

Saving the Tibbits Opera House: From Wrecking Ball to Restoration

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Humanities

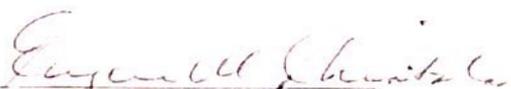
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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephanie D. Burdick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and 'B'.

{ ABSTRACT }

Built in 1882, the Tibbits Opera House, a Victorian opera house in Coldwater, MI, still performs live stage-shows via children's theatre, community theatre, and professional theatre. It also functions as a roadhouse for other entertainers like magicians, tribal dancers, and musicians. It has gone through several renovations in its time, functioning as a stage for live performances, to a movie house, and now back to a live-stage venue.

With several other movie theaters in the area as competition, by the late 1950s, the Tibbits ceased functioning as a movie theater and went into disrepair. At this time, there was talk that historic building was going to be razed and turned into a parking lot, and that is when several community groups, led by the Coldwater Players, stepped in with a "Save the Tibbits" campaign. The Schulte Amusement Company agreed to sell the building to the Coldwater Players for a minimal sum of \$7500. Not a day went by that there wasn't an article or photo in the paper about the latest fundraiser, donation request, or labor request. From January of 1961 to April of 1961, everything from new fire doors to a new heating system to a fresh coat of paint was installed by various service groups, with the Tibbits in use from April until December of that year when the fire marshal ordered the building to be closed until further repairs were made.

Another campaign was launched in January of 1962, and by the end of the year a non-profit Tibbits foundation was formed. Even without the balance in hand for repairs, in May of 1963 the board continued plans for repairs of the roof, sprinkler system, and heating system. In November of 1963, the unheated Tibbits officially opened for a Grand Ole Opry show, which played to a shivering but packed crowd.

By December, George Vaughn Lowther was hired as manager and director, and in 1964, the Tibbits was back in use as a professional summer stock venue and roadhouse. Since 1964, the Tibbits has continued to be a steadily-used landmark of the community and has gone through several managers and renovations. Currently, the Tibbits still functions as a non-profit organization and the Foundation still owns the building, which is under restoration. In the fall of 2012, the outside restoration phase was completed and plans to restore the inside are currently underway.

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- * Dr. Grennen, who spent hours editing and revising
- * My parents, Dan & Marie Hemker, who have always encouraged me to continue learning
- * My husband Clint, who endured months of this project consuming my life

{ DEDICATION }

For my mother, who introduced me to the magic of theatre at this glorious Opera House.

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{ PREFACE }

From my first show as an audience member at the young age of three, to a member of the Tibbits Summer Theatre company or design crew in my 20s and beyond, I have always been and continue to be fascinated by the history of the Tibbits Opera House.

To date, only one book has been published on the Tibbits Opera House by Carolyn Gillespie, who used the Tibbits as her dissertation subject in the 1970s and compiled the history of the theater from 1882 to 1904. The only other compiled information about the Tibbits is an independent project on the year of 1912 and the John T. Jackson management period that I myself completed several years ago. It currently is available via hard copy at the Tibbits office or the Branch District Library Holbrook Heritage Room or online at the Branch District Library website.

While the creation of this thesis would satisfy my own need for answers surrounding the renovation of the 60s, with the current restoration of the Tibbits and the questions of all of the history surrounding the building, it is clear that the rest of the Coldwater community is interested in learning about the different periods of use that the Tibbits has provided. I have been curious as to how the opera house could have been in such disrepair that it was going to be razed as well as the overwhelming effort made by the people of Coldwater to save the Tibbits and ensure that this great structure would continue to provide live theatre to future generations. From that curiosity, this thesis has been created.

{ Chapter 1: Introduction }

For more than a century, the stage of the Tibbits Opera House has been a hub of entertainment and spectacle for audiences both young and old. From its opening in 1882 until the present, such celebrated actors, comedians and musicians as Ethel Barrymore, Jeff Daniels, Joseph Cotton, and even John Philip Sousa have graced the stage (US 12 Heritage Trail).

When Barton S. Tibbits constructed the opera house in 1882, with its primitive gas-powered sconces, massive crystal chandelier, and plush red velvet decor, he knew he had built one of the finest opera houses in the country, and the Coldwater community enthusiastically supported his project as much as they could. Unfortunately, the financial burden became too much for him to shoulder, so he ultimately sold the only two years later to Joseph Henning for a mere \$13,000, half of Tibbits' original cost to build (Professional Roofing Magazine). Like Tibbits, Henning's financial struggles caught up to him, and in 1894 he turned over the management of the theater to his son-in-law, John T. Jackson, who married Henning's daughter Huldah. Together, they successfully managed the theatre for 27 years (History of Executive Directors), hosting a variety of musicals, plays, lectures, magic shows, and even circuses (Burdick).

The Tibbits adapted to the times, changing from a live performance and vaudeville house into a movie house in the 1920s, under ownership of Dennis and Estella Vanes (History of Executive Directors). The building's appearance changed, too, and the ornate outside façade was stripped down, bricked over, and appointed with a more modern look when William Schulte bought the theater in 1934. Schulte continued managing the Tibbits as a movie theatre until the advent of home televisions in the 1950s,

when people no longer had to leave their homes for entertainment. Interestingly enough, though, Schulte owned more than one theater in Coldwater at the time, and continued to show movies in the new Main, which he purchased with Robert H. Moore in 1942 (“Partners Open”).

The Tibbits sat vacant from 1954 until the late 1950s, when Schulte planned to raze the Tibbits and convert the location into a much-needed parking lot (“Players Have Less Than One Week to Buy Tibbits”). The outcry from the Coldwater community over the Tibbits’ impending destruction was great, so Schulte announced in the fall of 1959 that the Coldwater Players, a community theatre group, would be given the deed if they could raise \$7,500 to purchase it (“Fund for Saving the Tibbits Begins to Grow in Coldwater”).

The Coldwater Players did just that, struggling with fundraisers and donation requests for almost four years. They not only needed to raise the money for the loan on the building, but also make numerous repairs to the aging structure. Along with cosmetic improvements, like new paint, wallpaper, and carpet, more costly repairs, like a new roof, a new heating and air system, and a sprinkler system were essential to the theater’s operational success (“Inspection Stalls Tibbits Campaign”).

Reaching an operational state demanded years of donations and arduous labor, but by the end of 1962, the Tibbits Opera Foundation, a nonprofit theater organization with a board of directors, was formed to oversee the operations of the theater (Dec 1962 Tax Record). Though the community supported the renovation of the theater, contributing in capital and in labor, the Tibbits struggled financially. George Vaughn Lowther was hired in November, 1963, to manage the Tibbits, and it was during this time that use of the Tibbits increased substantially both in frequency and variety, which Lowther credits to

Foundation Board President Stilson, who “was the guiding light that made it happen” (Personal Interview). While Lowther remained at the Tibbits for only one year, he was the one responsible for first outfitting the Tibbits with theatrical lights, which he remembers acquiring from a theater in Detroit that was in the process of closing. In the summer of 1964, he became the production manager for the American Theatre Festival (ATF), which brought to the Tibbits eleven shows (“Season Tickets Still Available”) that were zealously supported by the local community (“Productive Initial Season at Tibbits”).

The Foundation was in the process of determining their course of action and doing the best they could with the project they had undertaken, but dissension and hostility surrounded the managerial positions. Lowther said that even though he was known as the theater manager, his job was more like that of a production manager (Personal Interview). By winter of 1964, Lowther had left the Tibbits and was working in Sarasota, Florida. According to a letter written by Ken Kohn to the Board, he had been approached by the Tibbits Foundation President V. M. Stilson to take on another managerial position that fall. Apparently, things did not proceed as planned, even though Kohn moved his family up to Coldwater from Indiana for the position. It seemed as though Kohn was strung along for months by the Foundation Board, and it wasn't until January of 1965 that Kohn addressed the board in a letter, stating that he had been working as many as eighty hours per week without being paid. His most notable complaint, aside from the financial issues, was that he had gotten word that the Foundation was looking to hire a new manager, yet he was never told that he had been terminated (Kohn Letter to President Patterson).

The Foundation teamed up with the ATF (sans Kohn) to produce summer stock in 1965, with Larry Carrico hired as the stage manager, technical director, and scenic

designer (“Detroit Handling Stage Management”). A month later, he was interviewed for the theater manager position, and by fall he was hired and began his duties at the Tibbits part-time alongside his teaching job at Lakeland School (*July 1965 Board Meeting*).

ATF did not return for the 1966 summer stock season, with the Board deciding that summer stock would be a suitable venture for the Tibbits instead. With the blessing from the Foundation Board, Carrico forged ahead with hiring a professional company and crew for the summer. A profit was turned, and Carrico was offered the theatre manager job full-time, starting that September (*August 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*), where he remained until December of 1981.

Carrico became known as the man who saved the Tibbits, though the “Save the Tibbits” drive had begun years before he arrived. To Carrico’s credit, he was the one who began the Tibbits Summer Theatre program, he continued to press ahead with fundraising and labor with the renovation, and to date, he has been the longest hired theater manager/executive director that the Tibbits has ever had, logging sixteen and a half years of service.

Since the management of the Vaughn Lowther and Carrico years, several other executive directors have filled the position, serving from as little as one month to as long as thirteen years. Beginning her tenure in November of 2001, Christine Delaney is the current executive director (*History of Executive Directors*). Delaney, along with the Foundation Board of Directors and long-time Tibbits Artistic Director Charles Burr, can be credited with spearheading the latest Tibbits restoration project, in which the beautiful façade, Victorian gingerbreading, cupola, balcony, and even the bust of Shakespeare, were restored.

{ Chapter 2: Literature Review }

The Tibbits Opera House is important not only because of the cultural awareness that it brings to the small city of Coldwater and its surrounding areas, but also because it exemplifies incalculable community support and involvement. At a time when theaters across the country were being flattened if they had not already been burned down, the Tibbits was given a new life by being converted into a movie theater in the 30s. It was revitalized again in the 60s with the “Save the Tibbits” campaign, and it was yet again reawakened several years ago, when the façade was completely restored to its original 1882 grandeur. It has put Coldwater on the map as a winner of the 2013 Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation and has managed to rise from the shadow of the wrecking ball to become one of the “top 10 places to see the lights off Broadway” (USA Today).

A comprehensive history of the Tibbits has yet to be conceived. Aside from this documentation, the only other records of the history of Tibbits that have been compiled are Carolyn Gillespie’s dissertation, which focuses on 1882 to 1904, and my own research on one year of the Jackson management--1912. This thesis focuses on 1959 to 1966, but there are gaps in the historic compilations of the periods 1904 to 1911, 1913 to 1959, and 1966 to the present. It would be beneficial to have a breakdown of each period of management in terms of renovation/restoration, as well as the various art forms that the theater has presented over the years. Further study could be completed on any or all of these time periods. The rise of the cinema era must have been fascinating, with technology and renovations infusing the theater’s design and operation. Another

enhancement to the Tibbits archives would be the compilation of all data surrounding the restoration of the 2000s. I liken the restoration of the 2000s with the renovation of the 1960s: Neither could have been completed without unflagging determination and community support.

The focus of this study—a historical account of the period between 1959 and 1966—is as complete as possible, and not without certain informational gaps. Those who were alive and residing in the Coldwater area during the start of the renovation have since passed on or have only vague memories of the events during that time. The Foundation wasn't established until 1962, which was several years into the campaign, so there are no records or meeting minutes to provide details of events before 1962; there is only hearsay and local folklore about what actually happened.

The articles from The Daily Reporter, the local newspaper, have not been organized into any sort of index, so the daunting and time-consuming task of scanning through almost 2,500 issues of newspapers, turned up roughly 1,120 articles, advertisements, and corresponding photos of the Tibbits. Luckily, The Daily Reporter extensively covered the advent of the “Save the Tibbits” campaign in 1959, the renovation efforts of 1961 and beyond, and the productions that occurred throughout; however, newspaper coverage on the Tibbits was almost nonexistent in 1960, with only one article appearing. Beyond 1960, most of the articles that appeared in The Daily Reporter came straight from the Foundation minutes, but The Daily Reporter writer Kathy Tarr then began promoting Tibbits events before, during and after they occurred.

Current Tibbits Executive Director Christine Delaney has been excited about this project since I first approached her, and she has allowed me access to the Tibbits archives, as well as the information that she has collected over the years. The archives do

shed some light on the internal workings of the Foundation Board, but since the minutes are mere summaries of meetings, it can be presumed that more detailed discussions occurred in the two-hour long meetings that were not documented in the minutes, which were sometimes only one page long. The few personal letters that have been donated and archived have helped in the process of sorting out those dates and events that were glossed over in the Foundation minutes.

Perhaps the most valuable research tool was discovered after I posted a plea for help on the “I Grew Up in Coldwater” facebook page, which has served as a meeting place for those who share a love of history and of Coldwater in particular. I publicized my upcoming thesis project, and was promptly contacted by Mr. Terry Mulchahey, who had conducted as much of his own research as possible on the Tibbits via the Internet, and whose father was a member of the Coldwater Players in the 1960s. Mulchahey began his research because:

I felt that the Coldwater Players were... being overlooked or that their story would be forgotten. The preservation of the Tibbits was and is built one effort at a time. If any of the previous efforts had not occurred, the Tibbits might have been razed. Without the Players' purchase, it would have been razed. Without the work of the Foundation, the theater might very well have fallen back into disuse and abandonment. I am immensely proud of the role the Players had and my father's participation. So to state it briefly, I began the research to ensure that the contribution of the Coldwater Players to the saving of the Tibbits was documented. (Personal Interview)

Mr. Mulchahey supplied me with not only a collection online archives from Box Office magazine, but also names of several contacts, including the first manager of Tibbits, George Vaughn Lowther, who was located in Las Vegas as a retired hypnotist. Mr. Mulchahey also sent me a flash drive that contained tax record information, aerial photographs of Coldwater, and a host of other related photos and articles.

Mr. Vaughn Lowther was kind enough to respond to my emails, and began the process of searching for documents that I might find interesting. He supplied me with several articles from The Daily Reporter that I also noticed in the archives at the library, and he also scanned and sent me personal items: a letter written on Tibbits letterhead that he had sent to his family when he was hired, saying that he wasn't going to make it home for Thanksgiving; a full-page newspaper spread from the Fort Wayne paper that detailed, with photographs, the events at the Tibbits; and even several autographed headshots of famous performers who had passed through the Tibbits during his term as manager.

This thesis is the culmination of a process of gathering newspaper articles from the Holbrook Heritage Room archives in the Branch District Library, gathering information from the other sources listed above via email and phone conversations, reading and sorting all of the information chronologically, and synthesizing it into the following chapters. It is my hope that the Coldwater community never ceases to recognize and appreciate the gem that they have in the Tibbits Opera House, and that it continues to thrive as a cultural and historical centerpiece of the small town and its surrounding areas.

{ Chapter 3: From Razing to Renovation }

Information surrounding the Tibbits Opera House during the late 1950s is scant. Those who were heavily involved in the renovation process have since passed away, others have only a vague recollection of that time, and others were only slightly involved. There are several surviving documents of the Coldwater Players minutes that have become part of the Tibbits Archives, but aside from that and several mentions in the local paper, The Daily Reporter, much information has been lost.

It is safe to say that if the Coldwater Players had not become involved with the “Save the Tibbits” campaign, the Tibbits would surely have been razed and turned into a parking lot, according to owner William Schulte’s plan. The community theatre group had been granted from Schulte use of the Tibbits as a performance venue, and had produced several shows there in the late 1950s, including *Charlie’s Aunt* in 1958 (Anders).

By June of 1958, the Players had already been contemplating the future of Tibbits and how it could reclaim its former vitality in the community. A group of ten individuals, consisting of Duane Davidson (chairman), Les Wise, Frankie Gay, Bud Stoughton, Bert Weasley, Red Baldwin, Robert MacDonald, Charles Fisk, Charles Hill and Charles Sparkes, became a temporarily appointed Board of Trustees for the Tibbits Community Theatre Planning Committee, which was formed prior to June 5, 1958 (*June 1958 Planning Committee Meeting Minutes*). In one of the only surviving meeting minutes, the group discussed possible uses of the Tibbits, which were determined to be “general possibilities” (*June 1958 Planning Committee Meeting Minutes*). The following Monday, on June 9, 1958, the Committee sent a survey to various community groups and/or

companies, seeking suggestions for how people would use the Tibbits if the Players purchased it and “rejuvenated it for use as a community building” (Franc Gay Letter to Gentlemen). Responses to the Players’ inquiry are unknown, as this letter was one of only two pieces of documentation for 1958.

At that same June meeting, the group discussed a cost estimate for the basic monthly operation of the building, which estimated heat at \$500, lights at \$250, fire insurance at \$18.50, taxes at \$641, and maintenance at about \$400. Renovation needs were listed and identified as seat overhaul, entry, foyer, ceiling, backstage, marquee, lighting and wiring; securing specific bids for the project would aid them in deciding how much needed to be raised (*June 1958 Planning Committee Meeting*). It appears that this group met monthly, as the next proposed meeting date at the bottom of the minutes stated that the group should set its next meeting for no later than July 10, 1958.

In 1959, it appears that only two events occurred at the Tibbits—the annual Rotary minstrel show in March (“Rotary Minstrel Show Ad”), and a variety show in May that was sponsored by both the Coldwater Players and the Sturges-Young Players, a community theatre group from Sturgis, MI, several towns west of Coldwater (“Back to the 90s”). Until word came in October that Schulte planned to either sell or demolish the Tibbits, the Tibbits stage remained unused, and publicity on it was nonexistent.

On October 30, 1959, the town became aware that it might lose the Tibbits, as headlines of The Daily Reporter read, “Players Have Less Than One Week to Buy Tibbits.” The article states that The Schulte Amusement Company had plans to “proceed with demolition of the structure unless the Players exercise a purchase option by the early part of next week.” From there, the Coldwater Players began their crash campaign to raise funds to save the theater, with the target goal of \$7,500, per Schulte’s request

(“Players Have Less Than One Week to Buy Tibbits”).

From October of 1959 until January of 1960, The Daily Reporter covered the progress of the Coldwater Players’ campaign. In one month’s time, the Players managed to collect almost \$2,500 in contributions (“Inspection Stalls Tibbits Campaign”), and they were fortunate to learn that Schulte did not hold firm to his purchase deadline, allowing the Players more time than he had originally agreed upon. Along with trying to raise the necessary funds to purchase the Tibbits, there was the matter of bringing the building up to code, which became an additional burden to the Players. An inspection report at the end of November showed that the dressing rooms needed to be removed and replaced, an approved automatic sprinkler system needed to be installed, a new boiler room had to be constructed, an emergency exit needed to be added to the north side of the building, and new construction and equipment was needed in the stage area (“Inspection Stalls Tibbits Campaign”).

By December 1, 1959, the deadline for the payment to Schulte loomed, and the contributions were at only \$3,400 (“Tibbits Campaign Deadline is Near”). Though the Players didn’t have enough to pay Schulte in full, they gave his company a down payment of \$1,500 the week of December 11, 1959, with the agreement that they would pay the balance within five years (“Players Make Initial Payment”).

Despite the list of necessary improvements, including the sudden need for a new heating plant, the Tibbits remained open for business in 1960 to the Coldwater Players, who produced *House on the Cliff* and *The Girls in 509* (Huet Letter to Patrons). Aside from that, the theater was dark most of the year, with nothing happening in the way of publicity after February. The only other information from that year was a tax record, showing that the tax bill was consigned to the Coldwater Players in July (Branch County

Tax Record).

In 1961, the Coldwater Players made headlines full-force with their “Save the Tibbits” campaign. Monthly minutes for the newly formed Tibbits Theatre Board of Trustees, which included Sanford Jolly (chairman), Judy Miller, Howard Thompson, and Cliff Huet, began being documented. The initial meeting, on January 5, 1961, was held in order to create a draft of rules for the Tibbits: it would be non-profit and self-maintaining; booking would be handled by Paula Weller, the Coldwater Players business manager; and the Players would be given preferential treatment for use of the building. The group also began planning a drive to raise money for the repairs needed, and bids for furnace repair were discussed (*January 5 1961 Meeting Minutes*).

According to an article in The Daily Reporter on January 9, 1961, the Board launched a \$2,000 campaign for improvements to the theater (“Campaign for Tibbits Theater Opens Today”). The Coldwater Players made the initial push to save the Tibbits, and that was the beginning of the community rally to save their theatre. The Players spread the word and enlisted other service groups and local businesses to join in with their time, talent, and donations for the renovation of the Tibbits. In January, Woodward Building Materials offered to repair the furnace and donate the labor (“Campaign for Tibbits Theater Opens Today”); Coldwater Concrete Products Co. donated 300 cement blocks for the construction of a fire wall, with Russell Belt agreeing to construct it; and Sweet’s Electric repaired the motor for the furnace and offered to check and replace the wiring (“Strong Support Shown for Theater Project”). The Coldwater Key Club, which was the Kiwanis Club’s high school division, carried the cement blocks into the basement (“Boost for Theater Project”).

Work on the theater continued in February, with local mason and carpenter Karly

Staley creating the concrete block furnace room with help from Belt and Stanley Cuthbert (“Tibbits Campaign is Nearing its Goal for Rehabilitation”). While work was being done on the furnace room in the basement, there was a flurry of activity upstairs on the main level from local service groups. The Daily Reporter ran photos almost daily that showed the progress on the theater: Coldwater Exchange Club refurbished the main seating area, the Rotary club worked on the dressing rooms and hallway backstage, and the Lions Club conducted a general cleanup of the Tibbits (“Lions Clean Up Tibbits”).

The Tibbits Theatre Board of Trustees (often referred to as the Coldwater Players Board of Trustees) met again in February. At this meeting, the chairmen chose a rose shade of paint for the walls of the foyer, and a mint color for the ceiling. There was also mention of obtaining the original chandelier, repairing it, and installing it (*February 2 1961 Minutes*), but no further mention of locating or repairing the chandelier was made in 1961. In other renovation news, three fire doors were donated by Federal Mogul in February, which Tibbits trustee chairman Sanford Jolly said was a large item in the repair budget (“Fire Doors Donated to Theater”).

March brought a final push of work to the theater, with Robert Blosser and Wayne Harmon painting the proscenium, the Rotary Club painting the dressing rooms, and Kiwanis members performing another general cleanup of the theater (“Coldwater Service Clubs Help Out”). The Jaycees also lent a hand with cleaning and with painting the lobby and stairway to the balcony (“Rehabilitation Continues: Paint Theater Lobby, Stairway”). Donations from the community poured in, with Douglas Manufacturing Co. of Bronson and the Sweeny Buick-Pontiac Co. donating cleaning equipment; Legg Lumber, Ideal Wallpaper, and Montgomery Ward donating paint (“Work on Tibbits is Reviewed by Trustees”); and Blaski Construction Co. donating scaffolding

(“Rehabilitation Continues: Paint Theater Lobby, Stairway”).

While originally the Tibbits was scheduled to have its grand opening with a Coldwater Players presentation of *Three Men on a Horse* on April 8 or 9, 1961, but by the March board meeting, it was obvious that both the grand opening and the show would be delayed. Whether or not the Players had actually been rehearsing for the show at the time is unclear, as no publicity was done for it aside from a quick mention of both the show and the grand opening in a February article in The Daily Reporter (“Fire Doors Donated to Theater”). The Players did go onstage that summer to present *Bull in a China Shop*, which had a “disappointing” audience turnout of only 150 people for the two-night run (“*China Shop* is Presented Here”). The Players’ other show in 1961, *Pure as the Driven Snow*, also had a two-night run in December. While there were several articles and photos advertising the show, no subsequent review was found.

Along with the Players using the Tibbits, the annual Rotary minstrel show was held at the theater the end of April and played to a packed house. The show received rave reviews for its “100 minutes of memorable melodies, razor-sharp comedy, snappy dancing, surprise specialties, colorful costumes and scenery, and effective lighting” (“Rotary Minstrel Scores Hit”). The Sweet Adelines also performed a western musical variety show titled *Sagebrush Serenade*, along with the Banjo-Tainers of Muskegon joining as part of the evening’s entertainment (“Banjo Trio to Appear Here”). Like the Coldwater Players’ performance, the Sweet Adelines were given newspaper coverage before the show, but no review afterwards.

The only other event that was held at the Tibbits that year was a Brothers of the Brush and Centennial Belles meeting (“Brothers, Belles Meet”), and the Tibbits acted as housing for the Greater Coldwater Centennial headquarters for less than a month, from

May 16 to June 1 (“Centennial Office at Tibbits Theater” and “Centennial Office Headquarters Moved”).

By December of 1961, just over two years after the Players launched their fundraising campaign, they started to acquire bids for estimates of completely renovating the building. Work on the theater had certainly been completed at the beginning of the year, but no other renovations had taken place since March. The City requested an inspection by the state fire marshal, and the news he gave them was grim: the Players needed to raise an additional \$39,000 to make the building safe by adding a sprinkler system and an asbestos curtain; the roof and chimney needed to be repaired; and other general repair was needed. The Players had \$6,000 remaining mortgage balance. On December 4, 1961, the fire marshal ordered that the Tibbits be closed until the repairs could be made (“Stock Offered to Theatre Project”).

Word travels fast in a small town. Even though the Tibbits’ closing wasn’t publicized until December 15, news of closing proliferated. The same day that the press release of its closing appeared, the same article noted that an anonymous donor gave 140 shares of General Foods stock (valued at \$13,300) to the Tibbits fund, assuming that the City of Coldwater would accept and operate the building (“Stock Offered to Theatre Project”). Though the Players had worked tirelessly trying to raise funds for the theater, it was an insurmountable burden, and there was talk that the Tibbits would be successful only if the City took over the building. All the work that had been accomplished to save the theater seemed to have been futile after hearing the fire marshal’s order, but the tenacity of the Coldwater Players showed in their next move— at the start of the new year, they organized and launched a drive for the rehabilitation of the Tibbits (“Players Group Opens Drive for Theater Funds”).

On the backs of the announcement of the fund drive, donations started coming in. The Sweet Adelines pledged \$1,000, Rotary promised their support, the Coldwater Players donated \$100 (“Theater Goal and Deadline Set” and “Tibbits Fund Committee to Meet Tonight”), and somewhere between December of 1961 and a Coldwater City Council meeting in January of 1962, the total amount to be raised for the Tibbits grew from \$39,000 to \$55,000. At that meeting, City Manager G. W. Collins presented a revised estimate of costs, which actually totaled \$67,300, but taking into account the donated stock that was valued at \$13,300, Collins presented a new figure of \$55,000 to be raised. Council members had serious discussions for two hours about the City of Coldwater taking over the theatre’s title, and by a seven to two vote, the motion was made that the City would accept the title if certain conditions were met, like the results of an engineering study and a deadline to raise funds by April 1 (“Theater Goal and Deadline Set”).

Even though the City agreed to take on this task, the Coldwater Players, now under the title of the Tibbits Fund Committee, still organized and executed the 60-day fund campaign (“Tibbits Fund Committee to Meet Tonight”). The actual kickoff date was not until February 1, 1962, but donations started coming in before that. The Coldwater Moose Lodge held a benefit dinner for Tibbits (“Moose Plan Opera House Benefit”), an antiques auction held at Porter Furniture Store netted \$240 (“Tibbits Auction Nets \$240 Total”), and Coldwater High School students presented Tibbits with a check for \$23.25 (“Students Donate to Tibbits Fund”). Some donations were certainly more substantial than others, but most of the larger gifts were anonymously donated. Aside from the \$13,300 General Foods stock, another anonymous donor gave 100 shares of US Steel stock, valued at approximately \$7,000 (“New Tibbits Donation”).

It seemed as though all of Coldwater pitched in what it could to help save the theater. The Coldwater Fortnightly Musical Club sponsored a kitchen tour as a benefit (“Kitchen Tour for Tibbits Benefit Set”), and the American Legion sponsored a benefit that netted another \$160 for the cause (“American Legion Benefit”). A block-by-block canvass of the city for donations was organized by Fund Drive Committee volunteer Dorothy Aitchison and co-chairman Margaret Hayes, in which an additional \$9,000 was collected (“Canvass for Tibbits Funds is Planned”). A running list of the names of donors was updated every week in the paper—presumably to not only thank those who had donated, but also encourage more people to donate—and by the first part of April, donations reached \$36,000 as the campaign drew to a close (“Tibbits Campaign Is Nearing Climax”). The \$55,000 was not met by the deadline that was given by the City Council, but it was clear to everyone that the goal could be met with more time. Hence, the Council granted a 90-day extension for meeting the \$55,000 goal (“Council Grants 90-Day Extension to Tibbits Drive”).

Meanwhile, from February until May, things were happening across the street from the Tibbits. The old garage building that was once used as a scene shop for building and painting the theater’s sets was being torn down (“Old Landmark Disappearing”). By May, there was no trace that a building had ever stood there, and a parking lot was created in its place, complete with curbs and gutters (“New Parking Lot Being Improved”). This free parking lot was one of the first parking lots in the city, and it just happened to be located in an area of town that would be the most beneficial for the Tibbits. Prior to that parking lot’s creation, patrons had been limited to street parking.

Summertime brought about an engineer’s report on the Tibbits, which informed everyone that the building was structurally sound, with one minor repair outstanding—

strengthening the capacity in the stage area (“Tibbits Structurally Sound, Says Report of 2 Engineers”). Engineers Vance Gray and Daniel Stolarski of Raymond E. Roose Associates of Toledo, OH examined the Tibbits, along with local architect (and Tibbits-lover) Jerry Fair (“Engineers Check Tibbits Today”), with monies for the report provided by the Sweet Adelines group (“Plans Mapped on Tibbits Campaign”). Summer also brought another benefit in the form of a “Tibbits Twist Night” dance contest, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce (“Coldwater to Twist for Tibbits”). Aside from that, campaigning for the Tibbits seemed nonexistent that summer, and the City of Coldwater moved out of the picture as potential owner of the Tibbits.

By September, articles in The Daily Reporter began to appear sporadically, but the focus shifted from monetary donations and progress at the theater to the historical documentation on the theater. Part of the original glass chandelier from 1882, presumably created in Czechoslovakia, turned up in the attic of local couple Mr. & Mrs. Fred Kaiser. The entire contents of the Tibbits boxes that they found—196 six-inch glass prisms, 53 three-inch prisms, 25 feet of jewel crystal chains, nine pieces of inch and a quarter crystal discs in a lace pattern, 75 pieces of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch crystal circles, one large four-inch crystal drop, and an envelope of handmade wire hooks—were donated back to the Tibbits (Bovee). Another donation to the Tibbits in September was several souvenir tickets, one of which was an opening night ticket with B.S Tibbits’ signature on it, the other an admission ticket for “Forty-five Minutes from Broadway” with George M. Cohan’s signature on the back, which Miss Maude Ramsdell found among the belongings of her sister, the late Mrs. Ed Allen (“Tibbits Momentos Found in Home”).

Discussion of forming a non-profit corporation for the Tibbits began in October, with the new Tibbits committee consisting of representatives from various Coldwater

organizations (“Tibbits Corporation Being Organized”). Supporters who had previously donated to the \$55,000 fund drive were contacted about releasing the money to the Executive Tibbits Theater Committee so that work could begin, and by December, the Tibbits Executive Committee had heard back from most donors, agreeing to the release of funds. Minutes from the December meeting also show that Art Lyon and Richard Birringer provided legal help to the committee to form the corporation as the Tibbits Theatre Foundation, and that new officers Les Woodward, president; Robert Yingling, vice president; Margaret Hayes, treasurer; and Franc Gay, secretary, were elected (*December 6 1962 Meeting Minutes*). On December 12, 1962, the Tibbits officially formed an incorporation, on December 31, 1962, the tax bill was consigned to the Tibbits Theater Foundation, and with that, the Tibbits Opera Foundation was born.

{ Chapter 4: The Foundation & Vaughn Lowther }

By January of 1963, the Foundation had contacted and received approval for transfer of funds to the Foundation from nearly 100% of the donors. The press release mentioned that only one person chose to have a donation returned, and at press time, there were eleven other donors who had been contacted but had not yet responded (“Tibbits Repairs to Start”).

The Tibbits effort was quiet again for the next few months, at least publicity-wise. There must have been more financial planning during this time, but no Foundation minutes exist until May, when both The Daily Reporter and Foundation minutes show that the Board had been looking at finances to receive the additional \$26,000 that was needed for re-opening the theater (“Tibbits Repairs to get Underway Here July 10th”). The Executive Board of the Tibbits Foundation expanded in May to include more members from various community organizations and businesses, and they discussed securing a loan for the \$26,000 at 6% interest, repayable over three years’ time. In order to secure that loan, though, they needed to have \$40,000 in notes signed by reputable individuals. Under the canvassing leadership of V. M. Stilson (known around town as General Stilson, or even just “the General”), the Board began its search for 133 donors who would pledge \$100 per year for four years, which would more than adequately satisfy the balance of the loan (*May 7 1963 Executive Meeting Minutes*). The remaining balance of funds from those donors would be applied to the operating expenses to ensure operation of the Tibbits for the first six years (“Tibbits Repairs to Get Underway Here July 10th”).

Up until this point, the focus of the “Save the Tibbits” campaign had landed

squarely on the people of Coldwater. By June, the Foundation Board decided to expand its campaign and reach out to all of Branch County for donation requests (*June 3 1963 Executive Meeting Minutes*). Another anonymous donation, in the form of \$1,500, came by the middle of June, and The Daily Reporter reported that a number of people had already agreed to sign notes for the \$400 (“Tibbits Progress Excellent”). At the end of June, local music shop Music Mart and owner Wayne Feller donated a standard 9-foot concert grand piano (“Tibbits to Have Concert Grand”). The Board scheduled the fund drive to end on July 10 and begin repairs at that time, but eight days from their proposed end date, they found themselves with only 35 willing donors, just one-third of their target number of donors (“Tibbits Fund Drive One Third to the Top”). Stilson asked to extend the drive to make it a success, and was granted that extension at the July board meeting (*July 9 1963 Board Meeting Minutes*).

The Foundation seemed to have undertaken a project that was larger than anticipated, and several of the Foundation’s Board members attended the school board meeting in July, where they proposed that the school board take over the ownership of the theater (“School Board Ownership of Tibbits Theater Proposed”). There was some discussion during the school board meeting about the pros and cons of the school board owning the theater, but by September members of the Foundation Board had changed their minds again, and they made plans to pay off the land contract and claim the theater as the sole property of the Foundation (“Tibbits Title to be Cleared” and *September 6 1963 Board Meeting Minutes*).

Like every volunteer organization, the Foundation Board members had their share of personality conflicts, and in August, Mr. Yingling resigned. President Woodard also turned in his letter of resignation, listing his reason as the overwhelming demands of the

office. General V. M. Stilson was voted in as the new president (*August 20 1963 Board Meeting Minutes*). Over the course of the summer, the Foundation hired Fair & Robinson Architectural Firm to make plans for restoring the theater. In a The Daily Reporter article titled “Tibbits Plans Are Underway,” Stilson emphasized that “Our plans are to restore the theater—not just renovate it. We are interested in obtaining descriptions of how the interior and exterior used to look from anyone having such information” (“Tibbits Plans are Underway”). Even though the money was not totally secured by this time, the Board pushed ahead with plans to fix the heating and install a new sprinkler system. They then projected the theater’s opening date to be sometime in October (“Tibbits Plans are Underway”).

In September, Foundation Secretary Franc Gay sent a letter to the Branch County Board of Supervisors, the Coldwater City Council, and Mayor Olen Fry, petitioning the removal of current tax assessments for the Tibbits and removal from the tax roll. In the letter, Gay asked the leaders to consider removing the theater from the tax roll due to the fact that “The Tibbits Theatre Foundation is a non-profit organization in the process of developing the civic project with which you are all familiar. Its purpose is to advance the welfare and cultural interests of Coldwater and Branch County” (Franc Gay Letter to Branch County Board of Supervisors). By October 13, the Foundation Board had received word from the Branch County Board of Supervisors that the tax exemption had been granted. The minutes from the October meeting noted that the Board expected to hear from the City of Coldwater on the matter shortly thereafter, which they did (*October 13 1963 Board Meeting Minutes*).

October brought another flurry of renovation activity at the theater, with Roussey Construction Company hired for refurbishing the dressing rooms, and repairing the

plaster and roof; Michigan Chandelier Company was contacted about restoring the large chandelier; and local volunteers continued work on the wallpaper and paint. The Foundation Board continued to dream big with their new goal of renovation and restoration, and local architect Jerry Fair started working on plans for remodeling the dressing rooms and adding a lounge and rehearsal area in the basement. The Historical Society expressed some interest in establishing a museum in the basement (*October 13 1963 Board Meeting Minutes*). One of the major projects in the theater was the installation of the new fire marshal appointed sprinkler system. In order to run water service and install the sprinkler system, there had to be some damage to the sidewalk and the street, but the City Council and the Coldwater Board of Public Utilities agreed to absorb the cost of fixing that anticipated damage (“City, BPU to Lend Hand to the Tibbits”).

Even though the theater was scheduled to be opened in October, it did not happen. The Roger Williams concert that the Board scheduled was held at the Coldwater High School instead, with proceeds from the concert going to the Tibbits fund (“Roger Williams to Play in Coldwater October 23”). That the concert was not held at the Tibbits did not stop Roger Williams from visiting the building. He stopped in to view the restoration work, and after his tour was complete, he commented, “This is simply wonderful!” (“Artist Visits Theater”).

Other inside projects of that autumn included a gas line being laid to the new heating equipment in the boiler room (“Tibbits Readied for Show”), an addition to the back of the main theater building to house the heating plant and air-conditioning equipment, and the addition of an asbestos fire curtain, which would be lowered to separate the stage from the audience in the event of an emergency (*November 13 1963*

Board Meeting Minutes). While the dangers of asbestos are now known, and fire curtains are currently made of fiberglass or iron, in the 60s most fire curtains were made out of asbestos (“Safety Curtain”).

Work was being completed not only on the inside of the building. The outside was due for a facelift, too, and from October 24 to November 5, 1963, the movie theater marquee was removed, the large electric Tibbits sign was dismantled, and the tile on the exterior’s front was removed, revealing the beautiful old brick and stone façade (“Face Changing”). As the front tile came down, many speculated whether or not the statue of Shakespeare’s bust would be found nestled in the small alcove near the roof of the theater. Unfortunately, it was never found.

On Wednesday, November 20, 1963, history was made when the Tibbits reopened with a Grand Ole Opry performance, the first professional production held at the theater since before its cinema days (“Tibbits Readied for 1st Pro Production”). With a “star-studded” performance by Jimmy Dickens, Shirley Ray, Stonewall Jackson, Jimmy Newman, and Red Sovine, the pressure was on for the remodeling work to be completed on time. The day before the two evening performances, crews were scrambling to clean up the remodeling mess and have the Tibbits looking respectable for the first professional performance. At this time, the gas line was also being laid to the boiler room (“Tibbits Readied for Show”). Though the crew’s intention was to have the Tibbits in audience-ready condition for the Grand Ole Opry performance, instead the audience endured the show in a theater with no heat, sitting for two hours in an “‘ice-box’ theater to watch and listen to the liveliest strumming, humming and shouting you’ve ever heard this side of the Mason-Dixon line” (Shattuck).

Audience members may have been shivering in the 32-degree theater, but they

took comfort in the fact that they were entertained throughout the evening, and that the theater was open again. The Daily Reporter writer Kathryn Shattuck noted her feelings in a review following the performance: “Great progress has been made in bringing Tibbits back as a working theater but it has been a ‘blood, sweat and tears’ affair. Every nickel and dime has counted, and there is one thing about it all that matters most— we may all have colds as a result of last night’s performance, but the theater is safe [and] sound, and always will be because it is carefully supervised by all those interested in doing things right and in the best interests of Coldwater” (Shattuck).

