the farmington enterprise & observer

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Second Front Page

FHS Presents 'You Can't Take It With You'

ROMANCE — Greg Steele and Sheila Chamberlin will be seen as the romantic leads Dec. 10 and 12 when Farmington High School presents the Broadway hit "You Can't Take It With You." (Evert photo)

By LIZ WISSMAN

The captivating comedy, "You Can't Take It With You," is the first dramatic production of the year at Farmington High School.

It will run two evenings, Thursday, Dec. 10, and Saturday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. in the F.H.S. auditorum.

The play is George Kaufman's and Moss Hart's most successful collaboration on the Broadway stage.

The comedy was the Pulizer Prize winner of 1936-37, and has become a classic of its kind, produced over and over again in theatres throughout the country; and its timeless quality was proven when it was revived in 1965 to the delight and laughter of audiences again.

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IF YOU WANT to learn how to enjoy life with just enough money to take it easy; how to select hobbies; how to evade the income tax; or just enjoy an evening laughing–this is the show to see.

All these are demonstrated by the Sycamore family who live in a sphere of heart warming fun. Amiable, philosophical Grandpa Vanderhof collects snakes and stamps.

His daughter, Penny is a painter turned playwright because a guest forgot a typewriter. Her husband, Paul, fabricates dangerous fireworks in the cellar with Mr. DePinna, who came to deliver ice eight years ago and just stayed.

Essie, Paul and Pennie's daughter, is devoted, to candy-making and toe dancing, while Ed, her husband is torn between the xylophone and the printing press.

The second daughter, Alice a Sycamore in spirit though not in extravagance, provides the conflict when she and Tony Kirby fall in love. Mr.Kirby, Sr., a business tycoon plagued by indigestion, and his socialite spouse, are as unfulfilled and frustrated as millionaires can be.

The painful meeting of the two families is aggravated by the consecutive intervention of a wrestling Russian, an inebriated actress and a raid squad from the F.B.I.

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HERE ARE FHS DRAMATIC director John Roscoe's thoughts on what presenting a play like this does for a student:

"In looking at the role of the theatre as an educational experience; that is to help prepare the student to live in the 20th century society, I feel that the drama department helps bridge the gap between imagination and reality which is desperately needed today.

"Thus, these activities and classes can claim a legitimate place in the high school curriculum. In producing a play, the student learns through practical experience the importance of cooperating with a large group of individuals each of whom have an assignment integral to the whole production. A list of potential lessons to be learned could go on forever.

"Next year, a new addition to the drama curriculum will add more potential development for the students and the department.

"The courses now offered are: drama–deals with techniques of acting and is concerned with the individual student developing; stagecraft–covers the non-performing arts of the theatre. The new class will be play production which will deal with group productions for the school and public and develop a more complete understanding of the theatre for the students. With a curriculum like this the department can cultivate an appreciation of the theatre arts more fully."

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AS ROSCOE'S CAST and crews are finding out, producing a play involves more than the audience sees opening night. Many students are involved in behind the scenes work and never seem to receive the same recognition as the actors.

So please, a few accolades for the crew: promotion-Tim Putnam, Sally Heidt, Jim Correll; tickets--Tim Putnam; program–Jim Correll, Bob Young; lights--Dale Preimer, Brad Thompson, Kevin Goshorn; sound–Harry Sellars, J.L. Reed; make-up–Diane Hamilton; costumes--Alison Boyles; properties--Trudi Kindler, Deb Welborn; assistant director--Deb Mosshammer.

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NOW FOR THE CAST: Pat Hasselback (Penelope), Lee Seaton, (Essie), Faith Hunkele (Rheba), Guy King (Paul) Don Holmes (Mr. DePinna), Bob Chesley (Ed), Reg Massey (Donald), Mike Klepinger (Grandpa), Sheila Chamberlin (Alice), Greg Steele (Tony Kirby), Al Vassilakos (Mr. Kirby), Cindy Bergstrom (Mrs. Kirby), Bob Brown (Boris Kolenkhov), Holly Orr (Gay Wellington), Mark Rosso (Henderson), Nancy Heidt (Olga Katrina), Jim Ellis, Mark Rosen and Mike Finkbiner (FBI men).

EFFECT — Alison Boyles is the wardrobe mistress and Diana Hamilton the makeup chairman for Farmington High School's first play of the season, "You Can't Take It With You." (Evert photo)

JOHN ROSCOE, Farmington High School drama director, confers with student Deb Mosshamer over the script of "You Can't Take It With You" to be presented at the school Dec. 10 and 12. Miss Mosshamer is assistant director for the show. (Evert photo)

Cantata To Be Sung

A new Christmas cantata in eight parts will receive its premier hearing on Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in a community concert of worship at St. John Lutheran Church on Gill Road in Farmington.

With music by Charlene W. Slabey, Northville composer and teacher, and libretto by June Rado of Farmington, the cantata, "A Star Out Of Jacob", will be performed by the senior choir of St. John Church, and presents the Christmas narrative as a unique experience from the point of view of God, the Father.

Written for full chorus with piano and organ accompaniment, the work will be directed by Marie Walck, choir director of St. John, and accompanied by Sandra Weiss, organist, with the composer at the piano. Soloists will be Gloria Richardson, alto, Ted Slabey, tenor, and Don Otto, bass.

The Rev. Charles Fox, pastor of St. John, invites the community to attend.

Returns

Navyman William J. Van Meter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Van Meter of 23130 Colgate, Farmington, has returned to Mayport, Fla., from a Mediterranean deployment aboard the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga.

Aid Blind

As their fellow members do across the country, Farmington Lions Club members assist the blind by furnishing services for glasses, Braille watches, white canes and Braille transcribing machines.

Anyone knowing of a blind person in need of these services is asked to call George Nauman, 626-5031.

The local club is also selling Blind Aid Seals and participates in the enrollment of eligible persons in obtaining leader dogs.

In addition to furnishing operating funds, the Lions are always on the lookout for friendly German Shepherd dogs, Labradors and Golden Retrievers, between the ages of one and two years, for use as leader dogs. None are purchased.

In addition to supporting the leader dogs program through the sale of seals, the Farmington Lions also contribute to the Penrickton Center, Welcome Home for the Blind.

DALE PRIEMER serves as lighting engineer for the Farmington High School production of "You Can't Take It With You." (Evert photo)

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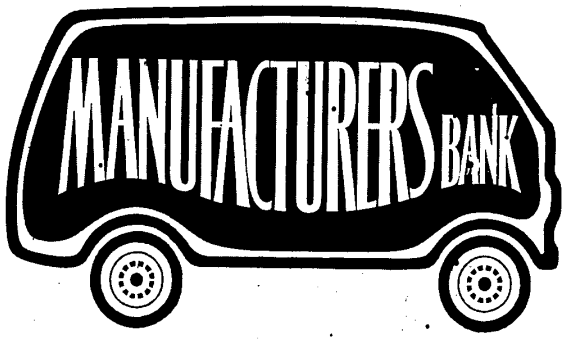

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