



Tom Spackman is John Worthing and Jeanne Arnold is Lady Bracknell in the Meadow Brook Theatre production of "The Importance of Being Earnest."

upcoming things to do

MEADOW BROOK

Oscar Wilde's comedy "The Importance of Being Earnest" will open a four-week run at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, at Meadow Brook Theatre on the Oakland University campus near Rochester. Performances continue through Sunday, Jan. 20. New York actor Tom Spackman returns to Meadow Brook after a four-year absence to play the world-weary John Worthing. Also in the cast are Jeanne Arnold as Lady Bracknell, Peter Gregory Thomson as Algernon, Lynn Mansbach as Gwendolyn and Maureen McDewitt as Cecily Cardew. For ticket information, call the box office at 377-3000. Tickets also are available at all AAA offices and all Ticket World outlets.

TAMMY'S OUT

Tammy Grimes has withdrawn from the cast of the play "Painting Churches," which opens Thursday, Dec. 27, at the Birmingham Theatre. She will be replaced by Marian Seldes, who played the part on Broadway. In other business, the theater is looking for a talking parakeet to understudy a parakeet, who appears in the play as Toots, and repeats a line of poetry.

CHUCK MITCHELL

Folk singer Chuck Mitchell appears in concert at FolkTown at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at the Southfield Civic Center's Parks and Recreation Building. In the heyday of folk, Mitchell and his then-wife, Joni, performed on the Detroit coffeehouse circuit and at the Raven Gallery. Since moving to life along the Mississippi, he rarely performs in this area. Admission is \$5. For further information, call FolkTown at 855-9848, 6-9 p.m.

HOLIDAY MUSIC

Music Machine from Doherty Elementary School will perform at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield. Our Lady of Refuge Adult Choir will sing at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20. The concerts are free entertainment for holiday shoppers.

AT HURLEY'S

Sapphire, a five-man, one-woman group, offers Top 40 tunes and funk through Saturday, Jan. 5, at Hurley's in the Northfield Hilton Hotel in Troy. Showtime is from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Fridays-Saturdays.

OLDIES CLUB

Wildcats, a seven-piece, '60s group with a female singer, continues through Saturday, Dec. 22, at Yesterday's Classic Oldies Club at the Sheraton-Southfield Hotel. Shows are from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays.

AUDITIONS OPEN

The Piccolo Regional Opera Society of Southfield will hold auditions for singers 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, at the Southfield Civic Center's Parks and Recreation Building. Four operatic arias are being requested. Singers should bring their own pianists. Singers chosen will perform at the society's second concert of regional vocal talent Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Southfield Civic Center. For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division at 354-4717 or Artistic Director Marjorie Gordon at 524-7955.

RIDGEDALE PLAYERS

The contemporary hit "Vanities" will be presented by Ridge Dale Players, continuing its 53rd season, Fridays-Sundays Jan. 11-13 and 18-20 and Friday-Saturday, Jan. 25-26, at the playhouse in Troy. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 7 p.m. Sundays. For ticket information, call 644-8525.

ATTIC THEATRE

"Children of a Lesser God," the 1980 Tony Award winner about the world of the deaf, continues through Sunday, Jan. 13, at the Attic Theatre's New Center Theatre at Third Avenue and W. Grand Blvd. in Detroit. A series of fully signed performances for the hearing impaired will be offered. True to Mark Medoff's award-winning script, the non-hearing roles are played by non-hearing actors. For more information, call the box office at 863-7789. The TDD number for the



Maureen McDewitt is Cecily Cardew and Peter Gregory Thomson is Algernon in "Earnest."

hearing impaired is 875-8560. The Business and Professional Branch of the National Council of Jewish Women will give its second annual benefit theater party at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6. Benefit tickets at \$15 include an afterglow. For more information, call 258-6000.

IN CONCERT

REO Speedwagon, with special guest Survivor, will appear in concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 30, at the Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Iron Maiden, with special guest Twisted Sister, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4. Tickets for each concert are \$13.50. For ticket information, call 567-6000.