The Sweet Adelines were not keen on having their variety show play to a freezing audience on November 30 and December 1, so they moved their performance from the Tibbits to the Roosevelt Auditorium. They then moved their performance location back to the Tibbits three days before the show because the heat was fixed and “because of the exceptional job done by V. M. Stilson and the workmen connected with the project; the theatre is now in good enough condition to stage a complete production” (“Adelines’ Show to be at Tibbits”).

Sometime in November or December of 1963, the Foundation Board hired the first theater manager, George Vaughn Lowther, who does not even recall applying for the job. Prior to the Tibbits, Lowther was a technical assistant for the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, which had a small staff of professional people, Lowther included. The Tibbits offered him room and board at Stukey’s Inn, as well as a stipend of about \$50 per week, he recalls (Personal Interview). While his official title for the Tibbits was “Director of the Theater,” and his duties as outlined in the December Foundation minutes were to assist in helping the Players group get organized, direct them, look after things at the theater, and do public relations and publicity (*December 10 1963 Board Meeting*

Minutes), Lowther maintains that this was not his job description at all. Instead, he was more of a production manager than a business or theater manager and recalls:

The Board handled the business of the theatre—the booking, the advertising...My real title should have been production manager because I came in from Fort Wayne Civic as a techie and so I was more like tech director, production manager, what-have-you. My billing on the ATF program is stage manager, and on the Tibbits part of it, technical director. It was up to the production manager to make sure that show gets in, works, and gets out; that the lighting person does what he needs to do; making sure that Agnes Moorhead has a rose in her dressing room; that sort of thing. (Personal Interview)

By December 14, 1963, a production of *Jack and the Beanstalk* was shown twice, with Lowther using his contacts from his previous position at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre to contract in the group (Tarr, “Manager-Director Engaged to Handle Tibbits Events”). In a full-page spread in the Fort Wayne newspaper in January, a photo appears of Lowther working on some dimmers. Lowther recalled that when he was hired in, there was no theatrical lighting system of any sort in the Tibbits. He vividly remembered procuring the dimmers. Lowther had become acquainted with the first cousin of the owner/editor of The Daily Reporter. Somehow, they found out about a theater in Detroit that was being torn down, so they made the trek to Detroit to retrieve those dimmers, salvaging between a dozen and eighteen of them: “I was responsible for outfitting the theater with lights. It was rudimentary and primitive, but it worked. The dimmers are the heart of the lighting system. I did that early on in the game. This was the techie in me, making things happen” (Personal Interview). Lowther remembered the dimmers being

the old-fashioned kind, the sort of dimmers that were used in theaters all over the world in an earlier era, that were “a coil of copper wire, encased in ceramic... 12 to 18 inches in diameter, and you would slide the contact point around to dim or brighten the lights” (Personal Interview). After the Fort Wayne Civic’s production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, the only other December offering at the Tibbits was a community Christmas carol sing, sponsored by the Sweet Adelines and several local church choirs (“Community Caroling Slated for Tibbits”).

The next year, 1964, brought with it various performances from professional, community, and educational groups. January began with a soprano concert featuring Doris Yarick (“Renowned Singer to Sing in City Monday”) and the Chad Mitchell Trio benefit concert, which was held in the high school gymnasium to accommodate a larger crowd (“Chad Mitchell Trio Coming Here”), but the biggest draw in January was without a doubt a series of sketches from world famous plays and novels, titled “Come Close! I’ll Give You an Earful” with Agnes Moorhead. The review of the performance was beyond glowing with Moorhead’s “popularity proven” with a capacity audience:

Miss Moorehead, who, it was discovered later, had designed the dress she wore, was still radiant with red hair and sparkling wit. The gown was an Empire style in pink organdy embroidered in gold. It offset her hair in such a way as to make her a picture of elegance even before she uttered a word. When she had begun her performance, however, the audience forgot all else and for one and one-half hours remained under the influence of her mesmerizing voice. (Tarr, “Capacity Audience Takes in Moorehead Appearance”)

Lowther remembers that performance and Miss Moorehead. He reminisced, “I

had a ‘Thank You’ note from Agnes Moorehead. I had put a single rose in her dressing room before her arrival. She was used to getting whole bouquets, but I could only afford one [rose]. But she was very gracious and sent me a ‘Thank You’ note.” (Personal Interview). Following the performance, there was the opportunity for some to meet her at a reception given by the Stilsons in their home.

In February, the Board issued a public request for donations of tables, lamps, vanity dressing tables, water pitchers, and mirrors to furnish the backstage area in preparation for future performances (“Need Items for Pajama Game”). The new red flocked wallpaper was hung by Lyle Barry, Gerald Clar, and Wayne Harmon the end of February, with Richard Dirschell painting the proscenium arch. The Tecumseh Players also brought in a production of *The Pajama Game* during this time, which had a medium-sized audience the first night and near-capacity audience for the second (“Tecumseh Troupe Plays to Good ‘Pajama Game’ House”). The cast had presented the standing-room-only show in Tecumseh prior to their Tibbits run, and arrived in Coldwater between 2:30 and 3pm the day of their first Tibbits showing. They needed time to rehearse (several hours) and adapt their show to the Tibbits stage, as their Tecumseh performances were theatre-in-the-round productions. The actors loved the acoustics, the dressing rooms, and the large stage, but they did comment that the stage was “a little splintery” (“Tecumseh Players Pleased With Theater”).

Though January’s big draw was Agnes Moorehead’s performance, February’s was Joseph Cotten and Patricia Medina, playing to a full house in *The Seven Ways of Love*. That single performance—as The Daily Reporter put it—“scored” with the audience, and it grossed \$3,500 in receipts. After the performance, another reception was held at the Stilson’s, where Medina raved about the theater, saying, “I love the

theatre...but Joe is insane about it,” to which Mr. Cotten added, “We hope that you’ll invite us back after it’s finished. We are quite enthusiastic about how it will look when it’s done” (“Cottens Score With Tibbits Crowd”). Mr. Cotten went on to liken the Tibbits to a theater in Sarasota, Florida, which was brought from Europe and reconstructed there (“Cottens Score With Tibbits Crowd”).

The next few weeks brought more donations from both businesses and individuals, as well as the installation of a new flame-red velour main drape, which was donated by the local Rotary (“Rotarians Purchase Curtain”). March also brought a performance by the University of Michigan Glee Club (“Coming to Tibbits”), as well as a spring fashion show that was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce (“The Friars”).

The most noteworthy event surrounding the Tibbits in March, however, was the beginning of the mural installation in the Tibbits’ lobby, by local Disney artist Alfred Parke. The mural, which is still a focal point in the Tibbits’ lobby, decorates the west and north walls of the lobby, approximately 500 square feet (“A Mural for the Tibbits”). Wayne Harmon and some of his men surfaced the walls with canvas, which Parke painted with oils. Jim Bryan, Bill Bobler, and Walter Johnson were given credit in The Daily Reporter for assistance providing materials, rigging, and décor details (“Progress Report on Tibbits Mural”). Though Parke’s creative mural certainly dressed up the lobby area, Lowther did not approve of its being installed: “I felt it was a little too Disney. I didn’t think it was in keeping with the history with the Tibbits,” he said (Personal Interview). Then again, Lowther asserted, “I was a techie; I was not the theater manager,” so per the Board’s request, the mural went up.

April had a full slate of entertainment scheduled for the Tibbits, including the highly-anticipated Rotary minstrel show (“That Time of Year”), a free concert sponsored

by Music Mart (“Free Concert Monday”), Bob Newhart and the Outsiders (“Bob Newhart Ad”), the Tibbits Civic Theatre (formerly the Coldwater Players) production of *Life With Father* (“Tibbits Marquee”), a Coldwater High School variety show (“Variety Show Set April 24”), the comedic styling of pianist Henry L. Scott (“Pianist-Humorist Coming”), and a drum and bugle festival by the Blue Angels Drum and Bugle Corps. (“Drum, Bugle Festival to be at Tibbits”). May also had a variety of entertainment, mainly school concerts, and professional concerts of Wayne King and of the Virginia Symphony. Reviews of Wayne King and fellow performers Miss Evans and Jim Hayes were favorable, with reviewer Kathy Tarr noting not only the range and clear execution of the melody of the performances, but also the sense of nostalgia that the performances brought to the theater. One critique that Tarr did mention that “put a damper on the evening’s entertainment” was that “the entertainers felt the need for a microphone, which, with the acoustics of the Tibbits, is unnecessary. There were a number of times during the program when the music was far too loud for the audience” (“King Brings Back Memories”).

The Fort Wayne Children’s Theatre appeared with a production of *Reynard the Fox*, and though one press release stated that tickets were selling well, the Foundation minutes for May tell another story. In Stilson’s report, he stated that the children’s theatre production was not successful, and though the Board handed out 5,000 circulars to every child (in the school system?), the response was minimal. Stilson continued to say that he felt the people in the county were not interested in children’s theatre, and he recommended not doing another children’s theatre production, but Mrs. Parke disagreed, stating that they should try one more production and cast local children in some parts to generate more interest (*May 12 1964 Board Meeting Minutes*).

Though more dance shows, lectures, and even an appearance by Mrs. America took place in May and June, the focus quickly shifted to the American Theatre Festival's arrival in town. It seemed as though the entire town was excited to have the first professional summer stock season, as evidenced by an entire 18-page section of the newspaper devoted to it, and by the number of advertisers who supported that publication (The Daily Reporter). From the beginning of June until the close of the summer season in September, over 85 articles, ads, and photos promoting the summer season appeared in The Daily Reporter. While the Tibbits Foundation Board placed its own advertisements of upcoming shows, the Tibbits received twice the amount of advertising because Stukey's Inn also promoted a dinner and theatre package for every show.

The content in The Daily Reporter focused not only on the performers and the performances; a good variety of articles about the apprentices and designers also appeared. As is true today, most audiences have only a vague understanding of what it takes to mount a full production. Articles like "School Teacher Handles Theatrical Costume Making" helped to explain what process was used to create the costumes, with an outline of events: first, the costume designer Sally Dunlap drew a design for each character; then, costume mistress Tony Showalter fitted the actors; next, she bought the fabric; and finally, she constructed the costume ("School Teacher Handles Theatrical Costume Making").

Before the show *Ten Nights in a Barroom* opened, The Daily Reporter ran a feature article about an old-time backdrop that Al Parke created specifically for the show. All the signs on the backdrop contained real names, slogans, and products that were advertised by local businesses from 1894 to 1900. The backdrop, full of swirls and ads by local merchants, featured Van Akens livery, which advertised a taxi surrey to the train;

Battle Ax Plug Tobacco; oysters and clams at the Arlington; and even Bart Tibbits' (founder of the Tibbits Opera House) old cigar factory ("Old-Time Backdrop Created").

The summer season would not have been possible were it not for the help of locals. On several occasions, the producers of the ATF solicited help from the community. At one point, several items that community members were asked to donate were office desks, long tables, and even a table saw ("Items Needed for Tibbits Productions"). At the end of July, the Foundation had secured a residence for some of its company members at 90 Division Street, and asked for furnishings for the home, which would be used that summer, the winter season, and the following summers. Items requested in this press release included lamps, chairs, dressers, rugs, and other living room furniture ("Festival Asks Help in Establishing Residence").

That first summer, the ATF produced eleven shows: *Solid Gold Cadillac*, *The Pursuit of Happiness*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, *Under the Yum Yum Tree*, *Ten Nights in a Barroom*, *Mister Roberts*, *Girls in 509*, *Picnic*, *The Seven-Year Itch*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, and *Light Up the Sky*, with each production running Tuesday through Sunday for a one-week engagement. Though Foundation minutes report that while summer stock was supported and well-attended, it did not turn a profit that summer. However, in exchange for use of the facilities, the ATF paid some \$3,500-\$4,000 in utility bills and improvements to the theater, like lighting and equipment, and the Foundation now also had approximately \$5,000 in costumes and another \$5,000 in scenery (*September 22 1964 Board Meeting Minutes*).

The ATF producers stayed for a winter season and formed the Tibbits Repertoire Company with another professional company of actors, producing *World of Carl Sandburg* in October ("*World of Carl Sandburg* Opens Season at Tibbits"), *Candida* in

November (“*Candida* Opens Wednesday”), and *Dial M for Murder* along with *Rapunzel & the Witch* in December (“*Dial ‘M’ for Murder* Coming to Tibbits”). In August, Lowther sent out inquiries for other jobs, and by the fall, he was on his way to start his new job in Sarasota, Florida. Former theater rat and friend Billy Lee Harman remembers driving to Sarasota with Lowther through Hurricane Dora in his Corvair station wagon that September (Personal Interview). Why did Lowther leave, right when things seemed to be coming together for the Tibbits? Lowther’s memory of leaving was somewhat vague, clouded by 50 years of other memories. He admitted, “I must have seen the winds of change...I don’t remember any conversations about those changes, but I would say it was the change in the weather that I moved on” (Personal Interview).

Along with the Tibbits Repertoire Company’s performances, that fall and winter brought a smattering of events—everything from the Sweet Adelines’ variety show, a satirical dance and pantomime show, concerts, plays, and travelogues. The main fall attraction was Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians (dance team Bud and Cece Robinson and singer Anita Bryant), who performed twice on November 9 to two standing-room-only audiences (“Lombardo, Miss Bryant Score With Audience Here”).

The Board also made the decision in October to hire Burrill, Inc., a fundraising organization. They had considered the possibility of hiring a fundraising organization since January of 1964. Ralph Little, from Burrill, Inc., attended two October Board Meetings to discuss the plan for fundraising. The program was set to begin on October 12, at the cost of \$9,000 in fees for Burrill’s services (financed by borrowing from the Branch Co. Savings Bank, as well as the Southern Michigan National Bank), with the amount to be raised at \$200,000 (*October 06 1964 Board Meeting Minutes*).

Lowther credits much of the Tibbits’ success to Stilson, who resigned from the

Foundation Board in December, shortly after Lowther's departure from Coldwater.

Lowther remembered:

The early Board, starting before I got there, was in transition for several years....it was probably a matter of being a newly formed board of directors figuring out how to make this monster that they're creating work. [Regarding] Stilson's job—one of the ladies on the Board was commenting to me—and I'm paraphrasing here— that he was bringing in too many things...that this town wasn't big enough for all of these events that he wanted to present... He may have been a bit of a bull in the china shop, but it wouldn't have happened without him. He was the guiding force. He may have alienated people in the process, but he was the spark that created [the Tibbits' success]. (Personal Interview)

At the December Board meeting, Jerri Parke and Winifred Morency also tendered their letters of resignation, but Mrs. Morency's was denied, so she agreed to remain on the Board. Roy Patterson was named the new president of the Foundation Board with Duane E. Davidson as vice president. With that, the year was over, and the search for a new theater manager was underway.

{ Chapter 5: Larry Carrico Takes Over }

New Year's is a time for new beginnings, a time for a fresh start. The Board had just replaced half of its officers and needed to find someone to take over Lowther's managerial position. Apparently, Lowther was not the only person managing the Tibbits' affairs during 1964, since according to a letter written by Ken Kohn to President Patterson, Kohn had also been serving as manager for the Tibbits (Lowther speculates that Kohn was serving as more of a business manager than a theater or production manager, but it is quite possible that Kohn took over Lowther's position after he left for Sarasota). In the letter, Kohn expresses disappointment with his last three months of "employment" at the Tibbits— he was never told he was being dismissed as manager, had not been paid what had been promised, had moved his family to Coldwater (and as such his wife had given up her job and they had lost money because of it), and he had recently heard that the Board was looking for a qualified and experienced theater manager (and he seemed offended that his extensive qualifications were being overlooked). Furthermore, he was upset by the rumors around town of his "inefficiency as a manager," which was making it difficult for him to secure another job in the area (Ken Kohn Letter to President Patterson). Kohn's complaint wasn't addressed by the Board until the first June Board meeting, at which point President Patterson wrote him a letter, offering him the option to settle the dispute at \$500 (*June 8 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). By the second June Board Meeting, Kohn had accepted the Board's offer (*June 24 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*).

January had a slow start for offerings at the Tibbits. The high cost of bringing in performances with little foreseeable return (*January 12 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*)

resulted in the cancellation of Hal Holbrook performing his famous Mark Twain impersonation, Basil Rathbone with a dramatic presentation, and performances of *Entrances & Exits*, *Caldonia*, and another scheduled production by the ATF/Tibbits Repertoire Company. *Rubinoff and his Violins* appeared in January, with an audience of over 500, who excitedly endured a long wait in the lobby prior to the house being opened (“Rubinoff Wows Coldwaterites”). The buzz circulating Rubinoff and his Stradivarius violin was evident several days prior to his performance at the Tibbits, with an article in The Daily Reporter informing the public of the rarity of actually owning a Stradivarius violin, and information on how many fakes and copies had been produced. Only 540 authentic “Strads” were in existence, of which 163 were in the United States. Rubinoff happened to own one of those authentic Strads, which he had insured for \$100,000 (“Many Believe They Possess Real Strad, Says Rubinoff”). According to that same article, those lucky enough to hear him at the Tibbits would “hear the lustrous tones of his world famous violin” (“Many Believe They Possess Real Strad, Says Rubinoff”). Following the performance, it was said that this, the first program held at the Tibbits for 1965, would “...be difficult to follow, and it was also the type of show of which there should be many more” (“Rubinoff Wows Coldwaterites”).

The most expensive performers hired in January were Woody Herman and Roger Williams, at \$1,500 and \$2,000, respectively. The Board voted to take out a loan, with five members signing said loan and liable for \$700 each in order to secure those performances (*January 19 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). The proceeds of those concerts were to be used to repay the loan, but at the February Foundation Board Meeting, a loss of \$500 for the Woody Herman concert was reported (*February 28 1965 Community Meeting Minutes*). Other January, February, and March offerings included *The Taming*

of the Shrew, performed by the Michigan State University Players, several travelogues sponsored by Kiwanis, the high school's Fine Arts Festival, as well as their junior play, *Pioneer Go Home*, a Branch County Community Concert Association concert, and a Cancer Crusade kickoff meeting.

The renovation effort continued in February with replastering and painting of the theater's ceiling, the labor for which was donated by local building company Legg Lumber. While the original estimated cost by contractors was \$20,000, actual costs were between \$5,000 and \$6,000 (*February 09 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). The roof over the stage had begun to leak, so that problem had to be addressed. At an informational community meeting in March, approximately 75 citizens came to hear a report on the five-year financial plan for the Tibbits. Foundation Chairman Sanford Jolley reported that two intercom systems had been installed, with plans for three more in the future. The Board remained hopeful with the theater's progress, especially because I-69, a new highway, was being constructed east of the City, which the Board identified as a convenient and time-saving route for incoming Coldwater traffic, hopefully bringing more patrons to the theater (*February 28 1965 Community Meeting Minutes*).

Also in March, President Patterson sent a letter to the president of Burrill, Inc., the fundraising organization that the Board hired in October of 1964. In the letter, Patterson requested that some of the service fee be returned to the Foundation, since the fundraiser was "...almost a complete failure." Instead of the estimated \$200,000, only \$20,000 was received in donations, \$11,000 of which was paid to Mr. Burrill's company. Patterson asserts that the Board "...selected your company on the basis of your reputation and record of success in other areas... We feel that as professional fund raisers, you certainly expected a greater degree of success. The Board of Directors of the Tibbits Opera

Foundation by the same reasoning feel that the drive was a failure and the Foundation should be entitled to a rebate” (Patterson Letter to Burrill).

April and May events were sporadic, and included the Rotary’s annual minstrel show, Holy Week services, a Kiwanis travelogue, several concerts, and an all-county production of *Bye, Bye Birdie*, the proceeds of which (\$1,000) were used to repair the roof. The Board addressed another grievance, that of Barbara Bernahl, who claimed that the Foundation owed her money for services rendered in the box office. It was the Board’s understanding that she was to be reimbursed only the cost for her babysitter, so her complaint was sent to Mr. Lyon, the Board’s legal counsel. By June, Bernahl was sent a letter, in which the Board offered to pay her a settlement of \$500—half to be paid that year, and half the following (*June 8 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). In September, the Board minutes reflect that Bernahl had denied the Board’s offer to settle and had threatened to sue (*September 21 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). The Board decided to wait for further correspondence from her, which either apparently didn’t come or wasn’t logged until December of 1966, when the Board minutes showed that the Department of Labor sent a letter to the Board on Bernahl’s behalf for a claim of \$737.50 (*December 13 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). The result of this dispute is unknown.

New office secretary Mrs. Hillyar was introduced at the June 8 Board Meeting, but by the next bi-weekly meeting, she had already resigned. June was also the month in which the company for the summer stock started arriving. The Foundation teamed up with the ATF again (sans Kohn) to produce summer stock in 1965, with Larry Carrico hired as the stage manager, technical director, and scenic designer (“Detroit Handling Stage Management”). Carrico recalls his introduction to the Tibbits. At the time, he was working in Detroit, and became acquainted with Walter Stump and Glen Crane through

one of his theatre students. Carrico set up auditions for ATF in Detroit, got to know Stump and Crane, and was asked if he would be interested in coming for the summer. He accepted: “I was supposed to be there just for the summer, and then go back to teach high school in Detroit” (Personal Interview).

That summer, Carrico and the rest of the ATF staff produced nine shows: *The Fantasticks*, *Come Blow Your Horn*, *Abie’s Irish Rose*, *The Music Man*, *The Drunkard*, *The Happy Time*, *My Fair Lady*, *Mary Mary*, and *Oklahoma*. Originally, eleven shows were on the schedule, but because of the audiences’ popular reception of *My Fair Lady* and *Oklahoma*, those shows were each held over an additional week. Every opening was met with a favorable review. Of the *Fantasticks*, the critic wrote, “For an opening night, few things went wrong and the show came off smoothly. For an opening show, nothing could have topped it” (“*Fantasticks Opens Here*”). The opening of *Come Blow Your Horn* was met with, “With this company of players, the same outstanding production staff as last summer, and the talented young group of technical people, this season promises to be one of the finest to be seen anywhere. Coldwater may consider itself very fortunate” (“*Tibbits Festival Players Open Come Blow Your Horn*”). *Abie’s Irish Rose* was described as a show that “...added another feather to an increasingly colorful cap...with a thoroughly delightful production” (“*Abie’s Irish Rose Scores Here*”). The popularity of *The Music Man* and *Oklahoma* was without question, as they were both held over, and *Happy Time* was said to be “one of the most beautiful shows ever presented at the Tibbits Opera House...[It] should prove, if last evening’s performance was any criteria, to be one of the top productions of the American Theatre Festival” (“*Happy Time Is Happy Choice*”). Finally, *Mary, Mary*’s critique started with, “Bouquets of roses to the American Theatre Festival...from the moment the curtain opened, the

largest opening night audience for a non-musical play in the history of ATF was entertained and showed its appreciation by being the most enthusiastic audience...” (“*Mary Scores Triumph*”).

Time and again, the technical aspects of the summer shows were praised, too, with Larry Carrico’s name mentioned many times for “[coming] through again with a beautifully designed stage” (“*Abie’s Irish Rose Scores Here*”). The Board must have perceived that Carrico would be able to make a noticeable impact at the theater because a month after he was hired for summer stock, the Board interviewed him for the theatre manager position. Carrico didn’t return to Detroit that autumn, choosing instead to take the position at the theater, and by September, he began his duties at the Tibbits part-time, alongside his teaching job at Lakeland School (*July 13 1965 Board Meeting*). Carrico said that he was approached by Harold Stukey for the theater manager position:

[The Board] asked, ‘Can you produce the summer theater?’ I said, ‘Sure.’ I had introduced the summer theater in Manistee two years before that and managed the Opera House. ATF expected to come back the next season. They were very upset with me; thought that I had instigated [their dismissal]. They were excited that I was going to be there all winter, so that the theater would be in better shape. But the Board wasn’t too happy [with ATF]—they had lost a lot of money [those] two seasons. (Personal Interview)

Another probable reason why the ATF producers were upset to hear this decision was that Tibbits Opera Foundation had reneged on a contract. In April, the Foundation members had signed a five-year lease agreement with the ATF to continue summer stock, which would have brought them all the way to the 1969 summer stock season (“Summer

Stock to Open Here On June 15”). The Board minutes do not accurately reflect this matter surrounding ATF’s dismissal, as the January 1966 minutes report that the ATF wasn’t interested in returning to the Tibbits: “...the Theatre Festival people were asked to come to the Board with some proposal for the coming summer. However, they have decided not to operate the summer theatre project this summer. Therefore, the Executive Board discussed the matter and recommended that the Tibbits Theatre Foundation run it this summer, [with] Larry Carrico engaged to operate the theater...” (*January 11 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*).

Carrico moved his family, at that time consisting of wife Sally and six-month-old son Sean, to Coldwater in the fall of 1965. Running the theater was a family affair. Carrico worked long hours on lighting, cleaning the theater, and bringing in acts; Sally volunteered in the box office; Sean played in the playpen that the Carricos set up in the box office for him until he was old enough to help out around the theater. Carrico remembers Sean helping at a young age, running the spotlight. Because he was so small, he “...had to stand in a chair to work the followspot” (Personal Interview). Neither Sally nor Sean was paid to work at the Tibbits; everything they did was volunteer.

On September 21, Board Members Davidson, Heikkinen, and President Patterson reported that they attended a meeting in Ann Arbor regarding financial federal aid for the theater, and it was suggested that the Tibbits Opera Foundation become the Tibbits Opera Foundation and Arts Council instead, thereby becoming eligible for grants from the Michigan Council of the Arts, which was formed that year. The Board appointed an Arts Council, consisting of Margaret Hayes, Phyllis Coscarelly, Florence Kiess, Joan Collins, and Sally Whitten (*September 21 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). It took the Council several months of meetings to plan how this new group would be organized in order to

avoid overlapping of events and dates, coordinate use of the Opera House, and attract new members from local arts groups.

October brought to the Tibbits stage the Wayne King orchestra concert, which was fervently promoted. One article from The Daily Reporter reminded locals of the following: “King, one of last season’s most popular attractions, merits the place of honor on this year’s program” (“Waltz King to Return”). The world-famous performer and his orchestra were not reviewed after the fact, but their popularity was evident in the fact that the concert brought the Tibbits a profit of almost \$968 (*December 12 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*).

Much like the previous year, that fall and winter brought a varied collection of almost weekly events: the Sweet Adelines’ variety show, *Sing Americana*; a ballet, *Two Go Dancing*; The Coldwater High School senior class play, *Noah*; Quincy High School’s musical, *Mr. Crane*; several Kiwanis travelogues; and even an art lecture by a professor at the University of Michigan’s College of Architecture and Design Department. The Board, under new leadership since the last time it had presented a children’s theatre production, decided to continue providing the community with children’s shows. In November, *Pinocchio*, a Reed Marionettes puppet show, came to the stage. It was so popular that to accommodate the large audience, another performance had to be added. The three performances turned a profit of just under \$435 (*February 09 1965 Board Meeting Minutes*). *Hansel & Gretel* was presented by the Piccolo Opera Company of Detroit in December, and though praise was given for the voices, set, lighting, scenery, and makeup, reviewer Kathleen Tarr said that the “...musical fairy tale lacked zip and tended to drag in spots.” For each compliment that Tarr gave the actors, she referred back to the weaknesses of the script itself: “...the play itself had little to appeal to

youngsters who grow fidgety quite easily” (“*Hansel and Gretel Presented*”).

While the Tibbits’ most consistent usage was during the summer stock season, it still played host to a variety of events throughout the first part of the year: Kiwanis travelogues were routinely held, several concerts were sponsored by the Branch County Community Concert Association, *Hamlet* was presented by Michigan State University’s Performing Arts Co., the Rotary minstrel show appeared, Coldwater High School produced *Our Town*, as well as a children’s theatre production of *Sleeping Beauty*, the annual fashion show to benefit the Hospital Auxiliary was hosted, and various other concerts were performed. Even St. Charles, the local Catholic school, began using the Tibbits and staged a performance of *It’s a Great Life*. The schools were using the Tibbits so frequently that in May, Board minutes show the suggestion to publicize what school activities have been held at the Tibbits in order to make the community aware of how frequently the school was actually relying on the theater (*May 10 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*).

One anticipated event that the Branch County Community Concert Association brought to the stage, one that it began promoting in May of 1965, was Ruth Page’s Chicago Opera Ballet, which appeared on the stage in March of 1966: “Without question, guest ballerina Josette Amiel, performing through the courtesy of the Paris Opera, was the highlight of the evening. She is not only an outstanding dancer, but a beautiful and fine actress to boot. She made Camille come alive for even those in the audience unfamiliar with the intricacies of the ballet,” gushed reviewer Kathleen Tarr (“Stage Graced by Ballet”). Apparently, the other offerings that the Branch County Community Concert Association provided for the people of Coldwater that season were not as appreciated. As Tarr continued, “The Chicago Opera Ballet company succeeded, where

the other two concerts failed, to make it a truly memorable one” (“Stage Graced by Ballet”).

The other anticipated event of the spring season was the arrival of the Dukes of Dixieland, whose group was publicized from February to April of 1966, when they appeared. At the time they played at the Tibbits, this well-known jazz band had made eleven albums for Audio-Fidelity, which sold more than 2 million copies, representing \$12 million in retail sales. In addition, they had a best-selling album with Louis Armstrong (“Dukes of Dixieland at Tibbits Sunday”). Without a doubt, audiences were excited to witness Dukes of Dixieland’s performance, and the subsequent review was favorable: “There was never any question [that] the show went over well with the large audience.... This was evident from the number of feet one could hear tapping around the Opera House. Even on slow blues numbers in Dixie land, there’s plenty of beat to tap a foot to (“Dukes of Dixieland Play to Capacity Audience”).

In May of 1966, the Board made plans to install a refreshment stand in the alley south of the Tibbits, with an estimated cost of \$250 to lay 50 feet of concrete (*May 10 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). In June, the Board minutes reflect that members Teeter and Meier were arranging to have the alley paved for that refreshment area (*June 14 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*), and July minutes show that the Board had decided that lighting would also be needed in the alley (*July 12 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). Though it seemed that the Board was progressing well with its plans, Carrico said that this refreshment stand did not appear until seven or eight years later, when his son Sean, who was then seven or eight years old, managed it, selling lemonade and soft drinks: “I’m the one who paved [the alley]. I remember one night, I was working by the headlights of my car, finishing the concrete,” he said. Carrico is also the one who built the refreshment

stand itself out of bricks. Once the basement kitchen was finished, Sean worked the refreshment stand from there (Personal Interview).

The summer season quickly approached, and though season tickets didn't go on sale until May, preparations for the summer season began much earlier, with Carrico hiring the summer stock crew by March 8 (*March 08 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). Of the hiring process, Carrico said, "I never did cattle calls. I would put one ad in trade papers in New York and would have 2,000 applications. I would whittle that down to 200, [the people] I wanted to see" (Personal Interview). From there, Carrico and his staff from New York would schedule appointments to hold auditions in New York. Auditions were each ten minutes long and were held from 9am to 6pm four days straight. Carrico said that he would then "...go back to my suite and would go through all the applications and discuss each one and discuss who we wanted for callbacks" (Personal Interview).

Summer stock for the 1966 season included *South Pacific*, *Show Boat*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Student Prince*, and *Camelot*. Changes were made to the manner in which summer stock was presented that summer, with shows running two weeks. Reviews were more than positive in The Daily Reporter, with headlines for each show touting, "Excellent Acting, Singing, Mark the Tibbits Opening," "*Show Boat* Entrances First Night Audience," "*The Sound of Music* is Best Opening to Date," "*Student Prince* Opening is an Enjoyable Experience," and "*Camelot* Opening is Finest of the Season."

It was a season of firsts, too. Along with advertisements by Tibbits and Stukey's, the season was also advertised by local restaurant Gracie O'Shanahan's for the first time. Finally, the Tibbits stage was graced with a Baldwin Style D Concert Grand Piano, which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Feller of Music Mart (Declaration of Gift by Wayne Feller). The sets for the season were designed long-distance, which was something that

had not previously been done. Apparently, Carrico had been asked to do too much, and “...because of his already full schedule felt unable to do this for the rest of the season” (*Sound of Music Sets Have their Own Interesting Story*). Instead, Carrico contacted Tom A. Aston, an old theatre friend in Detroit. Aston said that he would be willing to do the designing but was unable to come to Coldwater for the summer. To make it work, Aston designed in Detroit, and then sent one of his carpenters to Coldwater to construct the set, according to his drawings (*Sound of Music Sets Have their Own Interesting Story*). The other “first” for the season was that Monk Watson, world- renowned magician from Colon, played the role of Merlyn in the production of *Camelot*. Officials at the theatre said, “... this is probably the first time the role of Merlyn has been played by a real magician (*Camelot Production May Well Have a First*”).

Though the initial publicity shows that four children’s shows were going to be produced at the Tibbits that summer, the only children’s show that was staged was a Stevens Puppets production of *Rumplestiltskin* (*Rumplestiltskin To Be Presented Wednesday*). Carrico doesn’t recall that production, but does remember bringing in several children’s theatre shows after that during the winter season. During Carrico’s sixteen years of summer theatre, the Tibbits never produced children’s theatre because of the hectic schedule of the mainstage shows, but the Michigan Council for the Arts began funding a touring program that traveled statewide. That program lasted all season long, and Carrico said that he always got a grant to bring in a tour. Then, he would bring in children from all the schools in Branch County, some from Steuben County, and even some from Calhoun County. Carrico recalls the process: “The whole street would be lined up with buses. We would do three shows a day. We sold [the performances] only to schools—I had a meeting in the bar with the superintendents. We sat down around a table

at the bar, and I explained what my season was, gave them all the information, and told them to go back to the school and let me know what shows they wanted and when they wanted to [schedule them]. We didn't have to advertise, and we sold out every one" (Personal Interview). Carrico said that the Tibbits provided the schools with study guides about the performances and about the theater beforehand, and noted that by having the schoolchildren attend, the Tibbits staff never had to sell individual tickets for the performances.

Carrico was offered and had accepted a full-time position at the Tibbits by August of 1966, to begin in September at \$650/month plus bonuses for nine months, with three months of summer stock pay to be handled separately (*August 09 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). At the Board meeting in September, he reported that the total number in attendance for the summer was 15,842, with a net profit of \$700, along with a good inventory of scenery, costumes and tools (*September 10 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*).

After a busy summer season, the fall and winter were more relaxed in the way of programming, with several Kiwanis travelogues, a cooking school demonstration, sponsored by The Daily Reporter, a Coldwater High School play, *The Tavern* (which Carrico directed), and a few concerts. With its considerably higher ticket prices (\$4.50 to \$5.50 per ticket, as opposed to summer stock's prices of \$2.25 to \$3.25), the Goldovsky Grand Opera Theater's performance of *Rigoletto* at the end of November had "a discouragingly small audience" in attendance ("Small Audience Views *Rigoletto*"). Reviews of the performance were satisfactory, aside from the lengthy intermission to accommodate scenery changes, and the voice of actress Teresa Orantes, who played the role of Gilda, was "...lovely, lilting...but one which lacks color. Only she of the large cast involved in the production was not understood, and this was sad. Gilda has some

very important lines in the opera and they were missed more often than not” (“Small Audience Views *Rigoletto*”). Unfortunately, even with the high ticket prices, the number of tickets sold didn’t overcome the expense of the show, and the Foundation lost money.

Improvements were constantly happening at the Tibbits. In November, Carrico reported that work was being done in the dressing rooms. Paint, lights, mirrors, and flooring were all donated (*November 08 1966 Board Meeting Minutes*). Carrico recalls that “I did a lot of work on the lighting and the sound, as much as I could with no money. [I] did what I could with the dressing rooms— put mirrors in them, and lights... worked on the stage itself, the rigging... also put in the counterweight system for the main curtain...I put that in the very first year” (Personal Interview).

The Wizard of Oz was the last notable production in December, performed by the Reed Marionettes, who had performed the popular *Pinocchio* the year prior. The popularity of the Reed Marionettes was once again proven, with a third showing of *Wizard* added to accommodate the large audience. Judy Quimby’s favorable review noted how the performance was beautifully portrayed with the near life-size marionettes and the way scenes were changed quickly by a drop of a curtain. She said, “The adults in the audience, this writer among them, found the performance just as enthralling as did the children for whom it was intended (“Three Audiences See *Wizard* Saturday”). The puppet show revealed a profit of \$328, ending 1966 (Carrico’s first full year managing the theater) on a positive note.

From there, Carrico’s additional years of service gifted him with the title of “the man who saved Tibbits.” Over the course of his sixteen-year career there, Carrico lists his greatest accomplishment as completing the lower level gallery. He recalls the basement being dirt, and he remembers having to level it off. He remembers youngsters

from the state home helping him wheel the concrete for the floor. He remembers building the bathrooms and hiring a company to lay the brick. He remembers putting up the ceiling and having the floor carpeted. All of this work “made [the Tibbits] a true arts center. At the same time, I built an art teaching studio under the stage and bought a kiln...we had art classes after school and adult classes at night. We had art exhibits from all over the world that only big museums get. That really made it a complete arts center—visual arts as well as the performing arts” (Personal Interview). Carrico credited the Board, which allowed him to manage the theater in his own way: “The Board was really good and let me do whatever I wanted. They didn’t know much about theatre...they just cared about the Opera House. They were really good people and listened to what I had to say” (Personal Interview).

All good things must come to an end, and by December of 1981, Carrico planned a move back to Detroit to take a different position, but of his time managing the Tibbits, he said, “I loved every minute of it. It was very, very difficult, [but] it was fun. I had a lot of good times” (Personal Interview).

{ Chapter 6: Conclusion }

Success of the Tibbits Opera House is the culmination of a long and arduous process spanning more than a century. In order to survive, the Tibbits underwent vast changes in both appearance and function, adapting to new technologies and trends that defined various eras in American culture. The Tibbits is noted for its omnibus of celebrated actors, comedians, and musicians who have graced its stage, and it continues to boast success as a professional summer stock venue, a community theater, and a roadhouse for touring artists.

Were it not for the steadfast dedication of the Coldwater Players in the 1960s and the outpouring of community support, the Tibbits would have been razed, its space reduced to a city-owned parking lot. Instead, the Players organized one fundraiser after another to pay the costs of countless repairs and improvements, including wallpaper, paint, plaster, roof, heating and air systems, a sprinkler system, and more. The renovation process seemed always to be one step forward, two steps back, but the Players persisted. The tenacious community rallied together to donate labor and materials, bringing the theater back to a functional state. By 1964, a Foundation Board had been formed, management was hired, and the Tibbits was once again a place for performers to take the stage.

The Tibbits' first manager, George Vaughn Lowther, installed the first stage lighting and brought to town the American Theater Festival to present summer stock theatre. Larry Carrico, Lowther's successor, is to date the longest manager in the theater's history, logging sixteen years of service. Because of his unyielding dedication to the Tibbits and to the art of theatre, Carrico has become known in Coldwater and

surrounding areas as “The man who saved Tibbits.” He is responsible for creating the basement gallery area, making the Tibbits a true visual and performing arts center.

The restoration of the Tibbits didn’t happen in the 60s, or even the 70s or 80s. It wasn’t until the 2000s when most of the restoration progress was made. The restoration was broken into phases, and from 2000 to 2008, over \$2 million was raised for that particular restoration campaign. By March 2008 of that campaign, Phases I and II had been completed, which included the architectural design documents, the installation of an elevator and a handicapped accessible restroom, boiler repairs, and demolition of the adjacent annex building. Phase III, the cupola reconstruction and façade restoration, was completed in the spring of 2013, with the Tibbits being presented with the 2013 Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation. Such an illustrious history has earned the Tibbits Opera House a place in the registry of America’s most cherished small-town theaters.

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{ Tibbits Datebook 1958-1966 }

The following sources (and codes TA, DR, and BO) have been used to compile this datebook.

- * **(TA)** Tibbits Archives, located with the Tibbits Opera House Administrative Offices
- * **(DR)** The Coldwater Daily Reporter, newspaper located on microfilm archives within the Holbrook Heritage Room of the Branch District Library
- * **(BO)** Box Office Magazine, located in online archives at http://www.boxoffice.com/the_vault
- * **(FWS)** The Fort Wayne Sentinel, newspaper
- * Branch County Tax Records
- * Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

This datebook is the most comprehensive list of information surrounding the Tibbits during the period of 1958 to 1966 from sources available, but it does have some incomplete information.

