

# Rita Returns Nov. 4

By CORINNE ABATT

A collision in Thurston High School hall in 1950 triggered a chain of events that has had far-reaching effects.

Mrs. Wallace Sloan of Redford, was hurrying to give a bouquet of roses to 10 year-old-pianist, Rita Reichman who was making her American debut with the Redford Civic Symphony. The other half of the collision was Mara Reichman, Rita's mother.

When the women introduced themselves, Florence Sloan says, "It was as if we had known each other all our lives."

THE "GOOD" WAVES between the Sloan and Reichman families have continued and grown in the coming years to the point where vacations are often spent together.

First, when the Reichmans lived in the old Van Cibus cottage at Interlochen, the site of the National Music Camp, and later when Rita entered Curtis Institute and the family moved to Philadelphia.

It was Florence Sloan's idea to have Rita give a concert to benefit the Redford Township Music Society, Saturday, Nov. 4 in the Masonic Auditorium, Detroit. Hudson's and Grinnell's have tickets.

Another society member, Mrs. Floyd Hontaga, was responsible for bringing Rita to Redford Township for the first concert. She too has continued her friendship with the Reichmans.

A third of the proceeds will go to the Music Society, the group which sponsors the symphony's four yearly concerts; another third will go for music scholarships for local students, and the remainder to the young artist.

MRS. SLOAN carries off the new impresario image with

## Amusements



IN A PENSIVE mood, Rita Reichman plays a duet with her brother, David. Rita will play for the Redford Township Music Society on Nov. 4, and David will be its guest soloist next April.

elan. If she is nervous about selling the 4,600 Masonic Auditorium seats, she doesn't show it. She is operating in a cool, determined, business-like way, spending every day and most evenings promoting the event.

"I feel I have a sure product. It is a privilege to put this girl in concert." Everyone involved, including the hard-working chairman, would have been preferred to have the concert on home ground.

Marilyn Churchill, who works with Mrs. Sloan, explains the decision to use Masonic Auditorium.

"After Rita's big success at Meadow Brook this summer (she drew the largest crowd of roses to 10 year-old-pianist, Rita Reichman) and her performance at the state dinner which President and Mrs. Nixon gave last year for President Emilio Medici, of Brazil, we didn't feel we could say, 'come play in our school gym'."

THE CHANCE collision has meant more than a warm friendship between the Sloans and the Reichmans. It started a love affair between the Reichmans and the people of Redford.

Mrs. Sloan says, "Rita is coming now because the people were so warm and friendly to her in 1968 and again last summer when we had the afterglow after the Meadow Brook concert in our backyard."

Rita's brother, David, 22, an accomplished violinist, will play the Mendelssohn E minor concerto with the Redford Symphony next April.

Mrs. Sloan can talk endlessly about the Reichmans and about Mrs. Reichman, herself an outstanding musician who made a heart-breaking decision to leave the family home in Australia and bring Rita and her talented brother and sister to this country for superior musical training. Left behind was husband and father, too ill to make the trip.

RITA WAS BORN Aug. 16, 1958, and before she was a year old she was showing her unusual talent. At nine months she cried when her brother's violin was not in tune. She began to study piano at three, was composing at 3½ and by five won a prize in music composition at a festival.



IT'S GOING to take a lot of work for the Redford Township Music Society to fill 4,600 seats at the Masonic Temple for the Rita Reichman concert on Nov. 4, but this group is confident.

From left: Mrs. Wallace Sloan, the chairman; Nathaniel Banks; Mrs. Winston Churchill; Mrs. Floyd Hontaga, co-chairman; and Edward C. Weiss.

## Youtheater 'Wizard of Oz' Is Going Coaches To Be In Clarenceville Run Nov. 4

Johan Wyss' classic tale of a shipwrecked family takes on a new glow Saturday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., as the Detroit Institute of Arts' Youtheater presents a musical version of "Swiss Family Robinson."

This is a "Magic Carpet" show. Bus service to Youtheater is available at 9:45 a.m. from Northland and at 12:45 p.m. from Westland and Tel - Twelve Shopping Centers.

