

Folksy evening surpasses show

By JEFF SCHORR
Did you think it was easy to be a thespian?
Ever wish to try acting?

The Troy Players, a family and friends organization which offers a folksy come-join-us invitation regularly in its program, is enthusiastic about amateur theater. Its most recent offering, "Night of January 16th," clearly shows this.

If it's high-level theater you seek, the Troy Players would disappoint. If the Troy Players seek parity with other local theater groups, they have a way to go.

On the other hand, it is not unenjoyable and there is a continuing charm about homemade cookies and the mingling of friends and family at play's end.

"Night" continues with performances at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Baulan School off Northfield Parkway and Waffles.

MEMBERS OF the cast, production staff and board of directors of the organization (now in its eighth year) move in and out of interchanging roles in all three capacities.

The Troy Players are an amateur group, without pretension, that sometimes produces good acting jobs and works with good, Broadway-level material. No excuses are necessary, as it seems to serve members and patrons.

Aya Rand, better known for her libertarian, iconoclastic political writings than for her playwrighting efforts, has penned a three-act comedy-drama, "Night of January 16th," which is a fascinating concept — particularly for whodunit fans.

The play is the complete courtroom murder trial. The 12-member jury selected from the audience renders a verdict based on the evidence the jury and audience have listened to witness pop

Review

out of the audience to testify. The decision is not clear cut and boils down to individual opinions, which acting abilities might easily influence.

District attorney Flint (John Robson) and defense attorney Stevens (Irene Block) emerge as the principal characters simply because they have the bulk of the dialogue interrogating and cross-examining witnesses.

IT IS HARD to accept them as bar- risters and the production, therefore, suffers.

The plot centers around whether or not the victim, entrepreneur and wheeler-dealer Bjorn Faulkner, committed suicide or was pushed from a building rooftop on the "Night of January 16th."

Several of the characters, aided by meaty parts and the drama of the witness stand, were brought to life creditably.

Ceil Wehman, playing the deceased's loyal secretary Karen Andre accused of murdering her boss, has impassioned moments of excellence.

Nancy Lee Faulkner (Diane Biernat), the victim's widow, conjures memories of Marlene Dietrich in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution" fame, with her trim, precise, surprise appearance.

Shirley Biggs comes close to mastering a cheap, lawyery gum-chewing girlfriend with the help of appropriate clothing but Larry Regan, a capable veteran, seems miscast as a torpedo-type extortionist who specializes in terrorizing.

Wilma Nichols, on the other hand, charms and is perfect as the Scandinavian cleaning lady.

How to send news releases

News releases, photographs or other information for the entertainment pages can be sent to Elhel Simmons, entertainment editor, at 1225 Bowers, Birmingham 48012.

The phone number of the Birmingham office is 644-1100.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ON THE TOWN

MOVIE'S


RESTAURANT
CANTONESE & AMERICAN FOOD
JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE
EXOTIC COCKTAILS

CARRY-OUT ON CHINESE FOOD
CHINESE LUNCHEON 11 AM-3 PM
JAPANESE LUNCHEON 11 AM-2 PM
DINNERS 5:30 PM FRI & SAT 11:30 PM


Closed Mondays

16825 MIDDLEBATE AT 6 MILE, LIVONIA
Reservations Accepted
Wed., Thurs. and Sun Only **427-3171**

HOW!



Tradition has it that "How" was the greeting at the very first Thanksgiving. You may say the same thing when you see what Stouffer's has planned this holiday. "How" can a Thanksgiving meal this good go for such a reasonable price. Choose items from our Buffet Table like: Turkey with dressing, Ham with Cherry Glaze, Baked Fresh Fish. Assorted salads, relishes and vegetables; all the traditional trimmings and your choice of desserts. Served from noon to 8 p.m. \$9.25 for adults, and \$6.25 for children under 12. Stouffer's Northland Inn, 21000 Northwestem Highway, 569-4700.