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

	1933-1954			The Tibbits functions as a cinema/movie house.						11-14-59 DR
	1954-1958			The Tibbits is vacant						
		1958		<i>Charley's Aunt</i>		Play	Coldwater Players			11-14-59 DR
Thurs	June 5	1958		Tibbits Community Theatre Planning Committee Meeting: Duane Davidson, temporary chairman. Committee discusses possible uses of Tibbits, does a cost estimate of basic operations, and includes list of renovation needs and a note about bids for the project.						06-05-58 TA
Mon	June 9	1958		Tibbits Theatre Committee sends out a survey to get community feedback on what people would like to have Tibbits used as if they purchase it and rejuvenate it for use as a community building.						06-09-59 TA
Thurs -Sat	March 12-14	1959		<i>Gay Nineties Revue</i>		Minstrel Show	Rotary			03-07-59 DR 03-12-59 DR 03-13-59 DR 03-14-59 DR 11-27-59 DR
Thurs	May 15	1959				Variety Show	Coldwater Players and Sturges-Young Players			05-15-59 DR 11-27-59 DR
Fri	Oct 30	1959		Coldwater Players launch a "crash campaign" to save the Tibbits. Schulte Amusement company announces plans to demo Tibbits unless the Players exercise a purchase option by the following week.						10-30-59 DR
	Nov	1959		Schulte Company agrees to sell the theater to the Coldwater Players for \$7500. Money is due November 21.						11-12-59 DR 11-14-59 DR
Thurs	Nov 12	1959		Contributions of \$775 to the "Save the Tibbits" fund; 2 week payment extension is given due to deer hunting season.						11-12-59 DR 11-14-59 DR
Wed	Nov 18	1959		Contributions reach \$1,610.						11-18-59 DR
Mon	Nov 23	1959		Contributions near \$2500. Inspection report shows that dressing rooms need to be removed and replaced with fireproof construction. The building also needs approved automatic sprinkler system, new boiler room construction, emergency exit on the north side of the building, and new construction and equipment in the stage area to bring it up to code. Report filed by City Building Commissioner Harold Russell.						11-24-59 DR
Thurs	Nov 26	1959		Theater is approved by licensed consultant engineer, inspected and declared structurally sound by local building contractor, and inspected by state fire marshal and local Fire Prevention Bureau. Minor improvements still needed.						11-27-59 DR
Tues	Dec 1	1959		Deadline for payment to Schulte looms; contributions at \$3400.						12-1-59 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Week of	Dec 11	1959		Players give Schulte Amusement Company of Detroit a down payment of \$1,500. The balance is to be paid within five years.						12-11-59 DR
Mon	Jan 4	1960		Drive to save Tibbits continues. One-third of the \$7,500 needed to purchase the theatre has been raised.						01-04-60 BO
Sat	Jan 9 & Jan 16	1960		<i>House on the Cliff</i>		Mystery/comedy	The Coldwater Players			12-11-59 DR 11-08-60 TA
Mon	Feb 29	1960		Costly improvements needed to reopen, namely replacing the heating plant. Some minor repairs and manual labor remaining as well.						02-29-60 DR
Tues	July 26	1960		Tax bill consigned to Coldwater Players, Inc.						Branch Co. Tax Record
		1960		<i>The Girls in 509</i>		Play	The Coldwater Players			11-08-60 TA
Tues	Nov 8	1960		Coldwater Civic Players president E.C. Huet sends out a letter to patrons asking for yearly donation/patronage and thanks for attending the two shows (<i>House on the Cliff</i> & <i>The Girls in 509</i>) that year.						11-08-60 TA
Thurs	Jan 5	1961		Initial meeting of Tibbits Theatre Board of Trustees held at the Coldwater Daily Reporter office. Sanford Jolly nominated as chairman; Judy Miller, secretary; Howard Thompson, treasurer; Cliff Huet, director of PR. Draft of rules is created (ie: theatre is non-profit and self-maintaining, bookings for Tibbits will be handled by the Coldwater Players business manager Paula Weller, Players will be given preferential treatment for use of the building, etc.), drive planned to raise money for repairs of the theatre, and bids for furnace repair discussed.						01-05-61 TA
Mon	Jan 9	1961		Board of Trustees launches campaign to raise \$2,000 for improvements to the theater. Woodward Building Materials offered to repair the furnace and donate the labor.						01-09-61 DR
Thurs	Jan 19	1961		Tibbits Theatre Board of Trustees (also referred to as Coldwater Players Board of Trustees) Meeting. In two weeks, \$134 in donations is given as well as building items and donated labor by service groups. Board wants to have grand opening in April. Discussion of hiring a booking agent, but Board decides to wait and let Paula Weller handle it for now.						01-19-61 TA
Sat	Jan 21	1961		Coldwater Concrete Products Co. donates 300 cement blocks for the construction of a fire wall. Russell Belt has agreed to construct the wall. Sweet's Electric has repaired the motor for the furnace and has offered to check and replace the wiring.						01-21-61 DR
Sat	Jan 21	1961		Coldwater Key Club (Kiwanis High School Organization) carries cement blocks into the theater basement where they will be used to construct a fire wall around the furnace.						01-23-61 DR
Wed	Feb 01	1961		Three fire doors are donated by Federal Mogul. Stoker has been repaired.						02-01-61 DR
Wed	Feb 01	1961		Coldwater Players Board of Trustees meeting: Report of progress on repairs, chairmen chose rose shade for the						02-02-61 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				walls of the foyer and mint color for the ceiling. Mention of getting (finding?) the chandelier, repairing it and putting it up as well. Rental fee considered.						
Thurs	Feb 02	1961		Fire Department, Board of Public Utilities, Yearling Repair Service and Woodward Building Materials, heat finally gets turned on.						02-03-61 DR
Sat	Feb 11	1961		Karl Staley, local mason and carpenter, works on the concrete block furnace room. Russell Belt and Stanley Cuthbert also donate time and skill.						02-11-61 DR
Thurs	Feb 16	1961		Coldwater Exchange Club (Bill Wilson, Austin Barnes, Lawrence Lucas, Pat Kelly, Dick Conrad, Bill Hodgeman, Russell Severn, Albert High) scrubs the main floor. Plans to paint the back of the seats in 2 weeks. Exchange Club begins refurbishing the main seating area downstairs. Rotary club plans to work on dressing rooms and hallway.						02-11-61 DR 02-17-61 DR
Tues	Feb 21	1961		Lions Club (Stan Borden, Robert Nichols, Lloyd Hills, Kenneth Troutman and Tom White mentioned) does general clean-up of Tibbits. Plans to paint the theatre's marquee. Equipment for the cleaning donated by Douglas Manufacturing Co. of Bronson and the Sweeny Buick-Pontiac Co. Paint has been donated by Legg Lumber and Ideal Wallpaper and Paint.						2-16-61 DR 03-03-61 DR
Wed	March 1	1961		Rotary club members paint the backstage dressing rooms and Kiwanis (Robert Rhoades) vacuums and clean the balcony area.						03-02-61 DR
Thurs	March 2	1961		Tibbits Opera House Board of Trustees bi-monthly meeting. Officially decide to call the building the Tibbits Opera House. Approve the use of the Tibbits for a headquarters for the Greater Coldwater Centennial Committee from May 15 through July 8. Sanford Jolley is made the sole booking agent for the theatre to eliminate booking mistakes. Coldwater Players representative E.C. Huet resigns due to moving.						03-02-61 TA 03-03-61 DR
Sat	March 4	1961		Robert Blosser paints the proscenium. Easterday & Musser provide scaffolding for it. (03-13-61 article mentions that Wayne Harmon & Bob Blosser painted it and that scaffolding was donated by the Blaski Construction Co instead)						03-03-61 DR 03-13-61 DR
Sun	March 12	1961		Jaycees clean and completely paint the lobby (paint donated by Montgomery Ward) and stairway area. Kiwanis club cleans the balcony.						03-03-61 DR 03-13-61 DR
Thurs	March 16	1961		Tibbits Opera House Board of Trustees meeting: Roof repair estimates are heard, Fire Department gives the board a list of 22 necessary items to be corrected, Grand Opening is postponed, and Mrs. Edward Allen has an original Opening Night (1882) ticket and a ticket from the Cohan production that she wants to leave to the Players. Suggestion made to display these and other historical Tibbits items at the Grand Opening.						03-16-61 TA
Sat or Sun	April 8 or 9	1961		Opening date set for theatre, <i>Three Men on a Horse</i> to be presented. *postponed at 3-16-						02-01-61 DR 01-19-61 TA 02-02-61 TA 03-16-61 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				61 meeting						
	April	1961				Grade School program				02-02-61 TA
Thurs-Sat	April 27, 28, 29	1961				Minstrel Show	Rotary Club	Directed by Edward Holtz, assisted by Doug Miller, accompanist Mrs. Roy Patterson		02-01-61 DR 02-02-61 TA 03-26-61 DR 04-26-61 DR 04-27-61 DR 04-28-61 DR
Tues	May 16	1961		Greater Coldwater Centennial headquarters moves into the Tibbits						05-17-61 DR
Wed	May 24	1961			Brothers of the Brush and Centennial Belles	Meeting				05-25-61 DR
Thurs	June 01	1961		Centennial Office Headquarters moves out of Tibbits, relocates to W. Chicago St, formerly the Merit Shoe Store.						06-01-61 DR
Sat	June 3	1961		Circus comes to town, sponsored by American Legion. All proceeds go to benefit the Tibbits.						03-16-61 TA
Sat-Sun	June 17-18	1961		<i>Bull In a China Shop</i>		3 act mystery comedy	Coldwater Players	Jean Rude		06-12-61 DR 06-14-61DR 06-16-61 DR 06-19-61 DR
Thurs	Aug 17	1961		Stanford Jolly receives letter from Schulte Theatre's attorney Jos Uvick acknowledging receipt of \$142.50 paid for interest for six months (incorrect payment, as it should have been \$172.50). Notes that the contract balance of \$5,750 has not changed on the principal.						08-17-61 TA
Sat-Sun	Nov 4-5	1961		<i>Sagebrush Serenade</i> (Banjo-Tainers of Muskegon also part of the show)		Western Musical Variety Show	Sweet Adelines	Doug Miller		08-31-61 DR 10-21-61 DR 10-30-61 DR 11-01-61 DR 11-03-61 DR 11-04-61 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

Sat-Sun	Dec 2-3	1961		<i>Pure as the Driven Snow</i>		Play	Coldwater Civic Players	Ray Mulchahey		10-19-61 DR 10-27-61 DR 11-14-61 DR 11-30-61 DR 12-2-61 DR
Week of	Dec 4	1961		Bids are taken for estimate of completely renovating the building. City requests inspection by the state fire marshal. Complete sprinkling system must be installed (estimate of \$20,000). Estimate of making building safe: \$39,000. (\$20K for sprinkling system, \$3K for asbestos curtain, \$7K general repair, \$1800 roof and chimney repair, \$1200 removal of marquee and misc. repair, \$6000 mortgage balance). Fire department orders the building closed until repairs can be made.						12-15-61 DR
Mon	Dec 11	1961		City Council meeting report: 140 shares of General Foods stock (valued at \$13,300) anonymously donated to the renovation of the Tibbits if the City of Coldwater will accept/operate the building.						12-15-61 DR
Thurs	Dec 14	1961		Coldwater Centennial Committee donates 60% of the cash balance (\$480) from their celebration to Tibbits.						12-15-61 DR
Fri	Jan 05	1962		Civic Players launch drive to raise funds for the rehabilitation of the Tibbits. Sweet Adelines pledge \$1K, Rotary promises to support as well.						01-05-62 DR
Mon	Jan 08	1962		City Council meeting report: City votes to accept title to the Tibbits if certain conditions are met; namely, if \$55,000 is raised for the restoration. Deadline is set for April 1.						01-05-62 DR
Mon	Jan 22	1962		Leslie Woodward and Miss Margaret Hayes volunteer to act as co-chairmen of the Tibbits Fund Drive.						01-22-62 DR
Wed	Jan 24	1962		Coldwater Players pledge \$100 to campaign.						01-25-62 DR
Thurs	Jan 25	1962		Tibbits Fund Committee meeting meets at the civic room of the Branch County bank to map out 60-day fund campaign. Large "thermometer sign" to be placed downtown park area for pledges and contributions.						01-25-62 DR
Sat	Jan 27	1962		C.J. (Casey) Medendorp, district executive of General Telephone Co. and Pat Kelly, manager of the Coldwater J.C. Penney Co. are named co-chairmen of the Foreign \$55K Campaign for Tibbits.						01-27-62 DR
Thurs	Feb 1	1962		Official kickoff of fund drive; Fund Drive meeting at Branch Co. Bank civic room.						01-25-62 DR 02-01-62 DR
Wed	Feb 7	1962		Demolition of the old South Hanchett St garage building now makes way for parking across from the Tibbits.						02-07-62 DR
Wed	Feb 7	1962		Co-chairwoman Margaret Hayes appears on WKZO TV "Feminine Fancies" program in Kalamazoo to explain various facets of the drive.						02-06-62 DR
Thurs-Sat	Feb 15, 16, 17	1962				Minstrel Show **originally scheduled for the Tibbits, but moved to	Rotary Club			12-12-61 DR 01-31-62 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

						Roosevelt Auditorium once Tibbits is ordered closed by the fire marshal. However, Thurs night benefit performance for the Tibbits				
Thurs	Feb 15	1962		House-to-house solicitation for the fund scheduled (postponed until March though).						01-26-62 DR
Sat	March 10	1962		Coldwater Moose Lodge dinner held as a benefit for Tibbits.						03-09-62 DR
Fri	March 16	1962		Tibbits Theatre benefit antiques auction held at Porter furniture store nets \$240.						03-19-62 DR
Week of	March 20	1962		Coldwater High School students present Tibbits with a donation of \$23.25.						03-20-62 DR
Wed	March 21	1962		Donation of 100 shares of US Steel stock (valued at approximately \$7,000) is given to Tibbits by an anonymous donor.						03-21-62 DR
Wed	March 21	1962		Coldwater Fortnightly Musical Club sponsors a kitchen tour to benefit Tibbits. Homemade bread will be sold from each of seven homes included in the tour.						03-06-62 DR
Wed	March 21-28	1962		Block by block canvass of the city for donations; campaign led by Mrs. Dorothy Aitchison and Miss Margaret Hayes.						03-07-62 DR
Sun	April 01	1962		Over the past week another 59 donors have contributed. To date \$27,588.47 total has been collected; still need approximately \$27, 411.53 to succeed.						04-01-62 DR
Tues	April 03	1962		American Legion sponsors benefit for Tibbits, which nets \$160 toward the theatre fund.						04-03-62 DR
Fri	April 06	1962		Donations reach \$36,000; campaign nears close.						04-07-62 DR
Fri	April 13	1962		City Council grants another 90-day extension to meet the \$55,000 goal.						04-14-62 DR
Fri	May 18	1962		The parking lot across from Tibbits has curbs and gutters laid and is now offered as a free parking lot for patrons.						05-18-62 DR
Sat	May 26	1962		Executive committee formed; engineering survey to be conducted using funds donated by the Sweet Adelines						05-26-62 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				group.						
Thurs	June 07	1962		Engineers Vance Gray and Daniel Stolarski of Raymond E. Reese Associates of Toledo, OH examine Tibbits along with local architect Jerry Fair.						06-07-62 DR
Fri	June 15	1962		"Tibbits Twist Night" benefit contest: Judged street dance sponsored by the Retail Division of the Chamber of Commerce.						06-09-62 DR 06-16-62
Week of	June 28	1962		Engineers' report comes back as structurally sound, with one minor exception—strengthening the live load capacity in the stage area.						06-28-62 DR
Sat	Sept 01	1962		(Part of the) original hand-cut glass chandelier (presumably from Czechoslovakia) is found in Mr. & Mrs. Fred (Andy) Kaiser's attic. They donate what they have back to the Tibbits—196 six-inch glass prisms, 53 three-inch prisms, 25 feet of jewel crystal chains, nine pieces of inch and a quarter crystal discs in a lace pattern, 75 pieces of ¾ inch crystal circles, one large four inch crystal drop and an envelope of handmade wire hooks. Other chandelier pieces are found stored in various attics all over the city.						09-01-62 DR 04-12-64 DR
Week of	Oct 29	1962		A non-profit corporation for the Tibbits, consisting of reps of Coldwater organizations, is in process of being formed. All donors are being asked to release the money to the Executive Tibbits Theatre committee so that work can proceed.						10-29-62 DR
Thurs	Dec 6	1962		Coldwater Committee for the Preservation of the Tibbits Opera House/ Tibbits Theatre Foundation Meeting: Most donors agree to release money to the committee. Art Lyon & Richard Birringer give legal help to form the corporation as "Tibbits Theatre Foundation". New officers Les Woodward, president; Robert Yingling, VP; Margaret Hayes, treasurer; Franc Gay, secretary are elected.						12-06-62 TA
Wed	Dec 12	1962		Tibbits Opera Foundation is formed as an incorporation.						Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Mon	Dec 31	1962		Tax bill consigned to Tibbits Theater Foundation.						Branch Co. Tax Record
Tues	Jan 1	1963		Tibbits is sold to Tibbits Theater Foundation.						Branch Co. Tax Record
Fri	Jan 18	1963		Nearly 100% of donors agree to release their money to the foundation. Only one person asks to have their money returned, and 11 other donors have been contacted but haven't responded yet.						01-18-63 DR
Tues	May 07	1963		Executive Board of the Tibbits Foundation meeting: Foundation board has been expanded to include more members. Repairs are scheduled for July 10. Proposed fall opening. Problem: Additional \$26,000 still needed. Board can secure a loan for that at 6% interest, repayable over 3 years, but needs \$40,000 in notes signed by						05-07-63 TA 05-17-63 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				reputable individuals...board is looking for 133 donors to sign notes payable \$100/year for 4 years.							
Tues	May 14	1963		Executive Board of the Tibbits Foundation meeting: Mr. Yingling appointed as chairman to contract individual contractors, Harris appointed as chairman of the Publicity committee, Mr. Stilson appointed as chairman of the canvassing committee.							05-14-63 TA
Mon	June 3	1963		Executive Board of the Tibbits Foundation meeting: Update on pledges and names in the drive for funds. Board shifts focus on all of Branch County for donation requests instead of just Coldwater.							05-03-63 TA
Wed	June 12	1963		Anonymous donation of \$1,500. A number of people have agreed to sign notes for \$400.							06-12-63 DR
Tues	June 25	1963		Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting: Update on Fund Drive. Drive scheduled to close July 10.							06-25-63 TA
Fri	June 28	1963		Standard 9 foot concert grand piano is donated by Music Mart and Wayne Feller.							06-28-63 DR
Tues	July 02	1963		Fund drive is 1/3 toward goal: 35 persons have signed notes.							07-02-63 DR
Tues	July 9	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting: Stilson recommends extension for the drive to make it a success. Update is given on electrical work, plumbing, roof, etc.							07-09-63 TA
Mon	July 15	1963		Proposal to have the Coldwater Board of Education accept ownership of the Tibbits in order to assure continuity of operation.							07-16-63 DR
Tues	Aug 20	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Meeting: President Woodward resigns due to demands of office; Mr. Yingling resigns due to conflicting opinions. Stilson is nominated as president.							08-20-63 TA
Mon	Aug 26	1963		Fair & Robinson Architectural Firm hired to make plans for the restoration of Tibbits. Plan is to RESTORE the theater—not just renovate it.							08-26-63 DR
Tues	Aug 27	1963		Heating and sprinkler system engineers begin their work							08-26-63 DR
Fri	Sept 06	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting: Land contract will be paid off and the theater will be cleared as the sole property of the Foundation. Applications from two people interested in directing summer stock are being reviewed. McFarlane nominated as the new vice president.							09-06-63 DR 09-06-63 TA
Sun	Sept 22	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Secretary Franc Gay sends letter to the Branch County Board of Supervisors, the Coldwater City Council, and Mayor Olen Fry petitioning the removal of current tax assessments and the tax roll.							09-22-63 TA
Mon	Sept 23	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting.							09-23-63 TA
Tues	Sept 24	1963		Roussey Construction Company refurbishes the dressing rooms.							09-23-63 TA
Sun	Oct 13	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting: Tax exemption notice has been received, sprinkler system has been approved by the State Fire Marshal (and work should be completed in 4-5 weeks), and Michigan Chandelier Co. would be glad to renovate the large ceiling chandelier. Publicity has begun for upcoming Roger Williams concert. Work continues on wallpaper and paint, and Jerry Fair is working on plans for remodeling dressing rooms and lounge/rehearsal areas in the basement. The Historical Society may be interested in establishing a museum in the basement.							10-13-63 TA
Mon	Oct 14	1963		Coldwater Board of Public Utilities/ City of Coldwater agrees to absorb part of the cost involved in installing a							10-15-63 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				sprinkler system. They will pay for the repair to sidewalks and streets made necessary by the installation. Tibbits becomes a tax exempt center.						
Mid	Oct	1963		Reopening planned. <i>(Doesn't quite happen as planned? No further articles about it).</i>						08-26-63 DR
Mon	Oct 21	1963		Roger Williams visits Tibbits to view the restoration work (He will present benefit concert in several days).						10-21-63 DR
Wed	Oct 23	1963		Roger Williams, famed pianist, to play benefit for Tibbits—at Coldwater High School gym.						10-01-63 DR
Thurs	Oct 24	1963		Marquee on the front of Tibbits comes down.						10-25-63 DR
Fri	Oct 25	1963		Workmen dismantle the large electric Tibbits sign.						10-25-63 DR
Week of	Nov 05	1963		Tile on the exterior of Tibbits is removed, revealing the old brick and stone façade.						10-25-63 DR 11-05-63 DR
	Nov	1963		Plastering, sprinkler installation, and boiler room added to the rear of the building.						11-19-63 DR
Tues	Nov 12	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting: The Trans-America Leasing Corp, who are financing the installation of the heating, air-conditioning, and sprinkler system, request mortgage on the building as security. As such, special meeting was needed to take a vote on releasing that information.						11-12-63 TA
Wed	Nov 13	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board meeting: Discussion about leasing the equipment from the Trans-American Leasing Corp. Another name change suggested, from "Tibbits Theatre Foundation" to "Tibbits Opera Foundation." Asbestos curtain should be in by Nov 20 in time for the Grand Old Opry. Addition has been built on the back of the main building to house the heating plant and air-conditioning equipment.						11-13-63 TA
Tues	Nov 19	1963		Gas line is laid to the new heating equipment in the boiler room.						11-19-63 DR
Wed	Nov 20	1963	\$3.50	Grand Ole Opry show **FIRST PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION** No heat! Temps at 32 degrees.			Tibbits Theater Foundation		Jimmy Dickens, Shirley Ray, Stonewall Jackson, Jimmy Newman, Red Sovine, and others	11-13-63 DR 11-14-63 DR 11-21-63 DR
Wed	Nov 20	1963		Mrs. Gertrude Harding donates \$1,000 during opening night performance to go toward work on the theater (especially the dressing room which will bear her name and that of Ross and Bess Milnes who directed many shows there). A plaque is later hung on the door of the first dressing room since she was one of the "kickoff" donations for the renovation.						11-21-63 DR 03-09-64 DR
Sat-Sun	Nov 30- Dec	1963		<i>Show Stoppers</i> <i>*(show was moved to</i>		musical variety show	Sweet Adelines			11-11-63 DR 11-26-63 DR

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

	1			<i>Roosevelt Auditorium but since heat has been fixed, it's back on at the Tibbits)</i>						11-27-63 DR
First week of	Dec	1963		George Vaughn Lowther hired as manager and technical director for the Tibbits						12-06-63 DR
Tues	Dec 10	1963		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Meeting: Vaughn Lowther's duties explained(official title: Director of the Theatre, assisting in helping the Players group get organized, directing them, look after things at the theatre and do public relations and publicity). Tom MacFarlane resigns as vice president due to a new job in St. Joseph, Pat Patterson fills that position. Phil & Sallie Whitten donate insulation for the attic. Talk to rearrange seating to bring it up to 1,000 capacity, red velvet to drape the boxes, quote for wallpaper in progress, painting of ceiling to commence, suggestion of adding some larger seats to accommodate larger people is given.						12-10-63 TA
Sat	Dec 14	1963	Adults \$1.50, kids \$1	<i>Jack and the Beanstalk</i>	Fort Wayne Civic Theatre					12-06-63 DR 12-10-63 DR 12-12-63 DR 12-13-63 DR 12-16-63 DR 01-11-64 FWS
Tues	Dec 17	1963		Rotary club voted to raise money to purchase a new stage curtain, estimated cost of it is \$1600.						12-18-63 DR
Fri	Dec 20	1963				Community Christmas carol sing	Sweet Adelines and several local church choirs			12-16-63 DRs 12-21-63 DR
Mon	Jan 6	1964				Soprano concert			Doris Yarick	12-20-63 DR 01-03-64 DR
Tues	Jan 7	1964		Foundation Board of Directors Meeting: Planning future presentations to be scheduled, wallpaper delivered soon and installed. Work on the basement area which includes space for rehearsal, storage, and cultural center is underway and will hopefully be completed by spring. Mention to book Chad Mitchell Trio but have it at the high school because it's a larger performance venue. Update on summer stock and the 70/30% split with the directors for the operating expenses for the season.						01-07-64 DR 01-07-64 TA
Tues	Jan 14	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Report on talent booked, motion to certify Stilson as president for 5 years, with insurance to cover payment in case of death (per the request of the Leasing people).						01-14-63 TA

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Sat	Jan 18	1964		*Benefit for Tibbits* Chad Mitchell Trio held at the high school gymnasium						01-10-64 DR
Sat	Jan 25	1964		"Come Close I'll Give you an Earful" * Benefit for Tibbits*		Series of sketches from world famous plays and novels	American Association of University Women		Agnes Moorehead	01-22-64 DR 01-23-64 DR 01-24-64 DR 01-27-64 DR
	Jan or Feb	1964		<i>A Far Country</i> or <i>Mary Mary</i> planned (neither ended up in production)	Lansing Civic Players					12-06-63 DR
Wed-Thurs	Feb 5-6	1964		Auditions for <i>Life With Father</i> , a Tibbits Civic Theatre show						01-31-64 DR
Mon	Feb 10	1964		Portions of the Festival of Arts numbers	Cardinal Choir, thespian club, etc.	Coldwater Community Schools arts festival				01-29-64 DR 02-07-64 DR
Tues	Feb 11	1964		Festival of Arts	Western Michigan University choir					02-09-64 DR 02-11-64 DR
Wed	Feb 12	1964		Coldwater Art Club Meeting: Members decided to sponsor project/donate paintings to be awarded during Michigan Week, with funds benefiting Tibbits.						02-15-64 DR
Wed	Feb 19	1964		Call out/donation request for tables, lamps, vanity dressing tables, water pitchers, mirrors, etc. for backstage.						02-19-64 DR
	Feb	1964		Notation that heating system, air condition system and sprinkler system were leased. Restoration is planned...to date \$91,000 has been raised with another \$75,000 needed.						02-20-64 DR 02-21-64 DR
Thurs	Feb 20	1964		Tibbits Civic Theatre elects new officers (formerly Coldwater Players). Mention of the show <i>Life With Father</i> .						02-22-64 DR
Sat-Mon	Feb 22-24	1964		New red flocked wall covering/wallpaper is hung by Lyle Barry, Gerald Clark, and Wayne Harmon. The proscenium arch is painted by Richard Dirschell.						02-22-64 DR 02-24-64 DR
Fri-Sat	Feb 21-22	1964		<i>The Pajama Game</i>		Musical	Tecumseh Players			01-29-64 DR 02-10-64 DR 02-14-64 DR 02-19-64 DR 02-21-64 DR 02-22-64 DR 02-24-64 DR
Mon	Feb 24	1964		The Lewis Art Collection, worth several hundred thousand dollars, is given to Tibbits. Plans to improve the						02-24-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

				basement and turn it into a museum/art gallery are announced.							
Mon	Feb 24	1964		Southern Michigan National Bank and Harold F. Stukey give "sizeable contributions."							02-24-64 DR
Tues	Feb 25	1964		Coldwater Art Club donates seven original paintings to benefit Tibbits for the Michigan Week/Cultural Day event.							02-25-64 DR
Tues	Feb 25	1964		<i>The Seven Ways of Love</i> (Performance plays to a full house, grosses \$3500 in receipts.)					Joseph Cotton, Patricia Medina	01-29-64 DR 02-17-64 DR 02-19-64 DR 02-20-64 DR 02-21-64 DR 02-26-64 DR	
Thurs	Feb 27	1964		Substantial contributions made by Mr. & Mrs. Earl C. Corwin & Mr. and Mrs. William A Milnes, owners of the Southern Michigan Grocer Co.							02-28-64 DR
Fri	Feb 28	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: H.F. Stukey appointed as a new board member. Reports given on upcoming events and financial stability.							02-28-64 TA
Early	March	1964				two plays	Coldwater Civic			01-09-64 DR	
Fri	March 6	1964		Clebanoff Strings, 20 musician ensemble		Concert				12-20-63 DR 02-28-64 DR	
Mon	March 9	1964	students \$1, \$4 reserved		Kai Winding	Jazz Septet Concert				03-04-64 DR 03-04-64 DR 03-10-64 DR	
Thurs	March 12	1964		TV producer Paul Henning (Beverly Hillbillies and Petticoat Junction) gives sizeable contribution because of letter written by Mrs. Josephine Henning Beyer of Coldwater (daughter of Joseph Henning, second owner of Tibbits and sister of Huldah (wife of John Jackson, the third owner of the Tibbits)) concerning the possibility they may be related. She encloses information on the Tibbits restoration and he decides to donate.							03-12-64 DR
Fri	March 13	1964		Major contribution given by the Branch County Federal Savings and Loan Association.							03-13-64 DR
Sat	March 14	1964				Spring Fashion Show	Chamber of Commerce			02-17-64 DR 03-16-64 DR	
Wed	March 18	1964		Sizeable contribution given by Rex T. Kiess, Coldwater jeweler, & Mrs. Kiess.							03-18-64 DR
Thurs	March	1964	\$2		University of Michigan Glee Club	Concert				02-17-64 DR 03-12-64 DR	

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

	19									03-16-64 DR 03-17-64 DR 03-18-64 DR 03-20-64 DR
Fri-	March 27-	1964		<i>Life With Father</i> (postponed)		Play	Tibbits Civic Theatre			03-19-64 DR
	March	1964		Al Parke provides mural decoration on the west and north walls of the lobby, about 500 square feet. Wayne Harmon and his men surface the walls with canvas to take the oil painting. Jim Bryan, Bill Bobler and Walter Johnson provide assistance in materials, rigging and décor details.						03-19-64 DR 03-28-64 DR
Mon	March 30	1964		New curtain is installed. Flame-red velour, perfected matches the lighter red in the velour wallpaper. Curtain is donated by the Rotary.						04-01-64 DR
Thurs -Sat	April 2-4	1964	\$1 Thurs, \$1.50 Fri/Sat	<i>Naughty Nineties</i>		Minstrel Show	Rotary			02-28-64 DR 03-21-64 DR 03-23-64 DR 03-25-64 DR 03-26-64 DR 03-27-64 DR 03-30-64 DR 04-02-64 DR 04-03-64 DR 04-04-64 DR
Mon	April 6	1964	Free			Concert	Music Mart of Coldwater		Dave Nault, organist	04-04-64 DR
Fri	April 10	1964		Sizeable donation by Mr. & Mrs. G. Otis Pierce						
Sun	April 12	1964	Students \$1, GA \$2.50 and \$5, sponsors \$7.50 and \$10	Bob Newhart and The Outsiders (does not break even but comes close)						03-20-64 DR 03-23-64 DR 03-24-64 DR 04-07-64 DR 04-12-64 DR 04-14-64 TA
Tues	April	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Suggestion for more publicity in nearby towns, giving editors of the						04-14-64 TA

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	14			papers complimentary tickets, and discounting student tickets. Notice that Chamber of Commerce and Service Clubs in the area are having new signs erected at the entrance of Coldwater which will say "Home of the World Famous Tibbits Theatre."						
Thurs-Sat	April 16-18	1964		<i>Life With Father</i>		play	Tibbits Civic Theatre			04-09-64 DR
Week of	April 24	1964		Mrs. Alfred Parke (wife of mural painter) is guest speaker for the Coldwater Newcomers Club; tells them the history of the Opera House.						04-24-64 DR
Fri	April 24	1964				variety show	Coldwater High School			03-20-64 DR 04-18-64 DR 04-20-64 DR 04-27-64 DR
Sat	April 25	1964	\$1 students, \$2.50-\$4 tickets	Henry L. Scott Show		Comedy/Piano Show			Henry L. Scott, comic-pianist	04-09-64 DR 04-16-64 DR 04-17-64 DR 04-21-64 DR
Mon	April 1?	1964		Vaughn Lowther is guest speaker at the American Association of University Women April meeting.						04-24-64 DR
Sun	April 26	1964	\$1.25 donation		Blue Angels Drum and Bugle Corp	Drum & Bugle Festival / judged concert				04-14-64 DR 04-25-64 DR 04-28-64 DR
Wed	April 29	1964		Michigan Gas Utilities Co. makes sizable contribution to restoration.						
Fri	May 1	1964				Vocal concert	Coldwater Community High School	Douglas Hoopingarner, Guy Frizzell and Waive Wardwell		04-16-64 DR 04-30-64 DR 05-02-64 DR
Sun	May 3	1964	\$1 student, \$3 and \$5	Wayne King & his orchestra		Concert			Wayne King & his orchestra; Jim Hayes & Nancy Evans,	04-16-64 DR 04-22-64 DR 04-28-64 DR 04-30-64 DR 05-04-64 DR

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

									vocalists	
Mon	May 4	1964		Tibbits Foundation appoints Kenneth W. Kohn as associate producer of the ATF summer company						05-04-64 DR
Wed	May 6	1964	free			Band Concert	Coldwater Community Schools	John Visosky and Guy Frizzell	Coldwater junior and senior high bands	05-05-64 DR
Sat - Sun	May 9 & 10	1964		<i>Reynard the Fox</i>	Ft. Wayne Children's Theatre	Play		David Fisher		04-30-64 DR 05-05-64 DR 05-08-64 DR 05-11-64 DR
Tues	May 12	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Now have signed lease agreements with all summer stock people. Walter Stump is announced as associate producer and production director for ATF. Concerns that the people aren't interested in children's theatre (minimal attendance, low response to over 5,000 circulars that were given to each child).						05-12-64 TA
Wed	May 13	1964	\$1 students, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3		The Virginia Symphony			conductor William Penny Hacker		04-30-64 DR 05-06-64 DR 05-11-64 DR 05-13-64 DR 05-14-64 DR
Thurs	May 14	1964		Glenn Crane is announced as ATF's producer.						05-14-64 DR
Fri	May 15	1964		Tibbits announces hiring of leading ingénue Kathy Zeller.						05-15-64 DR
Tues	May 19	1964		Coldwater Art Club draws winners of paintings donated as Tibbits benefit.						05-14-64 DR
Wed	May 20	1964	\$1 students, \$2, \$2.50, \$3.50	"Black Like Me"		Lecture			John Howard Griffin, author	04-30-64 DR 05-15-64 DR 05-21-64 DR
Tues	May 26	1964		Summer stock box office opens- 20% discount for season ticket holders						05-26-64 DR
Thurs	May 28	1964	\$1, \$2, \$2.50, \$3.50			Dance Show			Jose Molina, Spanish Dance Troupe	04-30-64 DR 05-20-64 DR 05-22-64 DR 05-25-64 DR 05-27-64 DR

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										05-28-64 DR
Thurs	May 28	1964		Tom King announced as leading man for summer stock.						05-28-64 DR
Tues	June 2	1964		Board of Directors of Branch County Savings Bank gives large donation to Tibbits.						06-02-64 DR
Thurs	June 4	1964		Directors of the American Theatre Festival ask for a host of items to be donated—cutting tables, chairs, filing cabinets, Singer sewing machines, and desks.						06-04-64 DR
Thurs	June 4	1964		Quincy Bank donates a sizeable check to Tibbits.						06-05-64 DR
Sat	June 6	1964		H.F. Stukey of Stukey Inn holds private reception for members for the ATF company and Tibbits board members.						06-07-64 DR
Sun	June 7	1964		Rest of the company arrives; rehearsals for ATF begin.						06-07-64 DR
Mon	June 8	1964	\$1 donation			Variety Show / Mrs. America and the original Mrs. America at Tibbits *Tibbits benefit *	Sweet Adelines			06-05-64 DR 06-08-64 DR
Tues	June 9	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Jerry Fair shows sketches of the front of the building, shows plans to restore the dome, windows, doors, balcony and reface the building at a cost of \$15,000. The material for the chandelier has been assembled and Rotary Club has agreed to pay \$400 for material for the drapes.						06-09-64 TA
Thurs	June 18	1964		Crystal chandelier has been rebuilt and will be returned to the Opera House within the next week to ten days.						06-18-64 DR
Mon	June 22	1964		Tibbits and local merchants give away tickets to summer shows as a promo.						06-22-64 DR
Tues	June 23	1964		Alfred Parke and Bill Petch construct a marquee on the façade of the theatre.						06-23-64 DR
	June-Sept	1964		***American Theatre Festival (ATF) is the first-ever summer stock season at Tibbits. Directors changed with each show; constants included Miss Tony Showalter as costume mistress, Sally Dunlap as costume designer, Jack Shouse as set designer, and Walter Stump as lighting designer. Season Ticket Prices: Tues, Wed, Thur: \$12.50, \$17.50, \$21, \$25; Fri, Sat, Sun: \$17.50, \$22.50, \$27.50, \$32.50.						06-22-64 DR 07-17-64 DR 07-10-64 DR
Tues-Sun	June 23-28	1964	Tues-Thurs: \$2, \$2.50, \$3; Fri-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50	<i>Solid Gold Cadillac</i>	American Theatre Festival			Glenn Crane	Irene Belcher, William Walsh, Joel Marsh, Crane, Kenneth Kohn, Charles	05-26-64 DR 05-27-64 DR 06-16-64 DR 06-18-64 DR 06-22-64 DR 06-24-64 DR 06-26-64 DR

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

									Hutchins, Ruth Chambers, Tom King, Kathy Zeller, Virginia Marsh, George Vaughn Lowther, David Higgins	
Tues - Sun	June 30- July 5	1964	Tues- Thurs: \$2, \$2.50, \$3; Fri-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50	<i>The Pursuit of Happiness</i>	American Theatre Festival	Comedy/ Play		Walter Stump	Robert Miller, Ruth Chambers, Glenn Crane, Kathy Zeller, Tom King, William Walsh, David Higgins, Joel & Virginia Marsh	06-18-64 DR 06-23-64 DR 06-29-64 DR 06-30-64 DR 07-01-64 DR
Thurs	July 2	1964		Substantial donation by the Board of Directors of the Branch County Savings Bank is made to Tibbits.						07-02-64 DR
Tues-Sun	July 7- 12	1964	Tues- Thurs: \$2, \$2.50,	<i>The Man Who Came to Dinner</i>	American Theatre Festival	Comedy / Play		Glenn Crane	William Walsh, Walter Stump, Irene	06-18-64 DR 07-06-64 DR 07-07-64 DR 07-08-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

