Blacksmith Shop Can Be Seen at Historical Museum

A full-scale blacksmith shop, built from an old barn, removed from the path of a new Detroit Expressway, can be seen at the Detroit Historical Museum in the special exhibit, "The Age of Wood and Iron." The exhibit will be on view through Oct. 1 and depicts the age when blacksmith-forged iron, and skillfully crafted wood, provided most of the common things of life.

Introducing the exhibit to the viewer is a 12-foot representation of Paul Bunyan, standing beside a load of large logs pulled by Babe the Blue Ox.

Michigan's colorful logging era of the latter half of the 19th century is also represented. The viewer can see how timber was found, cut, moved to the mills and shipped as lumber.

Once the wood was cut, it was manufactured into a variety of products. Many of these are shown in the display, along with demonstrations of the various special skills and tools used to produce them. One section shows wood-working planes and another compares changing styles of wood-house construction from early French log cabins to modern "A-frame."

Title Hopes For Braeburn Golfers Sag

Braeburn's hopes for a repeat title in the Gold Division of the Michigan Public Links Golf Association have all but gone out of the window.

Braeburn suffered its second defeat against three wins and a tie when beaten by Raisin Valley, 12½-9½, last Sunday. Idyl Wyld leads the section with a 5-1-1 record.

Braeburn still had two matches left — against Lilacs on Aug. 27 and then a head-on duel with Idyl Wyld, Sept. 10. Braeburn must win both matches to tie for the crown.

Against Raisin Valley, Murray Brooks shot a 71 to top Braeburn. Joe Wilson had 74, Harry Bowers 76 and Cuff Zill 78. Jerry Lammers shot a 68 for the winners.

San Marino, 2-2-1 in the Blue Division, is idle until Sept. 27 against Hickory Hills.

Like His First For August . . . Pup and Sons

The August family from Farmington Township is doing right well in the Michigan State doubles handball championships at Detroit's Palmer Park.

Larry and Steve, who are brothers, were among the first-day winners wit ha 21-7, 21-9 romp. Their dad, Dr. Alvin August, teammed with Dave Rott and had a little more difficult time, winning by scores of 11-21, 21-11 and 21-7.

The meet winds up next Sunday.

Gridiron Hero

Jim Northrup, Tiger outfielder, was a star quarterback at Alma College.

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TOURING JAPAN with the Wayne State University international touring theatre company is Jeannie Knowlton (second from right), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Knowlton of 19465 Angling Rd., Livonia. A junior, Miss Knowlton appears as Viburatta in the WSU production of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." Others in the picture are, from left: Tom McMahon, Joyce Kinonen, and Alice Holt.

Livonia Cinema I Shows Unusual Murder Mystery

"Now, Chief, what you mean is that you don't want that Negro homicide expert, but you need him."

Early in the exciting murder-mystery "In the Heat of The Night" the cinematic triumph unreeling these evenings at the Cinema I in the Livonia Mall for a limited engagement, the Mayor of Sparta, Miss. delivers this symbolic line.

The frustrated Chief of Police, played with real compassion by Rod Steiger, shifts his wad of Juicy Fruit, cocks his hat, considers these words of wisdom, and decides that he might be able to bury his racial prejudices long enough to clear up a puzzling murder in his small Southern town.

For the next two hours this exquisitely photographed color motion picture grabs you via its roving lens and doesn't let you go until the murderer is located. You get to know all the side streets, the surrounding countryside of Sparta. The film was shot on location and it's reality plus.

Sidney Poitier as Virgil Tibbs, a Philadelphia homicide expert, gives strength and, an inner beauty to a most difficult role. Steiger is flawless as Gillespie, the local red-necked, stubborn, small town Chief.

The combination of these two consummate artists gives "In The Heat Of The Night" Academy Award stature. The explosive talents of this dramatic duo puts this film in a "must see" category.

Technically, the color by Deluxe is a visual feast. The supporting cast right down to the hound dogs used in a thrilling manhunt sequence are perfect. "In The Heat Of The Night" reveals with mute eloquence the depths to which our society has sunk in terms of blind hatred and racial prejudice.

Yet the final scene ends with a poignant touch of hope for an eventual understanding between the Negro and the white community. Steiger shyly, almost reluctantly, mumbles to the departing Poitier, "You take care, ya hear!" Poitier looks mildly surprised at such a kind statement. Steiger smiles. Poitier returns the smile. The gap has been bridged.

Let's hope in the years ahead, out of the violence and viciousness of the July riots, our prejudices will cool and come to the satisfying ending seen "In The Heat Of The Night." The authentic nature of this film could have long range salutary effects.

