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Players Have Good Thing Going

By JAN WILLIAMS

If you have tickets to one of the remaining performances of the Farmington Players' production of "Don't Drink the Water," you're in for an evening of good entertainment.

A special treat for newcomers is an introduction to the theater itself. The converted barn provides the informality and casualness needed to truly enjoy a performance.

In other words, you can take your shoes off and relax while a group of talented actors and actresses do all the work.

The play is a two-act comedy by Woody Allen which takes place in an American embassy somewhere behind the Iron Curtain.

In the opening scene, Father Drobney (Dennis Broadhead) explains the circumstances. Himself a refugee of the embassy for six years, he gets some company when three American tourists, mistaken as spies, seek refuge there from the police.

The ambassador has left his bungling son in charge of the embassy. The gist of the play is his handling of the situation and the relationships which develop.

Broadhead does an excellent job of setting the mood for the play. His appearances throughout the scenes continually add sparks to the fire.

Fred Bush gets double credit as director of the play and as Ambassador Magee. He scores equally well on both counts.

John Powers as Axel, the ambassador's son, can also be applauded for his efforts. He made a good bungler.

For lack of space, I can sum up performances by the cast--Ellen Rosen as Susan Hollander, Steven Zygmont as Krojack, David McCabe as Kilroy, Greg Messer as Burns (also producer), Sal Sisto as the chef, Rusty Griffin as the Sultan and Kathy Zelner as his wife, Frances Kezerta as Countess Bordoni and Mark Sisto as the guard – as the best I've seen yet in community theater.

I deleted cast members Jim Brownold as Walter Hollander and Hope Nahstoll as Marion Hollander, two of the tourists, because they deserve special recognition.

Acting of that caliber is rare among local theater groups and the Farmington Players should be proud to claim two members who have it.

That's not meant to disparage the rest of the group. It takes a team effort to pull off a successful venture. The Players have done it with cast and crew.

If you aren't one of the ticket holders to this sold-out performance, you've still got a chance to find out what good community theater really is. The Players have upcoming performances in February and April. So get in on a good thing.

amusements

Concert To Feature Hauenstein

Nelson Hauenstein, long the principal flutist of the Plymouth Symphony, will step to center stage as soloist in this Sunday's (Nov. 18) 4 p.m. concert.

Hauenstein and the orchestra will be heard in a concerto by Carl Nielsen, the 20th century Danish composer.

The concert will be performed in Plymouth's Salem High School, Joy Road west of Canton Center Road.

Hauenstein is associate dean and professor of flute at the University of Michigan School of Music. He is an organizer of the U-M Woodwind Quintet and Baroque Trio.

He has been heard on radio, television and on the concert stage with many Michigan orchestras and bands. He is also prominent as an adjudicator in high school band and orchestra competitions.

The orchestra, conducted by Wayne Dunlap, will be heard in works that span the musical spectrum: "Sinfonia in B flat" by Johann Christian Bach; Symphony No. 9 ("Unfinished") by Franz Schubert; and "New England Triptych" by William Schuman.

"Triptych" is based on three early American songs – the hymns "Be Glad Then, America" and "When Jesus Wept" and "Chester," a marching song.

Tickets at $2 for adults and $1 for college students will be available at the door. K-12 students are admitted free, but sixth grade and younger students must be accompanied by an adult.

Baby-sitting by qualified girl scouts will be provided.

Senior citizens can get bus rides to the school from Tonquish Creek Manor in Plymouth.

Going on sale will be advance tickets for the Dec. 9 performance of Handel's "Messiah," featuring the Kenneth Jewell Chorale. Prices are a little higher because of the increased cost of that concert -- $3 for adults and $1.50 for all students.

Area Students Will Perform

Seven area residents will be among Western Michigan University students participating in the music department's fifth annual Band Spectacular.

The event is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 16, at 8 p.m. in James W. Miller Auditorium on the WMU campus, Kalamazoo.

Area students performing in this concert will be Debbie Lewis, Bradley Weage, James Ryan, Barbara Wells and John Kitzmiller, all of Plymouth; also, Cheryl Stewart and Kathy Tollefson of Livonia.

Over 250 WMU students will perform in ensembles from the University Symphonic Band, the University Wind Ensemble, the University Jazz Lab Band and the University Marching Band.

MOVIE GUIDE

DEARBORN
Michigan at Telegraph LO 1-3450
Mat. Wed. 1:00 Adults $1.00
Anthony Quinn
"THE DON IS DEAD" (R)
SPEC. SAT. KID MAT.
"TOR. MONSTER FROM SPACE" (G)
"DESTROY ALL MONSTERS" (G)

DEARBORN LIVING ROOM
Michigan Ave. at Telegraph LO 1-0056
MAT WED 1:00 ADULTS $1.00
Tom Laughlin
"BILLY JACK" (PG)

STATE-WAYNE
WAYNE PA 1-2100
ALL SEATS $1.00 MON THRU FRI
Joe Don Baker
"WALKING TALL" (R)
Rock Hudson
"PRETTY MAIDS ALL IN A ROW" (R)
SPEC. SAT SUN KID MAT
"TOR. MONSTER FROM SPACE" (G)
"DESTROY ALL MONSTERS" (G)

ALGIERS Drive-In
WESTLAND GA 2-6810
Tom Laughlin
"BILLY JACK" (PG)
Charlton Heston
"THE OMEGA MAN" (PG)

WAYNE Drive In I
WAYNE Michigan Ave. PA 1-3150
#1—Christopher Lee
"DRAW MEAT" (R)
#2—"CANNIBAL GIRLS" (R)

WAYNE Drive-In II
WAYNE Michigan Ave. PA 1-3150
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