The Rafter's

BY POPULAR DEMAND
Now Serving Our
CHINESE BUFFET
Featuring all varieties of
Authentic Chinese Dishes
All you can enjoy
Served from 5 p.m. Friday & Saturday

SHANGRI LA WEST
Chinese Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge
Miracle Mile Shopping Center
Across from Showcase Cinema **335-8060**

OLDE TOWN CAFE
EATERY & SPIRITS
For Lunch or Dinner

- BBQ SPARE RIBS
- Our customers say they're the best!
- HOMEMADE SOUPS & CHILI
- STEAKS & SEAFOOD

Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm
Fri-Sat 11am-Midnight
Closed Sundays

7635 Auburn Rd.
(at W. of Van Dyke)
239-3931

sea shell restaurant

Seafood Fresh Daily

Try our daily
SPECIAL CATCH

Featuring: Clam Bake
Mai Mai Fish

Join us for Thurs. & Fri.
NOON FASHION SHOWS

OPEN: Mon-Sat.
689-1256 John R. just N. of I-75

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS PRESENTS
A WARREN MILLER SKI MOVIE
"WINTER FEVER"
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, AT 8:30 PM
AT THE FORD AUDITORIUM

TICKETS: \$4.75 FOR ADULTS-\$3.75 YOUTH
AVAILABLE AT THE FORD AUDITORIUM, LOCAL SKI
SHOPS, HUDSONS, AND THE AYH OFFICE.

EMCEE-BARRY ZEVAH
NARRATOR-WARREN MILLER

IT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD!

FROM THE MAGICAL WORLD OF SID AND MARTY KROFFT THE FAMILY MUSICAL SPECTACULAR OF THE YEAR

The Babes in Toyland

A BARRY AND FRAN WEISSLER PRODUCTION

NOV. 20-25
ALL TICKETS NOW ON SALE!
Times-Sat Even at 8 p.m. Sun Eve at 6:30
MATINEES: Nov 22 - Noon/Nov 23 & 24 - 11 am, 2 pm
Nov 25 - 2 pm

DISCOUNTS FOR CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER!

music hall center

Box Office 963-7680 Group rates: 963-7622

SOMERSET DINNERS THEATRE
Always presents

SAME TIME, NEXT YEAR

by Bernard Slade

Performances
Friday & Saturday

Produced by
Jimmy Lawrence
PRODUCTIONS, Inc.

Reservations a Must
643-8865

Lower Level Somerset Mall
869-3988

BLOOMFIELD IN BIRMINGHAM
ALL SEATS \$1.00 Ph. 646-0184

JAMES BOND IS BACK
"MOON RAKERS" PG-13

"SPY WHO LOVED ME"
F-SAT-SUN 6:00-8:30
M-T-W TH 7:30 ONLY
M-T-W TH 8:45

FRI-SAT LATE SHOW
11:00 ALL SEATS \$1.00

SAT-SUN MATINEE
11:00 ALL SEATS \$1.00
ALL NEW
"TERROR OF GODZILLA"
NEVER ON TV.

SOMERSET INN ALL SEATS \$1.50 (1st SHOWING ONLY)

AL PACINO
AND
JUSTICE FOR ALL

STARTS FRIDAY NOV. 16
BONUS BARGAIN SHOW
ALL SEATS \$1.50 ALL THEATRES

SNOKEY AND
The BANDIT "PG"
1:35 3:40 5:45 7:45 9:45

A True Story.
THE ONION FIELD

STARTS FRI NOV 9
DAILY 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
7:00 9:30

PONTIAC MALL
CENTRE CITY FLOOR LEVEL EAST ROOM

AL PACINO
AND
JUSTICE FOR ALL

STARTS FRI NOV 9
DAILY 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
7:00 9:30

GENERAL CINEMA THEATRES

THE MUSICAL DINNER THEATRE
at the SHUFFLETON

• FULL COURSE DINNER OF ENTERTAINMENT
• 2 HOUR BROADWAY MUSICAL COMEDY
Dancing After

ONLY \$14.50

PRIME RIBS OF BEEF • SOUP OF THE DAY • CAULIFLOWER
PIETS OF CUCUMBERS • BREAD OF THE DAY • BUTTER
EGG FARMER'S • SWEET POTATTOES

The Center
at Grand Theatre
1000 Grand Theatre
Birmingham

GYPSY
A MUSICAL PLAY
CALLING TO THE RING
IN THE RING

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS FROM 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
SHOWING ONLY FROM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM SPECIALS
RESERVATIONS 335-8060

SHOWCASE CINEMAS
35100 VAN DYKE RD. AT 15 MI.
STERLING HTS. PHONE 979-3160

BARGAIN MATINEE DAILY
\$1.50-FIRST SHOW ONLY

"terrific!"
"MUSIC" "MUSIC"
"Apocalypse Now"
"LAUGHS!"
BLAKE EDWARDS
"10"
"JUST EXCELLENT!"
"Starting Over"
"LAUGHS!"
"BRIAN"
"THE ROSE"
Gilt certificates always available at box office
...Entertainment is the perfect gift!