—WALLY ROBERTS

Schedule Ox Roast

The Garden City Presbyterian Church Men's Club is preparing for their 7th Annual Ox Roast, to be held at the Garden City Park Pavilion, on Saturday, Sept. 9.

Kenneth Blyth, ticket chairman, has appointed team captains and members to sell tickets throughout the community. They will also be available at the church office (open five days a week, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.).

Co-Op School Planning Tea

A Get Acquainted Tea will be held by the South Redford Township Cooperative Nursery School on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the home of the hospitality chairman, Mrs. Sylvia Kloc, 9950 Marion, Redford Township.

The purpose of the tea is to give the mothers of the children who will be in nursery this year an opportunity to meet the teachers, Mrs. Helen Faist and Mrs. Janet Dean.

Wally Roberts

'CURTAIN UP' GOING

Opera fans should plan an immediate pilgrimage to Stratford, Ontario, and the Shakespearean Festival. The Avon Theater, Stratford's second theater, has been completely renovated at the cost of over a million dollars. Two excellent operas are being performed in this acoustically-perfect theater, "Cosi Fan Tutte" and "Albert Herring."

Over the years it has not been "my cup of tea" to truly enjoy opera. Oh, on occasion, I could suffer through an aria or two from "Carmen." Or a short solo from the "Barber of Seville." But "Tea for Two" in two-four time was more my forte.

The stage was my true love. Biggest barrier with operas was the difficulty understanding the foreign languages.

Stratford has changed all that. Their operas are always done in English. Only the finest voices are present to give the operas the best performance. The orchestra is impeccably trained. Each note is given detailed attention.

In short, my feeling about opera has undergone a change. I enjoyed Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte" as though it were "My Fair Lady" or "South Pacific." The happy blend of the voices, orchestra, and action on the stage fascinated me.

I marveled at the preparation, the long hours of rehearsal that went into as involved a musical work of art as Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte." Every word came across the footlights in a most meaningful fashion.

"Cosi Van Tutte" is a comic opera that deals satirically with female wiles. Mozart was accustomed to writing sterner, more serious operas, but the king commissioned him to do a light piece on the foibles of love.

The intrigue and double-dealing found among two sets of lovers form the basic plot. Mistaken identities, masquerades, and merry mix-ups give this happy opera real zest.

"Albert Herring," written by Benjamin Britten, is also in the comic vein. Big difference is that "Herring" was composed in 1950 as against the 1790 creation date for the Mozart piece. Consequently, the music is far more modern and up-tempo. The singers have more problems trying to blend with the orchestra since Britten has tried to show his versatile musical hand in almost every passage.

One of the funniest and yet most complex scenes musically was when Albert arrives home from a festive outing a bit crocked. He sings his woes and relates all his frustrations via intricate journeys up and down the chromatic scale.

You have nothing but the highest respect for these leather-lunged performers as you suddenly realize that they have been singing continually for over two hours. Musical comedy is a snap. Long stretches of dialogue protect the average musical comedy star from over-working his vocal cords.

No long silent passages give respite to the Festival opera stars. They must lunch on bird seed, dine on celestial herbs, and continually practice to keep those superb voices in such melodic shape.

Make plans now even if you are not an opera buff to visit Stratford, Ontario, for either one of the operas.

You'll become addicted as old Wally did. I admit I'm not to the standing ovation stage, shouting bravo, and commenting so brillantly on whether the andante movement was as good as the fortissimo, but then I'm still a neophyte in this area. Given time, I could succumb.

Don Ameche is in town this week busily rehearsing a new musical, "Henry, Sweet Henry." It opens at the Fisher on August 21. We will have a report next week. Let's hope it can be a hit. We need something to spark the new season off to a flaming start.

Sets Fourth Production

A military comedy of the 1860s, "Shenandoah" is the fourth production of the American Drama Festival at Greenfield Village. Performances are given nightly, Monday through Saturday, in the Henry Ford Museum theater at 8:30 p.m.

"Shenandoah" is now alternating with "Our American Cousin," "The Henrietta" and "Under the Gaslight," in repertory fashion. Romance and intrigue form the plot, with the battle of Shenandoah Valley as their setting for this colorful 1868 play by Bronson Howard, considered the dean of American drama.

Tickets for any of the performances by the Greenfield Players are available at the door and no seats are reserved. Adults $1.75 and children under 16, 75 cents. For further information, call 271-1414.

Carillon Concert Set At Cranbrook

Dennis Kennard Jones will present a carillon recital at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, from Christ Church Cranbrook.

Jones, a senior at Princeton University, is a member of The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America and has served as carillonneur for Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

As a high school student he studied for three summers with Wendell Wescott at Michigan State University.

Those who wish to attend the concert, which is open to the public free of charge, may sit in their cars or on the lawn. Christ Church Cranbrook is located in Bloomfield Hills.

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