MR. CHRISTIAN'S

Steve Nardella's R&R Trio will play Saturday, Dec. 22, at Mr. Christian's dance/music club in Royal Oak. The Urbanians are featured Sunday, Dec. 23; the Stingrays, Friday, Dec. 28; the Heat, Saturday, Dec. 29; the Buzztones, Sunday, Dec. 30, and Black Market, Monday, Dec. 31, New Year's Eve. For more information, call 547-6470.

'MASTER HAROLD'

"Master Harold and the boys" by Athol Fugard continues through Monday, Dec. 31, at the Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodward. Tickets for regular performances are \$6; \$7 each for limited membership and cash bar privileges. New Year's Eve will be a package deal, including dancing, a buffet supper of South African fare and New York champagne, for \$25 per person. For reservations, call 888-1347.

JAZZ FLUTE

Alexander Zonjic, jazz flutist, continues through Sunday, Jan. 6, at Alexander's in Detroit. The club will be closed Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 24-25. Zonjic plays at Alexander's on New Year's Eve. He then performs Sunday, Jan. 6, to Saturday, Jan. 12, at Marlowe's in Southfield.

PIKE STREET

Greg Nichols is heard on piano through February at the Pike Street Company Restaurant, 18 W. Pike, in Pontiac. Nichols plays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Mondays-Fridays; at Happy Hour 5-7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays; from 8 p.m. to midnight Wednesdays-Saturdays, and 6-9 p.m. Sundays.

THE ARK

New Year's Eve with folksinger Claudia Schmidt and mime O.J. Anderson is offered Monday, Dec. 31, at the Ark in Ann Arbor. The 8:30 p.m. show is \$7.50, the 10:30 show \$8.50. A cash bar is available. For reservations, call 781-1451.

BLIND PIG

Rock Allens is the musical attraction Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor. Domino plays Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22; Resistance Free, Thursday, Dec. 27; Scott Morgan, Friday, Dec. 28; George Bedard and the Kingpins, Saturday, Dec. 29, and Steve Nardella, Monday, Dec. 31, New Year's Eve. For more information, call 998-5555.

Celebrities to appear at Autorama show

The Autorama custom car show opens Thursday, Jan. 5, from 5 p.m. to midnight, at Cobo Hall and Arena in Detroit. The show continues from 5 p.m. to midnight Friday, Jan. 6, and 11 a.m. to midnight Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 7-8.

Tickets are \$6 on Jan. 5-6, with children 12 and under \$2. Tickets are \$7 on Jan. 7-8, with children \$2. Advance tickets are available at Fotomat for \$5, children \$1. Children 5 and under are free.

Special feature cars on display include KITT, the Knight Rider car from the TV show; the ZZ Top Eliminator car, used in the band's TV music videos, and Batman's Batmobile.

In addition to 500 exotic cars, trucks and a special "Cyclorama" exhibit of

hundreds of motorcycles on the lower level, Autorama will host major TV stars and a number of sports celebrities.

Among stars will be Tristan Rogers, police chief Scorpio of "General Hospital," and Heather Thomas, Jody of "Foley Goy," who will talk with guests and sign autographs throughout the show.

Adam West, better known as Batman, will be on hand to explain the tricks of his Batmobile. Michael Sarna who takes giant plunges into a sponge will dive off the roof of Cobo Hall into a sponge.

Other celebrities making appearances at the auto event include Detroit wrestler Dick the Bruiser.

Comedy ballet troupe returns to Music Hall

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, an all-male ballet company, will play its sixth engagement at Detroit Music Hall Center from Friday, Dec. 26, through Monday, Dec. 31.

The troupe satirizes the tradition and pageantry of classical ballet and modern dance innovations. The program gives biographies of such stars as Sonia Leffova, Adam Baum and Lavrenti "Blitz" Stroganoff.

"The Trocks" was created by Artistic Director Natch Taylor and Peter Anastos in 1974.

The company has been featured on network television with Shirley MacLaine (on her Emmy-winning special), with Dick Cavett and on "Real People."

This year's performances at the Music Hall will offer three separate pro-

grams including "Giselle," "Three Dances of Ruth St. Denis," "Swan Lake, Act II," "The Lamentations of Jane Eyre," and the troupe's signature piece.

"The Dying Swan." Tickets at \$17.50-\$12 may be purchased at the box office, phone 563-7680.

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