			\$3; Fri-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50						Belcher, Sally Dunlap, Robert Miller, Joel & Virginia Marsh, Ruth Chambers, George Vaughn Lowther	
Wed	July 8	1964		Producers of ATF request donation of two office desks, two long tables and a table saw for the productions.						07-08-64 DR
Tues	July 14	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: President Stilson is authorized to contact Mr. Parke regarding preparing a "graphic display to illustrate the point at which we have arrived in the restoration of the theatre, and to illustrate or dramatize the projects that are to be done in the future."						07-14-64 TA
Tues-Sun	July 14-19	1964	Tues-Thurs: \$2, \$2.50, \$3; Fri-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50	<i>Under the Yum Yum Tree</i>	American Theatre Festival	American Farce/ Play		Robert Miller	Virginia Marsh, Kathy Zeller, Tom King, Glenn Crane	06-18-64 DR 07-11-64 DR 07-13-64 DR 07-14-64 DR 07-15-64 DR 07-16-64 DR
Tues-Sun	July 21-26	1964	Tues-Thurs: \$2, \$2.50, \$3; Fri-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50	<i>Ten Nights in a Bar room</i>	American Theatre Festival	Adapted as a musical comedy melodrama by Walter Stump		Director, Walter Stump; Choreography, Bob Miller; Pianists Mrs. Roy C.	Virginia Marsh, Bob Miller, Irene Belcher, Kathy Zeller, Ruth Chambers, William	06-18-64 DR 07-11-64 DR 07-16-64 DR 07-18-64 DR 07-20-64 DR 07-22-64 DR 07-23-64 DR 07-24-64 DR

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								Patterson & Doug Hoopingartner; Backdrop design, Alfred Parke	Walsh, Glenn Crane, David Higgins, Joel Marsh, Jeff Miller, Tom King		
Sat	July 25	1964		Quality Spring Products, Inc. gives major contribution to Tibbits.							
Tues-Sun	July 28-Aug 2	1964	Tues-Thurs: \$2, \$2.50, \$3; Friday-Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50	<i>Mister Roberts</i>	American Theatre Festival	Comedy-Drama/ Play		Irene Belcher	Joel Marsh, Robert Miller, Sally Dunlap, William Walsh, Tom King, Glenn Crane, Mick Cochrane, Ken Kohn, David Higgins, Douglas Hoopengartner, Jeffrey Miller, George Spelvin	06-18-64 DR 07-27-64 DR 07-28-64 DR 07-29-64 DR 07-31-64 DR	
Fri	July 31	1964		American Theatre Festival officials ask for help furnishing the company housing (located at 90 Division St) with lamps, chairs, dressers, rugs, and other furniture.							07-31-64 DR
Sat	Aug 1	1964		A chauffeured Rolls Royce for an evening and tickets to one of the ATF plays given away. Won by Clifford Foster; Rolls Royce belongs to Mrs. & Mrs. Richard Patterson.			Chamber of Commerce				08-03-64 DR
Tues-Sun	Aug 4-	1964	Tues-	<i>Girls in 509</i>	American Theatre	Comedy /		Kenneth	Robert	06-18-64 DR 07-30-64 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

	9		Thurs: \$2, 2.50, 3; Friday- Sun: \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50		Festival	Political Farce/ Play		Kohn	Miller, Irene Belcher, Ruth Chambers, George Vaughn Lowther, Virginia Marsh, Tom King, David Higgins, Allison Crockett, Joel Marsh, Jeffrey Miller	08-03-64 DR
Tues	Aug 11	1964		Tibbits Foundation Board Meeting						08-11-64 TA
Tues- Sun	Aug 11-16	1964		<i>Picnic</i>	American Theatre Festival	Drama / Play		Walter Stump	David Higgins, Kathy Zeller, Allison Crockett, Tom King, Virginia Marsh, Ruth Chambers, William Walsh, Sharon Doyle, Jerri Parke,	06-18-64 DR 07-13-64 DR 07-16-64 DR 08-08-64 DR 08-11-64 DR 08-12-64 DR 08-14-64 DR

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									Jeffery Miller	
Thurs	Aug 20	1964		"Business Men's Night." Local business and professional men are planning to attend the show and an After-Glow at Stukey's Inn following the show.						08-11-64 TA
Tues-Sun	Aug 18 – Aug 23	1964		<i>The Seven Year Itch</i>	American Theatre Festival	Play		Glenn Crane; musical direction by Donna Douglass	Kathy Zeller, Bob Miller, Virginia Marsh, Timothy Crane, Mary Circle, Allison Crockett, Sally Dunlap, Rosemary King, William Walsh, Joel Marsh	06-18-64 DR 08-14-64 DR 08-15-64 DR 08-17-64 DR 08-18-64 DR 08-19-64 DR 08-20-64 DR
	Aug	1964		Kohn is approached by President Stilson about becoming a "Business Manager" for the Tibbits (with duties outlined similar to Vaughn Lowther's, who previously held the position of Theatre Manager). The compensation from the Foundation will be \$3-4000 per year, with supplementation from a part-time college teaching job at a nearby college, totaling income to approx. \$10,000/year. Kohn begins making arrangements to move to Coldwater, and "mistakenly assumes that arrangements have been made for him to begin teaching in Sept at the college."						01-06-65 TA
Mon	Aug 24	1964		President Stilson sends a letter to Mr. Stukey (and cc's the Board and various others) addressing personality conflicts and perceived malicious attacks on Stilson by Stukey, concerns with finances and Stukey's apparent attitude of closing down the theatre if he is not paid for ATF meals/housing (even though Stilson was out of town during that time).						08-24-64 TA
Tues-Sun	Aug 25-30	1964		<i>Little Mary Sunshine</i>	American Theatre Festival	Musical comedy		Walter Stump	Kathy Zeller (with Lois)	06-18-64 DR 08-17-64 DR 08-22-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

				**Also added matinee performances Wed & Sat at reduced rates				(costumes created by David Higgins, who worked with a prof. Indian dance troupe for 3 years); musical direction by Thurman & Donna Douglass; Choreography by Miller; Sets by Douglas Saito	Taylor for matinees), Don Circle, David Higgins, Jack Shouse, Irene Belcher, William Walsh, Virginia Marsh, Glenn Crane	08-24-64 DR 08-26-64 DR 08-27-64 DR 08-28-64 DR
Tues-Sun	Sept 1-6	1964		<i>Light Up the Sky</i>	American Theatre Festival	Comedy / Play		Walter Stump	William Walsh, Ruth Chambers, Irene Belcher, Tom King	06-18-64 DR 08-29-64 DR 08-31-64 DR 09-01-64 DR 09-03-64 DR 09-05-64 DR
Wed	Sept 16	1964		Stukey sends a letter to Stilson, replying to what was sent on 08-24-64. His points: Stilson shouldn't have sent the letter to the entire board, the community should be given complete and accurate information, the money matter of \$3,000 that is owed to Stukey should be repaid by Crane, Kohn and Stump, and that he too has supported and will continue to support the summer theatre group. He mentions that financial responsibility is needed.						09-16-64 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Tues	Sept 22	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Kiwanis is granted permission to have travelogues at the Tibbits and the board considers three professional fund-raising organizations to help complete the restoration project. The ATF/summer stock did not turn a profit this summer (however, in exchange for the use of the facilities, they did pay some \$3500-4000 in utility bills and improvements like lighting and equipment, approximately \$5,000 in costumes and another \$5000 in scenery which now belongs to the Foundation). The principals of ATF will be staying the winter in Coldwater and plan to put on a series of plays in Tibbits this winter. A Tibbits Woman's Auxiliary has recently been formed, and they have addressed brochures to be mailed to the entire mailing list.						09-22-64 TA
Thurs -Sat	Oct 1- Oct 3	1964		<i>Glass Menagerie</i> (never showed? Mentions opening of season as <i>World of Carl Sandburg</i> in 10-06-64 article)	Tibbits Repertoire Company, now formed by American Theatre Festival producers					09-16-64 DR
Tues	Oct 6	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting (special meeting): Ralph Little Of Burrill, Inc., a fundraising organization, is hired to start a fundraising program on Monday Oct 12 at the cost of \$9,000, with the amount to be raised at \$200,000. The Stan Getz Band scheduled for Oct 18 was cancelled since the ticket sales did not warrant the cost of the show.						10-6-64 TA
Wed	Oct 7	1964	\$8.50 for four concerts/ \$2.12 each	<i>La Boheme</i>	Goldovsky Grand Opera Company	Opera	Branch County Community Concert Association		Jerold Siena, Ronald Holgate, Eugene Green, Shapleigh Howell, Carol Courtman, Linda Newman.	05-02-64 DR 06-11-64 DR 10-08-64 DR
Thurs -Sat	Oct 8- 10 *Oct 23	1964		<i>World of Carl Sandburg</i>	Tibbits Repertoire Company	Play		Walter Stump; produced by Glenn Crane	Stockton Burns, Ruth Chambers, William Walsh	10-06-14 DR 10-07-64 DR 10-08-64 DR 10-09-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

	special performance									
Tues	Oct 13	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Woman's Auxiliary is having a bake sale with funds raised to be used to purchase a mimeograph machine for the theatre.						10-13-64 TA
	Oct	1964		Delta Iota chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority has meeting; principal annual projects is ushering at the Tibbits.						10-07-64 DR
Sat	Oct 17	1964		Auditions for local children to appear in <i>Tom Sawyer</i> production.						10-17-64 DR
Sat	Oct 17	1964	Season tickets \$5/ 6 shows	<i>Holiday in Quebec</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-15-64 DR 10-17-64 DR
Sun	Oct 18	1964		Stan Getz & his Jazz Quartet (cancelled at 10-6-64 board meeting)		Concert			Stan Getz	09-25-64 DR
Mon	Oct 19	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Mr. Robb from Burrill, Inc (fundraising firm) is introduced and explains how the fundraising drive will work. \$66 was raised at the Auxiliary's bake sale.						10-19-64 TA
Fri	Oct 23	1964		<i>World of Carl Sandburg</i> *Special performance for presidents of local colleges and universities	Tibbits Repertoire Company	Play		Walter Stump; produced by Glenn Crane	Stockton Burns, Ruth Chambers, William Walsh	10-22-64 DR
Sat	Oct 24	1964		<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Whitney Playmaker Productions from Ft. Wayne	3 Act Play				10-14-64 DR 10-15-64 DR
Wed	Oct 28	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Mr. Robb explains the campaign chart, and the following appointments were made: Roy Patterson, campaign director; A. G. Lyon (chairman), Ernest Luse, Russell Waldron, Howard Snyder, listing committee; Fred Anderson Duane Davidson, Howard Teeter, Gerald Hensley, V. M Stilson, leadership committee; Mrs. Alfred Morency, general gifts-women's division; Duane Davidson, publicity chairman; Jerri Parke, speaker's bureau; Margaret Hayes, campaign treasurer. Margaret Hayes tenders her resignation as treasurer of the Foundation as of 11-1-64. The TransAmerican Leasing Co. is owed \$67,929.48. If payment is made						

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				now, a savings of over \$14,000 would occur (interest?). The Board votes to borrow \$5000 from the Branch Co. Savings Bank & the Southern MI National Bank of Coldwater to finance the fundraising fee for Burrill, Inc.							
Thurs	Oct 29	1964		Herb Shriner, nationally known stage, TV and radio star, visits Tibbits.							10-31-64 DR
Tues	Nov 3	1964		Tibbits Opera Foundation announces a \$200,000 campaign with R.P. Pat Patterson as the general chairman of the drive. Foundation wants to complete the remodeling and restoration of the theatre and museum and art center. Monies will go toward debt retirement/loan on heating/air systems, restoration of the front of the building, new electrical system, carpeting, seating, lower level lounges, rest rooms, museum, and misc. V. M. Stilson, president of Tibbits Foundation announces Charles T. Marsh as publicity and PR man for Tibbits.							11-03-64 DR
Tues	Nov 3	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Mr. Robb compares Tibbits to Stratford /Ontario Shakespearian Festival, which has achieved international fame. Says the film <i>The Stratford Story</i> will be shown to the Foundation and other service organizations in the future.							11-03-64 TA
Wed-Fri	Nov 4-6	1964	Students half price	<i>Candida</i>	American Theatre Festival/ Tibbits Rep Co.	Play			Kathy Zeller, Stockton Burns, William Walsh, Ruth Chambers, Glenn Crane	10-15-64 DR 10-29-64DR 10-31-64 DR 11-03-64 DR 11-04-64 DR 11-05-64 DR 11-06-64 DR	
Sat	Nov 7	1964		Hummon Sisters		Concert-ranging from religious melodies to show tunes	Coldwater Ministerial Association & Tibbits Opera Foundation	Accompaniment Guy Frizell	Janet and Mary Hummon	10-15-64 DR 10-17-64 DR 10-29-64 DR 11-06-64 DR	
Mon	Nov 9	1964		<i>The Lombardo Years</i>	Guy Lombardo & his Royal Canadians				Lombardo Brothers Carmen, Lebert, & Victor; gust singer Anita Bryant	09-11-64 DR 09-17-64 DR 10-15-64 DR 11-07-64 DR 11-10-64 DR	
Tues	Nov 10	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: The film <i>The Stratford Story</i> is shown.							11-10-64 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Thurs	Nov 12	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting (special meeting): Reports on fundraising campaign given.						11-10-64 TA
Sat	Nov 14	1964	Season tickets \$5/ 6 shows	<i>Hunza Land</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-15-64 DR 10-17-64 DR
Mon	Nov 16	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting (special meeting): Reports on fundraising campaign given. Tibbits Fund Drive is established with R.C. Patterson as general chairman and Mrs. Alfred G. Morency & Wayne Feller as co-chairmen of the gifts division.						11-10-64 TA 11-16-64 DR
Thurs - Fri	Nov 19-20	1964		<i>Ondine</i>		French drama/ Play: Senior Class	Coldwater High School	Phyllis Coscarelly and Elwood McClellan		10-15-64 DR 11-12-64 DR 11-14-64 DR 11-16-64 DR 11-17-64 DR 11-18-64 DR 11-19-64 DR 11-20-64 DR
Sat	Nov 21	1964		<i>Man & Superman</i>	Association of Producing Artists, U of M. professional theatre group	Play		Set design Kim Sados, costm design Nancy Potts	Richard Woods, Ellis Rabb, Nancy Marchand, Paul Spareer, Donald Mofat, Rosemary Harris	09-25-64 DR 10-15-64 DR 11-17-64 DR 11-19-64 DR 11-30-64 DR
Tues	Nov 24	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Mr. Robb reports on the progress of the fundraising campaign, Charles Bristol is voted is as new Treasurer of the Foundation with Margaret Hayes remaining as a board member.						11-24-64 TA
Sat	Nov 28	1964		<i>The Sorcerer</i>	U of M Gilbert & Sullivan Society	Opera/ Comedy-Melody		Director Allan Schreiber, Musical		09-25-64 DR 10-15-64 DR 11-25-64 DR 11-28-64 DR 11-30-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source	
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED											
Sat	Nov 28	1964		<i>Trial by Jury</i>	U of M Gilbert & Sullivan Society	One Act Opera/Satirical Comedy		director Prof. Harold Haugh, Choreographer Mrs. Riecker	John L. Henkel	09-25-64 DR 10-15-64 DR 11-25-64 DR 11-28-64 DR 11-30-64 DR	
Fri	Nov 27	1964		Tibbits Fund Drive workers have a second report meeting.							11-30-64 DR
Mon	Nov 30	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting (special meeting): Fundraising report. Mr. Robb stresses the need for more workers.							11-30-64 TA
Tues	Dec 1	1964		Tibbits Fund Drive Workers have meeting at Stukey's Inn.							11-30-64 DR
Tues	Dec 1	1964		Duo-Pianists, The Teltschick Brothers		Concert (second in series?)	Branch County Community Concert Association		Teltschik brothers, Alfred & Herbert	11-11-64 DR 12-02-64 DR	
Fri	Dec 4	1964		<i>Mata and Hari</i>		Satirical Dance & Pantomime				09-11-64 DR 09-25-64 DR 11-11-64 DR 11-25-64 DR 12-05-64 DR	
Sat-Sun	Dec 5-6	1964		<i>Happy Holidays Show</i>		Variety Show	Sweet Adelines			11-11-64 DR 12-01-64 DR 12-02-64 DR 12-03-64 DR 12-04-64 DR 12-07-64 DR 12-05-64 DR	
Tues	Dec 8	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Vote to extend the drive for capital funds for Tibbits indefinitely. Theatre rental cost is discussed: \$75 performance fee and \$25 rehearsal fee charged for all local organizations, 60-40 fee for outside organizations, free to/donation accepted from educational institutions unless they charge an admission fee.							12-08-64 TA
Thurs	Dec 10	1964		Glenn Miller Orchestra				Ray McKinley		09-11-64 DR 09-25-64 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										11-25-64 DR 12-08-64 DR
Fri	Dec 11	1964		Tibbits Fund Drive Meeting; Reports Requested.						12-03-66 DR
	Winter	1964		<i>A Hasty Heart</i> (replaced with <i>Love Out of Town</i> , but neither ever showed)		Comedy / Play			Roger Smith, Ed (Kookie Byrnes)	09-11-64 DR 09-25-64 DR
Fri-Sun	Dec 11-13	1964	\$3.50-\$2; students half price	<i>Dial M for Murder</i>	American Theatre Festival/ Tibbits Rep Co.	Murder Mystery/ Play		Walter Stump, producer Glenn Crane	Stockton Burns, Kathy Zeller, Walter Stump, Glenn Crane	11-11-64 DR 11-24-64 DR 11-30-64 DR 12-03-64 DR 12-04-64 DR 12-07-64 DR 12-10-64 DR 12-11-64 DR
Sun	Dec 13	1964	\$1 adults; under 16 75 cents main floor, 50 cents balcony	<i>Rapunzel & the Witch</i>	American Theatre Festival/ Tibbits Rep Co.	Children's Theatre/Play		Director and lighting designer Walter Stump	Stockton Burns, Ruth Chambers, Kathy Zeller, Bill Walsh	11-24-64 DR 11-30-64 DR 12-01-64 DR 12-07-64 DR 12-09-64 DR
Wed	Dec 23	1964		V.M. Stilson sends letter to Board of Directors and resigns from the presidency and the Board of Directors of Tibbits.						12-24-64 DR 12-23-64 TA
Fri	Dec 26	1964		Mrs. Alfred G. Parke (Jenie Parke) sends her letter of resignation to Vice President Patterson.						12-26-64 TA
Wed	Dec 30	1964		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Resignations from V. M. Stilson, Jerri Parke and Winifred Morency. Margaret Hayes made a motion to deny Mrs. Morency's resignation, and she agreed to remain a member of the board. Roy Patterson is named new president of the Tibbits Opera Foundation; Duane E. Davidson named vice-president. Mr. Stukey donates the loan of \$1,750 to the Foundation. Finances and financial program is discussed (bank loans, local bills, Transamerica Corp. bill). Suggestion to put new locks on all the Theatre building doors with the keys marked "do not duplicate". Keys will only be given to qualified persons. Discussion on lease with the ATF, but no action taken.						12-30-64 DR 12-30-64 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Thurs	Dec 31	1964		Executive Board Meeting: Discussion of problems from 12-30 meeting, including: payment of \$500 balance due to Glenn Miller Band, change to three signatures on checks (president, VP and treasurer), and formation of new committees (Finance- Dr. Harold J. Meier, chairman; House & Properties- Sanford Jolley, chairman; Public Relations- Peter Schwartz, chairman; Restoration- Jerry Fair, chairman). ATF contract discussed at a 5-year contract with proper cancellation clause if it jeopardizes the theatre, plus inventory taken before and after the season.						12-30-64 TA 12-31-64 TA 01-05-65 DR
Tues	Jan 5	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting at Stuckey's Inn: Vote for Mr. Roussey to fill the hole in the alley for \$125, and that the lease/contract for the ATF be prepared by an attorney.						12-30-64 DR 01-05-65 TA
Wed	Jan 6	1965		Mrs. Morency sends another letter of resignation to the board. Kenneth Kohn sends a letter to President Patterson regarding his employment as the theatre manager: He was never told he was being dismissed as the manager, hasn't been paid what had been promised, has moved his family to Coldwater and as such his wife has given up her job and they have lost money because of it, and he has just heard that the board is looking for a qualified and experienced theatre manager (and he seems offended that his extensive qualifications are being overlooked by the board). Expresses disappointment with his last 3 months of "employment", at which he has worked sometimes over 80 hours a week, and has at most received \$125 total. Furthermore, he is upset by the rumors around town of his "inefficiency as a manager", which is making it hard for him to secure another job.						01-06-65 TA
Thurs -Sat	Jan 7-9	1965		*On the Marquee schedule but never played	American Theatre Festival/ Tibbits Rep Co.	Play				12-12-64 DR
Mon	Jan 11	1965	Adults \$2.50; students \$1	Rubinoff & his Violins		Concert			Rubinoff	12-12-64 DR 12-31-64 DR 01-06-65 DR 01-07-65 DR 01-08-65 DR 01-11-65 DR 01-12-65 DR
Tues	Jan 12	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Mrs. Winifred Morency resigns. Some bookings need to be negotiated on price or will have to be cancelled. Those already cancelled include Entrances & Exits, Hal Holbrook, Basil Rathbone, and Caldonia. Executive Committee to now meet every Wed and the Foundation board to meet every Tuesday until further notice.						01-12-65 TA
Sat	Jan 16	1965		Exits & Entrances (cancelled by 01-12-65 meeting)						12-12-64 DR 01-12-65 TA
Tues	Jan 19	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Vote to take out a loan for \$3500 to pay \$1500 to Woody Herman and						01-19-65 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				<p>\$2000 to pay Roger Williams. The loan will be signed by 5 board members, each liable for \$700 of the loan. The proceeds of these concerts will be used to repay the loan. Seaman Office Supply will take back the purchased mimeograph machine (\$459), apply the price on the current account, and rent the machine for \$25. Discussion about the possibility of Olivet College providing funds for a theatre manager in exchange for use of the Tibbits for rehearsals in connection with an adult education program.</p>							
Sat	Jan 23	1965	\$1.50	<i>Taming of the Shrew</i>	MSU Players		Coldwater High School chapter of the Thespian Society	Frank Rutledge	Frederick De Santis, Chilton Cunningham, Terry Williams, Catherine Mann	12-12-64 DR 01-04-65 DR 01-05-65 DR 01-14-65 DR 01-15-65 DR 01-19-65 DR 01-20-65 DR 01-21-65 DR 01-23-65 DR 01-25-65 DR	
Tues	Jan 26	1965		<p>Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Olivet College agrees to pay half of the salary for a theatre manager, which would be \$50 per week toward the director's salary, provided another \$50 per week can be secured from some other source. The agreement would take place in February and involve the Players Group, Adult Education, and Teenage Activities. U of M requests payment of \$700 for the Gilbert and Sullivan performance. 900 brochures advertising coming attractions are ready to mail out. Mr. Lyon is preparing the lease agreement with ATF.</p>							01-26-65 TA
Sat	Jan 30	1965	Season tickets \$5/ 6 shows	<i>Pan-Am Highway</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-17-64 DR 01-29-65 DR	
Tues	Feb 2	1965		Sweet Adelines donate \$250 to the Tibbits.							02-02-65 DR
Tues-Wed	Feb 2-3	1965	free			Susan Lowe Cooking School & Fashion Show	Coldwater Daily Reporter			01-30-65 DR 02-01-65 DR 02-04-65 DR	
Tues	Feb 9	1965		<p>Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Cancelled <i>The Littlest Circus</i> but the company wants \$100 to cover expenses. Motion to only charge 50 cents to students for the Woody Herman concert. Replastering and painting of the ceiling has been completed; work has been donated by Legg Lumber. The rear portion of the ceiling plaster has been removed, replastered and painted at \$2300. Estimated cost of finishing the repair work is between \$5-6,000, as opposed to the estimated \$20,000 by contractors.</p>							02-09-65 DR 02-09-65 TA
Wed	Feb 10	1965	\$4,	Woody Herman		Concert			Woody	01-29-65 DR	

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

			\$2.50; students \$1	"Herd"					Herman	02-02-65 DR 02-04-65 DR 02-09-65 DR 02-10-65 DR 02-11-65 DR	
Wed- Thurs	Feb 10 -11	1965		Community theatre for Branch Co., named the Branch County Players, is being organized.							02-10-65 DR
Mon	Feb 15	1965		<i>Mark Twain Tonight</i> (cancelled by 01-12-65 meeting)	Lincoln Center Repertory Co.				Hal Holbrook	09-25-64 DR 01-12-65 TA	
Tues	Feb 16	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Reports a loss of \$500 on the Woody Herman concert even though 1078 tickets are sold.							02-16-65 TA
Sat	Feb 27	1965	Season tickets \$5/ 6 shows	<i>The New Holland</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-17-64 DR	
Sun- Mon	Feb 28, March 1	1965	free	Fine Arts Festival		Variety show, including One Act Drama <i>The Wall</i> , choir, band	Coldwater High School Thespians, Symphony band, choir		Gretchen Gottschalk, Linda Hammond	02-04-65 DR 02-24-65 DR 02-25-65 DR 02-27-65 DR 03-02-65 DR	
Sun	Feb 28	1965		Informational community meeting held; 75 citizens come to hear a report on the 5-year financial program for the Tibbits. Report on upcoming programming. Sanford Jolly, chairman of House and Staging, reports that two intercom systems have been installed with the hopes that three more can be installed. Roof repair is needed as it is leaking above the stage. The ceiling over the balcony has been completed and was donated by Louie Legg. Last year's summer musicals and "sexy" plays were the best in attendance, so the Board is looking for similar shows to do this summer. New highway is being constructed east of the city which will allow for more traffic in less time.							03-02-65 DR 02-28-65 TA
Tues	March 2	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Meetings will now be held monthly in the future, with the Executive Board meeting each Wednesday.							03-02-65 TA
Sun	March 7	1965		Roger Williams & his orchestra		Concert – world renowned pianist			Roger Williams, the Dutton ensemble	09-25-64 DR 02-18-65 DR 02-22-65 DR 02-25-65 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										02-26-65 DR 03-01-65 DR 03-02-65 DR 03-03-65 DR 03-04-65 DR 03-05-65 DR 03-08-65 DR
Thurs - Fri	March 18 -19	1965		<i>Pioneer, Go Home</i>		Play / Comedy	Coldwater Junior class	Phyllis Coscarelly	Jack Wolf, Terry Tarr, Stephanie Shank, Carolyn Gillespie, Becky Pratt,	02-18-65 DR 03-11-65 DR 03-13-65 DR 03-15-65 DR 03-16-65 DR 03-17-65 DR 03-18-65 DR 03-19-65 DR
Tues-Wed	March 16-17			Auditions for county high schools' production of <i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> (auditions at Roosevelt Auditorium, show at Tibbits)				Educators throughout the county and from Olivet College, plus Glenn Crane, Walter Stump		03-12-65 DR 03-16-65 DR
Thurs	March 18	1965		President Patterson sends a letter to Mr. Burrill requesting that some of the service fee be returned to the Foundation since the fundraiser was a total flop. Instead of the estimated \$200,000 expected, only \$20,000 is received in donations, \$11,000 of which is paid to Mr. Burrill's company.						03-18-65 TA
Sat	March 20	1965		Auditions at Tibbits for the adult roles of <i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> .						03-20-65 DR
Sat	March 20	1965	Season tickets \$5/ 6	<i>The World of California</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-17-64 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

			shows							
Sun	March 21	1965		Tibbits Foundation Fund Drive coffee meeting.						03-19-65 DR
Sun	March 21	1965		Littlest Circus (cancelled as of 2-9-65 meeting)		Miniature, magical carnival in music; dance & pantomime				09-25-64 DR 02-09-65 TA
Fri	March 26	1965		Tibbits Board Meeting						03-26-65 DR
Fri	March 26	1965		<i>Calendonia</i>	Singers & dancers of Scotland					09-25-64 DR
Sun	March 28	1965		Lucille Kailer, lyric coloratura soprano		Concert	Branch County Community Concert Association			03-24-65 DR
Mon	March 29	1965		Cancer Crusade kickoff meeting		Meeting	Branch Co. Cancer Society			03-30-65 DR
Sat	April 3	1965			**to benefit Hospital Auxiliary**	Spring Style / Fashion Show	Coldwater Daily Reporter and the Coldwater Chamber of Commerce	Kenneth Miller and Arlene Weston, chairmen		03-06-65 DR 03-23-65 DR 03-24-65 DR 03-25-65 DR 03-26-65 DR 03-27-65 DR 03-29-65 DR 03-30-65 DR 03-31-65 DR 04-01-65 DR 04-02-65 DR 04-03-65 DR
Tues	April 6	1965		Tibbits Foundation ANNUAL MEETING: Officers for the following year will be Roy Patterson, president; Duane Davidson, Vice President; Rae Kleindinst, Recording Secretary; Chas Bristol, Treasurer; Dorothy Aitchison, Corresponding Secretary. Dr. Meier reports on finances and membership, stating 150 members needed and						04-06-65 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				currently at 99.							
Thurs	April 8	1965		Tibbits Finance Board Meeting							04-07-65 DR
Thurs-Sat	April 8-10	1965	\$1 Thurs, \$1.50 Fri-Sat	<i>Roaring 20s</i>		Minstrel Show	Rotary	Duane Davidson		02-18-65 DR 03-19-65 DR 04-06-65 DR 04-07-65 DR 04-09-65 DR	
Mon-Thurs	April 12-15			HOLY WEEK services		Church service				04-09-65 DR	
Thurs-Fri	April 22-23	1965				Variety Show	Coldwater High School			02-18-65 DR	
Sat	April 24	1965		Basil Rathbone (cancelled as of 01-12-65 meeting)		Dramatic presentation				09-25-64 DR 01-12-65 TA	
Tues	April 27	1965		Tibbits Sustaining Membership drive nears top; within 23 members of reaching the goal of 150 memberships (members pledge \$200 payable per year for 5 years).							04-27-65 DR
Fri	April 30	1965		American Theatre Festival signs 5-year lease agreement with Tibbits Opera Foundation to continue summer stock through 1969.							04-30-65 DR
Sat	May 1	1965	Season tickets \$5/ 6 shows	<i>African Wildlife in Action</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-17-64 DR	
Sun	May 2	1965		Young American Artists in Concert *benefit for Tibbits*		Concert			Artists from Michigan colleges with featured artist Dzidra Bonfiglio	04-21-65 DR 04-23-65 DR 04-27-65 DR 05-01-65 DR 05-03-65 DR	
Mon	May 3	1965		An Evening with Victor Herbert & Harold Arlen						09-25-64 DR	
Tues	May 4	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: <i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> proceeds will be used to repair the roof. The Finance							05-04-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				Committee wants immediate action toward hiring a Theatre Manager, with a proposed salary of \$300 a month. Barbara Bernahl claims \$66 per week for services in the box office, which the board thought was too much. It was their understanding that she was to only be reimbursed the cost of her babysitter. The bill is sent to Mr. Lyon/legal counsel for discussion. Elsie Elliott no longer wants to work box office, and Barbara Worden is suggested to take over. Tibbits Sustaining Membership drive nears top; within 15 members of reaching the goal of 150 memberships (members pledge \$200 payable per year for 5 years). Cardinal Choir and Fine Arts Department presents Tibbits with a \$50 donation in appreciate for free use of the Tibbits for school-directed functions.						05-04-65 TA
Sun	May 9	1965	\$1			Jazz Concert (17 piece stage band)		Wayne Feller	Brenda Davis, Tom Reaume, Chuck Stokes, John Clayton, The Malibus	05-05-65 DR 05-06-65 DR 05-07-65 DR 05-10-65 DR
Tues-Sat	May 18-22	1965	Adults \$1.50, students \$1	<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i>		Musical	Olivet College & Branch County Area Schools	Walter Stump, director; Glenn Crane, producer; Mrs. William Corey, Choreography; Mrs. Dan Shelles, Costumes		04-01-65 DR 05-12-65 DR 05-13-65 DR 05-14-65 DR 05-15-65 DR 05-17-65 DR 05-18-65 DR 05-19-65 DR
Sun	May 23	1965		Jerry Gerard (originally scheduled), Bene W. Hammel		Concert; organist	Branch County Community Concert		Jerry Gerard (cancelled?) , Bene	04-19-65 DR 05-20-65 DR 05-24-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

							Association		Hammel	
Sat	May 29	1965		Bye Bye Birdie gives \$1,000 donation to Tibbits.						05-29-65 DR
Thurs	June 3	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting						05-28-65 DR
Sat	June 5	1965		Summer cast starts arriving; company housing is at 90 Division St.						06-05-65 DR
Tues	June 8	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: New office secretary Mrs. Hillyar is introduced. President Patterson reports that he has written letters to both Barbara Bernahl and Ken Kohn regarding their claims of services, offering to settle at \$500 each (\$250 paid this year and \$250 next year) in addition to the \$125 which they have already been paid. Present membership is 145. Executive and Finance committee reported that a secretary and custodian is all the Theatre needs for personnel at this point. Rotary gifts \$400 to Tibbits.						06-08-65 DR
Thurs	June 10	1965		Tibbits Executive Board Meeting						06-09-65 DR
Thurs	June 10	1965		Larry Life named season choreographer; Larry Carrico Jr named season stage manager, technical director, scene designer, and rigger.						06-10-65 DR
Tues-Sat	June 15-19	1965		<i>The Fantasticks</i>	American Theatre Festival	Musical Romance		Walter Stump, director; Carrico, scenic design; Bill Kreuzberg, costumes; Skip Frizzell, musical director	Ann Breniser, Milt Bailey, James (Mike) Bloom, Bob Sphatt, William Walsh, Larry Life, Phil Goble, Larry Carrico, Marge Foley	04-08-65 DR 06-08-65 DR 06-09-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 06-14-65 DR 06-15-65 DR 06-16-65 DR 06-17-65 DR 06-19-65 DR
Wed	June 16	1965		Local merchants give away tickets for summer theatre.						06-16-65 DR
Thurs	June 24	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: New office secretary Mrs. Hillyer has resigned. Materials for the roof repair have been delivered, work to begin soon. Mr. Kohn has sent back a letter accepting the settlement offer for back salary. Payments to Trans-America Leasing Co. haven't been made since last fall and are in arrears in the amount of \$12,000. Loan refinancing and payment schedule of \$1045 a month is recommended, to which Trans-America would excuse the penalty. Membership is at 157.						06-24-65 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Tues-Sat	June 22-26	1965		<i>Come Blow Your Horn</i>	American Theatre Festival	Play – Contemporary Sex Comedy		Glenn Crane	Robert Sphatt, William Walsh, Phil Goble, Laura Seager, Lynda Arnberg, Fay Command	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 06-18-65 DR 06-21-65 DR 06-22-65 DR 06-23-65 DR 06-24-65 DR
Sat	June 26	1965		Monk Watson's Magic Show		Children's Matinee- live magic				06-25-65 DR
Tues-Sat	June 29- July 3	1965		<i>Abie's Irish Rose</i>	American Theatre Festival	Play- Comedy		Walter Stump	Robert Sphatt, Laura Seager, William Walsh, Phil Goble, Fay Command, Larry Life, Marc Baskind, Glenn Crane	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 06-25-65 DR 06-26-65 DR 06-28-65 DR 06-29-65 DR 06-30-65 DR 07-01-65 DR
Sat	July 3	1965	Adults \$1, children .75	<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Olivet College Children's Theatre	Children's Matinee -		Miss Bobbi Waite & Mrs. Paul Bisling, directors; Kathryn Haefild,		06-25-65 DR 06-30-65 DR 07-01-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

								musical director		
Tues-Sat	July 6-10	1965	Matinees Wed & Sat; adults \$1.65 and up, children .80 Wed, \$1.30 Sat	<i>The Music Man</i>	American Theatre Festival	Musical		Walter Stump	Glenn Crane, Ann Breniser, Fay Command, locals Mitch McCullough & Cindy Weidner, Sweet Adelines chorus as townspeople	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 07-02-65 DR 07-03-65 DR 07-06-65 DR 07-07-65 DR
Tues	July 13	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Larry Carrico is interviewed for the Theatre Manager position. Further discussion to occur with him to come to agreement of salary. Women's Chamber of Commerce offers to usher the winter season. Mr. Bryan reports that roof is nearly complete and new system of locks has been installed.						07-13-65 TA
Tues-Sat	July 13-17	1965		** <i>Music Man</i> is held over another week **						07-08-65 DR 07-09-65 DR 07-10-65 DR 07-11-65 DR 07-13-65 DR 07-14-65 DR
Tues-Sat	July 20-24	1965		<i>The Drunkard</i>	American Theatre Festival	Melodrama, adapted musically by Walter Stump		Walter Stump, director; Thurman Douglass & Guy Frizzell, musical directors;	Philip Goble, William Walsh, Robert Sphatt, William Dowton, Milton	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 07-09-65 DR 07-16-65 DR 07-19-65 DR 07-20-65 DR 07-21-65 DR 07-22-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

								William Kreutzberg , costumes	Bailey, Larry Life, Glenn Crane, Charles Hutchins, Guy Frizzell, Ann Breniser, Fay Command, Laura Seager, Charlotte Button, Brenda Davis, Margaret Foley, Thurman Douglass	
Tues-Sat	July 27-30	1965		<i>The Happy Time</i>	American Theatre Festival	Play: Comedy		Glenn Crane	Craig Davidson (local), Larry Life, Kenneth Kohn, Robert Sphatt, William Walsh, Fay Command	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 07-23-65 DR 07-24-65 DR 07-26-65 DR 07-27-65 DR 07-28-65 DR 07-29-65 DR
Tues-Sat	Aug 3-7	1965		<i>My Fair Lady</i>	American Theatre Festival			Walter Stump	Ann Breniser, Glenn	04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR 07-30-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

									Crane, William Walsh, Phillip Goble	07-31-65 DR 08-02-65 DR 08-03-65 DR 08-04-65 DR 08-05-65 DR	
Thurs	Aug 5	1965		Tibbits Board Meeting (?)							08-03-65 DR
Mon-Sat	Aug 9-14	1965		** <i>My Fair Lady</i> is held over another week **							08-09-65 DR 08-10-65 DR 08-13-65 DR
Tues	Aug 10	1965		Tibbits Foundation Board Meeting: Patterson, Davidson and Heikkinen visited U of M to conference regarding financial aid from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. They were advised to expand the Tibbits programming into all types of art and once that is in effect, they would work with Tibbits in creating a proposal. Congress is also presently reviewing a bill which might offer additional financial help. Larry Carrico has officially been hired as Theatre Manager, to start Sept 1 at a salary of \$300 per month for 10 months. He has also signed a contract to teach at Lakeland School, so will divide his time between the two. Negotiation with Transamerica Leasing Corp. has led to a modified agreement (at which point delinquent back balance is \$16,000). The Foundation can pay \$8,000 to become current, and then no additional interest will accrue as long as TLC is paid \$1089 per month.							08-06-65 DR 08-10-65 TA
Tues-Sat	Aug 10-14	1965		<i>Sunday in New York</i> (originally scheduled, cancelled since <i>My Fair Lady</i> is held over)	American Theatre Festival					04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR	
Thurs	Aug 12	1965		Tibbits Executive Board Meeting							08-06-65 DR
Tues-Sat	Aug 17-21	1965		<i>On Borrowed Time</i> (originally scheduled, but changed to <i>Mary, Mary?</i>)	American Theatre Festival					04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR	
Tues-Sat	Aug 17-21	1965		<i>Mary, Mary</i>	American Theatre Festival	Adult comedy		William Walsh	Joel and Virginia Marsh, Larry Life, Phillip	07-09-65 DR 08-10-65 DR 08-11-65 DR 08-12-65 DR 08-13-65 DR 08-16-65 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