SHOWCASE CINEMAS
2400 SOUTH TELEGRAPH RD.
PONTIAC, TELEPHONE 332-0241

AN ANIMATED MASTERPIECE

WALT DISNEY'S
SLEEPING BEAUTY

"It's a comedy to cheer about. It's just excellent!"
—Critic, THE NEW YORK TIMES

BURT REYNOLDS
JILL CLAYBURGH
CANDICE BERGEN
Starting Over

A story about
having the
courage to be
what you are.

RUNNING

"Side-splitting!"
NEWSWEEK

BLAKE EDWARDS
"10"

"A story about
having the
courage to be
what you are."

RUNNING

"Apocalypse Now"
MARLON BRANDO

"Side-splitting!"
NEWSWEEK

BLAKE EDWARDS
"10"

"A story about
having the
courage to be
what you are."

RUNNING

UA theatres
ALL SEATS \$1.50 (1st SHOWING ONLY)

MOVIES PRUDENTIAL TOWN CENTER
BOX OFFICE OPENS 30 MIN PRIOR TO SHOWTIME

"BREAKING AWAY"
Wed. Mat. 2:05
Mon.-Fri. 7:15 9:25
Sat. & Sun. 1:05-3:15
5:25-7:35-9:45

"LUNA"
Mon-Fri. 7:00-9:30
WED. MATINEE 2:05
Sat. & Sun. 1:15-4:00
7:00-9:30

SUBURBAN THEATRE INC.

Michael Douglas
"RUNNING" (PG)

All Star Cast
"METEOR" (PG)

Burt Reynolds & Jill Clayburgh
"STARTING OVER" (R)

Julie Andrews & Dudley Moore
"10" (R)

Family Matinee Sat. & Sun.
All Seats \$1.50
"THE TERROR OF GODZILLA" (G)

Richard Gere Vanessa Redgrave
"YANKS" (R)

"THE MUPPET MOVIE" (G)
Wed. Mat. 1 show, 1 p.m.

Starts Friday
"THE MAGICIAN OF LUBLIN" (R)
Family Matinee Sat. & Sun.
"TERROR OF GODZILLA" (G)
Doors open 12:45
Showtime: 1:00 & 2:45
All seats \$1.50

Starting Friday
"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF" (G)
First Time in Dolby Stereo

"THE MAGICIAN OF LUBLIN" (R)
Starring Alan Arkin & Louise Fletcher

Full Stereo
Sean Connery Natalie Wood
Henry Fonda Karl Malden
"METEOR" (PG)

Burt Reynolds Jill Clayburgh
Candice Bergen
"STARTING OVER" (R)

Julie Andrews & Dudley Moore
"10" (R)

Al Pacino In
"JUSTICE FOR ALL" (R)

Michael Douglas
"RUNNING" (PG)

Marlon Brando & Robert Duvall
"APOCALYPSE NOW" (R)
Mat. Wed. 1 show 7 p.m.

Starts Fri. Nov. 16
Walt Disney's
"SLEEPING BEAUTY" (G)

Richard Gere Vanessa Redgrave
"YANKS" (R)

"WHEN A STRANGER CALLS" (R)

Starts Fri. Best Seller
"ONION FIELD" (R)

ABBEY 1, 2, 3, 4
From Tom Clavin Mall on 4 Mile at 775
569-0981

FAIRLAKE 1 & 2
on W. Telegraph
644-1720

MABLE 1, 2, 3
on W. 10th & 11th Street
at the Northland Plaza
855-9090

NORTHLAND 1 & 2
All Movieplexes Northland Center
565-9368

OLD ORCHARD 1-2-3
on Grand Lake Rd. N. of 12 Mile
553-2310

TERRACE 1 & 2
3400 Prichard Rd. near Northland
937-1777 427-1200

TOWNE 1 & 2
Grandview Plaza N. of
Prichard
368-8700