.
Beverly Hills & Midway Blvd
248-373-2660
Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows Under 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thru. Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP ALL (C)
NP KATE AND LEOPOLD (PG-13)
NP LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13)
NP JIMMY NEUTRON NOT GENIUS (G)
NP THE MAELSTROM (PG)
NP HOW HIGH (R)
NP JOE SOMMEROY (PG)
NP VANILLA SKIT (C)
NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)
NP HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG)
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NP THE SLEEPING BEAUTY (PG)
NP THE MAELSTROM (PG)
NP HOW HIGH (R)
NP JOE SOMMEROY (PG)
NP THE LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13)
NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)
NP OCEAN'S ELEVEN (PG-13)
NP DENOTES NO PASS

Showtimes Pontiac 14
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows Under 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.
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NP VANILLA SKIT (C)
NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG-13)
NP HOW HIGH (R)
NP LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13)
NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)
NP HARRY POTTER (PG)
NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)
NP JIMMY NEUTRON (G)
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Showtimes Pontiac 6-12
2405 Telegraph St. East Side of
Telegraph
810-334-6777
Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows Under 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP KATE AND LEOPOLD (PG-13)
NP LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13)
NP JIMMY NEUTRON NOT GENIUS (G)
NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG-13)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star John 14
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows Under 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
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NP KATE AND LEOPOLD (PG-13)
NP LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13)
NP JIMMY NEUTRON NOT GENIUS (G)
NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG-13)
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Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and
Northwestern, Off I-96
248-333-5544
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP KATE AND LEOPOLD (PG-13)
NP THE MAELSTROM (PG)
NP HOW HIGH (R)
NP JOE SOMMEROY (PG)
NP VANILLA SKIT (C)
NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)
NP HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG)
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Monsters from page B1

"Zoe and Elmo start a friendship club by themselves. Only monsters with red or orange fur can join," said Garrett. "Eventually, they realize the more the merrier and the club gets bigger and bigger. It shows kids how to share."

In the process of welcoming birds, bugs and grouches to the Monster Friendship Club, the colorful characters teach children a number of important lessons. An appreciation for patience, acceptance and loyalty grows as they build a giant clubhouse, put on a circus, and clean Cookie Monster's room together.

From babies to adults, they all love it, even parents," said Garrett. "It brings back memories from when they were growing up."

Garrett grew up in Tennessee watching the Sesame Street gang on public television so he especially enjoys playing Big Bird. It's a role he's been preparing for nearly all of his 31-years. Garrett danced in productions all over the south before kicking up his heels at Disney World. Joining the Sesame Street Live cast brought new challenges, however. Along with playing 55 cities between August of this year and June 2002, Garrett has to do all of his dancing in an 8 feet 3 inch bird suit and

Monsters from page B1

■ 'From babies to adults, they all love it, even parents.'

Mitchell Garrett
—a.k.a. Big Bird

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