

Casting Call

The Plymouth Theater Guild will hold open tryouts for its spring production, "Seven Nuns in Las Vegas," Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in Plymouth Middle School, Church and Main Streets.

"Seven Nuns in Las Vegas," a comedy featuring 11 women's parts and two men's, will be directed by Clemmie Syburt, assisted by Effie Kuisel. Everyone is welcome who wishes to read for a part or work-back stage.

Horse riding course offered

Registration is now being taken for a special 15-week session in horsemanship riding, one of the special youth courses being offered through the Community House in Birmingham.

Students can learn both flat riding and jumping, under expert direction, using both outdoor and indoor facilities.

The lessons are taught at Rochester Hills Riding School, with transportation to the school and back included in the registration fee.

To register contact the Community House, 330 S. Bates, Birmingham.

leisure

Express bus to start in S'field

Phase One of the Northern Express, the winter sports bus that links southern Michigan population centers with northern Michigan resort areas, started Feb. 1.

Buses leave from Lot L at the Northland Shopping Center, Southfield, at 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. There are three routes in phase one: Southfield to Clare, Cadillac, and Traverse City; Southfield to Tawas City, Oscoda, and Alpena.

There are also 7 a.m. buses on Saturday and Sunday. When Phase Two begins Feb. 15, buses will leave

from Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Jackson and Ann Arbor, making stops at such intermediate points as Lansing and Flint.

Round-trip tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. "This is a pilot program — one that we hope will provide Michigan resorts and Michigan tourists with a means of getting together no matter what the gasoline situation," Gov. William Milliken said.

It is necessary to reserve your tickets in advance and pick them up more than 24 hours before your trip.

Theater provides new life

By Jan Williams

"I feel like a chicken about to hatch out of an egg." That's the way Marion

Tourneau describes her experiences with the Theater Guild of Livonia — Redford, where she has been a member for the past eight years.

To her, every aspect of the theater is a different and exciting challenge and she has met them all.

Eight years ago Mrs. Tourneau started by painting scenery, and her latest role is director of "Beauty and the Beast." TGLR's children's play for this season.

It will be presented March 2 in Thurston High School, March 9 in Bentley High School, March 16 in Franklin High School and March 30 in Redford Union High School. Performances will be given in all four schools at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. All will be open to the public.

Mrs. Tourneau feels children should have the opportunity to see live theater. "It's so much more creative and imaginative than television. And it's a good way for adults to relate to young folks."

"But you can't fool the kids. The quality of the production is very important."

Cast members for "Beauty and the Beast" range in age from 16 to 26.

"Their enthusiasm is fantastic. As a result, I think we'll have a very good show."

This is a first for Mrs. Tourneau as director but it gives her the chance to make use of other areas of theater in which she has been involved — make up, costumes, props, acting and production.

"You don't do this for money — you have to enjoy it."

It's like a family and if you keep an open mind — and ears and eyes — you can learn from everyone around you."

Mrs. Tourneau, who resides in Farmington with her husband John, feels it's important for women like herself to be actively involved in something.

After raising three children and teaching oil painting for a while, she felt she needed something more stimulating. She found it in the theater.

"It keeps me young and happy. I run into a lot of problems, but I stick with it because of the end result."

She says the theater can do the same for anyone who's willing to take an interest in it.

"Just remember, when you think it's too late to start, that's the time to begin."



MARION TOURNEAU

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