

# "Bye, Bye Birdie" With Cast of 100 Opens Friday In Livonia

## Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild Producing Comedy

"Bye, Bye Birdie" staged and produced by the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford will open this Friday at Bentley High School. Other performances will be Saturday and the following weekend, Dec. 4, 5 and 6. All performances start at 8:30 p.m. with the exception of Sunday, Dec. 6, which will begin the performance starts at 7:30 p.m. For the Sunday night performance only, student tickets are on sale at \$1.25.

Tickets may be obtained by calling GA 1-1481 or GA 1-5716. Tickets are also available at Dean Pharmacy and Taylor's Town House, two blocks east of Merriman.

The "Birdie" of the title is an Elvis Presley-like songbird—portrayed by Doug Kerr—who's imminent induction into military service sets the plot in motion. Jim Corbun, who will play the part of this army-bound minister's manager who is desolated with loss of his meshed bird, will be played by Bev Gotsch (Rose), thinks up a publicity stunt. This is to choose from an index card file of Birdie's idolatrous fans a typical American girl who will have the honor of being given the star's last kiss before he goes into uniform.

The girl selected is a high school miss in Sweet Apple, Ohio, who is the greatest singer, his manager and various television technicians descend on this little community to record the farewell kiss for the Ed Sullivan Show, the town goes mad.

In particular Birdie's visit makes a shambles of the home of the dunsured miss chosen for the kiss, and causes her father-to-be to be portrayed by Howard Egan (Mr. MacAfee)—to sing the very song entitled "Birdie" that was one of the show's biggest hits during its long New York run in which he (Jim Corbun) who knows what's wrong with these kids today.

With a cast of 100, "Bye, Bye Birdie" should prove to be the most spectacular musical comedy ever staged in this area.

## Franklinites' Production "Bye Bye Birdie" Opens Dec. 2, 3, 4 At Franklin

Now it is finally here—the "thing" all Franklinites have been so long awaiting. Their first annual all-school musical "Bye, Bye Birdie" will be presented in the Lecture Theater at the school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, December 2, 3, and 4.

Advance ticket sales have resulted in a near sell-out for all three performances. A few tickets will be offered early next week.

Actual production of this gay, youthful musical culminates over six weeks' work by more than 200 students and five faculty members. Dave Hirvela, English department, has served as a general director for "Bye, Bye Birdie." Assisting him have been Mr. Roy Ernst, Music department, supervisor of all musical aspects of the production. Mrs. Mary Ellen Goodwin, Home Economics department, in charge of costumes. Mr. Oliver Schmidt, Business department, in charge of props. Mr. Anderson, Industrial Education department, has shared responsibility for tickets, programs, and scenery.

The main cast comprises SENIORS: Gary Barton, Mr. MacAfee; Alexis Naimola, Mr. Howard; Al Borek, Conrad Birdie; Diane Michalka, Gloria Rasputin; Mary Moore, Mae Peterson; JUNIORS: Bob Zink, Albert Peterson, the Grinner. Mrs. MacAfee, Bill Mulcrum, Randolph MacAfee; John Bagdasarian, Hugo Peabody; Kay Schock, Ursula Munk, SPONSOR: Janice Mumford, Rose Alvarez.

## Art Institute Decorating Christmas Tree

Ornamented with priceless hand-made figures, a regal Christmas tree will dominate the Great Hall of The Detroit Institute of Arts during the holidays.

From Nov. 29 through Jan. 5, Mrs. Howell H. Howard of New York City is lending this exquisite symbol of the season to visitors to The Detroit Institute of Arts may enjoy more than 130 magnificent ornaments that has collected over a 30-year period.

On the 14-foot tall simulated blue spruce, Mrs. Howard is now personally supervising the placing of each angel, cherub, shepherd, mazel, sheep, donkey, goat, lamb and dog.

