

Jaycee Musical Opens March 23

For 25 years the Farmington Area Jaycees have been staging musicals and the 1972 performance will be "The Infamous Inn or Where the Heck is the 16-Mile House?"

Based on the Botford Inn, a classic Farmington landmark, the musical will be presented beginning 8:15 p.m. on March 23, 24, 25 in the auditorium of Farmington Senior High on Shawwassee between Power and Orchard Lake Rds.

Tickets at \$1 each for the Thursday performance or \$2.50 each on Friday and Saturday may be purchased at the door, from any Farmington Jaycee or at the Farmington Insurance Agency.

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CHRIS REICHHARDT, the show's promoter, says: "This looks to be the greatest musical ever presented by any Jaycee chapter in Farmington (or anywhere else for that matter)."

"This is the 25th annual musical production which is something the Jaycees and entire community can be proud of, since it is another Farmington first."

Because this is the 25th

show, the "exhausted rooster" show, the 35-year age limit) have been invited to participate.

The regular Jaycees have issued a challenge to see if the "rooster" segment of the show can generate more applause than the segment presented by the active Jaycees.

THE FIRST Jaycee show was presented in 1947 and consisted of a black face variety musical with bit acts presented by individuals in the community.

Traditionally, these variety musicals were called "Fine and Dandy" named after the song used in every performance which was written by the late Jim Warner and is still used today.

Those shows took place in the "new" Farmington High School gymnasium, now the "old" Farmington Junior High. Farmington personages were cast in several roles as "Thunder" by Phil Thomas; "Andy" by Bob Brown; "Amos" by John Courville; "Gin" by Nate Mihay; and "Tonic" by Jim Warner.

Along with the chorus of black faces was Lloyd Smith on the piano and Bob Linbert singing "Shades of Basin Street."

ABOUT 1957-58, the shows changed with each musical having a specific plot.

In 1957, the show had progressed to a two-act performance and the cast had changed to such local notables as: "Crazy Legs" by Tom Glenfield; "Banjo Capers" by Harry Farmer; "Rock-a-by My Baby" by Steve Leathley; "Basin Street Blues" by Carolyn Smith; "Without a Song" by Carolyn Smith; LaDonn Gruenwald and many more.

In 1959, Jaycee President Charles Bridges led his members through a show with a real plot. Still called "Fine and Dandy," it included the Evelyn Kresson Dancers made up of Jeanette, Jason, Toni Rozek, Sharon Whaley, Nancy Niles, Ruth Kresson, Diana Briggs and Karen Wells. Norm Potts portrayed Huckleberry?

Chesley with plots that followed were "Showboat," "Anything Goes," "Matchgame," "The Destitute Distillery," "Makin' Whoopee" and last year's show, "The Case of the Purloined Proprietor or Who Heisted Hernandez?"

One of the leads in Hernandez last year was played by Frank Alton, then JC president, and the lead in this year's musical will be by his wife, Dorothy.

THE CAST for the "infamous Inn" includes: Tom Dier as Young Jason the cattle buyer; Dave Hammond as Zeke, Jason's brother; and Dorothy Hill as Young Tille, the barmaid.

Other characters include: Noel Kurth as Old Jason; Barb Hay as Old Tillie; Bob Beauchamp as the bartender; Harry Wilson as Sweet Charlie, the fighter; Lee Arthur and Tom McFarland as trainers; Pete Turgeon as Kick-poo the medicine man; and Earl Fetta as Kick-poo's Indian assistant.

There might well be a stand-in for Kick-poo's assistant, but other cast members are: Al Brown as Horace, the Botford Inn owner; Sonja Higley as Naomi the maid; Joe Eermek as Ezra Jones; and Mardi Reichardt as Gertrude Jones.



MARITAL SQUABBLE — Mardi Reichardt as Gertrude Jones lets hubby Ezra Jones, portrayed by Joe Eermek, have it with a blow aimed at the head in the upcoming performance of the "Infamous Inn or Where the Heck is the 16-Mile House?" (Evert photo)

Air National Guard Honors Bob Chesley

FARMINGTON Robert Chesley of Farmington will be one of 50 industrialists in the nation honored for community service on March 30 by the Air National Guard.

