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Escape is Everything!  
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only if there is an eligible substitute from the waiting list.

# Wayne-Westland still struggling

By Jan Williams

The secret of success seems to have eluded the Wayne-Westland Civic Theater as it struggles to remain in existence.

Theater President Fred Button of Livonia says he can't put his finger on the reason why the theater is doing so poorly.

"I can see other theater groups progressing and being accepted by the community, but we're not. If anyone has any answers, I'd be glad to hear them."

The Wayne-Westland Theater began 14 years ago. However, it has never had a permanent theater site, which Button says could be one of its problems.

At one time the group used the post office annex in Wayne, but it was torn down for urban renewal in 1965.

For the past five years it used the former Harvey School in Westland for rehearsals and set construction. Last summer the Wayne-Westland School Board decided to tear down the building to build homes. Once again it has left the theater out in the cold.

Through much inconvenience and difficulty, the group is now rehearsing in St. John Episcopal Church in Westland and using the Salvation Army building in Romulus for storage.

Besides a permanent theater site, Button says a greater interest in civic activities might help the group.

"We send season tickets to school board members, city officers, including all council members and the mayor.

## leisure

Most of their plays are presented in John Glenn High School in Westland. However, the rental fee for the auditorium is \$450 to \$500 for a two-night performance.

This fee, combined with the cost of the production, often leaves the theater financially in the hole.

The last production, "Cyano," cost the theater \$1,000. Ticket sales amounted to only \$800.

"Our biggest problem is getting an audience, but I can't figure out why. We work hard putting on plays and I think we do a good job. But we just don't seem to be able to draw the people in."

Button says the group has tried offering the plays on different dates, offering more performances, and all different types of plays. All to no avail.

"It's difficult to get up there on the stage when you've spent so much time on the play and worked hard to make it good, when only 50 or 60 people show up."

Besides a permanent theater site, Button says a greater interest in civic activities might help the group.

"We send season tickets to school board members, city officers, including all council members and the mayor.

Men interested in performing good male chorus music may join the Orpheus Club of Detroit.

The Orpheus Club will complete its 74th season with a concert May 10, in the Scottish Rite Auditorium of Detroit's Masonic Temple. Rehearsal will be held once a week, beginning Monday, Feb. 11.

Singers should have some degree of musical accomplishment. Requirements are good vocal quality, proper in-

We're lucky if two or three of them show up during the entire season."

The group offers four performances per season — two full plays, a children's play and a night of one-acts.

"We usually help the Wayne-Westland PTA by splitting the box office sales of the children's play with them. But this year, even that took a beating."

The theater is presently \$1,000 in the hole.

"We're not trying to make money. We'd be happy just to break even."

Their next performance will be a night of one-acts Feb. 15 and 16, at 8 p.m. in St. John Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland.

The one acts to be presented are "Opening Night," "My Brother's Keeper," "Street of Good Dreams," and "Slam the Door Softly." All are focused on the women's liberation movement during the period of the American Revolution.

The group currently has about 40 members. Officers are Button, president; Mildred Roy, vice president; Rita Urban, secretary; Don McKee, treasurer; and Al LaCroix, business manager.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month and anyone is welcome.



FRED BUTTON (left), president of the Wayne-Westland Civic Theater, goes over the script of its next production with Bobbie Jo Blank.

### Orpheus Club wants singers

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Singers should have some degree of musical accomplishment. Requirements are good vocal quality, proper in-

tonation and musicianship. Candidates should contact David A. Butler, voice committee chairman, to arrange an audition.

The Orpheus Club of Detroit is a non-profit organization and presents two concerts yearly for the fun of fellowship and the joy of singing. Blaine Ballard, director of the vocal music department of Eastern Michigan University, is conductor and Dallas Grobe is accompanist.

### Kendallarks elect officers

The Kendallarks recently elected officers for 1974. They are Velma Kapel, president; Mary Lou Barnard, vice president; Pat Peterson, secretary; and Mary Ann Readett, treasurer.

The Kendallarks are a choral group and are available for community and civic functions. Anyone who likes to sing is invited to join. The group meets the first and second Tuesdays of each month at the North Farmington Baptist Church, 32500 W. 13 Mile Road.

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## MOVIE GUIDE

**Dearborn Entertainment Center**

LO 1-3450 3 Theatres in one Building LO 1-0056

Mat Wed 1 PM \$1.00  
Curt Eastwood  
"MAGNUM FORCE" (R)  
Mat Wed 1 PM \$1.00  
John Wayne  
"H" (PG)

Mat Wed 1 PM \$1.00  
Walt Disney's  
"SUPERMAN" (G)  
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"SON OF FLORIAN" (G)

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THE REV. BLAIR DIXON (middle), teacher on "The Daedal Doors," a Sunday morning children's show, visited Keeler School last week to become acquainted with children in the Redford Union Schools' oral program for the hearing impaired. Two RU students who will appear on the Channel 7 show Sunday morning, Feb. 17, at 8 a.m. are Lisa Mermatz (left) and Greg Goick.

### Local bridge club meets

The Plymouth Tuesday Night Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St.

The ACBL games are sponsored by the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department and are open to anyone.

Last week's winners were Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Fortunes of Ann Arbor, first place; and Joan Reolofs and Nancy Hagen, both of Plymouth, second place.

### Class in string sculpture set

Cranbrook Institute of Science will present special workshops on string sculpture Feb. 13 and 20 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Institute of Science, 500 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills.

Adults and children are invited to join the institute staff for the workshops, free with museum admission. One green string is provided without charge. Participants should bring their own if other colors are preferred.

String sculpture involves drawing a design on graph paper, and applying the paper to a block of wood. Nails are driven into the wood following the pattern on the graph paper and string is wound around the nails. When the sculpture is finished, the paper is removed.

Participants must register with the institute prior to the workshops to ensure sufficient materials.

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