									Goble, Laura Seager	08-17-65 DR 08-18-65 DR 08-19-65 DR 08-20-65 DR	
Tues-Sat	Aug 24-28	1965		<i>Oklahoma</i>	American Theatre Festival	Musical		Walter Stump, musical director Thurman Douglas, choreographer Larry Life	Ann Breniser, Milton Bailey, Larry Life, Charlotte Button, William Walsh, Phil Goble, Lee Treat, Glenn Crane, Sally Carrico.	04-08-65 DR 08-17-65 DR 08-21-65 DR 08-23-65 DR 08-24-65 DR 08-25-65 DR 08-26-65 DR 08-27-65 DR	
Thurs	Aug 26	1965		Tibbits Executive Board Meeting							08-24-65 DR
Mon	Aug 30	1965		American Theatre Festival presents awards to two young Coldwater people for helping the company the past two summers. Brad Green receives the Outstanding Apprentice of the Year award; Charlotte Button, actress, received the other award.							08-30-65 DR
Tues-Sat	Aug 31-Sept 4	1965		<i>The Moon is Blue</i> (originally scheduled, cancelled since <i>Oklahoma</i> is held over)	American Theatre Festival					04-08-65 DR 06-10-65 DR	
Tues-Sat	Aug 31-Sept 4	1965		* <i>Oklahoma</i> is held over for a second week*							08-31-65 DR 09-01-65 DR 09-04-65 DR 09-07-65 DR
Fri	Sept 10	1965		Larry Carrico is hired to teach English at Lakeland School.							09-10-65 DR
Sun	Sept 12	1965	free	<i>Music! Magic! And Mirth!</i>		Magic & Comedy show			Monk Watson	09-10-65 DR 09-11-65 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										09-13-65 DR
Tues	Sept 21	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Total attendance of summer stock was 14,137 with gross box office sales at \$30,865. Mrs. Bernahl has denied the Foundation's offer to settle and has threatened to sue. The board decides to hold the matter of Bernahl's claim in abeyance. New rental fees are created based on revenue of the program.						09-17-65 DR 09-21-65 TA
Sat	Sept 23	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting						09-17-65 DR
Thurs	Sept 30	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting						09-29-65 DR
Tues	Oct 5	1965	Reserved \$3.75, General admission \$2.50		Wayne King & his Orchestra	Concert			Wayne King	09-16-65 DR 09-21-65 DR 09-22-65 DR 09-24-65 DR 09-27-65 DR 09-28-65 DR 10-01-65 DR 10-06-65 DR
Sat	Oct 9	1965	\$5 adults, \$3 students	<i>Byways of Britain</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-06-65 DR 10-08-65 DR
Tues	Oct 12	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Profit from the Wayne King performance is \$967.78. Sales tax exemption is sought. Community Concert Board feels that the new rental fees are too high, but taking into account the cost of operation, the facilities, etc., it is an appropriate fee.						10-07-65 DR 10-12-65 TA
Thurs	Oct 21			Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting						10-18-65 DR
Wed	Oct 27	1965		Tibbits Executive Committee Meeting						10-27-65 DR
Sat	Oct 30	1965		<i>Two Go Dancing</i>		Ballet/ Classical dance concert	Branch County Community Concert Association			10-04-65 DR
Sat	Nov 6	1965	Adults \$1, kids 75 cents	<i>Pinocchio</i>	Reed Marionettes	Puppet show			Edith and Robin Reed	10-22-65 DR 10-28-65 DR 10-29-65 DR 11-01-65 DR 11-02-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										11-04-65 DR 11-06-65 DR 11-08-65 DR
Mon	Nov 8	1965			Michael Church, University of Michigan College of Architecture & Design	Lecture-Art				
Tues	Nov 9	1965		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Michael Church of the University Extension Service of Fine Arts of the State of MI is interested and willing to help the newly appointed Arts Council. Carrico reports that it was necessary to have three performances for <i>Pinocchio</i> , and that profit for the show was \$434.84.						11-05-65 DR 11-09-65 TA
Thurs	Nov 11	1965		Tibbits Executive Committee Meeting						11-10-65 DR
Fri	Nov 12	1965		Tibbits Meeting						11-10-65 DR
Thurs	Nov 18	1965		Tibbits Executive Meeting						11-16-65 DR
Thurs - Fri	Nov 18-19	1965		<i>Noah</i>		Play	Coldwater High School senior class	Phyllis Coscarelly, student director Carolyn Gillespie		11-12-65 DR 11-15-65 DR 11-18-65 DR 11-19-65 DR
Sat	Nov 20	1965				Concert - Piano	Branch County Community Concert Association		Richard Cass	10-29-65 DR 11-15-65 DR 11-22-65 DR
Sun	Nov 28	1965	Reserved \$3.75, General Admission \$2.50		Womenfolk	Folk singers/ recording artists	Tibbits Opera Foundation and Arts Council		Jean Amos, Leni Ashmore, Barbara Cooper, Judy Fine, Joyce James	10-28-65 DR 11-10-65 DR 11-17-65 DR 11-20-65 DR 11-23-65 DR 11-24-65 DR 11-26-65 DR 11-27-65 DR 11-29-65 DR
Sat-	Dec 4-5	1965	Adults	<i>Sing Americana</i>		Musical Review	Sweet			10-13-65 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Sun			\$1.50, children 75 cents					Adelines		11-12-65 DR 11-19-65 DR 11-29-65 DR 11-30-65 DR 12-01-65 DR 12-02-65 DR 12-03-65 DR 12-04-65 DR 12-06-65 DR
Wed	Dec 15	1965		Tibbits Fine Arts Committee Meeting						12-14-65 DR
Thurs	Dec 16	1965		<i>Mr. Crane</i>		Musical comedy	Quincy High School	Brent Veysey		12-13-65 DR 12-16-65 DR
Sat	Dec 18	1965	Adults \$1.25, kids 74 cents	<i>Hansel & Gretel</i>	Piccolo Opera Company of Detroit	Children's Theatre / Musical fairy tale		Evelyn Orbach		12-07-65 DR 12-08-65 DR 12-10-65 DR 12-13-65 DR 12-14-65 DR 12-17-65 DR 12-20-65 DR
Sat	Dec 18	1965		Tibbits Opera Foundation Patrons Cocktail Party: Financial status reviewed; board is looking into possibility of getting federal monies.						12-17-65 DR 12-20-65 DR
Thurs	Dec 30	1965		Tibbits Executive Committee Meeting						12-29-65 DR
	Jan 11	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Review of previous year's bookings. Most bookings made money, but Womenfolk lost money. Carrico reports a proposal is being prepared to submit for federal assistance to get a new front of the building, finish the basement according to plans, lounge, new seats and carpeting, work backstage for electrical systems, etc. ATF decides not to operate summer stock, so the board appoints Carrico to operate the theatre for the summer instead. He has chosen several large musicals since they have proven to be most popular. Proposed salary for Carrico is \$150/week with a percentage of profits at the end of the season.						01-11-66 TA
Sat	Jan 15	1966				Pop Organ Concert			Eddie Osborn	12-20-65 DR
Sat	Jan 22	1966	\$5 adults, \$3 students	<i>Inner Space</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-06-65 DR 01-15-66 DR 01-20-66 DR

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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										
Wed	Jan 26	1966				Concert - Musical Arts Trio	Branch County Community Concert Association		Joseph Wolman, piano; John Wummer, flute; David Sackson, violin-viola	01-15-66 DR 01-21-66 DR 01-27-66 DR
Wed	Jan 26	1966		Meeting is held to discuss Tibbits to be organized as an Arts Council as well in order to avoid overlapping of events and dates, to coordinate use of the opera house, and to publish a brochure on the local arts groups in the community.						01-26-66 DR
Sat	Feb 5	1966	Adult \$1.50, student \$1	<i>Hamlet</i>	Michigan State University's Performing Arts Co.	Play		Frank Rutledge	Roger Long, Roger Cornish, Ann Matesich, Terry S. Williams, Bill Stock	01-15-66 DR 01-17-66 DR 01-26-66 DR 01-31-66 DR 02-02-66 DR 02-07-66 DR
Wed	Feb 9	1966			Norman Luboff Choir	Concert	Branch County Community Concert Association			10-04-65 DR
Sat	Feb 19	1966	\$5 adults, \$3 students	<i>America</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-06-65 DR 02-17-66 DR
Mon	Feb 28	1966		<i>Varsity Vagabonds</i>	Western Michigan University	Vocal-instrumental program		Dr. Elwyn Carter		02-16-66 DR 02-17-66 DR 02-25-66 DR
Thurs	March 3	1966		Tibbits asks for donations of clothing and accessories to build the costume shop.						03-03-66 DR
	March	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Officers for the year are Roy Patterson, president; Duane Davidson,						03-08-66 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

	8			VP; Rae Kleindist, recording secretary; Dorothy Aitchison, corresponding secretary; Charles Bristol, treasurer. Arts Council has had a number of meetings and has elected officers. Carrico reports that summer people have been hired, budget is similar to last year, and that program ads have been sold with 95% participation. Rotary club donates an arc spotlight valued at \$1200 in exchange for theatre rental.						
Wed	March 9	1966		<i>Camille and The Merry Widow</i>	Ruth Page's Chicago Opera Ballet	Ballet	Branch County Community Concert Association		Josette Amiel, Orrin Kayan, Patricia Kiekovic, Kenneth Johnson	05-11-65 DR 05-21-65 DR 03-07-66 DR 03-08-66 DR 03-10-66 DR
Thurs	March 10	1966				Piano Concert	Branch County Community Concert Association		Jean Paul Seville	10-04-65 DR
Thurs -Fri	March 17-18	1966		<i>Our Town</i>		Play	Coldwater High School junior class	Larry Carrico, Linda Bennett		03-03-66 DR 03-14-66 DR 03-16-66 DR 03-17-66 DR 03-18-66 DR
Sat	March 26	1966		Spring Fashionata *to benefit the Hospital Auxiliary		Fashion Show				03-17-66 DR 03-18-66 DR 03-19-66 DR 03-21-66 DR 03-22-66 DR 03-23-66 DR 03-24-66 DR 03-25-66 DR 03-28-66 DR
Sun	April 3	1966	\$3.50- \$2	Dukes of Dixieland (originally scheduled for March 20, moved		Dixieland jazz band			Frank Assunto, Fred Assunto,	02-17-66 DR 02-19-66 DR 03-08-66 DR 03-10-66 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				to April 3)					Papa Jac Assunto, Jerry Fuller, Gene Schroeder, Red Brown, Barrett Deems	03-25-66 DR 03-26-66 DR 03-28-66 DR 03-30-66 DR 03-31-66 DR 04-01-66 DR 04-02-66 DR 04-04-66 DR	
Tues	April 12	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Arts Council organization is planning to have an exhibit at the fair this year. Carrico says summer shows will start June 29, tickets will go on sale soon, and that season tickets will be \$13.75 and \$15.							04-12-66 TA
Thurs-Sat	April 14-16	1966	Thurs \$1, Fri & Sat \$1.50	<i>Fabulous Forties</i>		Variety Show	Rotary			03-30-66 DR 04-11-66 DR 04-12-66 DR 04-13-66 DR 04-14-66 DR 04-15-65 DR	
Fri-Sat	April 22-23	1966		<i>It's A Great Life</i>		Play	St. Charles School senior class	Paula Weller		04-18-66 DR 04-19-66 DR 04-20-66 DR 04-21-66 DR 04-25-66 DR	
Sun	April 24	1966		Auditions for Miss Branch County Pageant							04-19-66 DR
Thurs-Fri	April 28-29	1966				Variety Show	Coldwater High School			04-26-66 DR 04-27-66 DR 04-28-66 DR 04-29-66 DR	
Sat	April 30	1966	\$5 adults, \$3 students	<i>Yucatan Trails</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-06-65 DR 04-26-66 DR	
Tues	May 3	1966				Choir concert	Coldwater High School	Arvid Berg		04-26-66 DR 05-02-66 DR	

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

										05-03-66 DR 05-04-66 DR
Thurs	May 5	1966		Tibbits Executive Board Meeting						05-04-66 DR
Sat	May 7	1966				Piano Concert			Dzidra Bonfiglio	04-26-66 DR 05-03-66 DR 05-05-66 DR 05-06-66 DR 05-09-66 DR
Tues	May 10	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Carrico changes season ticket prices to \$13 and \$15 instead of previous cost. Suggestion to publicize what school activities have been held in the theatre to show how much it's being used by schools. Royalties for all summer shows have been reduced. A refreshment stand in the alley south of the theatre is being planned. Estimate for 50 feet of concrete in the alley is \$250.						05-10-66 TA
Fri	May 13	1966	Adults \$1.50, students 75 cents		Virginia Symphony Orchestra	Concert		William Penny Hacker		04-26-66 DR 05-09-66 DR 05-10-66 DR 05-11-66 DR 05-12-66 DR 05-13-66 DR 05-16-66 DR
Sat	May 21	1966	Adults 50 cents, children 25 cents	<i>Sleeping Beauty</i>		Children's Play	Coldwater High School	Phyllis Coscarelly		05-06-66 DR 05-17-66 DR 05-18-66 DR 05-20-66 DR
Mon	May 23	1966		Season tickets go on sale for the Tibbits Summer Theatre (TST) season.						05-23-66 DR
Sat	June 4	1966		General Cable of Quincy donates \$1500 worth of cable and wire for house and stage wiring. \$700 is still needed to complete the project. Deadline of June 18 is set.						06-04-66 DR
Mon	June 13	1966		TST requests single rooms and apartments to house company members. Also searching for a sewing machine.						06-13-66 DR
Tues	June 14	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Carrico reports that all members of summer stock have been arrived and are hiring. Howard Teeter negotiates with John DeNoyer for use of the garage building on South Monroe St. as a workshop, Meier and Teeter are arranging to have the alley paved for the refreshment area, Wolf's Floor Covering of Coldwater donates new beige carpeting to the Tibbits as well as the labor to install it, Kiwanis Club has repaired seats in the theatre, and General Cable Co. of Quincy is donating wiring, which Bob Sweet and his crew are installing (cost to the Foundation will probably be less than \$800). Bryan reports work on the gutters along the side of the building because there has been a problem with rain running down the side of the building. President						06-14-66 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

				Patterson reports that the Executive Committee will no longer meet weekly; instead, they will meet monthly.						
Sat	June 18	1966		Carrico hosts a reception at his home for Board Members and the cast for the summer shows.						06-14-66 TA
Thurs	June 23	1966		TST Musical director Harold Themmen puts out a call for local musicians.						06-23-66 DR
Wed	June 29	1966		Local merchants give away tickets for Tibbits to 180 people (originally reported that it was season tickets, but it was just for individual performances).						06-29-66 DR 06-30-66 DR
	June-Sept	1966		Summer Stock- Larry Carrico will be general manager (production, hiring, box office, publicity/PR) as well as lighting. Jeffery K. Neill will choreograph, H. Kelly English will be the set designer. Mathew John Hoffman III, costume designer. Mitch Kessler, stage manager. Harold Themmen, musical director. Prices for the season are reduced because the Foundation is behind the season/ no ATF costs present this year. Ticket prices: Parquet \$3.25, parquet circle \$2.75, balcony \$2.25. Season Tickets \$13-\$15.						02-09-66 DR 02-16-66 DR 05-06-66 DR 05-23-66 DR 06-14-66 DR 06-23-66 DR
Wed-Sat	June 29-30, July 1-2, July 6-9	1966	\$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.25	<i>South Pacific</i>		Musical	Tibbits Summer Theatre	Jay Warren Byer	Al Zolton, Lucille Frisa, John Whiting, Barbara Link, Robert McClaren, Marcie Guthrie, Larry Carrico	05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR 06-24-66 DR 06-27-66 DR 06-28-66 DR 06-29-66 DR 06-30-66 DR 07-02-66 DR 07-06-66 DR 07-09-66 DR
Wed	July 6	1966		<i>Rumplestiltskin</i> (4 children's shows originally planned for the summer-this is the only one actually produced)	Stevens Puppets	Children's/ Puppet Show	Tibbits Summer Theatre			05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR 07-05-66 DR
Thurs	July 7	1966		TST asks for local women to assist with the sewing of costumes for <i>Show Boat</i> since it requires construction of over 100.						07-07-66 DR
Tues	July 12	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Lights are now needed in the alley where the concession stand is to be placed. Discussion on employing someone for concessions.						07-12-66 TA
Wed-Sat	July 13-	1966	\$2.25,	<i>Show Boat</i>		Musical	Tibbits Summer	Jay Warren	John Dietz, Charlotte	05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

	16, 20-23		\$2.75, \$3.25				Theatre	Byer	Button, Jefery Neill, Al Zolton, Robert McClaren, Barbara Link, Beryldene Powell	07-07-66 DR 07-11-66 DR 07-12-66 DR 07-13-66 DR 07-14-66 DR 07-20-66 DR
Fri	July 22	1966		Wayne Feller of Coldwater's Music Mart donates Baldwin Style D Concert Grand Piano.						07-22-66 TA
Wed-Sat	July 27-30, Aug 3-6	1966	\$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.25	<i>The Sound of Music</i>		Musical	Tibbits Summer Theatre	Albert Zolton	Barbara Link, John Whiting, Robert McClaren, Beryldene Powell, many locals	05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR 07-21-66 DR 07-22-66 DR 07-25-66 DR 07-26-66 DR 07-27-66 DR 07-28-66 DR 07-29-66 DR 08-03-66 DR 08-04-66 DR
Mon	Aug 1	1966		Costume designer Mathew Hoffman III asks Coldwater women for help sewing the <i>Student Prince</i> costumes. The plan is to build/create all of them from scratch in order to build up the costume collection at Tibbits.						08-01-66 DR
Sat	Aug 6	1966		President Patterson sends letter to Wayne Feller/ Music Mart of Coldwater thanking him for the donation of a Baldwin Style D Concert Grand Piano, with an understanding that if the Foundation goes defunct, the piano will revert to ownership by Mr. Feller or his heirs. TST looking for large hairy dog to use in <i>Camelot</i>						08-06-66 DR
Tues	Aug 9	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Dental Association donates \$126.45. Foundation now has the legal title to the Baldwin piano from Mr. & Mrs. Feller. Carrico reports summer stock is going well as far as attendance and actors' happiness is concerned. Treasurer Bristol reports that they are slightly over budget in some areas but sets and costumes have been very good and will be property of Tibbits. Royalties have all been paid. The Board offers Larry Carrico a full-time job starting Sept 1966 at \$650/month plus bonuses for 9 months, and 3 months of summer stock pay to be handled separately. Executive Committee to meet every two weeks now.						08-09-66 TA
Wed-Sat	Aug 10-13,	1966	\$2.25, \$2.75,	<i>The Student Prince</i>		Musical	Tibbits Summer	Albert Zolton	Ed Kingins, Beryldene	05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

	17-20		\$3.25				Theatre		Powell, John Whiting, Mike Kinter, Milt Bailey, Robert McClaren, Brad Gren, Larry Carrico, Marcia Guthrie, Raymond Sharp	08-05-66 DR 08-08-66 DR 08-09-66 DR 08-10-66 DR 08-11-66 DR 08-12-66 DR 08-13-66 DR 08-17-66 DR 08-18-66 DR
Wed-Sat	Aug 24-27, 31, Sept 1-3	1966	\$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.25	<i>Camelot</i>		Musical	Tibbits Summer Theatre	Jay Warren Byer	Edward Kingins, Al Zolton, Jeffery Neill, Beryldene Powell, Robert McClaren	05-06-66 DR 06-23-66 DR 08-18-66 DR 08-19-66 DR 08-22-66 DR 08-23-66 DR 08-24-66 DR 08-25-66 DR 08-26-66 DR 08-31-66 DR 09-01-66 DR 09-02-66 DR 09-07-66 DR
Sun	Aug 28	1966		Farewell party given for TST's company by the Tibbits Foundation Board of Directors.						08-29-66 DR 08-09-66 TA
Tues	Sept 13	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Jerry Fair reports that the estimate of a new front to the theatre is close to \$25,000. Carrico reports that the total summer attendance was 15,842 with a net profit of \$700, along with a good inventory of scenery, costumes and tools. Carrico is officially hired on a full-time basis.						09-13-66 TA
Tues	Oct 11	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Financial review, need for new memberships, Community Concert Association discussion. Proposal of grant coming along.						10-11-66 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

Sat	Oct 22	1966		<i>Windjammer to Australia</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-11-66 DR 10-21-66 DR
Wed	Nov 2	1966				Cooking School	Coldwater Daily Reporter			10-21-66 DR 11-03-66 DR
Tues	Nov 8	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Carrico and Fair (originally reported as Heikkinen) report back on Washington DC trip, at which time they presented a proposal for a financial grant. Board decides to offer summer theatre again next year. Carrico reports work being done in the dressing rooms such as mirrors, painting, lights and new flooring, which has been donated. Contract is now in progress for Ray Ford/Country and Western music, who wants to use the theatre Sat nights when available. Rental is \$50 minimum per night.						11-08-66 TA 12-13-66 TA
Thurs -Fri	Nov 10-11	1966		<i>The Tavern</i>		Play	Coldwater High School senior class	Larry Carrico		10-21-66 DR 11-07-66 DR 11-08-66 DR 11-10-66 DR 11-11-66 DR
Fri	Nov 18	1966			The Don Shirley Trio	Concert	Branch County Community Concert Association		Don Shirley, pianist	10-21-66 DR 11-10-66 DR
Tues	Nov 22	1966	\$5.50, \$4.50	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Goldovsky Grand Opera Theater		Tibbits Opera Foundation	Director Boris Goldovsky, conductor Edward Alley	Alexander Gray, Enzo Citarelli, J. B. Davis, Teresa Orantes, Rosemary Rosales, Franco Iglesias, Robert Hale	10-21-66 DR 10-26-66 DR 11-08-66 DR 11-10-66 DR 11-12-66 DR 11-15-66 DR 11-16-66 DR 11-17-66 DR 11-18-66 DR 11-21-66 DR 11-23-66 DR
Sat	Nov 26	1966		<i>The Pacific Northwest</i>		Travelogue	Kiwanis			10-21-66 DR 11-25-66 DR
Sat	Dec 3	1966	Adults		Ray Ford Country &	Concert			Ray Ford,	12-01-66 DR

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED										

			\$1.50, children 50 cents		Western Music Show				Law Brothers, Wayne Roberts, Jerry Howard and Big Tiny Tim	12-02-66 DR 12-09-66 DR
Thurs	Dec 8	1966				"Stag Night" - Tommy Watkins of the Detroit Lions will speak and show films of Lions games, door prizes, free cigarettes	Coldwater Chamber of Commerce			12-01-66 DR 12-08-66 DR 12-09-66 DR
Sat	Dec 10	1966	Adults \$1.50, children 50 cents		Ray Ford Country & Western Music Show	Concert			Ray Ford, Jim Pipkins, Tal Timber Boys, Wayne Smith & the Wheels, Tiny Ross, The Highland Ramblers	12-01-66 DR 12-02-66 DR 12-09-66 DR
Sat	Dec 10	1966		<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Reed Marionettes	Puppet Show			Robin & Edith Reed	10-26-66 DR 12-01-66 DR 12-05-66 DR 12-06-66 DR 12-07-66 DR 12-10-66 DR 12-12-66 DR
Tues	Dec 13	1966		Tibbits Theatre Foundation Board Meeting: Heikkinen reports that proposal for funds is being prepared for submission on Jan 15, 1967. Carrico reports a profit of \$328 for the Reed Marionette show and a loss on Rigoletto. Board stresses the need for new membership. Carrico proposes that the room on the north side of the lobby be						12-13-66 TA

Day	Date	Year	Ticket price	Name of show/ lecture topic	Company name	Type of event	Sponsored by	Director	Performers	Source
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OR RENOVATION MEETING/EVENT & PERSONS INVOLVED

				torn out and a display case for art exhibits and old theatre programs could be exhibited at estimated cost of \$300. Board approves a trip to NYC for Carrico in regards to summer shows. Letter from Department of Labor received re: Barbara Bernahl's claim of \$737.50. Letter from attorney Arthur G. Lyon approved to be sent in reply.						
Sat	Dec 17	1966	Adults \$1.50, children 50 cents		Ray Ford Country & Western Music Show	Concert			Ray Ford, Law Brothers, Wayne Roberts, Jerry Howard and Big Tiny Tim	12-01-66 DR 12-02-66 DR 12-09-66 DR
Mon	Dec 19	1966			Duke Ellington Orchestra (never happened? No publicity of any sort)					09-30-66 TA

{ Advertisements, Photos, & Documents 1958-1966 }

{ 1958 }



Exterior: Tibbits Art Deco Facade, Movie Days.



Interior: Tibbits, Movie Days.

June 9, 1958

Gentlemen:

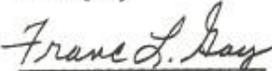
The Tibbits Theatre Committee is making a survey as to the various uses to which the Tibbits Theatre building could be used if it were to be purchased and rejuvenated as a Community Building. Remembering that it is an auditorium seating 650 people, with good heating, air-conditioning, lighting, and perfect acoustics, would you please answer the following inquiries:

1. Does your company have conventions, and/or conferences calling for the use of such a building?
2. Would your company be interested in holding such meetings in Coldwater if the Tibbits were available?
3. What rental would you consider commensurate with the facilities available?
4. If you have no use of this building, and as far as you can foresee, no future use, what is your opinion as to the advisability of purchasing this building for use as a Community Center for Coldwater? (Price, etc., being judged as right by the purchasing committee which is composed of Lester Wise, Bud Stoughton, and Charles Woodward).

The above information is vitally important in order to obtain an overall picture of the potential income which might be derived from these sources. The figure would give the finance committee something definite to work on in relation to the maintenance costs of the building.

A self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed for your convenience. We will ask that you have the answer to this letter in the mail by July 3rd.

Thank you,


Franc Gay, Chairman

{ 1959 }

**COLDWATER
ROTARY
CLUB**

**PRESENTS
FOURTH ANNUAL**

MINSTREL SHOW
THURSDAY - FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
March 12th - 13th - 14th

TIBBETS THEATRE

Hear the Rotary Chorus
See Famous End Men

**DONATION
ONE DOLLAR**
Tickets from any
Rotarian or at Door

**3
NITES
THUR.-FRI.-SAT.**

Minstrel Ad. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 7 1959 p3.

COLDWATER ROTARY CLUB

Presents Their Fourth Annual

MINSTREL SHOW

THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY, MARCH 12th - 13th - 14th

TIBBETS THEATRE—8:15 P.M.

Admission \$1.00

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT DOOR
AFTER 8:10 P.M.**

Minstrel Ad. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 13 1959 p2.

ROTARY MINSTRELS IN FINAL REHEARSAL



THIS WAS THE scene at Tibbits theater Wednesday night when Coldwater Rotarians held a dress rehearsal of the minstrel show they are scheduled to present tonight, Friday and Saturday nights. Advance ticket sales indicate that this year's production will draw capacity audiences for each of the three performances. Curtain time is 8:15 each night.

Minstrel Show. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 12 1959.

FRIDAY THE 13th—WHO'S AFRAID?



THESE TWO end men with the 1959 Rotary Minstrel Show aren't worrying about a thing. They've just learned that tonight's second performance is nearing sell-out status. Who are they?

We'll give you a hint. One sings "Wonderful Time" and the other I'm Sitting On Top of the World." Curtain rises at 8:15 tonight and tomorrow night at Tibbits theater.

Minstrel Show. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 13 1959 p2.



COLDWATER'S fourth annual Rotary Club Minstrel Show drew a near capacity audience to Tibbits theater Thursday night for the first of three performances. The end men and chorus are

shown as they completed their opening medley composed of snatches from hit tunes of the 1958 show. (Daily Reporter photo)

Minstrel Show. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 13 1959.

BACK TO THE 90's



HARMONIZING before a seaside setting to "By the Sea," a trio of Coldwater girls, Paisy Feller, Kay Seaman and Dorothy Carlisle, (l to r) in "gay nineties" costume rehearse their act for the "Gay Nineties Revue" being presented at 8:30 tonight at Tibbits theatre. The three-act variety show, produced by the Sturges-Young Players in co-operation with the Coldwater Players, will feature entertainment from both Coldwater and Sturgis.

Gay Nineties Revue. 1959. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, May 15 1959 p10.

COLDWATER PLAYERS - DECLARATION

October 1959

1. To promote interest and encourage participation in all phases of Little Theatre work, and provide this community with opportunities for the advancement of dramatics on an amateur basis.
2. The Coldwater Players are a non-profit corporation and that articles of incorporation are on file with the Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission for the State of Michigan.
3. It is the intention of the Coldwater Players to purchase the Tibbit's Theatre or such other building as is necessary for the establishment of a permanent home to further its aims as outlined in Paragraph 1.
4. To further these aims Sponsors are sought from Industries and Businesses in Branch County and an acknowledgement of their sponsorship is to be made at every public performance throughout their subscription year.
5. Clubs, such as the Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Sororities and the like, are solicited as Sponsors and in return receive tickets for public performances commensurate with the size of their subscription and an acknowledgement of these groups to be made at every public performance during their subscription year.

Such Clubs may use the Theatre for private or public performances during their subscription year by arrangement with the Directors of the Coldwater Players providing no films are shown at public performances to which there is paid admission.
6. Individuals are invited as Patrons to the Coldwater Players and in return reserved seats will be available to them at public performances of the Coldwater Players productions during their subscription year.
7. A minimum of 50% of the income derived from the foregoing to be set aside by the Board of Trustees for the "Building Fund" or as heretofore stated, a permanent home for Coldwater Little Theatre.
8. The Coldwater Players are to do everything in their power to enlarge their membership for the purpose of establishing Coldwater Little Theatre as the largest and most progressive group of its kind in Michigan, and current expenses are to be met first from its members subscriptions, secondly from income received from public performances and thirdly from the remaining 50% of the Sponsors and Patrons subscriptions as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees.
9. The subscription year to be from the initial date of such subscription through the ensuing twelve months.

Coldwater Players Declaration. 1959. Tibbits property file, Coldwater Assessor's Office. Oct 1959.

COLDWATER PLAYERS - DECLARATION

October 1959

10. Directors, Board of Trustees and other Officers will be elected annually within the framework of the Coldwater Players Constitution and adequate public notice shall be made of such Annual General Meeting.
11. Excluding The Coldwater Players, not more than two persons would be eligible to serve on the Board of Trustees at any one time representing any one specific Industry, Business, Community Group or Organization.
12. The Board of Trustees shall consist of the Directors of The Coldwater Players, namely, the President, Vice President, Business Manager, retiring President, six elected members and one alternate. Six of the above shall constitute a quorum.
13. The following constitutes the present Directors and Board of Trustees:

President - Miss Jean Rude
Community Health Center

Vice President - Mr. Cliff Huett
L. A. Darling Company

Business Manager - Mr. Harold Stoughton
"Mac's" Pharmacy

Mayor Arthur G. Lyon - Attorney
Mr. Charles Kingsley - Attorney
Mr. Charles Hill - Manager, Coldwater Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Dale Dean - Realtor
Mr. J. H. Shuttleworth - G. C. Murphy Co.
Miss Joyce Walker - W.T.V.B. Radio
Mr. Richard Dirscholl - Interior Decorator
Miss Phyllis Coscarelli - Coldwater High School

Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to -

The Coldwater Players, and marked Sponsor or Patron
and deposited with any of the above mentioned Board of Trustees.

Coldwater Players Declaration. 1959. Tibbits property file, Coldwater Assessor's Office. Oct 1959.

{ 1961 }

BOOST FOR THEATER PROJECT



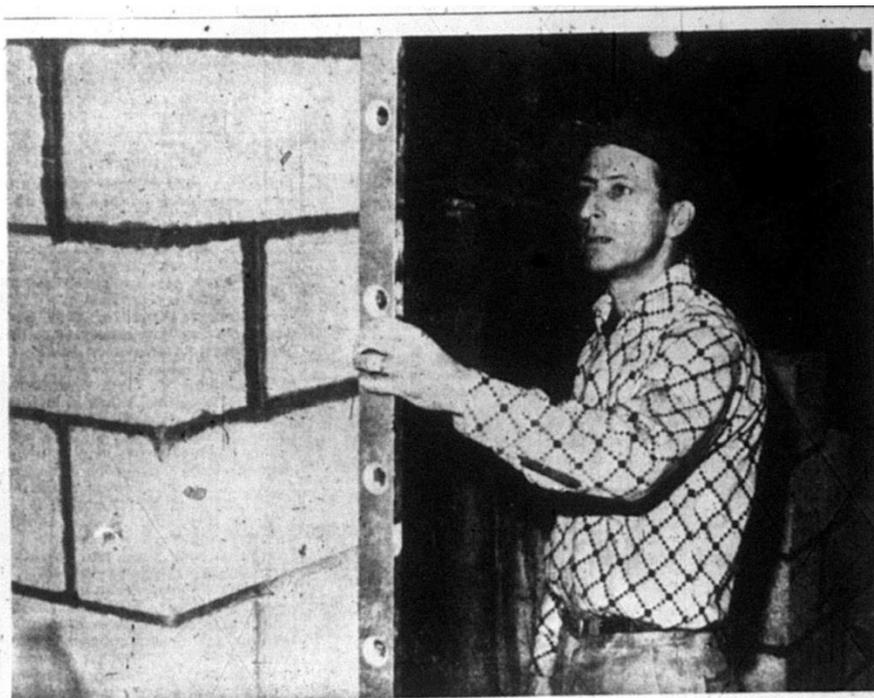
MANY PERSONS are helping in the current drive to repair and improve Tibbits theater. Saturday, ten members of the Coldwater Key club (Kiwanis high school organization) carried cement blocks into the theater basement where they will be used to enclose the heating plant. The blocks were donated to the project by the Coldwater Cement Block company. (Daily Reporter photo)

Coldwater Key Club. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 23 1961.



IT WAS COLD in Tibbits theater when this photo was snapped yesterday—but not for long. With the cooperation of several groups, including the Fire department, Board of Public Utilities, Yearling Repair Service, and Woodward Building Materials, the theater's recently repaired heating plant was turned on. With the building now heated, it will be possible to go ahead with other repairs and improvements designed to place the historic theater back into use. (Daily Reporter photo)

Key Club. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 23 1961.



MANY HANDS are helping with the rejuvenation of historic Tibbits theater. Karl Staley, local mason and carpenter, places a level on a wall of the concrete block furnace room being constructed in the basement. Russell Belt and Stanley Cuthbert have also been helping with this portion of the work—all three donating their time and skill in the current campaign to restore the theater building for community use. (Daily Reporter photo)

Karl Staley. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 11 1961.

LIONS CLEAN UP TIBBITS



MEMBERS OF THE Coldwater Lions club went to work Tuesday afternoon and held a general clean-up, fore and aft, at the Tibbits Theatre. The club members plan to paint the theatre's marquee. Shown here (are) from left to right, Stan Borden, Robert Nichols, Lloyd Hill, Kenneth Troutman and Tom White. (Daily Reporter photo)

Lions Clean Up Tibbits. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 16 1961.



SEVERAL MEMBERS of the Coldwater Exchange club are shown here as they hold a "scrub all" on the main floor at the Tibbits Theatre last night. In two weeks members plan to return and paint the back of the seats. Shown here from left to right are, Bill Wilson, Austin Barnes, Lawrence Lucas, Pat Kelly, Dick Conrad, Bill Hodgeman, Russel Severn, and Albert High. During the regular meeting in the afternoon the club heard a review of the highlights of the Centennial celebration. (Daily Reporter photo)

Coldwater Exchange Club Scrub All. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 17 1961.



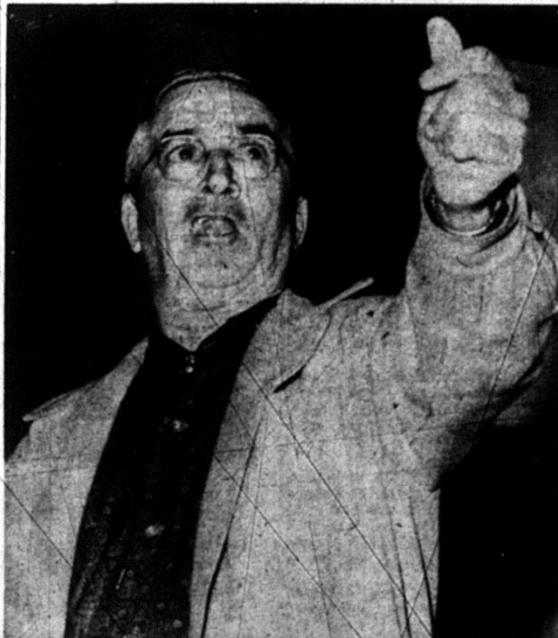
TWO MORE Coldwater service clubs pitched in on the cleanup and improvement to the old Tibbits theater building Wednesday. In the above photo are handkerchiefed Rotary club members as they gave some of the backstage rooms a paint job, and in the lower picture is Kiwanian Robert Rhoades using a big vacuum in his club's cleanup of the balcony area. The handkerchiefs worn by the Rotarians were not so much to filter the paint particles as they were to prevent identification of the workers behind them. Members are fined when their pictures are published in a newspaper, with money going to the club fund. (Daily Reporter photos)

NOW LET'S DO IT THIS WAY, FELLAS



EDWARD HOLTZ, who is again directing the Rotary Club minstrel show, tells club members how he wants a medley sung during a chorus rehearsal held Monday night at Masonic temple. Tickets for the production, which is to be presented the evenings of April 27-28-29 at Tibbits theater, can now be purchased from any club member. (Daily Reporter photo)

MR. MINSTREL HIMSELF



CARL VINTON, an end man in every Rotary Minstrel show staged here, will be in blackface again this Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights as Coldwater Rotary presents its fifth minstrel show at Tibbits theater. A favorite in past productions, Carl this year is doing a medley of his hit numbers from previous shows. (Daily Reporter photo)

Now Let's Do it This Way Fellas. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 26 1961.

Mr. Minstrel Himself. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 26 1961.

READY FOR DEBUT TONIGHT



THE ROTARY SPOKES-MEN are shown rehearsing a number they will sing in the 1961 Rotary Minstrel show, which opens a three-night stand at 8:15 o'clock tonight at Tibbits theater. The members of this quartet, who will be remembered as end men in previous shows, are (l to r): Ken Putnam, Web Treat, Bill Bobier and Vince Kornstein. The Spokes-Men will provide one of many new features being offered in this year's production. (Daily Reporter photo)

Ready for Debut Tonight. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 27 1961.



Blackface Again. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 28 1961.