At the foot of the tree, she will arrange a crèche against a background of moss-covered cork. Creche figures include the Holy Family, wise men and kings, shepherds with their sheep, horses, and other animals, all beautifully contoured or decorated. Approximately two weeks time is required to complete the installation.

Each unique figure is the work of a 17th or early 18th century Neapolitan artist. The expression on each wood or terracotta face is delicately painted, while the bodies are of woven straw. Mobility is part of the figures' charm, because the various parts of the figures are not rigid, but fitted with armatures that can be posed as desired.

### Dance Nov. 27

The Singletons will hold a Turkey Trot on Friday, Nov. 27. The dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. at the Dearborn YMCA, 10500 Ford Road. Admission is 50 cents for YMCA members and \$1.25 for guests.

The Singletons is an organization of single young adults between the ages of 18 to 25.

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"BOSS" AND SECRETARY (Jim Corbun and Bev Gotsch) conspire on a publicity stunt to make nation's top youthful songbird going into the Army a national circus. This sets the plot for the fast-moving musical comedy "Bye Bye Birdie," opening at Bentley High School this week-end, produced by Redford-Livonia Theatre Guild.

## 1927 Mystery Film To Be Shown at Ford Museum Sunday, Nov. 29

The silent film version of the thriller, "The Cat and the Canary," will be the next showing in the Famous Early Movie Series at Henry Ford Museum on Sunday, Nov. 29. The Sunday only performances are at 2 and 4 p.m.

Laura LaFante heads the cast of this picture filmed by Universal International in 1927. An intriguing mystery story directed by Paul Leni, the cast also includes Flora Finch, Creighton Hale, Forrest Stanley and Arthur Carro.

The Famous Early Movie Series, now in its thirteenth year at the Henry Ford Museum, offers great films from the early days of motion picture history, both silent and sound. Movies in the Museum theater are open to all visitors without additional charge.

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### Livonia Women On "Living Show"

The Livonia Women's Chorus will be appearing with Carol Duval on the "Living Show" Friday, Dec. 11, at 9 a.m. on Channel 4.

The group, sponsored by Department of Parks and Recreation, will present music from their Christmas Concert. Among the featured numbers will be "The Little Drummer Boy," arranged by Harry Simeone, "Some Children See Him," composed by Alfred Ewart with lyrics by Mrs. Starr Laughlin, and "The Star Carol" with solo by Mrs. Helene Chambo.

The chorus is directed by Mrs. Jacqueline Meynans and accompanied by Mrs. Lila Hindmarsh.

### Senior Citizens Plan 'Singalong'

A senior citizens chorus will be established at Frost Junior High School, 16441 Stark Road, on Tuesday afternoon, December 1.

The group will meet every other Tuesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. According to Mrs. Frances Nicol, who will direct, there will be no charge to persons joining this "sing along" group.

The true measure of a man is not by what he does, but by what he gives to others.

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## DECEMBER 2, 3, 4, 5

## "THE CHALK GARDEN"

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### Tony Spina Guest At Madonna College Dinner-Dance Benefit, Dec. 7

Dr. Gerard Hassett, chairman of the Advisory Board of Madonna College, is actively promoting the pre-Christmas, fund-raising project, a Dinner-Dance at the Thunderbird Inn (14707 Northville Road at 5 Mile) to be held on December 7.

Cocktails will be served at 7 p.m. A roast-beef dinner will follow at 8 p.m.

Tony Spina, photographer for the Detroit Free Press will present a film-lecture on Rome as an additional attraction for the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kobler-Synski and John Carlo, co-owners of the Inn, are donating the proceeds of the entire affair to the Madonna College building fund.

Tickets are selling fast. Earl Demel, who initiated the activity as one of the group's efforts to promote higher education, has already sold 50 tickets. At the moment with 300 tickets in circulation, completed sales mount to over 150 tickets.

For further information about this fund-raising and wholly enjoyable activity, call Dr. G. Hassett, 538-1623.

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