Chesley, owner of Chesley Industries in Farmington, was nominated for the honor by LeRoy Bartman, director of personnel for Farmington Schools.

Bartman is also a lieutenant colonel in the Air National Guard and is commander of the 127th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard.

CHESLEY, a long-time supporter of education, was co-chairman of the recent citizens drive to raise over \$50,000 to finance extracurricular activities after the millage defeat in Farmington last August.

He is also a director and past president of the Farmington Area YMCA. He has served on the board of North Horizons and was chairman of

an economic development committee for the City of Farmington. He has belonged to the Farmington Jaycees and Exchange Club, and is a member of the Engineering Society of Detroit and Economic Club of Detroit.

Before becoming president of Chesley Industries, he served as vice president, sales manager and purchasing manager. He received his BS degree in science from Purdue University in 1952 and has lived in Farmington from 1943-51 and from 1955 to the present. Chesley and wife Patricia Ann have three children and will celebrate their silver wedding anniversary this June.

THE INDUSTRY Day recognition will be held at the Air National Guard Non-commissioned Officers Academy in Knoxville, Tenn., on March 30.

Each state had been asked to send one industrialist to the conference who has demon-



ROBERT CHESLEY

strated an active interest in community affairs.

The purpose of "Industry Day" is to acquaint leaders in industry with the role of the Air National Guard in the hope they will continue to support members of their firms who participate in Guard activities, Bartman says.

Although new to the Guard, the conference is similar to "Operation Understanding" tours conducted by the U.S. Army Air Defense Command and other tours by military branches designed to build better relations between the military and the industrial-business sector.

local news

By MARIE LONG GR 4-3114

A miscellaneous shower was given Miss Kristie Fox of Wayne recently in the home of her aunt, Mrs. Carol Karp of Argonne Rd., Normandy Hills, Farmington.

About 65 guests were present from Detroit, Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Plymouth, Novi and Farmington. She will be married April 15 to John Winters of Wayne.

MR. AND MRS. John Hodge of Paderewski, Farmington, welcomed the birth of a daughter, Catherine May on March 2 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia.

Weight was six pounds, 10 ounces. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hodge of Livonia. Mrs. Hodge is the former Carol Campbell.

Mrs. Dixie Caughel of Plymouth Rd., Livonia, recently underwent gall bladder surgery in Garden City Osteopathic Hospital.

THE SENIOR CITIZENS Social Club of Farmington held its anniversary dinner in the Farmington Holiday Inn March 8.

About 70 attended the dinner, which was followed by entertainment given by four ladies of the Farmington Musicales. Later they led in group singing.

The cake was cut by the club's founder, Mrs. Grace Carlin, of Farmington, who recently took over the presidency again.

The tables were covered with red table cloths with red and white carnations and candles. Cards and games were played in the afternoon.

Mrs. Edna Himmeler of Farmington, who recently broke her leg in a skiing accident, is convalescing at home.

Mrs. Irene Kennedy of

School Aid Is Topic

FARMINGTON Farmington Board of Education members have been invited to attend a presentation beginning 8 p.m. March 22 on Gov. William Milliken's proposed school financial and educational reform.

The Farmington trustees and school administrators will join other Oakland County school persons to hear the presentation from Dr. John

Dempsey, executive assistant to the governor, in Southfield-Lathrup High School at 19301 W. 12 Mile.

Dempsey will discuss the status of the property tax in financing education, taxation alternatives, the question of whether school boards will still run local schools, and whether school districts will be changed.

The meeting is also open to the public.

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the farmington observer
EMORY DANIELS, Editor
38251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Phone 261-8600

Published every Wednesday and Wednesday

Home Delivery Service
Newsstand per copy, 15¢
Carrier monthly, 60¢

Phone 261-3800

Published by Observer Newspapers, Inc., 38251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150 every Wednesday and weekend. Philip H. Power, Publisher. Second class postage paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.

Address all mail subscriptions change of address forms 3578 to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48150.

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