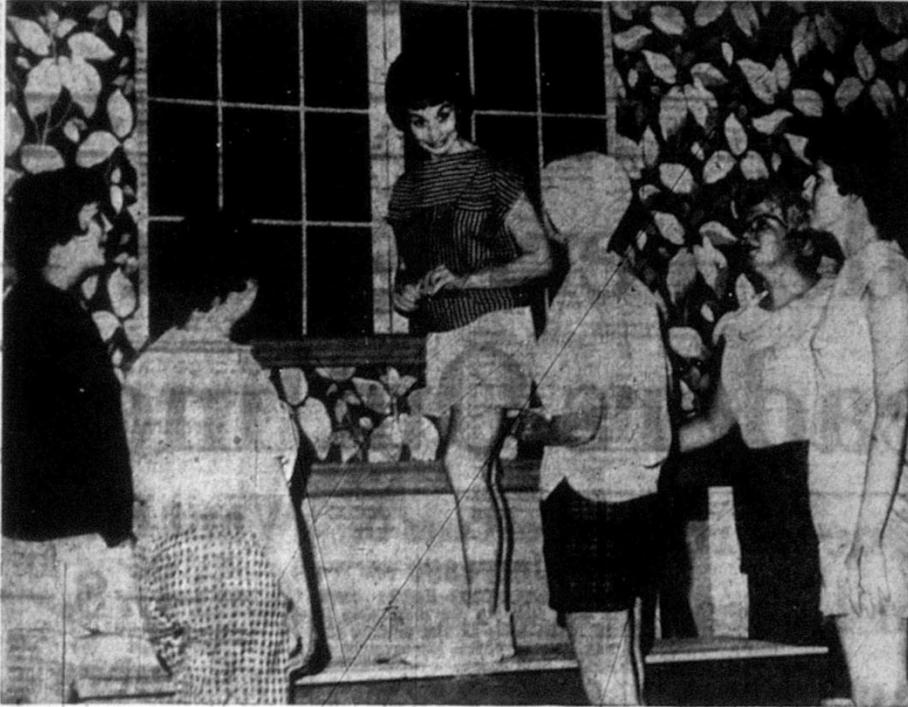
BROTHERS, BELLES MEET



HOWARD HENRY, representative of the John B. Rogers company, Centennial planning firm, is shown at the official opening of the Brothers of the Brush and Centennial Belles Wednesday at Tibbits theater. The meeting made the Centennial attire of the Brothers and Belles official in Coldwater. Seated behind Henry are Louella Hamilton, Centennial Belles chairman, and Alyn Smith, divisional chairman of the Brothers. (Daily Reporter photo)

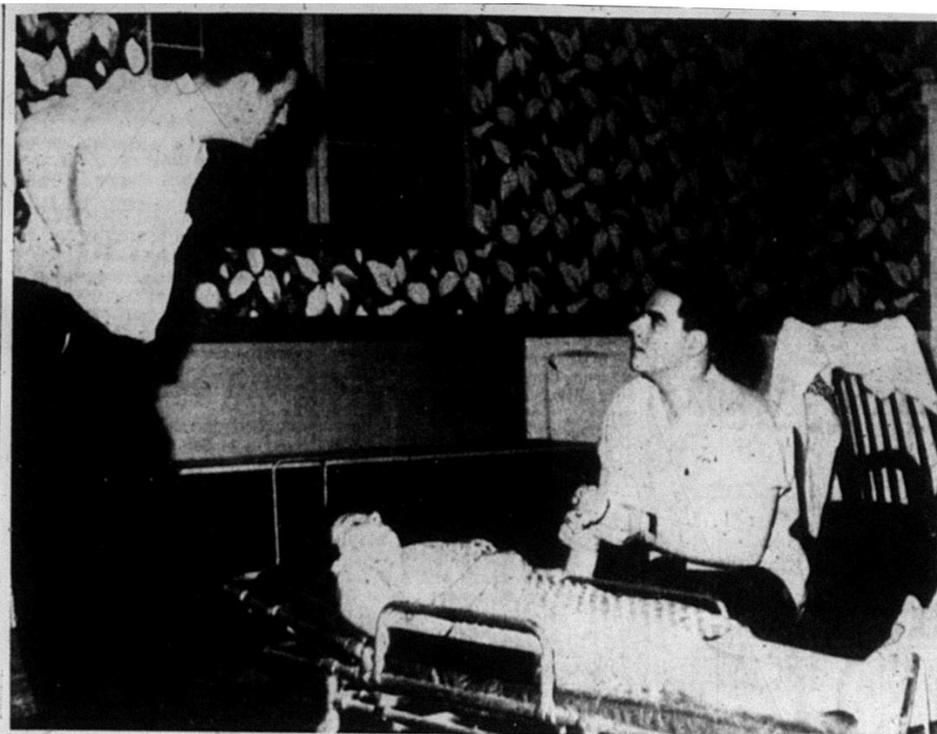
Brothers, Belles Meet. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 27 1961.

SCENE FROM 'CHINA SHOP'



PHYLIS COSCARELLY (center, facing camera) excitedly tells what she just saw outside the window in a scene from "Bull in a China Shop", the next Coldwater Players production. The play, a comedy, will be presented Saturday and Sunday at Tibbits theater, with curtain time set at 8:15 p.m. Surrounding Miss Coscarelly in the photo, (l to r) are cast members Sue Castleberry, Marcia Bailey, Beverly Paradine, Barbara Biancett and Phyllis Haggatt. Jean Rude is directing the production. (Daily Reporter photo).

Scene From China Shop. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1961.



RON STRATTON (right, kneeling) attempts to find a pulse as Hugh Leavell (standing) inquires as to the condition of the 'corpse' (Carol Cox) on the stretcher. The scene is from the mystery comedy 'Bull in a China Shop,' to be presented by the Coldwater Players at Tibbits theater Saturday and Sunday nights. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo).

Bull in a China Shop. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 16 1961.



The Banjo-Tainers. 1961.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Oct 30 1961.

THE BANJO-TAINERS, well known banjo trio of Muskegon will appear as one of the acts at the Sweet Adelines' "Sagebrush Serenade", a western musical to be presented at the Tibbits Theatre, Nov. 4 and 5 with Saturday's performance at 8 p.m. and Sunday's at 3 p.m.

Appear Tonight. 1961.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 4 1961.

APPEAR TONIGHT



DRESSED IN SEQUIN trimmed costumes of scarlet, these high-stepping ladies are members of a Can-Can chorus who will present this famous dance on the stage of the Tibbits Theatre during the "Sagebrush Serenade" musical staged by the Sweet Adelines tonight at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 3 p.m. From left to right the ladies are Donna Clayton, Lorraine Pearce, Alice

Warner and Joyce Hillia who will be joined by other members of the Can Can troupe to present the number that is under the direction of Sharon Rock. All members of the Sweet Adelines will be cast in the musical that will feature both straight and comedy routines, all with a definite western touch. (Daily Reporter photo).

LONESOME POLECAT



THIS FORLORN looking young lady only looks that way. In reality she's Miss Sally Schwem, public health nurse with the Branch-Hillsdale Health Dept., who is dressed in sack cloth for her role as the Lonesome Polecat in "Sagebrush Serenade", the western musical that will be staged by the Sweet Adelines at Tibbits Theatre on Nov. 4 and 5. Miss Schwem, dressed in a primitive costume fashioned from gunny sacks, held together with binding twine, sings the plaintif melody about the lonesome polecat that carries a message of finding another polecat, equally as lonesome. (Daily Reporter photo)

Lonesome Polecat. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 1 1961, p10.

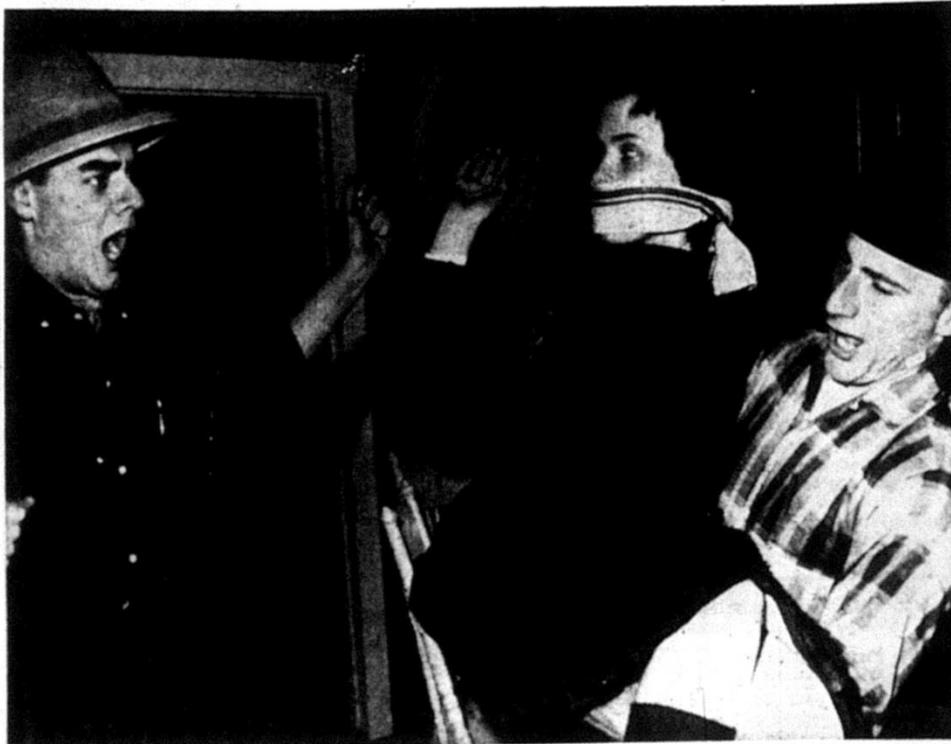
To Sing Here. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 3 1961, p10.

TO SING HERE



ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of "Sagebrush Serenade", the musical to be presented by the Sweet Adelines on Saturday and Sunday, will be a medley of tunes from the production "Oklahoma" sung by the charming Pat Feller. The entertainment packed production will include songs of the West and dance numbers all performed by members of the Sweet Adelines. Curtain time at the Tibbits Theatre on Saturday is at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from any member or at the box office, as well as several downtown merchants. (Daily Reporter photo)

FINAL REHEARSAL



THE COLDWATER CIVIC PLAYERS wound up preparations Friday evening with a final rehearsal of "Pure As The Driven Snow." Shown here, from left to right, Ron Stratton, Mary Toupalik, and Don Crull, run through a gripping scene in the old fashion melerdramer which is calculated to evoke hisses, cheers and hilarity from the audience. The play will be performed this evening and Sunday evening at the Tibbits Opera House. Curtain time for both performances is 8 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)

Final Rehearsal. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 2 1961.

ROTARY STARTS WORK ON MINSTREL SHOW



IT WAS SING, sing, sing at First Methodist church Monday night as Coldwater Rotarians began rehearsing choral numbers to be used in their 1962 minstrel show. This year's production is

scheduled for presentation three nights early in February at Tibbits theater, with Edward Holtz again serving as director and Mrs. Roy Patterson as accompanist. (Daily Reporter photo)

Rotary Starts Work on Minstrel Show 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 12 1961.



'Pure As the Driven Snow' Poster. 1961. Personal collection of Terry Mulchahey.
Dec 1961.



LLOYD LUCE (2nd from l), treasurer, and C. J. Mendendorp (r), general chairman of the Greater Coldwater Centennial committee, presented checks Thursday afternoon to Santford Jolley, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Tibbits Theater association, and Mrs. William Bobler, head of the Coldwater Student Loan association. (Daily Reporter photo)

Lloyd Luce. 1961. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 15 1961 p2.

{ 1962 }

Tibbits Campaign Chairmen Named



LESLIE WOODWARD



MARGARET HAYES

Tibbits Campaign Chairmen Named. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 22 1962.



NORM MOORE, an end man in this year's Rotary minstrel show, sang his number for fellow club members at Tuesday's meeting of the club. Tickets for the minstrel production Feb. 15-16-17 went on sale yesterday. (Daily Reporter photo)

Norm Moore. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 31 1962.

OLD LANDMARK DISAPPEARING



STREET DEPARTMENT crews are making steady progress with the demolition of the old South Hanchett-st garage building to make room for a new city parking lot in the downtown area. The large brick structure was used as a Buick-Pontiac showroom and garage for the past four decades or so. (Daily Reporter photo).

Old Landmark Disappearing. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 7 1962.

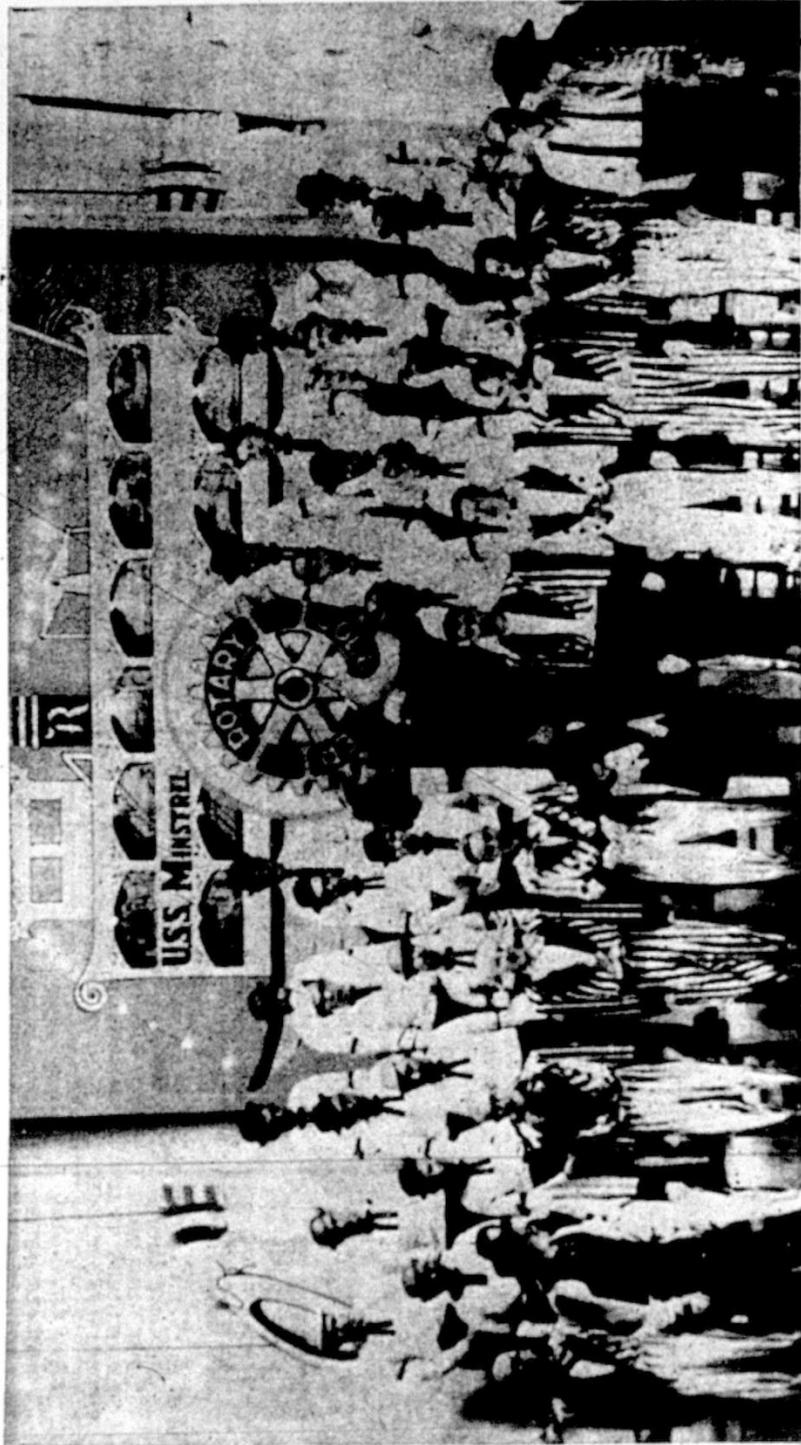
IN FINAL REHEARSAL STAGE



PRODUCING A SHOW means a lot of hard work for a lot of people and Coldwater Rotarians were hard at work Monday night as their 1962 minstrel show entered the final rehearsal stage at Roosevelt auditorium. Top photo at left shows three end men (l to r) Duane Davidson, Clyde Williams and George Owers working on a tambourine routine while (top right) the noise of an electric grill wielded by Sanford Jolley competed in volume with the voices of the Southland Chorus. Bringing order out of chaos is the job of Director Edward Holtz (bottom photo) shown checking a choral cue with the show's accompanist, Mrs. Grace Patterson. The show is to be presented Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at Roosevelt auditorium with first night proceeds to go to the Tibbits Opera House fund. Tickets may be secured from any Rotary members as long as they last. (Daily Reporter photo)

In Final Rehearsal Stage. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 15 1962.

ROTARY MINSTRELS OPEN TONIGHT



THE OPENING performance of the Coldwater Rotary Minstrels of 1962 will be given tonight, starting at 8:15 o'clock, in Roosevelt auditorium. The cast is shown (above) during a final dress rehearsal held Wednesday night. Proceeds from tonight's performance are to be turned over to the Tibbitts Opera House

fund and a "sold out" first night crowd is expected. The show is to be repeated at the same hour Friday and Saturday nights. Ticket holders are asked to be in their seats by 8 p.m. each of the three nights as seats unoccupied at that hour will be sold at the box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Rotary Minstrels Open Tonight. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 15 1962.



FRANC GAY, one of the guest stars of previous Rotary Minstrel shows, won the applause of this year's first night audience at Roosevelt auditorium Thursday night with her rendition of "Some Of These Days" and "A Good Man Is Hard To Find." End men (l to r) Duke Davidson, Clyde Williams, Norm Moore and Chuck Schmitt apparently liked it too. The show is to be repeated tonight and Saturday with 8:15 as curtain time both nights. (Daily Reporter photo)

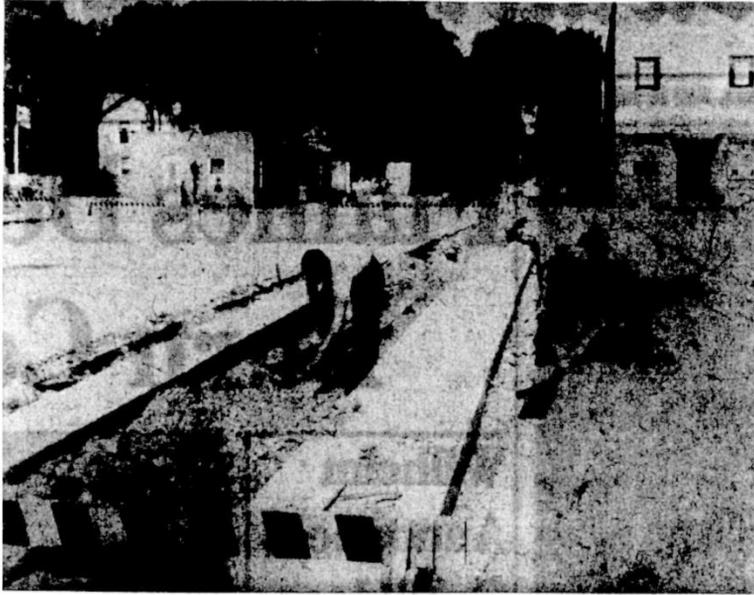
Franc Gay. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 16 1962.



BURDETTE HARRIS of 18 West Washington-st, Coldwater, looks at the picture he received as a prize from a recent Tibbits Theatre benefit that was sponsored by the American Legion and its auxiliary. The project netted \$160 that will be turned over to the theatre fund. Painter of the picture, titled "Down on the Farm" is Mrs. Elva Marothy, who donated the painting. (Daily Reporter photo)

Burdette Harris. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 3 1962.

NEW PARKING LOT BEING IMPROVED



CITY EMPLOYEES are shown laying curbs and gutters in the city's new South Hanchett-st parking lot preparatory to paving the area in the near future. The large lot, which includes a smaller lot previously owned by the Southern Michigan National bank and the property on which the old Sweeny Buick-Pontiac garage stood, will provide additional close-in, off-street free parking in the downtown area. (Daily Reporter photo)

New Parking Lot. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 18 1962.

FREE PARKING THIS WAY



SIGNS DIRECTING motorists to the city's free parking lots in the downtown area have been erected at strategic locations this week. Photo shows one of the signs pointing to the North Hanchett-North Monroe-st lot. Free parking in the downtown area was established earlier this year through finances provided by the Coldwater Downtown Betterment association. (Daily Reporter photo)

Free Parking This Way. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 18 1962.

ENGINEERS CHECK TIBBITS TODAY



VANCE GRAY (center) and Daniel Stolarski (right), of Raymond E. Reese Associates of Toledo, Ohio, were examining historic Tibbits theater today with Jerry Fair, local architect, to determine whether the building is structurally sound. The report of the two structural engineers is expected to show whether plans to restore the theater are feasible. The trio spent the entire day in the building and studying reports of earlier surveys. The Sweet Adeline organization is paying the cost of the engineering study. (Daily Reporter photo)

Engineers Check Tibbits Today. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 7 1962.

TWISTIN' FOR TIBBITS



THE YOUNGSTERS showed the oldsters how it's done at the 'Tibbits Twist' Friday evening in the middle of Hanchett-st in front of the old theater. This young couple was one of many of all age groups competing in a twist contest during the evening. The event, sponsored by the Retail Division of the Chamber of Commerce, ran from 8:30 to midnight and attracted a large crowd of performers and onlookers. (Daily Reporter photo).

Twistin' for Tibbits. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 16 1962.

COME TO
COLDWATER
FRIDAY for
BARGAINS
and
FUN



HERE'S A NEW TWIST

STORES
OPEN
FRIDAY NITE
TIL
9:00 P.M.

Twist Special

MONTGOMERY WARD

Comfortable peel rattan
BUCKET CHAIR

Black iron base
Use indoors or out

\$5.88

SHORT SLEEVE
KNIT SPORT SHIRTS

100% combed cotton
Assorted color and styles

\$1.44

PENNEY'S
ALWAYS FIRST QUALITY!

Twist Buster

Nationally
Advertised
Candy Bars **3c** EACH

J. J. NEWBERRY CO.

Twist Special

MONTGOMERY WARD

Outdoor grill oven warmer. Electric spit,
24 inches. Rubber tired wheels

\$15.95

Men's Industrial Jeans

100% ALL COTTON DENIM
—Fall out for comfort
—Heavy duty zipper fly
—Triple stitched seams
—Reinforced knee surface
pockets

\$1.50 PAIR

NOW ONLY

PENNEY'S
ALWAYS FIRST QUALITY!

FRIDAY NIGHT

JUNE 15th 8:30 to 12:00 P.M.

**TIBBITS
TWIST**

HANCHETT STREET

SOUTH OF CHICAGO ST.

LIVE MUSIC

COMPETENT JUDGES

FREE REFRESHMENTS

No Age Limit

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

CONTEST FOR THE

Best Twisters Best Polka Dancers
Best Round Dancers Best Family Dance Group
Best Dressed Dancers in Each Group
Oldest "Twister" Youngest Polka Dancer

PRIZES DOOR PRIZES

only **50c** per person

TOURISTS WELCOME

Sponsored by the Retail Division of the Coldwater Chamber of Commerce
for the Benefit of Tibbits Theatre Fund

Twist Special



ROLL OF 35mm
COLOR FILM
\$2.29

INCLUDES FREE
DEVELOPING



\$1.87 36" DOWN
36" A WEEK

Twist Special

McComb's Shoes

LOST OUR
LEASE SALE

Twist Special

J. B. BRANCH and CO.

Bargain Rack of Summer
DRESSES

WOMEN'S WHITE HANDBAGS
\$8.95 value, Friday and Saturday
\$5.77



ICE CHEST

Heavy duty, water-tight, fiber-glass insulation. Galvanized tray and interior. Drain.

\$9.99

G. C. MURPHY CO.
21-23 W. CHICAGO COLDWATER

JUNE SALE of DRESSES

\$12.98 values **\$7.98**
\$17.98 values **\$10.98**
\$22.98 values **\$14.98**

ODDS AND ENDS SALE JEWELRY
values to \$2.95 NOW **57c**



SPUDNUT SHOP

NOW
SERVING
SANDWICHES

LADIES' DAN RIVER
FABRICS SHORTS

PLAIDS & SOLIDS
Size 12 to 20
Reg. \$1.00

47c

**TRIBOLET'S
5 & 10c STORE**

TWIST TO THE



**MUSIC
MART**

FOR OUR PIANO

ORGAN SALE
NEW TWIST RECORDS
ARRIVING DAILY

While Twisting, Why Not Twist

To Kerr Hardware for the

FINEST FISHING TACKLE IN TOWN

36 FT. x 4 FT. GLASS ROD, \$12.95 value **\$12.95**
COMPLETE SPIN OUTFIT, ROD, REEL & LINE **\$6.99**
BRONSON 42 SPIN CANY COMBINATION, \$22.50 value **\$16.95**
SPIN CANY OUTFIT COMPLETE **\$6.95**
FLY ROD OUTFIT COMPLETE **\$6.95**
CROQUET SETS OF 4, plastic case, Pkg. 6.95 **\$4.95**
LIFE JACKETS, 24" x 30" **\$1.95 - \$4.95**

BUY AT **KERR'S** FOR VALUE

Twistin' for Tibbits Ad. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1962.

Tibbits Mementos Found In Home



Tibbits Mementos. 1962.
Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, Sept 8
1962.



Beauties by the Sea. 1962. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 30 1962.

BEAUTIES BY THE SEA — One of the highlights of the upcoming Sweet Adelines old time vaudeville variety show will be this trio of bathing beauties. Being their number 'By The Sea' are Fran Johnson, Nancy Snyder and Jane Hurley. The show will be presented at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday nights in Roosevelt auditorium. (Daily Reporter photo)

{ 1963 }

The Coldwater Rotary Club

— PRESENTS —

ROTARY MINSTRELS

— 1963 Edition —



NEW

—FACES
—SONGS
—SPECIALTIES
—DANCES

BETTER THAN EVER — DON'T MISS IT!

JAN. 31 FEB. 1 & 2
Roosevelt Auditorium

*TICKETS Available from any
Rotarian—or at the door.*

*Minstrel Ad. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 26 1963 p20.*

To His Honor Mayor Olen V. Fry and the Coldwater
City Council -

Gentlemen:

The Tibbits Theatre Foundation hereby petitions
for relief from the present city taxes levied against
the Tibbits Theatre.

The Tibbits Theatre Foundation is a non-profit
organization in the process of developing the civic
project with which you are all familiar. Its purpose
is to advance the welfare and cultural interests of
Coldwater and Branch County.

In view of the above, your consideration in
removing current tax assessments as well as removing the Tibbits
Theatre from the tax roll would be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Tibbits Theatre Foundation

Franc L. Gay, Secretary

*Tax Relief Letters. 1963.
Tibbits Opera House
Archives, Tibbits
Administration Building,
Coldwater. Sept 22
1963.*

Sept 22, 1963

To the Branch County Board of Supervisors, Coldwater, Michigan

Gentlemen:

The Tibbits Theatre Foundation hereby petitions
for relief from the present city taxes levied against
the Tibbits Theatre.

THE TIBBITS THEATRE FOUNDATION is a non-profit
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project with which you are all familiar. Its purpose
is to advance the welfare and cultural interests of
Coldwater and Branch County.

In view of the above, your consideration in remov-
ing the TIBBITS THEATRE from the tax roll would be greatly
appreciated.

Yours truly,

Tibbits Theatre Foundation

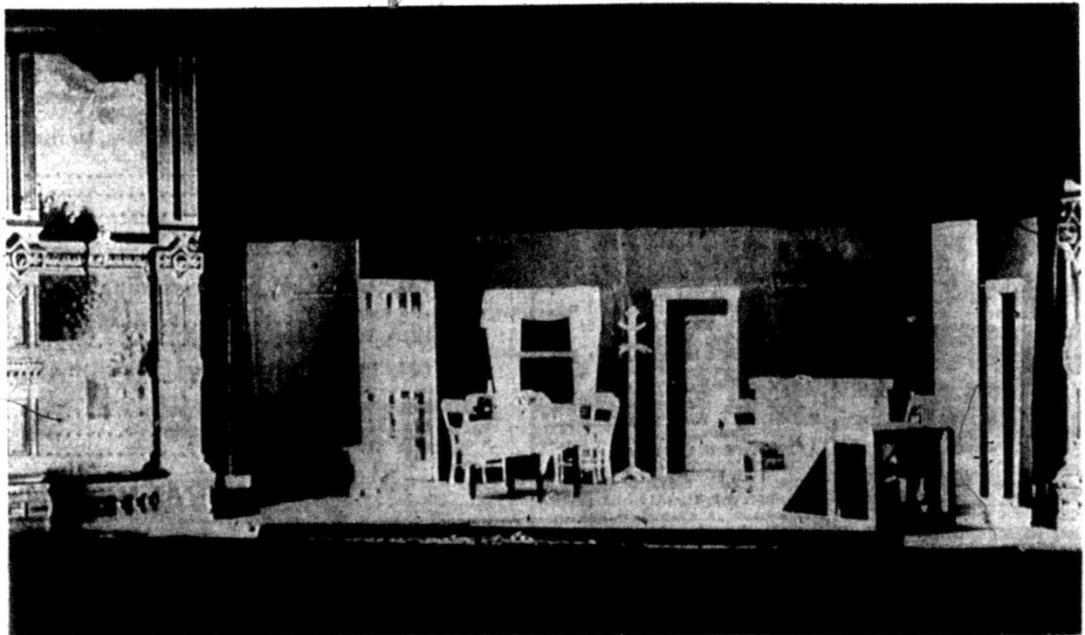
Franc L. Gay, Secretary



MRS. JOYCE STANSELL GODFREY, daughter of Irving and Ina Stansell took a moment at the piano to look over some of the clippings of the activities of the Branch County Community Concert Association which V. M. Sillson showed her in connection with a conference which was held on the new Tibbits Theater. Mrs. Stansell has spent the past summer playing the leading role in "Little Mary Sunshine" at the Berkshire Theater at Stockbridge, Massachusetts. She has been a guest of her parents for several days following her engagement at the Berkshire Theater. She returned to New York on Sunday and was accompanied by her parents.

Mrs. Joyce Stannell Godfrey. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 9 1963.

Lights on Again. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 25 1963.



LIGHTS ON AGAIN — The stage lights were on again in Tibbits theater Tuesday but most of the drama was unfolding back stage where workers of the Roussey Construction company began work of refurbishing the dressing room area. Thus, the off-

delayed task of restoring Coldwater's historic old opera house to public use was officially launched less than 24 hours after contracts for the work were awarded by the theater foundation's board. (Daily Reporter photo)



FAMED PIANIST ROGER WILLIAMS

Roger Williams. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 1 1963.

Artist Visits Theater. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 21 1963.



ARTIST VISITS THEATER — Roger Williams, better known as "Mr. Piano," visited Tibbits Theater here today to view the restoration work now in progress there. V. M. Stilson (left), president of the Tibbits Theater Foundation, points out work being done in the stage area. Williams and Company are scheduled to present a benefit concert for the theater Wednesday night at Coldwater high school gymnasium. Williams' comment after inspecting the old theater was: "This is simply wonderful!" (Daily Reporter photo)



COMING DOWN — The marquee at Tibbits Theater came down Thursday and today workmen were dismantling the large electric sign. The tile facing on the front of the theater is slated to be removed next in a program designed to restore the exterior to its "opera house" days. Whether the bust of Shakespeare is still in a niche high on the facade behind the tile will be discovered soon. (Daily Reporter photo)

Coming Down. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 21 1963.



Signed Roger Williams Promo Photo. 1963. Personal collection of Terry Mulchahey. Oct 23 1963.

COLDWATER THEATER PROJECT "Tibbits Opera House"

BOX ~~116~~ ★ COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

7 November 1963

Hello all:

I wish it were possible for me to be with you but, the coming week is too full. I hope my good news makes up for my not being there.



Opened 1882

Except for a few inaccuracies the reporter made the enclosed is a very nice story. I was up there all last week and had been up to do some emergency work on two other occasions within the last three weeks.



Present Front

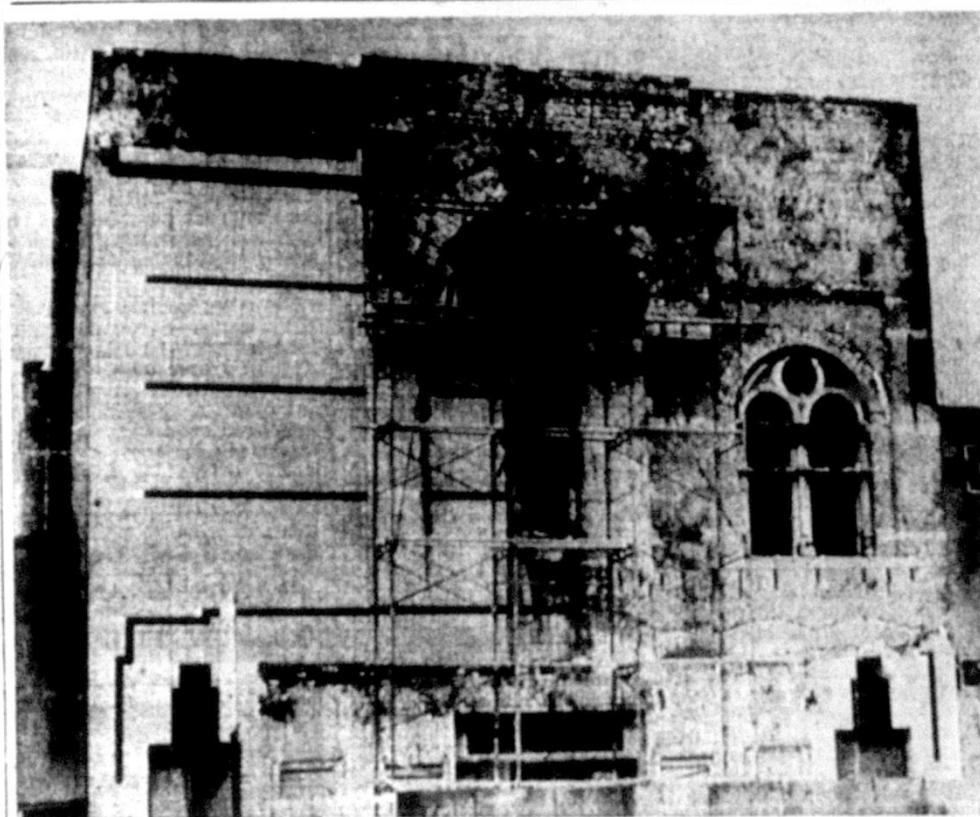
It is going to take me a long time to get over how fortunate I am to get this particular position. There will be known stars booked in for shows and concerts during the winter as well as many locally produced events. As things look now I will be directing the local theater group in the Opera House. I plan two shows between now and summer. In the summer there will be a summer stock company from a university (likely Indiana.) I won't be directing the summer stock.

But, there is more to my challenge! A big part of my job between now and fall will be over seeing the renovation. The Foundation is restoring the Opera House to what it looked like in 1882 or, as close as they can. I'm learning to deal with such people as heating engineers and contractors! We already have a new \$5000 heating and air conditioning system. And, a \$7000 concert grand piano was donated. The walls will be papered in red textured velour wallpaper (over the new plaster job) and the original white and gold decor restored. The University of Michigan is lending full cooperation from the historical aspect and there will be a theater museum and lounge in the basement. The Grand Opening next fall will be attended by the Gov. of Michigan some of the old stars, or their relation, plus LOOK and LIFE mags,

My job is a big one but, if I can do it my name will be made in theater. Things like this just don't happen to me. I still have trouble believing that the opportunity is actually mine.

My thoughts are with you even though I can't make it. Most of my traveling for awhile will be theatre ~~xxxx~~ business until late summer. Maybe I see you then.

George



FACE CHANGING — Workers are making progress in removing the tile facing from Tibbits theater, revealing the old brick and stone facade that marked the building back in its "opera house" days. Plans call for eventual restoration of the front to its original appearance. Above photo shows progress to date. (Daily Reporter photo)

COMING WED., NOV. 20
 The
GRAND OLE OPRY

To The Tibbits Theater, Coldwater
 SEE ALL YOUR FAVORITE STARS IN PERSON!

- *Jimmy Dickens *Shirley Ray
- *Jimmy Newman *Stonewall Jackson
- *Red Sovine *And Many Others

**DON'T MISS THIS OUTSTANDING
 STAR STUDDERED PERFORMANCE!**

2 GREAT SHOWS 7:00 P.M. & 9:30 P.M.

Tickets for Tibbits \$3.50 per person

Get Your Tickets At The Music Mart

or Montgomery Wards

SPECIAL SHOW FOR STUDENTS 2:30 P.M. SPECIAL PRICE \$1.00

Students show in High School Gym

SPONSORED BY

Tibbits Theater Foundation, Inc.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Face Changing. 1963.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, Nov 5 1963.

Grand Ole Opry Ad. 1963.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, Nov 16 1963 p3.

COMING WED., NOV. 20
The
GRAND OLE OPRY

To The Tibbits Theater, Coldwater
SEE ALL YOUR FAVORITE STARS IN PERSON!

***Jimmy Dickens**

One of the top attractions in Country Music is "Little Jimmy Dickens." His million dollar smile and vivacious personality are the trademarks of "Little Jimmy Dickens." He justly deserves the honor bestowed upon him by the Park Owners, Auditorium operators and Theatre Managers throughout the United States who acclaimed him "Mr. Personality" of Country Music.



***Shirley Ray**

Standing 5'5" and weighing 125 pounds with a head of beautiful wavy hair that hasn't been cut in eight years, a natural beauty that has never seen the inside of a beauty salon, this is a young lady to be watched. We predict that she will be singing for many years. In addition to singing your favorites Shirley plays the guitar and auto-harp, Shirley also does a fine job on the bass fiddle.



***Stonewall Jackson**

A twenty-five year old North Carolina born ex-farmer, logger out of Moultrie, Georgia is one of the newest acts signed for regular performance on WSM's Grand Ole Opry. This song stylist and composer with the Dixie Military-flavored name, traveled an unusual route to achieve his Opry standing. He drove his logging truck from Moultrie home to Nashville in October of 1956 and without advance arrangements received an audition and made his first appearance at the Ryman Auditorium on November 2, 1956. Despite his sudden, but not unexpected success, Jackson remains a "country farmer" at heart. "I'm holding on to that logging truck, just in case" he declares grinning. Old timers recall that Stonewall is the first in years to gain a spot on the Grand Ole Opry without first having a record's popularity to put him in command.



***Jimmy Newman**

Some of Jimmy's records you will recognize such as: "Outside Your Door", "Wanting You", "Big Mamaw", "Alligator Man", "Walking Down The Road". 75% of all his releases have been listed on the popularity charts in the nation's trade magazines. Jimmy has been with the "Grand Ole Opry" since 1954.



***Red Sovine**

Red Sovine, Radio, T.V., Stage and Recording artist . . . Sounds good, doesn't it? And it is good, but it took a lot of hard work and many years of experience to put Red where he is today. In 1954, Red moved to Nashville, Tennessee and the Grand Ole Opry.



* MANY OTHER STARS *

DON'T MISS THIS OUTSTANDING STAR STUDDED PERFORMANCE!

2 GREAT SHOWS 7:00 P.M. & 9:30 P.M.
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SPONSORED BY

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A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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Students show in High School Gym

SPONSORED BY

Tibbits Theater Foundation, Inc.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Grand Ole Opry Ad. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 13 1963 p2.

Grand Ole Opry Ad. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 19 1963 p12.



MRS. GERTRUDE HARDING, of 100 North Clay-st, presented V. M. Stilson, president of the Tibbits Theater Foundation, with a check representing her \$1,000 to the theater fund during last night's opening performance by the Grand Ole Opry stars from Nashville, Tenn. (Daily Reporter photo)

Mrs. Gertrude Harding. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 21 1963.



CURTAIN GOING UP

SATURDAY, NOV. 30, 8 P.M.

SUNDAY, DEC. 1, 3 P.M.

TIBBITS THEATRE

*Coldwater Chapter of
Sweet Adelines*

PRESENTS . . .

SHOW STOPPERS

Hit songs from top
Broadway Musicals

- *Sound of Music*
- *Gypsy*
- *Wonderful Town*
- *Ziegfeld Follies*
- *Gentlemen Prefer Blonds*
- *Music Man*
- *West Side Story*
- *Guys & Dolls*

STARRING . . .

- *Alma Hildebrand*
 - *Pat Feller*
 - *Fran Johnson*
- and many others in Specialty Numbers

Also

- *Tri State Misses*
- *Chord Dusters*
- *Mens Quartet and the Sweet Adelines*

Ticket \$1.50 Donation

or \$3.75 including show and Smorgasbord

Dinner at New Arlington Inn before or
after show on either day.

TIBBITS THEATRE

Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Curtain time

Sunday, Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Curtain time

Tickets available at the MUSIC MART, ARLINGTON INN, WOODWARD SHOP,
KIESS JEWELRY, JUHL DRUGS

*Show Stopper Ad. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 28 1963 p8.*



SEVERAL MEMBERS of the Sweet Adeline chorus are seen here watching Alma Hildebrand do her "Rose of Washington Square" number from the "Show Stoppers" show presented at the Tibbits Opera House this weekend. Near capacity audiences viewed this presentation on both evenings. (Daily Reporter photo)



GEORGE VAUGHN, LOWTHER

Sweet Adeline Chorus.
1963. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Dec 2 1963.

*George Vaughn Lowther,
Manager.* 1963. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, De 6
1963.

The

TIBBITS OPERA FOUNDATION

Presents

Jack and the Beanstalk

Produced and Cast

by the

Fort Wayne Children's Theatre

DEC. 14th, SATURDAY

at the

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

2 performances

1:00 P.M. & 3:00 P.M.

See this outstanding production

Children's tickets available at

elementary school offices \$1.00

Children's tickets at the box office \$1.25

Adult tickets \$1.75

SATURDAY, DEC. 14, 1 P.M. & 3 P.M.



NEXT AT TIBBITS — The Children's Theater of Ft. Wayne, Ind., will present two performances of Jack And The Beanstalk at Tibbits theater at 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, it was announced today. The Children's Theater uses the facilities and technical staff of the Ft. Wayne Civic Theater to produce plays especially suited to the young theater-goer. Above photo is a scene from the current production.