Cost of a ticket is \$2. This includes round-trip bus transportation and the show ticket. Tickets are available at Hudson's and at Spencer's Gift Shop at Tel - Twelve. Places must be reserved by Oct. 31.

The play is being presented by the National Theater Company and is a midwestern premiere. It is recommended for youngsters 7 - 14. Tickets for the show alone are available at the institute at \$1.50 or \$1 for groups of 10 or more.

The institute also has a special birthday rate, in which \$15 pays for 10 tickets to the theater, party favors and invitations.

## 'Who Am I?' To Be Topic

DETROIT "Who Am I? Who Are You? The Search for Identity," a readers' theater presentation by Chekhov and Vonnegut, will be performed by Don and Jeanne Johannes as a Front Row Center program of the Jewish Community Center, 18100 Meyers, at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 1. Admission is 75 cents.

Johannes is chairman of the speech department of the Detroit Institute of Technology and his wife is active in drama therapy at Pontiac State Hospital.

## OU To Have Chess Class

ROCHESTER Expert and novice players, and followers of the Fischer-Spassky match, can learn all about chess in a new course being offered by Oakland University's division of continuing education.

"Chess - The Hottest Game" will be offered Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:30, beginning Nov. 1. Five sessions will be held in Meadow Brook Hall on the OU campus. Tuition is \$30 and advance enrollment is required.

The course will deal with the origins and development of the game, the evolution of the chessmen and board, chess literature and the current international chess scene as part of the cultural cold war.

All of the magic of Oz, from cyclone to circus balloon, will unfold when the Robin Reed Marionette Company brings "The Wizard of Oz" to Clarenceville's L.E. Schmidt Auditorium for two shows on Sunday, Nov. 5.

The two will be at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

TICKETS, at 75 cents each, may be purchased in the Schmidt box office, 20155 Middle Belt, Livonia, on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mail orders will be filled by Mrs. Jan Stahl, 20394 Louise, Livonia. Enclose a

stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Reed and his wife, Edith, will be remembered for having previously presented "Pinocchio" and "Aladdin and His Lamp" at Clarenceville.

Reed has used every trick of the trade, as well as many of his own invention, to recreate the wonder and excitement of L. Frank Baum's beloved classic.

The "Oz" puppets are just a few of the hundreds which have been designed, carved and sewn since 1950 when Robin Reed first began

touring professionally with his brother and parents.

REED HAS designed and produced shows for television and live theater as well.

In his version of "Oz" there is the terrible cyclone in Kansas; the mighty Wizard appearing as a waterfall; a ball of fire and a dragon; a circus balloon which sails away; and a fast-stepping marching band that parades across the stage.

The puppets will perform under the sponsorship of the Clarenceville Entertainment Series.



THESE FOUR MUSICIANS are members of the Recorder Consort, and will be guests at a meeting of the Farmington Musicals on Wednesday. From left are Sandy Williams, soprano recorder; Cindy Niemczak, alto; Ted Slabey, tenor; and Mrs. Lois Swanson, bass. (Evert photo)

## Group To Make Debut

A three-part program entitled "On Wings of Song" will be presented by the Farmington Musicals at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 1, in the Farmington Community Center.

The Recorder Consort will open the program by playing rare pieces from the Elizabethan period. In the concert are Sandy Williams from Harrison High School on the soprano recorder; Ted Slabey of Northville High School, alto recorder; Cindy Niemczak of Farmington High School, tenor recorder; and Lois Swanson, bass recorder.

## Wildlife Film

DETROIT Steve Maslowski will present his family's wildlife film, "Kentucky Out-of-Doors" at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 4, in the Rackham Auditorium, Farmsworth at Woodward. Tickets will be on sale at the door at \$1.25 for adults; \$1 for senior citizens; and 50 cents for children under 12.

and her mother, Dorothy Lee Dearborn, will play two movements of the Sonata for Flute and Piano by Frances Poulenc.

Mrs. Swanson and Fern Barber, accompanied by Ted McCallum, will play Mendelssohn's "Concert Piece for Two Clarinets and Piano. Both

## GC Concert Band To Perform Sunday

The expanded Garden City Adult Concert Band will open its 1972-73 season concert scheduled with a program at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29, in the O'Leary Performing Arts Center, on Middle Belt, south of Warren Rd.

