



The cast from "Everyone Loves Opal" which Avon Players will stage starting Jan. 10 includes Joe Urkshus (front row) as a policeman; (middle row, from left) Tim Penn as Brad, Myka Reeck as Opal, Fred Shulak as Sol, and (back row) Amy Sharpe as Gloria and Jerry Anderson as a doctor.

upcoming things to do

- **AVON COMEDY**
Avon Players Community Theater will open its second production of the 1955-56 season, "Everybody Loves Opal" on Jan. 10. The comedy by John Patrick centers on a lovable bag lady who has lived in her family home on the edge of the city dump for many years. Three "cons" hiding out from the law move in with Opal and plan to insure her life and then murder her. But Opal wins them over to her side one-by-one after a series of hilarious failed attempts on her life. The play runs weekends until Jan. 25 at the Avon Players Playhouse, located on Washington Road in Rochester. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. For ticket information, call 656-1130.
- **MUSICAL REVUE**
Erit Gill of Southfield, Linda Quiroz of Franklin and Nicole Hakim and Thomas O'Connor of Birmingham will star in an original musical revue, "P.S.: Porter to Springsteen," opening Jan. 16 at Studio 150 in Wayne State University's General Lectures Hall. The production features the lyrics of America, highlighting the country's diverse social and romantic movements during the last 50 years. It runs through Jan. 26. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are available at the WSU Theatre box office, Cass and Hancock, 577-2772.
- **BERRY IN CONCERT**
Noted local singer Dorothy Berry of West Bloomfield will give a public concert at 4 p.m. Jan. 19 at Orchard Community Church, 5171 Commerce Road, Orchard Lake. A soprano, Berry will sing a selection of songs ranging from Broadway show tunes to operatic arias. She will be accompanied by Beverly Labuta. Berry is a member of the Detroit Symphony Chorus and has been a soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Lyric Opera. She has sung with the Michigan Opera Theatre and many other community orchestras and theater groups. A freewill offering will be taken and refreshments will be served after the Orchard Lake Music Series concert.
- **ENCORE FILM SERIES**
Cranbrook P.M.'s Encore Cinema film series will return for a full season beginning Jan. 22 with a special presentation of "The Passenger," a gripping Italian film directed by Michelangelo Antonioni in 1975. The film, which stars Jack Nicholson and Maria Schneider, is the story of a frustrated reporter who adopts the identity of a dead man, assuming also the risks of the man's gun running. The movie will begin at 8 p.m. in Cranbrook Kingswood auditorium, 500 Lone Pine Road.
Encore Cinema directors, Andrea Els and Evie Wheat, say classic films will be shown bi-monthly. Upcoming attractions are "Three Women," "The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum" and
- **MUSICAL REVUE**
The musical revue of the Be-bop and Blues era opens Jan. 3 and will run every Friday through mid-February. Highlighting old favorites like "Bye, Bye Blackbird" and "I Gotta Get in Kalamazoo," the show injects a "Be-bop" treatment for an unusual presentation.
For reservations, call the Allen Park Motor Lodge at 386-1300 or TAP at 855-4293.
There is a sing-a-long section and an opportunity to test audience knowledge of music trivia.
- **AVON AUDITIONS**
Avon Players will hold auditions for Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" on Jan. 20-21 at the Avon Playhouse, 1185 Washington Road, Rochester. Try-outs will begin at 8 p.m. both nights. The drama about life in a small New England town at the turn of the century calls for 21 roles in ages ranging from teen-agers to senior citizens. It will run three consecutive weekends beginning March 7. For details, contact director Lee Stoves at 656-1130.
- **FILM ON WARSAW**
"Kanal," Andrzej Wajda's graphic film on the last days of the Warsaw uprising, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at Madonna College in Livonia. The film is open to the public free. It will be shown in Kresge Hall. For details, call the college at 591-5197.
- **MUSICAL COMEDY**
The musical comedy, "The Night Harry Stopped Smoking," will be performed by the Michigan Opera Theatre at 3 p.m. Jan. 26 at Madonna College. The play is for children of all ages. It was created by opera singer John Davies with a non-threatening message to counter cigarette advertising. It relates the perils of smoking in a tenuous, humorous fashion by allowing the audience to look inside the lungs via imaginative settings. For ticket information, call the college at 591-5056.
- **PAXTON PERFORMS**
Tom Paxton, a songwriter who blossomed in the 1960s and continues to write topical songs, will perform Jan. 9 at The Ark, 637 1/2 South Main Street, Ann Arbor. Shows are at 7:30 and 10 p.m. Advance tickets are available. For details, call 761-1451.
- **HISTORICAL PLAY**
The Detroit Center for the Performing Arts presents the Detroit premier Jan. 24 of the play "Colored Peoples Time," which was first performed at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York. The play by Leslie Lee chronicles the music, dance and history of black America from the eye of the Civil War until the Montgomery bus boycott. It uses 13 vignettes to bring alive people who were responsible for momentous social change. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. at the East-Town Theater, 8041 Harper at Van Dyke. Performances are Friday and Saturday through Feb. 15. For ticket information, call 925-7138.
- **AT WHISPERS LOUNGE**
The Whispers Lounge, in the Novi Hilton, will present Intrigue Jan. 7-12 and Rage Jan. 14-19, 21-26 and Jan. 28-Feb. 2. The hotel is on Haggerty Road south of the I-275 exit at Eight Mile.