Jack & the Beanstalk Ad. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 10 1963 p2.

Next at Tibbits. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, De 10 1963.



JACK SHOWS MOTHER GIANT PRODUCTS OF HIS BEANSTALK

Jack Shows Mother. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 12 1963.



A SCENE FROM JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

A Scene from Jack. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 16 1963.



Community Carol Sing. 1963. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 21 1963 p2.

{ 1964 }



Children's Theatre at Coldwater. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. The Fort Wayne News Sentinal, Jan 11 1964.

Children's Theater at Coldwater, Mich.



THE PLAYERS: The cast of the play, including the children and adults, are shown in a group photograph. The names of the cast members are listed below the photo.



Children's Theater at Coldwater. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. The Fort Wayne News Sentinel, Jan 11 1964.



CHAD MITCHELL TRIO

Chad Mitchell Trio. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 10 1964.



TRIO AND ACCOMPANISTS IN CONCERT AT COLDWATER

Trio & Accompanists in Concert. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 20 1964.

IN CONCERT



CHAD MITCHELL TRIO

**SATURDAY,
JAN. 18**

8:30 P.M.

**AT THE
COLDWATER
HIGH SCHOOL
GYM**

**Benefit Tibbits Opera House
Sponsored by Teen Chamber of Commerce**

TICKETS \$2 and \$3

**At Box Office, Music Mart, Lyon Drug,
Arlington Inn and Teen Chamber
of Commerce members.**

Chad Mitchell Trio Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 13 1964 p3.



Agnes Moorehead

Stage and screen star

IN

*"Come close I'll give you
an Earful"*

Saturday, Jan. 25

AT THE

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Curtain Time 8:30 Tickets \$2 & \$3

Tickets available at Moore Hardware, J. B. Branch & Co.,
Craig Pharmacy, Music Mart, Montgomery Ward, Coldwater
Library, and the Box Office of the Tibbits Opera House.

Phone 278-2356

Sponsored by the A.A.U.W.

Presented by the Tibbits Opera House Foundation

Reserve your tickets at the Box Office 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Agnes Moorehead. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 24 1964 p21.



THE WESTERN MICHIGAN University Choir is shown here during a rehearsal, under the direction of Thomas Hardie. The choir will be performing Tuesday evening at

the Tibbits Opera House as part of the first annual Coldwater high school Festival of Arts.

Tibbits To Feature 'Pajama Game' Soon



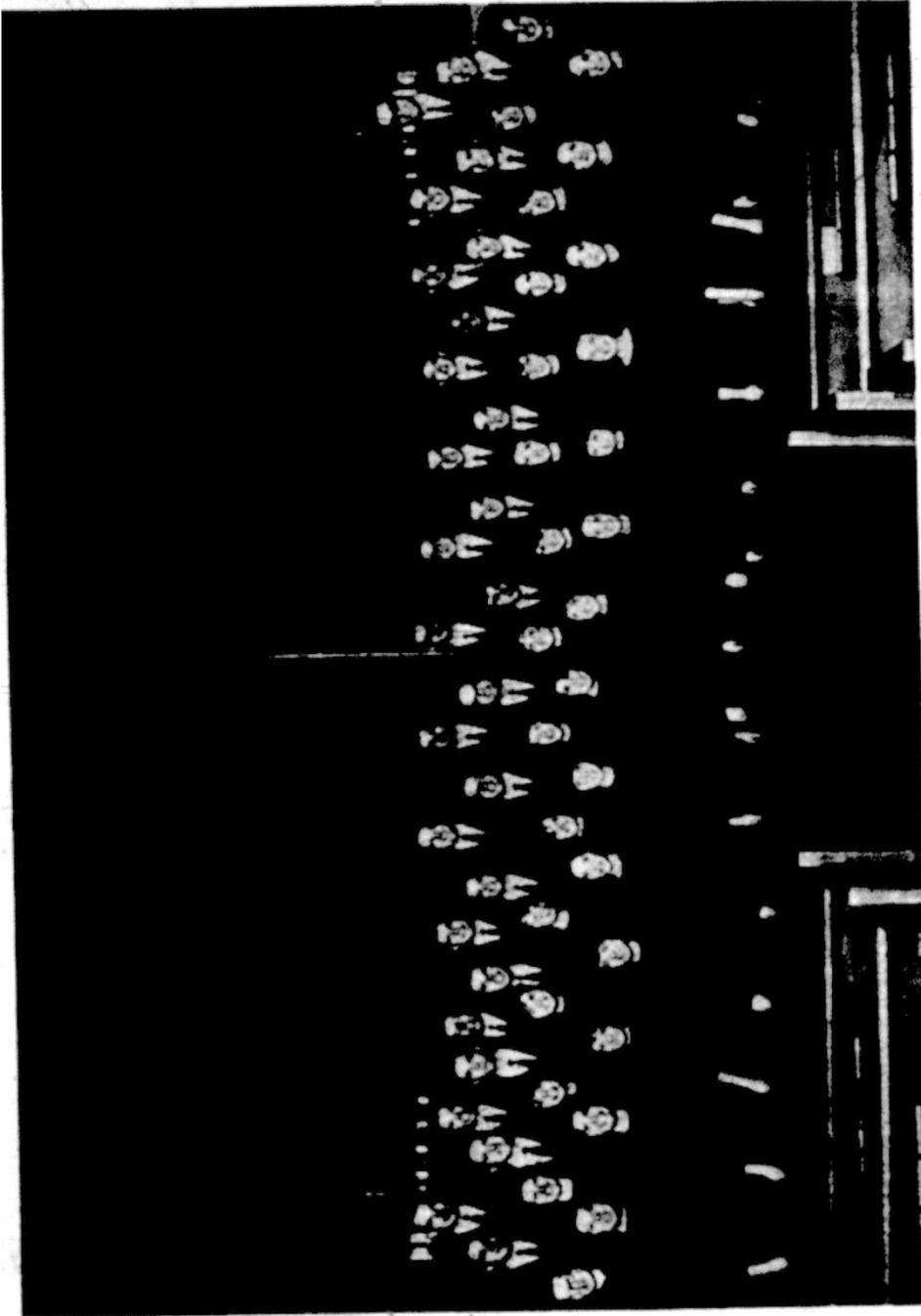
MISS BAGDON



KING

Western Michigan University Choir. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 9 1964 p2.

Tibbits to Feature 'Pajama Game' Soon. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 10 1964.



Western Michigan University Choir. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 11 1964 p2.

bers: "He's Gone Away", by Joseph Clokey; "Clindy", arranged by Wilson; "Praise", by Theron Kirk; and two spirituals, "Soon Ah Will Be Done," and "My Lord What A Morning". The group has 60 voices and for one number is accompanied on the English Horn by Tom Althuis. Tickets will be on sale at the box office.

THE WESTERN MICHIGAN University Choir, under the direction of Thomas C. Hardie, will be performing at the Tibbits Opera House this evening, at 7:30 p.m., as part of the Coldwater high school Festival of Arts. The choir, known for its work both on the campus and on tour, will be presenting a full concert, including the following num-



The Tibbits Opera House
Presents

The Tecumseh Players in

"THE PAJAMA GAME"

Feb. 21 and Feb. 22
FRIDAY - SATURDAY
8:30 P.M.

Tickets

Students	\$1.00
General Admission	\$2.50

For reserved seats call 278-2356 Box Office

Sponsored by
Coldwater Rotary Club

Note: This delightful comedy comes highly recommended, see it.

TIBBITS FOUNDATION BENEFIT
PERFORMANCE



The Pajama Game Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 13 1964 p12.

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

and
PAUL GREGORY
presents

**JOSEPH PATRICIA
COTTEN MEDINA**

**'N PERSON IN
SEVEN WAYS
OF LOVE**

A NEW ENTERTAINMENT

Directed by
PAUL GREGORY

AT THE

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

TUESDAY, FEB. 25

Curtain Time 8:30 p.m.

TICKETS \$3.50 and \$5.00

For reserved seats call 278-2356 box office

Tickets also available at The Automobile Club; Music Mart; Chamber of Commerce; Lyon Drug Store; In Bronson; Fisher Drug Store; In Quincy; Watt's Drug Store.

TIBBITS FOUNDATION BENEFIT PERFORMANCE

Be a Tibbits Patron call 278-4345



Seven Ways of Love. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 19 1964 p12.



Pajama Game. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 19 1964.

Bruce King and Marty Bagdon. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 21 1964.

"PAJAMA GAME" CAST members Mrs. Al Snyder (center), Oralee Cote (left) and Gene Earling, are shown here in a scene featuring a pajama style show. Miss Cote says "I'm Grace", Earling says, "I'm style"; and out pops Mrs. Snyder in long red flannels, who says, "And I'm comfort". These three will be in the cast when "Pajama Game", done by the Tecumseh Players, is presented at the Tibbits Opera House, Friday and Saturday evenings.



BRUCE KING AND MARTY BAGDON are shown here in a scene from the Tecumseh Players' production of "Pajama Game" to be presented at the Tibbits Opera House tonight and Saturday evening with the curtain going up at 8:30 p.m.

King and Mrs. Bagdon play the lead roles in this rollicking musical offering, with much assistance from a large, enthusiastic cast. Tickets are still available for both performances.

Cotten-Medina Play Wins High Praise



JOSEPH COTTEN

PATRICIA MEDINA

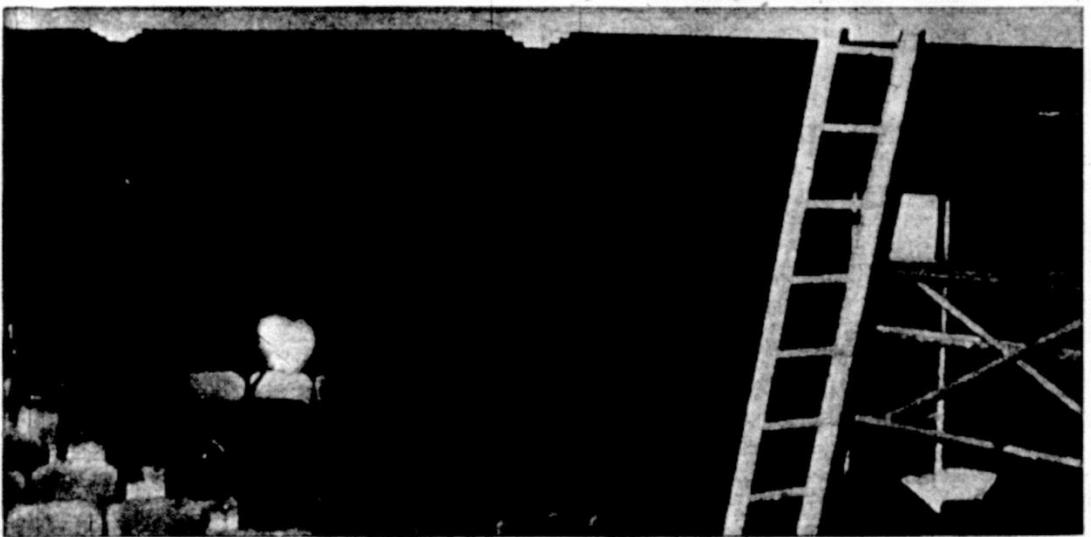
Cotton-Medina Play Wins High Praise. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 20 1964.



Signed Patricia Medina Headshot. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. Feb 25 1964.



Signed Joseph Cotten Headshot. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. Feb 25 1964.



NEW WALLPAPER—Anyone stopping by the old Tibbits Opera House, currently undergoing considerable restoration work, is sure to notice the attractive new red flock

wall covering. The photo, of the south wall of the lower floor, shows the red velvet-like covering shortly after it was hung. (Daily Reporter photo).



HOWARD TEETER (left) points out work being done in Tibbits Theater to Lester F. Wise (center), president of the Southern Michigan National bank, and Harold F. Stucky. Tibbits Foundation officials today announced receipt of sizeable contributions from the bank and Stucky. (Daily Reporter photo)

New Wallpaper.
1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 22 1964.

Howard Teeter.
1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 28 1964.

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Foundation

Presents the

KAI WINDING

Jazz Septet

MONDAY

March

9th

at the

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Curtain time 8:30

TICKETS

STUDENTS \$1.00

RESERVED SEATS \$4.00

at the box office

Phone 278-2356

Box office open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mail orders Tibbits Opera House

Coldwater, Mich.



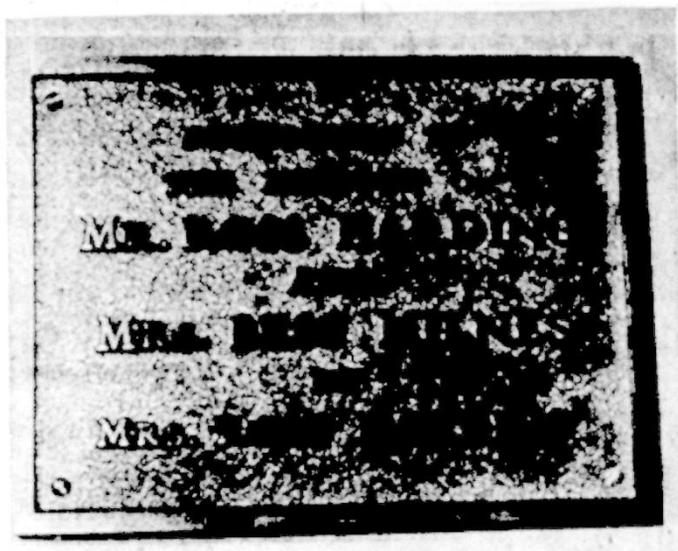
"One of the best known, most articulate of modernists on his instrument, capable of almost every sort of jazz association."

MGM-VERVE RECORDS

Kai Winding Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 4 1964 p12.



Signed Clebanoff Headshot. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. March 6 1964.



Harding Plaque.
1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 9 1964.

ONE OF THE FIRST contributions to the Tibbits Opera Foundation has been immortalized by a plaque (bottom photo) in honor of her late husband and Mrs. Bess Milnes, a close friend. This plaque has been hung on the door of the first dressingroom at the Opera House. Miss Kathryn Shattuck (left) and Mrs. Harding found the plaque to their liking at Friday evening's performance by the Clebanoff Strings. Mrs. Harding's contribution was one of the "kick-off" donations for the renovation of the Tibbits. (Daily Reporter photo)



ERNEST W. LUSE (right), president of the Branch County Savings and Loan Association, presents, Harold F. Stukey (left), a Tibbits Foundation Board member, with a check for the restoration of the Opera House. Looking on are Fred Anderson (second from right), a member of the Savings and Loan board, and Howard M. Teeter, another Tibbits board member. The presentation was made in the offices of the Association this morning. (Daily Reporter photo)

Ernest W. Luse. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 13 1964.



COMING TO TIBBITS — The University of Michigan Men's Glee Club, under the direction of Philip A. Ducey, will appear at the Tibbits Opera House on March 19, under the sponsorship of the University of Michigan Alumnae Association. The Glee Club, internationally known and winners of many awards all over the world, will appear in concert. The group has appeared on such popular television shows as 'd Sullivan, Pat Boone, and the Dinah Shore

Show, and has made a movie short subject, "Songs of the Campus" released by RKO-Pathé. The Club also has a record of college songs on Decca. This group is also the only American choir to win first place once or twice in the 13th and 17th Annual International Musical Eisteddfods in Llangollen, Wales. Tickets are available from the Chamber of Commerce office, Carol Heikinen and from the box office of the Tibbits.

Coming to Tibbits. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 12 1964.



THE FRIARS of the University of Michigan will be with the Men's Glee Club when it performs at the Tibbits Opera House on Thursday evening at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale for this performance at the Chamber of Commerce office, Juhl's Drug Store, the Music Mart, and the office of the Superintendent of Schools. The director of the Men's Glee Club is Philip A. Ducey,

who began his career at Michigan in 1947, following a successful career as a professional singer. Ducey is the only member of the National Academy of Teachers of Singing from the State of Michigan, an honor he received in 1960. The Men's Glee Club is composed of graduate and undergraduate members from every college in the University.

The Friars. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 16 1964.



Fashion Show. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 16 1964 p10.



World Famous
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MENS GLEE CLUB
IN PERSON
**THURSDAY,
MARCH 19th**
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE



Director
PHILIP DUEY

*Don't miss this outstanding
versatile group.*
*"The singing was notable for tone quality, unity and
pervasive spirit" Francis Perkins, New York Herald Tribune*

TICKET \$2.00

ON SALE AT BOX OFFICE, PHONE NO. 278-2138
JULI'S DRUG STORE, MUSIC MART, CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE OFFICE AND SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mens Glee Club Ad. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, March 17 1964.

Kiess Donation. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, March 18 1964
p12.



MR. AND MRS. REX T. KIESS (seated) are shown as they presented their check, representing a sizeable donation to the Tibbits Opera House restoration project, to Harold Stucky, a director of the Tibbits Foundation. (Daily Reporter photo)



THE TIBBITS MURAL decoration requires numerous study models and full size drawings prior to actual mural painting in the theatre. Al Parke prepares these and other preliminary work in his studio.

Mural. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 19 1964.

Get there
somehow
April 2-3-4
THURS., FRI., SAT.

NAUGHTY 90's

Produced by the
Rotary Minstrels
at the
**TIBBITS OPERA
HOUSE**

Be a First Nighter

Tickets available from any Rotarian
\$1.00 THURSDAY NITE, \$1.20 FRI. & SAT.



Naughty 90's Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 21 1964 p20.



BOB NEWHART
IN PERSON
SUNDAY, APRIL 12
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

CURTAIN TIME 8:30 P.M.

SPONSORS TICKETS \$10 & \$7.50

GENERAL ADMISSION \$5 & \$2.50

STUDENT TICKETS \$1

at the BOX OFFICE

Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Phone 278-2356

Get your tickets now before out-of-town requests come in

*"Bob Newhart is the funniest new
comedian I have seen in the last thirty
years"—Jack Benny.*

Sponsored by the Tibbits Foundation

Bob Newhart Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 23
1964 p2.



BOB NEWHART

Management
FRANK J. HOGAN
Armanco Enterprises Inc.
Chicago Beverly Hills


agency for the performing arts, inc.
new york chicago beverly hills miami

Signed Bob Newhart Headshot. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. April 12 1964.



HEAR IT IN PERSON
The NAUGHTY 90's

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

April 2-3-4 at the

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Produced by the Rotary Minstrels

TICKETS \$1.00 THURS. NITE — \$1.50 FRIDAY & SAT.

Hear it in Person Ad. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 23 1964
p10.

All Aboard Ad. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 26 1964 p2.

**"ALL
ABOARD"**

for the

Naughty 90's

Produced by the
Rotary Minstrels

at the

**TIBBITS OPERA
HOUSE**



Be a First Nighter

April 2, 3, 4, Thurs., Fri., & Sat.

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ANY MEMBER OF ROTARY

\$1.00 Thurs. nite, \$1.50 Fri. & Sat. nights



REHEARSALS SHIFT — Coldwater Rotarians moved rehearsals for their Naughty Nineties show to Tibbits Opera House Thursday night. They are shown working on one of the musical numbers while workmen begin the task of erecting the stage setting for their production. Rehearsals are

scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights of next week. The opening performance will be given on Thursday night with repeat performances Friday and Saturday nights. Tickets are available from any Rotarian or at the theater boxoffice. (Daily Reporter photo)

Rehearsals Shift. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 27 1964.



THE TIBBITS MURAL, or part of it, as seen from the top of a ladder and photographed by Dick Aldrich. A normal view

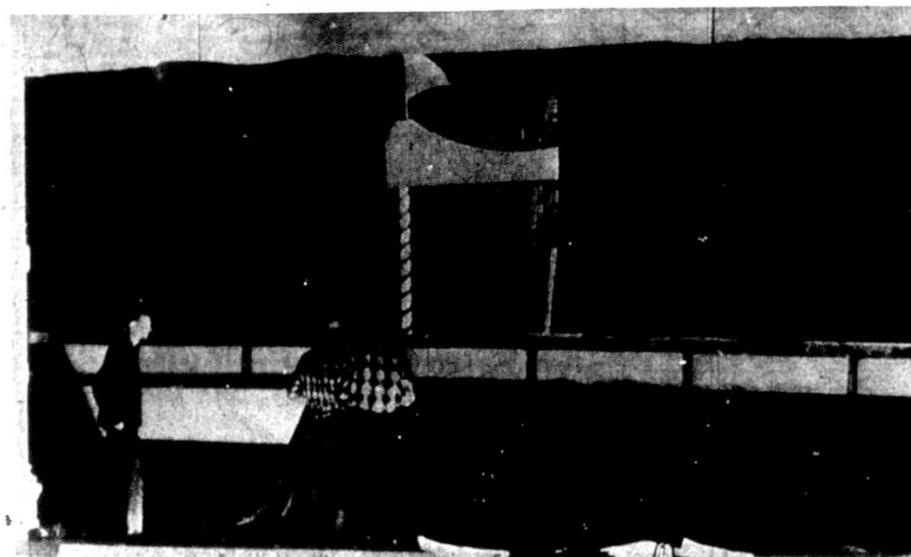
of this painting from the lobby floor is now blocked by rigging, platform and ladders.

The Tibbits Mural. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 28 1964.



THE THREE PRODUCERS of the 11 week summerstock season to be presented at the Tibbits Opera House beginning in June, were in Coldwater late last week to finalize arrangements for the forthcoming season. They met with the Tibbits Foundation Inc and Vaughn Lowther, with whom they will be working. The men are (l to r) Glenn Crane, Lowther, Walter Stump, and Kenneth Kohn. (Daily Reporter photo)

The Three Producers. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 31 1964.



COLDWATER ROTARIANS present a show each year for the benefit of a particular project. This year the club's objective was to raise enough money to purchase a new curtain for the Tibbits Opera House. On Monday the new, tailor-made curtain was installed. It is a flame-red velour one which, thanks to V. M. Stilson and his committee,

exactly matches the lighter red in the velour wallpaper. The Rotary will present "Naughty-Naughty 90's" on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week, with curtaintime at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are available from Rotarians. (Daily Reporter photo)

Coldwater Rotarians. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 1 1964.



WHAT A GIRL WAS MARY



NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY NINETIES

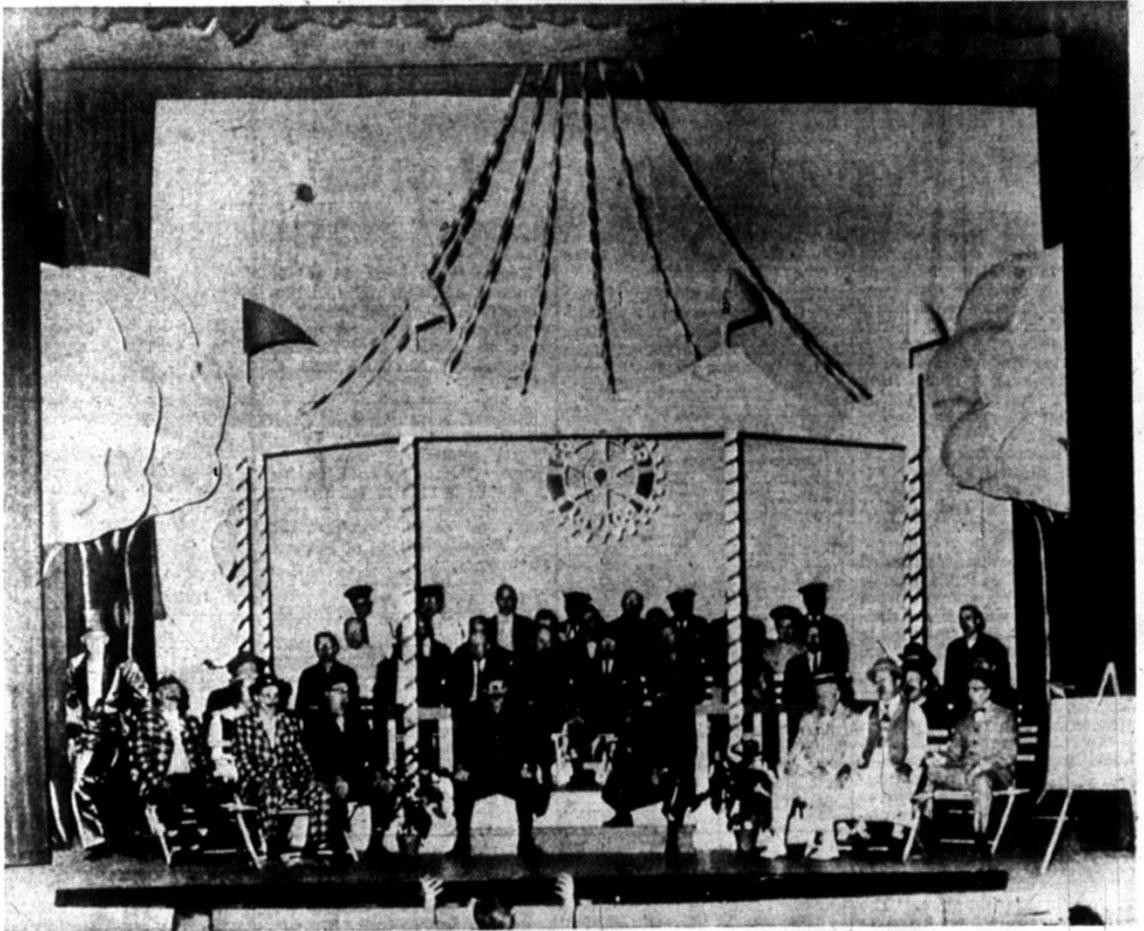


FATHER, DEAR FATHER



CUTIE (A REAL CARD) CULY

Rotary Show. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 3 1964.



FIRST NIGHT SOLD OUT — Tonight's opening performance of the Coldwater Rotary Minstrels' "Naughty Nineties" production, shown here in dress rehearsal at Tibbits Opera House last night, is a complete sellout! Ticket Chairman G. W. Collins announced this morning that all tickets have been

sold and that none will be sold at the door tonight. Some tickets for the Friday and Saturday night performances are still available but they too were disappearing rapidly today. Curtain time will be at 8:15 all three nights. (Daily Reporter photo)



COLDWATER ROTARY shows have become famous for their fun and music. One musical feature of this year's "Naughty Nineties" show is this well known trio, (l to r) Vince Kornstein, Ken Putnam and Ed Holtz. The 1964 pro-

duction, which opened to a SRO crowd at Tibbits Opera House Thursday night, played to an enthusiastic audience of 670 patrons Friday. The final performance is scheduled for 8:15 tonight. (Daily Reporter photo).

First Night Sold Out. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, April 2 1964.

Coldwater Rotary. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, April 4 1964.



DAVE NAULT

Dave Nault. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 4 1964.



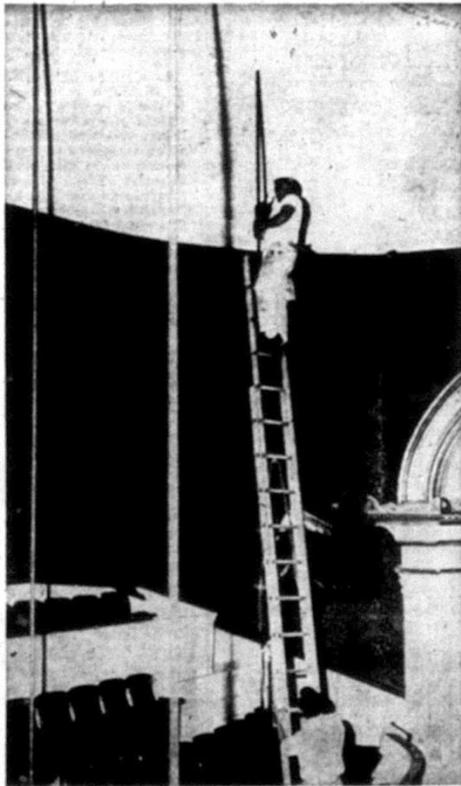
G. OTIS PIERCE

G. Otis Pierce. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 10 1964.



THE OUTSIDERS, a folksinging duo, will appear with Bob Newhart on April 12, at 8:30 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. The duo, relatively new on the entertainment scene, will accompany the well-known comedian when he is in Coldwater for a one-night concert. Tickets for this performance are available at the box office.

The Outsiders. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 7 1964.



PAINTING ONE OF THE BIG JOBS

Painting. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 12 1964 p41.



THE 'BUTTON-DOWN MIND' AT WORK

The Button-Down Mind at Work. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 12 1964.



HENRY L. SCOTT

Henry L. Scott Promo Photo. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 16 1964.

Henry L. Scott Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 17 1964.

"the Will Rogers of the Piano"

LIFE

HENRY L.

Distinguished concert pianist in his hilarious evening of music and humor.

SCOTT IN PERSON
at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
SAT., APRIL 25th
CURTAIN TIME 8:30 P.M.
TICKETS \$4.00 — \$2.50 — STUDENT \$1.00
AT THE BOX OFFICE 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
Phone No. 278-2356
Presented by the Tibbits Opera House Foundation



Signed Henry L. Scott Promo Photo. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. April 17 1964.



MAY 2, the world famous Wayne King and his orchestra will be in Coldwater to perform at the Tibbits Opera House. King, who has been known for many years as the "Waltz King", will be performing a one-nighter in the style with which he has long been identified. Accompanying the King orchestra will be Jim Hayes, who handles the vocal numbers for the orchestra. Tickets will be on sale soon at the Tibbits box office.

Wayne King. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 22 1964.

SPRING DRUM FESTIVAL

- 5 Drum & Bugle Corps
- Over 300 Participants
- Specialty Numbers

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE BENEFIT

Donation \$1.25 each

SUNDAY, 2 P.M., APRIL 26

Spring Drum Festival Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 25 1964 p20.

THE TIBBITS FOUNDATION
Announces
THE FIRST
American Theatre Festival
June 23 - Sept. 7

- ★11 Great American Plays. (such as "Solid Gold Cadillac," "Under The Yum Yum Tree," "Seven Year Itch.")
- ★"Jonathon," The Yankee Town Crier your host.
- ★Resident Professional Company
- ★Season ticket orders now being taken

Call Coldwater 278-2356 or write.

**AMERICAN THEATRE
FESTIVAL**

Tibbits Opera House Coldwater, Mich.

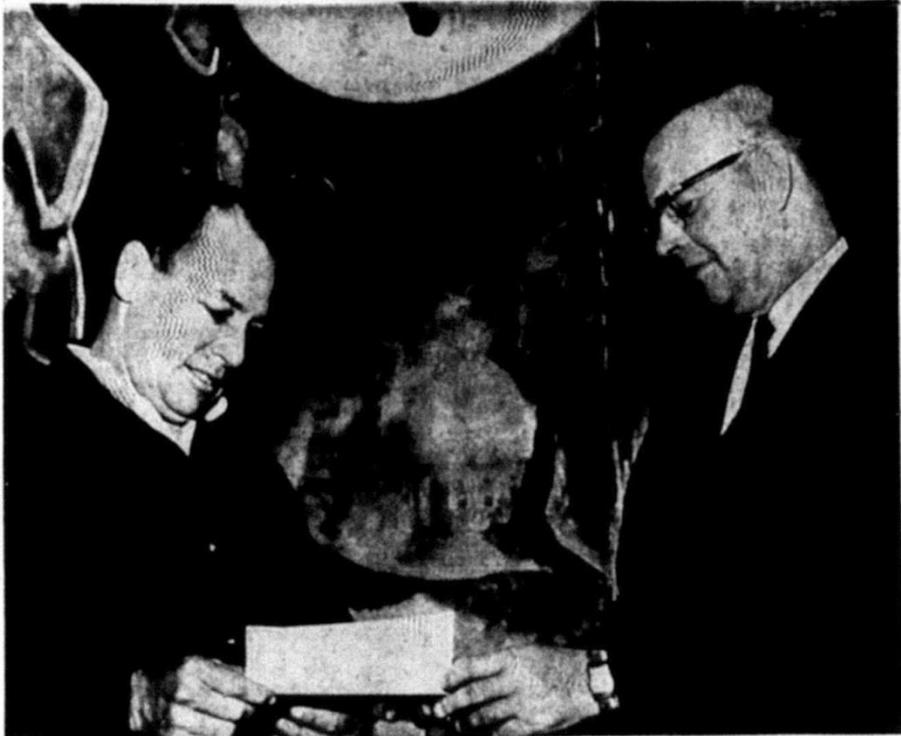
American Theatre Festival Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 27 1964 p12.



Jim Hayes. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 30 1964.

Michigan Gas Donation. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 30 1964.

JIM HAYES, vocalist, will accompany the Wayne King Sunday evening, with the curtain going up at 8:30 p.m. orchestra when it appears at the Tibbits Opera House on There are still tickets available for Sunday's performance by the "Waltz King", but reservations should be made soon.



V. M. STILSON (left), president of the Tibbits Opera House Foundation, is shown as he accepted a check Wednesday from Max L. Abbott, district manager of Michigan Gas Utilities company. The check represented the company's donation to the Tibbits restoration fund. (Daily Reporter photo)



WAYNE KING

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

"World famous Waltz King"

IN PERSON

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

MAY 3rd, SUNDAY

CURTAIN TIME 8:30 P.M.

Presented by the Tibbits Opera House Foundation

TICKETS \$5 — \$2 — \$1 STUDENTS

On sale now at box office — Phone 278-2356



BORIS GOLDOVSKY

Boris Goldovsky. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 02 1964 p12.

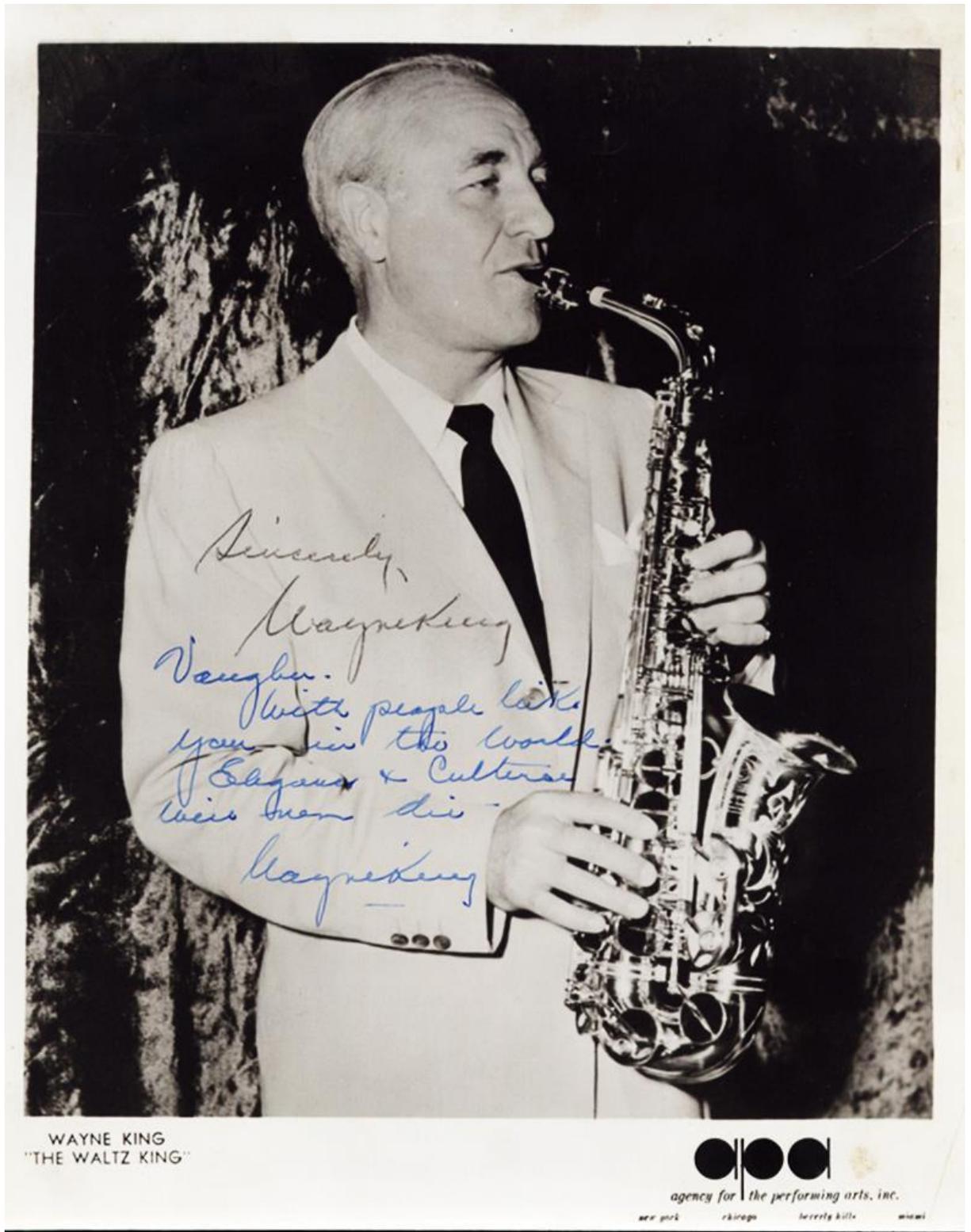
Wayne King Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 02 1964 p2.



JIM HAYES
FEATURED VOCALIST with
WAYNE KING ORCHESTRA

●●●
agency for the performing arts, inc.
new york chicago bererly hills miami

Signed Jim Hayes Promo Photo. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. May 2 1964.



WAYNE KING
"THE WALTZ KING"

agency for the performing arts, inc.
new york chicago hollywood hills miami

Signed Wayne King Promo Photo. 1964. Personal collection of George Vaughn Lowther. May 2 1964.



NEW WELCOME SIGNS AT CITY'S APPROACHES

New Welcome Signs. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 04 1964.



KENNETH KOHN

Kenneth Kohn. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 04 1964.



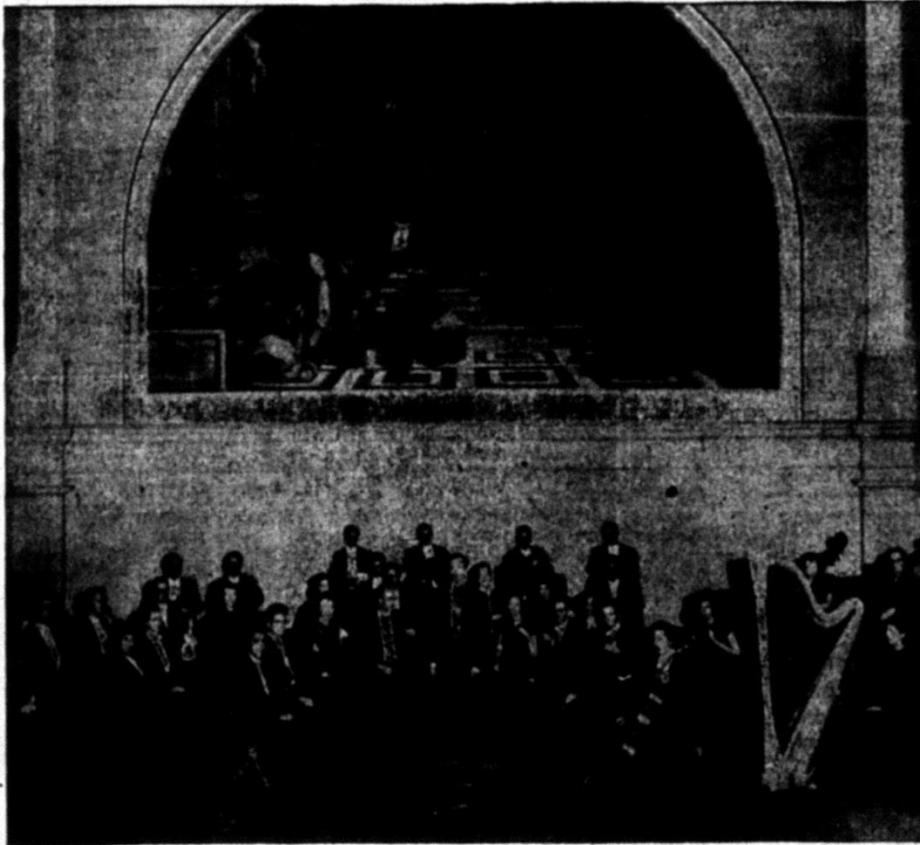
THE CROW, in *Reynard the Fox*, will be played by Katherine Montgomery, who has appeared previously with the Ft. Wayne Children's Theatre as the giant's wife in "Jack and the Beanstalk". The play will air Saturday and Sunday afternoons at the Tibbits Opera House.