James Falk, concert band president, said that the group will perform on Sundays this season to avoid conflicts with other school and community events.

Mrs. Barber and Mrs. Swanson teach wind instruments and play in the Farmington Community Concert Band. Mrs. McCallum is a member of the Michigan Singers and directs the Farmington Musicals Chorus.

## 30-Up Club Plans Dances

WYANDOTTE The 30-Up Club, sponsored by the Downriver YM-YWCA, has scheduled dances every Friday evening during November. They will be held in the Y, Fort Street, west of Eureka Road. Dancing will be from 9 to midnight.

Falk said the band was formed about 2½ years ago and includes musicians from Garden City, Livonia, Westland, Dearborn, Inkster, Detroit, Wayne, and Melvindale. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students. Senior citizens will be admitted without charge.

## Jewish Center To Celebrate Anniversary

DETROIT Two performances by the Batsheva Dance Company of Israel will highlight special events in honor of Israel's 25th anniversary at the Jewish Community Center, 18100 Meyers.

The company will appear at 8:30 p.m. Nov. 4-5, in the center's Aaron DeRoy Theater.

Also planned is a showing of the documentary film "The Wall," at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 22. This movie, narrated by Richard Burton, traces the birth and development of Israel.

In the afternoon, a two-week showing of works by Israeli artists Mordecai Blum and Miriam Hershovitz will open. Blum is famed for his paintings, graphics, mosaics and collages, while Miss Hershovitz specializes in jewelry.

There is no admission for the art showing. Tickets to "The Wall" are 75 cents, and tickets for the dance company are \$5 and \$7.50. These are now on sale at the center.

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The club is also planning bowling sessions Nov. 12 and 26. Interested persons may call the Y. The club is for single adults, 30 years and up.



BATSHEVA DANCE Company of Israel will appear at 8:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 4, and Sunday, Nov. 5, in the Aaron DeRoy Theater of the Jewish Community Center, 18100 Meyers, Detroit. Tickets must be reserved in advance by calling the cultural arts department of the JCC.

## Circus Enters Its 101st Year

DETROIT A score of internationally famous circus stars make their American debuts in the 101st edition of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus coming to Detroit Nov. 15.

Performances are scheduled at 4:15 and 8:15 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with three shows Saturday, at 10:30 a.m., 2:30

and 8:15 p.m., and two shows Sunday, at 2 and 6 p.m.

Performers include animal trainer Gunther Gebel-Williams, in an act featuring four natural enemies, an Indian elephant, an African elephant, a Bengal tiger and man; Wolfgang Holzmar, Germany's "king of lion trainers"; the Flying Waynes and the Flying Bartons; Jeanette Williams, Europe's finest horsewoman; high wire

clown Pio Nock; and many, many others.



## DICK BENSEK

Canapes are important to any special dinner but they can be time-consuming to prepare. The best thing to do, if you are in a hurry, is to think ahead and make canapes that can be refrigerated until served. Even the bread base for these sandwiches can take time. Cut the bread in squares, strips, triangles, or circles not more than two inches in diameter. Toast the bread quickly on one side, but make sure it is not too crisp. Only then are you ready to spread filling on the untoasted side.

Special occasions warrant a special dinner - enjoy a delightful evening out at DANISH INN, 32205 Grand River Ave., 476-5320. Beautiful supper club atmosphere to enjoy the piano playing of Pat Flowers Tues thru Sat 8:30 p.m. to closing. Decorated cakes are available for Birthdays and Anniversaries.

HELPFUL HINT: Prepared cheese topped with olives is a favorite canape filling for round canapes.

## MAKE A DATE TO DINE WITH US...



Treat someone you love to a fine meal out... often. Complete dinners, cocktails, -- go creative at our lavish salad bar.

## LUNCHEONS DAILY

## SPECIAL DAY COMING UP

Let us do up a luncheon or dinner superbly for your club or office -- Christmas parties a specialty!



It's happening at the Continental BAR & RESTAURANT TUESDAY-SATURDAY with the Fantastic Roger West (let no increase in price) appearing Sun. & Mon. DANNY VAN 49110 Grand River, Wixom 349-6780