Paul Michaels (left), Nicole Hakim of Birmingham and Hal Adams will appear in "P.S.: Porter to Springsteen" which opens at Wayne State University Jan. 18. The original musical revue runs through Jan. 26.

Prohibition-era film premieres

"Singing Birds," a short, feature film produced by Birmingham-based Sparkle Films Inc., will premiere Jan. 9 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.
The by-invitation-only premiere was made possible in part through the Detroit Council for the Arts. The film will be screened in the DIA auditorium and a reception will follow in Kresge Court.
A 16mm film, "Singing Birds," is the

story of two families of European immigrants in Detroit in 1928. It is set against a backdrop of Prohibition and bootlegging. The filmmakers, director Kimberly Conely and production designer Michele Poulik, are both of Lithuanian heritage.
The filming began in May in a 90-year-old house in the historic West-bridge neighborhood of Detroit. Exterior

scenes were shot later around Indian Village and Riverfront. A Prohibition speakeasy sequence was filmed at B'Stilla restaurant on the east side.
All cast and crew members are local professionals who volunteered their time for the project. The film was shot in Lithuanian as well as in English and the production is completely in period, using old sets, cars, music, costumes

and hair styles.
The film has been screened before a panel of the 1985 Chicago Film Festival and Conely said it will be entered in several 1986 festivals.
Slated next for production by Sparkle Films is a feature, "Millennium Dreams," a psychological suspense drama set in the 1930s.

Musical 'Be-bop' show set

A Chicago-style revue of "Be-bop and Blues" will be performed by Theatre Arts Productions (TAP) of Farmington Hills at the Allen Park Motor Lodge on Southfield Road in Allen Park.

The musical revue of the Be-bop and Blues era opens Jan. 3 and will run every Friday through mid-February. Highlighting old favorites like "Bye, Bye Blackbird" and "I Gotta Get in Kalamazoo," the show injects a "Be-bop" treatment for an unusual presentation.
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'Wheels for Meals' nets 15 tons

The "Wheels for Meals" food drive raised 15 tons of food for needy residents of Wayne and Oakland counties.
WLLZ personality Bob Bauer lived next to a 30-foot truck parked at the Seven-Grand Plaza in Redford for 20 consecutive days, vowing not to leave until the truck was completely filled. On Dec. 18 the last can was placed in the truck.
The food has since been distributed to the Food Bank of Oakland County

and to the Southeastern Michigan Food Coalition. Most of the food was expected to be distributed by this week, according to Jim Macy of the Food Bank.

ger problem in Detroit," said Bauer. "That's the most gratifying."

The drive will become an annual event, according to Michael Solan, vice president and general manager of WLLZ-FM. "We are overwhelmed by the generous support of the community. It's obvious there are a lot of caring people around us and we are looking forward to supporting another successful 'Wheels for Meals.'"

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