The Crow. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 05 1964.



REYNARD THE FOX, a production of the Ft. Wayne Children's Theatre will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House on Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m., each day. The tickets are selling well, so it would be well to purchase them either today or early Saturday.

Reynard the Fox. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 08 1964.



*The Tibbits Opera House Foundation presents
The Distinguished American Pianist and Conductor*

WILLIAM PENNY HACKER

and the

VIRGINIA SYMPHONY

Wednesday, May 13th

Curtain time 8:30 p.m.

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Tickets at the Box Office Phone 278-2356

\$3.00 - \$2.50 - \$1.50 Students \$1.00

"He projected the material sound picture, exploited to the full the coloristic opportunities, and achieved the intangible impression of atmosphere intended by the composer." (Debussy)

—N. Y. Times

Virginia Symphony Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 13 1964.



GLENN CRANE



KATHY ZELLER



JOHN HOWARD GRIFFIN

author of International best seller

"Black Like Me"

*Skillful reporter, daring investigator and
superb speaker.*

IN PERSON

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

WED., MAY 20th

Curtain time 8:30 p.m.

Tickets \$3.50 - \$2.50 - \$2.00 - \$1.00 Students
at the Box Office

*"I changed the color of my skin, now
I know what it feels like to be black"!*

Presented by the Tibbits Opera House Foundation

Glenn Crane. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, May 14 1964.

Kathy Zeller. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, May 15 1964.

Black Like Me Ad. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, May 15 1964
p12.



JOSE MOLINA AND MARIA DEL ROCIO



GRIFFIN SPEAKS AT TIBBITS

JOSE MOLINA BAILES ESPANOLES
The Tibbits Opera House Foundation Presents
JOSE MOLINA
 and his **SPANISH DANCERS**
THURSDAY MAY 28th
 at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 Curtain time 8:30

Tickets \$3.50 - \$2.50 - \$2 - \$1 general admission Box office phone 278-2356

The program consists of songs and dances from all of the Spanish provinces from the great Spanish Opera and ballets, and from the Spanish Gypsy Camps.

See this outstanding song and dance troupe. \$100,000 wardrobe using 50 pairs of shoes and boots designed and made in Madrid. Come and enjoy this outstanding and amazing performance.

Jose Molina and Maria Del Rocio. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 20 1964.

Griffin Speaks at Tibbits. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 21 1964.

Jose Molina Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 22 1964 p2.



JOSE MOLINA
Bailes Espanoles

Featuring

Maria Del Rocio

Young Spanish Troupe in a
crisp Dance Program

THURSDAY, MAY 28th

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

CURTAIN TIME 8:30

Tickets at Box Office \$3.50 - \$2.50 - \$2.00 - \$1.00

Phone 278-2356

Presented by Tibbits Opera House Foundation

Jose Molina Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 25 1964 p2.



MOLINA COMPANY IN SPANISH COSTUME



THE ABOVE photo shows some of the colorful costumes to be seen when Jose Molina and his Spanish dance troupe visit the Tibbits Opera House Thursday night. The program will consist of twenty breathtakingly beautiful and exciting numbers which cover the whole colorful palette of Spanish dance. This is the final presentation of the season for the Tibbits Opera House Foundation program.

Molina Company in Spanish Costume. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 25 1964.

Molina Costumes. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 27 1964.

IN TIBBITS SUMMER STOCK
*University Teacher
To Be Leading Man*



TOM KING

Tom King. 1964. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, May 28 1964.



IRENE BELCHER

Irene Belcher. 1964. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, June 03 1964.



WILLIAM WALSH

William Walsh. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 04 1964.

First National Bank Donation. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 05 1964.



HAROLD STUKEY (left), Tibbits Foundation board member, receives a check from John Holcomb, president of the First National Bank of Quincy, representing that institution's contribution to the Tibbits Opera House restoration project. (Daily Reporter photo)

LADIES ONLY
Mrs. America
 and the
Original Mrs. America
 will be at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 MONDAY, JUNE 8, 8 P.M.
 in a
VARIETY SHOW
 with
Audience Participation

Door prize for the best question submitted from the floor.

Another 1st for Coldwater
Another 1st for the Tibbits
Another 1st for the Sweet Adelines

\$1.00 Donation

Tibbits Foundation Benefit
Sponsored by the Sweet Adelines

Ladies Only Ad. 1964.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 05 1964 p2.

Welcome America's Gracious Ladies. 1964.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 05 1964 p2.



Original Mrs. America
 MRS. JANET SPRAGUE
 ALBION, MICHIGAN

Welcome
 to two of
America's
 most
Gracious Ladies

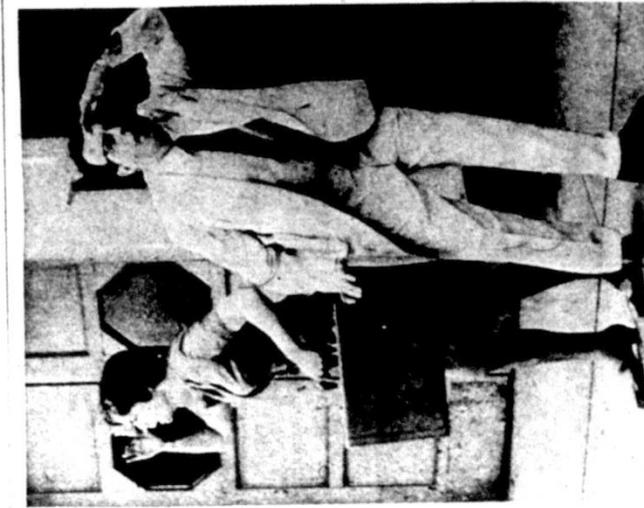


1964 Mrs. America
 MRS. DESREE JENKINS
 COLUMBIA, S. C.

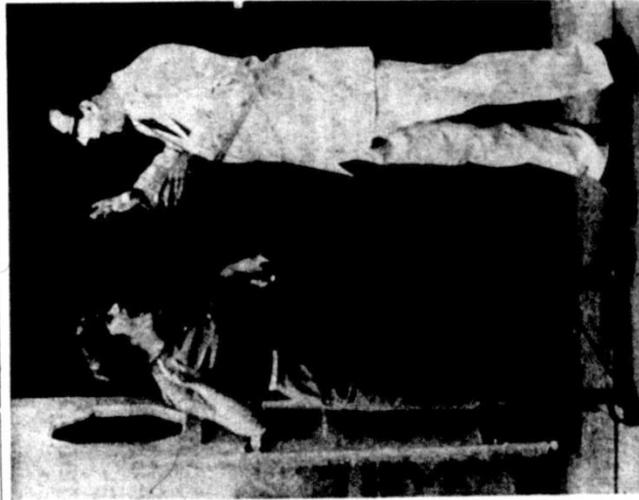


Coldwater has the Red Carpet out for you, and we are honored by your visit to our city.

Your Hosts
 The City of Coldwater
 and the
 Coldwater Chamber of Commerce



RUTH CHAMBERS, one of the leads for the forthcoming summerstock season in Coldwater, had a bit of trouble finding producer Glenn Crane when she arrived in town this week from California. When they found each other, however, they seemed to be overjoyed at the prospect of working together in the "American Theatre Festival," scheduled to open June 28.



with "Solid Gold Cadillac". Crane, acting as host for Miss Chambers, then suggested they look over the facilities of the Tibbitts Opera House, about which he is very enthusiastic (Daily Reporter photo)



American Theatre Festival. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 05 1964.



VIRGINIA



JOEL

Virginia and Joel Marsh.
1964. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, June 08 1964.

La Boheme. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, June 11
1964 p12.

LA BOHEME

*Company of 50
Orchestra & Soloists*

*Grand Opera
as Living Theater*

ALSO THREE MORE GREAT CONCERTS

*All four concerts (fall & winter) for only \$8.50
\$2.12 per concert*

A LIMITED number of Community Concert Memberships still available at the Music Mart through Saturday, June 13th until 5:30. All concerts will be given in the beautifully restored air conditioned Tibbitts Opera House. LAST CHANCE! Don't miss the greatest Concert Values to be offered during the coming season. ACT NOW!!!



EVEN WITH THEIR heavy rehearsal schedule, character actor William Walsh and ingenue Kathy Zeller found time to chat about the forthcoming production of "The Solid Gold Cadillac" which will open June 23. The morning was rather cool, and the natural place to talk was in front of the Tibbits. (Daily Reporter photo).



TOM AND ROSEMARY King take time out from their work with the American Theatre Festival to survey the stage at the Tibbits from the balcony. What better place for this young couple to see the stage where others will see King beginning next Tuesday? (Daily Reporter photo).

Solid Gold Cadillac. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 16 1964.

Tom and Rosemary King. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 18 1964.



A NUMBER OF the people present at last evening's dinner-reception could be seen in animated conversation about the forthcoming Coldwater summer stock season and the Tibbits Opera House. Among those present were (left to right) W. Hugh Humphrey, drama critic, Enquirer and News, Louise Carver, emcee of Feminine Fancies, WKZO-TV, her husband, Norman, director of the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre; and in the background, Miss Irene Belcher, leading lady in "Solid Gold Cadillac," which opens June 23. (Daily Reporter photo).

Dinner-reception. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 18 1964.



WORK, WORK, WORK is what the apprentices to the American Theatre Festival do, but they seem to be thriving on it. The girls are always willing to help Bill Shoop do the tough work. They are (l. to r.) Charlotte Button, Alice Harris, and "Rusty" Gillespie. *Daily Reporter photo.*

Work, Work, Work. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. *The Daily Reporter*, June 19 1964.



*Hear Ye!
Hear Ye!*

**TUESDAY NIGHT
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE**

Curtain Time 8:30

"SOLID GOLD CADILLAC"

June 23 thru 28

American Theatre Festival

Solid Gold Cadillac Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. *The Daily Reporter*, June 22 1964.



LAST MINUTE preparations were being made today for tonight's opening of Coldwater's first summer stock season. In addition to rehearsals, ticket sales, etc., Alfred Parke and Bill Petch constructed a marquee today, which is a real addition to the facade of the theatre. "Solid Gold Cadillac" which opens tonight and runs through Sunday is the first of 11 plays, but rehearsals have already started for "The Pursuit of Happiness" which opens next Tuesday. Director of "Pursuit" Walter Stump says that this is a very funny play about the lighter side of Early American life. Tickets are now on sale for all of the summer productions. (Daily Reporter, photo).

Last Minute Preparation. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 23 1964.

UPI-062407-6/24/64-COLUMBIAS, MICH: The Tibbits Opera House originally built in 1882 was reopened 6/23, after much redecorating, for the American Theater Festival which will run from 6/23 to 9/6. The building had been scheduled for demolition and a parking lot made from its site, but sponsors of the American Theater Festival restored it to an 1882 flavor. All has been restored but the exterior which will be refinished in the near future. Symbolizing the colonial flavor is the "town crier" on the marquee which was famous to early American literature. UPI TELEPHOTO mgm



American Theatre Festival. 1964. Personal collection of Terry Mulchahey. June 24 1964.



TEAMWORK—The four top executives of the General Products Corporation, the fictional company in "Solid Gold Cadillac" (l. to r.) Charles Hutchins, Glenn Crane, Joel Marsh, and Kenneth Kohn, use teamwork to get Mrs. Laura Partridge (Irene Belcher) to do them a favor. The final performance of "Cadillac" is Sunday evening and Tuesday

is the opening of "The Pursuit of Happiness" a comedy about the Early American custom of bundling which stars Kathy Zeller and Tom King in the leading roles. Tickets may be reserved or bought at the box office before the performance. (Daily Reporter photo).



PURSUIT???—Could the "Pursuit of Happiness" possibly be this scene from "Solid Gold Cadillac" in which (l. to r.) William Walsh, Ruth Chambers, Tom King, and Irene Belcher discover thousands of proxies authorizing them to take over the company? It could be, but the "Pursuit" of which we speak is the comedy opening Tuesday which concerns bundling. Tickets can be purchased anytime at the Tibbits Box office. (Daily Reporter photo).

Teamwork. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
June 26 1964.

Pursuit. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
June 27 1964 p2.

C O P Y

July 27, 1964

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned, hereby pledge our individual assets to be responsible for an individual loan to H. F. Stukeij, Coldwater, Michigan, in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) and to Stukeij's Inn, 62 W. Chicago St., Coldwater, Michigan, in the amount of approximately (\$3,800.00), covering meals and lodgings with the understanding that this arrangement supersedes any other arrangement with the American Theatre Festival Corporation.

Signed:

Glenn Crane
3960 Walnut Leaf Dr.
Bloomington, Ind.

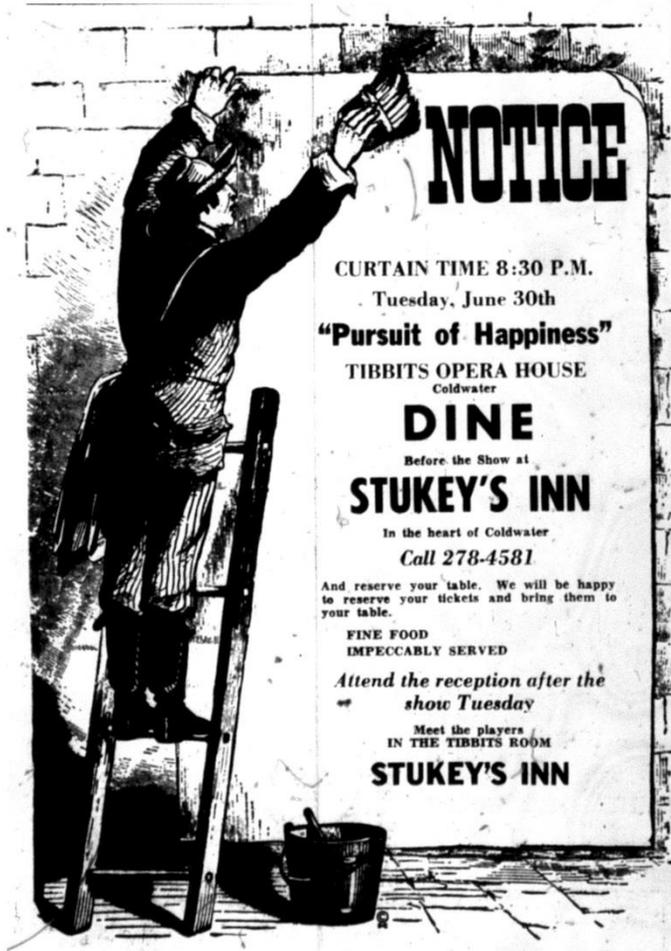
Kenneth W. Kohn
Box 318 B R 10
Country Squire Estates
Bloomington, Ind.

Walter Stump
409 N. Roosevelt Ave.
Bloomington, Ind.

Witness:

Ernest W. Luse

ATF Producers Letter of Loan. 1964. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 27 June 1964. TS. Coldwater, MI.



Stuckey's 'Pursuit of Happiness' Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 29 1964 p2.



KATHY BELLER AND TOM KING ON STAGE

Kathy Zeller and Tom King on Stage. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 30 1964.



Stukey's Man Who Came to Dinner Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 06 1964p10.

Scene from 'Pursuit'. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 01 1964.



A SCENE FROM "The Pursuit of Happiness", now playing at the Tibbits, involves David Higgins as the Virginia Light Horse officer and Virginia Marsh as Meg, a serving girl. All the properties for this production are antiques, aquired from members of the community. (Daily Reporter photo)



VETERAN ACTOR. William Walsh will be playing the part of Sheridan Whiteside, veteran critic, in this week's forthcoming production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner", opening tomorrow evening at the Tibbits.



WILLIAM WALSH. "The Man Who Came to Dinner", looks appalled at the prospect of eating Jerri Parke's calf's foot jelly, while Florence Fuhrman waits to present him with her gift, a flower arrangement. Both women are in the cast for the play which will be at the Tibbits through Sunday.



SPECIAL PLEADING — A little special pleading is done in this scene from "The Man Who Came to Dinner", which opens tonight at the Tibbits. Ruth Chambers who plays the dedicated and long suffering secretary of Sheridan Whiteside, played by William Walsh, takes advantage of her position to ask the great drama critic to read a playscript written by her boyfriend. To find out his answer and the other comic situations which arise, see the play any night from tonight through Sunday.

Veteran Actor. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 06 1964.

William Walsh. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 08 1964.

Special Pleading. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 07 1964.



IRENE BELCHER, character actress with the American Theatre Festival now in its third week, with "The Man Who Came to Dinner" helps Ty McConnell try on one of the hats in the costume collection which he was interested in seeing while here. Phyllis Dudick, publicity director of the Festival, seems enthralled by the scene, but Joel Marsh is concerned only with his attempt to get his foot into one of the high boots used in an early production. (Daily Reporter photo)

Irene Belcher. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 09 1964.



JACK SHOUSE, young set designer for the American Theatre Festival, caught in a rare moment of relaxation on the set of "The Man Who Came to Dinner" which will be at the Tibbits now through Sunday evening. Shouse's next project is the set for "Under the Yum, Yum Tree", beginning Tuesday, which he says will be "a really elaborate one". (Daily Reporter photo)

Jack Shouse. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 10 1964.



AT WORK—While the company of the American Theatre Festival is presenting "The Man Who Came to Dinner", which runs through Sunday evening, it is also in rehearsal for the next two presentations at the Tibbits, "Under the Yum, Yum Tree", directed by Robert Miller, and "Ten Nights in a Barroom", presently being adapted as a musical comedy-melodrama by Walter Stump. Part of the cast for "Yum, Yum Tree", now in final rehearsals for Tuesday's opening, stands watching as Miller gives a bit of direction to Virginia Marsh, who plays the aunt. In the background are Kathy Zeller and Tom King. (Daily Reporter photo).

At Work. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 11 1964 p2.



JONATHAN, THE TOWN
CRIER WILL GREET YOU
NIGHTLY

SEASON
PLAYBILL

"Under The Yum
Yum Tree"
JULY 14 - 19

"Ten Nights in
The Barroom"
JULY 21 - 26

"Mister Roberts"
JULY 28 - AUGUST 2

"The Girls in 509"
AUGUST 4 - 9

"Picnic"
AUGUST 11 - 16

"The Seven Year
Itch"
AUGUST 18 - 23

"Little Mary
Sunshine"
AUGUST 25 - 30

"Light Up The Sky"
SEPTEMBER 1 - 6

THE AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

PRESENTS

TUESDAY thru SUNDAY!

Under the Yum-Yum Tree

By Lawrence Roman



The comedy Broadway loved . . . now
causing a nation to howl in delight . . .
Recommended for adults only

- ★ PROFESSIONAL SUMMER STOCK —
- ★ ELEGANTLY RESTORED OPERA HOUSE
- ★ AIR CONDITIONED

Showtime 8:30 p.m.
Tues. thru Suns.

PRICES

Tues. - Thurs. \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00

Fri. - Sun. \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

SPECIAL GROUP RATES

CALL 278-2356

for advance reservations

Tickets at Door



HOGAN, (Glenn Crane), the Don Juan-type bachelor in "Under the Yum, Yum Tree" looks longingly at his new tenant played by Kathy Zeller. The comedy opens Tuesday at the Tibbits Opera House. Tom King, as the fiance, looks baffled while the ex-tenant, played by Virginia Marsh observes knowingly. The comedy plays through Sunday.



IN THIS SCENE from "Under the Yum Yum Tree", which opens this evening at the Tibbits, it looks as though Hogan (Glenn Crane) is pleased and surprised that Kathy Zeller, his new tenant, is so easily talked into the romantic things in life. Tom King, her boyfriend in the play, looks as though the prospect doesn't bother him too much either. Tickets are available for "Yum Yum Tree" at the Tibbits box office or by telephone reservation.

Stukey's Yum Yum Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 13 1964 p10.

Hogan. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 13 1964.

In this Scene. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 14 1964.



TOM KING, who is quite angry at Hogan (Glenn Crane) in this scene from "Under the Yum-Yum Tree", has one of his arms in a hammerlock, but this does not deter him from giving one of his characteristic "Hi's" to Kathy Zeller, who is quite puzzled by the whole thing. The play runs tonight through Sunday with tickets available at the door or by telephone reservation.



HOGAN (Glenn Crane) the landlord-wolf in "Under the Yum-Yum Tree" now through Sunday at the Tibbits, looks in on a little romantic interlude involving Kathy Zeller and Tom King.

Tom King. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 15 1964.

Hogan. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 16 1964 p2.



SUZY AND TONY SHOWALTER AND CHARLOTTE BUTTON

Suzy and Tony Showalter and Charlotte Button. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 17 1964.



JONATHAN, THE TOWN
CRIER WILL GREET YOU
NIGHTLY

**SEASON
PLAYBILL**

**"Under The Yum
Yum Tree"**
NOW THRU SUNDAY

**"Ten Nights in
The Barroom"**
JULY 21 - 30

"Mister Roberts"
JULY 28 - AUGUST 2

"The Girls in 509"
AUGUST 4 - 9

"Picnic"
AUGUST 11 - 16

**"The Seven Year
Itch"**
AUGUST 18 - 23

**"Little Mary
Sunshine"**
AUGUST 25 - 30

"Light Up The Sky"
SEPTEMBER 1 - 6

THE AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

Now Playing thru Sunday
"Under The Yum Yum Tree"

OPENING TUES. THRU SUN.!



A musical extravaganza based on the well known melo-
drama of the Gay 90's. Adapted by Walter Stump.

★ PROFESSIONAL SUMMER STOCK —

★ ELEGANTLY RESTORED OPERA HOUSE

★ AIR CONDITIONED

**Showtime 8:30 p.m.
Tues. thru Sun.**

PRICES

Tues. - Thurs. \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00

Fri. - Sun. \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

SPECIAL GROUP RATES

CALL 278-2356

for advance reservations

Tickets at Door

Ten Nights in a Barroom Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 17 1964 p2.



VIRGINIA MARSH and Bob Miller clown in a rehearsal for "Ten Nights in a Barroom" the next production scheduled at the Tibbits, opening Tuesday evening. Here the landlord (Miller) drinks a toast to Mrs. Marsh who plays the sweet young thing in this melodrama which has been adapted into a musical comedy.

NOTICE

CURTAIN TIME 8:30 P.M.
 Tuesday, July 21
TEN NIGHTS IN A BARROOM
 a musical extravaganza
 at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 Coldwater

DINE
 Before the Show at
Stuckey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater
 Call 278-4581
 And reserve your tables. We will be happy to reserve your tickets and bring them to your table.

FINE FOOD
 IMPECCABLY SERVED
 Attend the reception after the show Tuesday
 Meet the players

Stuckey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater

Virginia Marsh and Bob Miller. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 18 1964 p2.



IRENE BELCHER, Bob Miller, Virginia Marsh, and Kathy Zeller, pose at a piano built in the 1880's. The four are members of the cast of "Ten Nights in a Barroom", to be presented at the Tibbits Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 8:30. Tickets are available at the box office.

Stuckey's Ten Nights in a Barroom Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 20 1964 p10.

Ten Nights in a Barroom. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 20 1964.



PIANIST — Mrs. Roy C. Patterson, pictured above in front of the backdrop designed by Al Parke, is performing nightly with the American Theatre Festival's fifth production, "Ten Nights in a Barroom". She will be replaced Friday evening by Doug Hoopingarner, who, it was previously announced, would accompany the group nightly.

Pianist. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 21 1964.



DAVID HIGGINS and Jack Shouse seem to be thinking about the significance of the Al Parke backdrop being used this week as part of "Ten Nights in a Barroom". The cupid directly above Shouse's head has gotten into the cigars held by the Indian and appears to be quite ill.

David Higgins and Jack Shouse. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 23 1964.



THE AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL

TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

PRESENTS

★ PROFESSIONAL SUMMER STOCK THRU SEPT. 6 ★

"TEN NIGHTS IN A BARROOM"

a musical extravaganza

TONITE — SUNDAY!

OPENING TUESDAY

JULY 29 THRU AUGUST 2



"Mister Roberts"

Comedy by THOMAS HEGGEN and JOSHUA LOGAN
(Based on the Novel by THOMAS HEGGEN)

AMERICA'S LOVEABLE, LAUGHABLE ALL-TIME
FAVORITE

NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN—

"'Mr. Roberts' is distinguished by long lusty laughter
and quiet, tender tears." ✦

TIME MAGAZINE—

"'Mr. Roberts' triumphs as a human picture."

NEW YORK SUN—

"'Mr. Roberts' is positively magnificent . . . sharp, ve-
hement, enormously entertaining."

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS—

"'Mr. Roberts' is everything that is wonderful in the
theatre."

SHOW TIME 8:30 P.M.

TUES. — SUN.

AT THE AIR CONDITIONED

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Call 278-2356

for advance reservations

SPECIAL GROUP RATES

Tickets also at door

Mister Roberts ATF Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 24 1964 p2.



HOWARD TEETER (at right) receives check from John A. Kennedy, president of Quality Springs Product, Inc., representing that firm's second contribution to the Tibbits Opera House restoration fund. Looking on (l to r) are John Dean and William A. Milnes, directors of the company and Frederick Weeks, vice president. (Daily Reporter photo)



Howard Teeter. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 25 1964.

Stukeey's Mister Roberts Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 27 1964 p2.



GLENN CRANE, Tom King, and Joel Marsh laugh in a scene from "Mister Roberts", about a plot to use the firecracker in Ensign Pulver's (King's) hand on the Captain, who will be played by Robert Miller. Marsh will be playing the title role, "Mr. Roberts",

Mr. Roberts. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 27 1964.



THE MEMBERS of the crew of the AK 601, the fictitious cargo vessel in "Mister Roberts", originally called the U.S.S. Reluctant by author Thomas Hagen, have spotted the first women they have seen in many a month. In the picture are (l to r) Mick Cochrane, Kenneth W. Kohn, David Higgins, Douglas Hoopingartner, and Jeffrey Miller.

The Members of the Crew. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 28 1964.



MEMBERS OF the crew of the AK60], who have had no liberty for over a year find tensions too much to handle in one scene from "Mister Roberts" and start a fist fight. Involved are Mich Cochrane, Kenneth Kohn, C, David Higgins, Douglas Hoopingartner, George Spelvin, and Jeffery Miller.



DREAMER — Joel Marsh as "Mister Roberts", in the play of the same name, looks out over the ocean seeing a task force in his mind. Tom King, who plays Ensign Pulver, seems to be having a difficult time conjuring up the same image in his mind, which functions on a different level. The play runs tonight through Sunday and tickets are available at the door or by telephone reservation.

Tensions Too Much to Handle. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 29 1964.

Dreamer. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 30 1964.



**THE
AMERICAN
THEATRE
FESTIVAL**
TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE
COLDWATER

**TONITE THRU SUNDAY!
"MISTER ROBERTS"**

Opening Tues., Aug. 4



THE COMEDY HIT BY HOWARD TEICHMANN

- ★ PROFESSIONAL SUMMER STOCK THRU SEPT. 6.
- ★ IN THE ELEGANTLY RESTORED
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
- ★ COMPLETE AIR-CONDITIONING

TICKET PRICES

TUES. - THURS. — \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00
FRI. - SUN. — \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

**SHOW TIME 8:30 P.M.
TUES. — SUN.**

**Call 278-2356
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
for advance reservations
TICKETS ALSO AT DOOR**

NOTICE

CURTAIN TIME 8:30 P.M.
 American Theatre Festival
 Presents
"THE GIRLS IN 509"
 Tuesday, August 4th
 TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 Coldwater

DINE
 Before the Show at
Stukey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater
 Call 278-4581

And reserve your tables. We will be happy to reserve your tickets and bring them to your table.

FINE FOOD
 IMPECCABLY SERVED

Attend the reception after the show Tuesday
 Meet the players

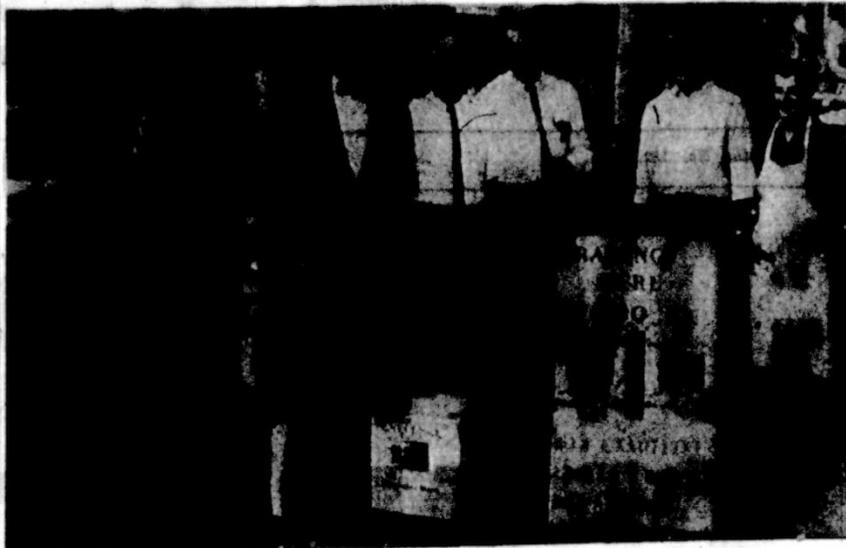
Stukey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Girls in 509 Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 03 1964 p12.



NERVES ALREADY frayed by the tyranny of Capt. Morton, played by Robert Miller (left) are near the breaking point in this scene from "Mister Roberts" where Morton tells the men they are not to be without their shirts, even while working. Seamen in the picture are (standing) Jeffery Miller and C. David Higgins and (sitting) Douglas Hoopingarner

Nerves Already. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 31 1964.



A CHAUFFEURED Rolls Royce for an evening and tickets to one of the American Theatre Festival plays was the prize that was given away Saturday night in the downtown Coldwater area. The drawing, which was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, was won by Clifford Foster of 224 W. Pearl-st. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Patterson (second and third from left) are the owners of the Rolls and will be doing the chauffeuring. The others in the picture are area merchants and residents. The contest will be going on for five more weeks. (Daily Reporter photo)

A Chauffeured Rolls Royce. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 03 1964 p2.

Stukey's Picnic Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 08 1964 p12.



ATTORNEY Aubrey McKittridge (Tom King) discusses financial losses with Aunt Hettie (Irene Belcher) as her niece, Mimsy (Ruth Chambers) listens curiously in the comedy hit "The Girls in 59"; Kenneth W. Kohn directed the show, which opens this evening at the Tibbits



WILLIAM WALSH, as the chairmen of both the Democratic and Republican Parties, talks to Ruth Chambers and Irene Belcher about the philosophies of both parties in "Girls in 509" which plays at the Tibbits tonight through Sunday.

Attorney Aubrey McKittridge. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 04 1964.

William Walsh. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 05 1964.



**THE
AMERICAN
THEATRE
FESTIVAL**
TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE
COLDWATER

TUESDAY THRU SUNDAY
August 11 thru August 16

"PICNIC"

"PICNIC" . . . the powerful drama
by William Inge

"PICNIC" . . . winner of the Pulitzer Prize
and Critic's Circle Award

DIRECTED BY WALTER STUMP

TICKET PRICES

TUES. - THURS. — \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00
FRI. - SUN. — \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

- * GROUP DISCOUNT RATES *
- * PROFESSIONAL COMPANY
- * SUMMER STOCK THRU SEPT 6
- * AIR-CONDITIONED THEATRE.

— RESERVATIONS —
WRITE OR CALL

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
278-2356

Tickets also at door

ATF Picnic Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 08 1964 p2.



KATHY ZELLER and David Higgins emote in a scene from William Inge's "Picnic" which opens Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in the Tibbits Opera House. The play is directed by Walter Stump, who also directed "Pursuit of Happiness".



DAVID HIGGINS

Kathy Zeller and David Higgins, Picnic. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 08 1964.

David Higgins. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 08 1964 p3.



Virginia Marsh Explains. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 13 1964 p2.

VIRGINIA MARSH (right) explains the necessity for Allison Crockett (Millie) to understand her sister Madge in "Picnic", now playing at the Tibbits. Mrs. Marsh plays the mother in the play, and Miss Crockett the younger sister who is more intelligent, but not as pretty as her older sister, played by Kathy Zeller.



MILLIE — (Allison Crockett) dreams her own dreams in this scene from "Picnic", while Madge and Hal (Kathy Zeller and David Higgins), dream only of each other. "Picnic", by William Inge, opens tonight at the Tibbits.

Millie. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 11 1964 p2.



HOWARD BEVANS (Bill Walsh) and Rosemary Sydney, who is played by Ruth Chambers, discuss marriage in this scene from "Picnic", playing tonight through Sunday at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are on sale at the box office or by reservation.

Howard Bevans. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 12 1964 p2.



**THE
AMERICAN
THEATRE
FESTIVAL**
TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE
COLDWATER

TONITE THRU SUNDAY

"PICNIC"

Directed by Walter Stump

"... the Festival group has reached its peak of perfection to date with 'Picnic' " — Humphrey - Battle Creek Enquirer.

"... all the words that come to mind are adjectives: exciting, touching, sad, amazing ... brilliant" — Tarf - Reporter.

TUESDAY THRU SUNDAY

AUGUST 18 THRU 23



**the seven
year itch**

Starring

Kathy Zeller and Bob Miller

Staged by Glenn Crane

What happens when a "seven-year" husband becomes a "summer bachelor"?

If you laughed at "The Seven Year Itch" in the movies, you'll roar at it as a play.

SPECIAL MATINEE FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

2:30 P.M.

Evening Performances 8:30 p.m.

Tues. - Thurs. \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00; Fri. - Sun. \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

Special Matinee all seats \$1.00 & \$2.00

*** Group Discount Plan ***
for all performances

Reservations 278-2356

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

ATF Seven Year Itch Ad.. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 14 1964 p2.



DAVID HIGGINS (Hal) talks to Kathy Zeller (Madge) and Tom King (Alan Seymour) in this scene from "Picnic" which plays now through Sunday evening at the Tibbits. Opening Tuesday evening is "Seven Year Itch".

David Higgins. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 14 1964.



AMERICAN THEATRE Festival favorite Bob Miller imagines himself as a great Don Juan in "The Seven Year Itch", hilarious Broadway hit opening Tuesday night at the Tibbits. Kathy Zeller plays the girl in his dream. The production is staged by Glenn Crane.

Stukey's Seven-Year Itch Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 17 1964 p2.

American Theatre Festival Favorite. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 17 1964.

Dr. Brubaker. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 18 1964, p2.



DR. BRUBAKER (William Walsh) a client, becomes a psychiatrist to Bob Miller, the seven-year husband who becomes a "summer bachelor" in "The Seven Year Itch" opening tonight at the Tibbits.



JOEL AND VIRGINIA Marsh, popular husband-wife team in the American Theatre Festival company, are featured in "The Seven Year Itch" tonight through Sunday at the Tibbits Opera House. Mrs. Marsh plays the wife of Bob Miller and Marsh, the playboy writer who finds Mrs. Marsh very attractive.



HEAP BIG INJUN — Jack Shouse, Bob Miller, and David Higgins in rehearsal for "Me Heap Big Injun" number from "Little Mary Sunshine", slated to open Tuesday at the Tibbits. The show is being choreographed by Miller and some of the steps in the original dance numbers are authentically Indian. Higgins, featured dancer in this number, danced several years with a professional Indian Dance troupe. (Daily Reporter photo)

Joel and Virginia Marsh. 1964.

Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 20 1964 p2.

Heap Big Injun. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 21 1964.



Little Mary Sunshine
Ad. 1964. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Aug 24
1964 p10.

Miss Keller. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
Aug 24 1964.

Walter Stump. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
Aug 25 1964.



WALTER STUMP



MISS KELLER



DAVID HIGGINS plays Yellow Feather, the Indian villain in "Little Mary Sunshine," the musical-comedy which opens this evening at the Tibbits.



MISS TYLOR

THE AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL
 TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 —COLDWATER—
OPENING TUESDAY NIGHT
 SEPTEMBER 1 THRU 6

MOSS HART'S GREATEST COMEDY HIT
LIGHT UP THE SKY

MOSS HART'S "INSIDE" VIEW OF SHOW BUSINESS
 STARRING
 ★ WILLIAM WALSH ★ RUTH CHAMBERS
 ★ IRENE BELCHER ★ TOM KING

**SEE the widely acclaimed festival play's
 in their final show of the season**
 TUES. THRU SUN.
 SHOWTIME 8:30 P.M.

SEATING PRICES
 TUES. - WED. - THURS. — \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00
 FRI. - SAT. - SUN. — \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50

For Reservations 278-2356
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 ★ TICKETS ALSO AT DOOR ★

David Higgins as Yellow Feather. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 25 1964.

Miss Keller. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 24 1964.

Miss Tylor. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 28 1964.



Stukeey's Light Up the Sky Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 31 1964 p12.



AMERICAN THEATRE Festival favorite Ruth Chambers plays a "star" this week in "Light Up The Sky." Moss Hart's celebrated inside view of show business, opening tonight at the Tibbits Opera House. Curtain time is at 8:30 p.m. with performances tonight through Sunday.

American Theatre Festival Favorite. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 01 1964.



AT THE American Theatre Festival, director Carleton Fitzgerald (Tom King), "stir" Irene Livingston (Ruth Chambers), and producer Sidney Black (William Walsh) toast to the success of their new play in "Light Up The Sky," Moss Hart's greatest comedy hit opening Tuesday night at the Tibbits Opera House.

Director Carleton Fitzgerald. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 31 1964.



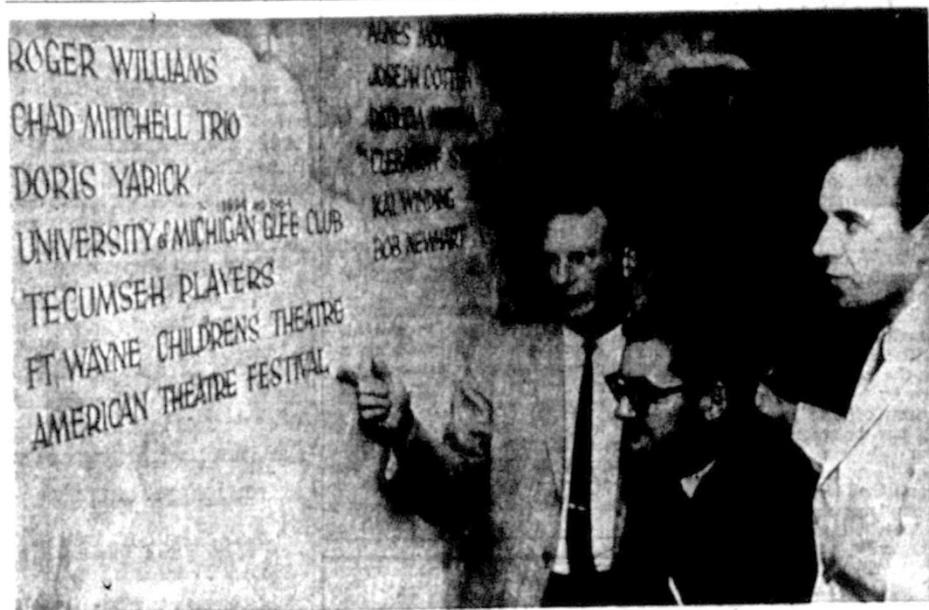
CARLETON FITZGERALD (Tom King), Sidney Black (William Walsh), the star's mother (Irene Belcher) and the "star" (Ruth Chambers) feud about their play's opening night in "Light Up The Sky" playing now through Sunday at the Tibbits.

Carleton Fitzgerald. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 03 1964.

William Walsh. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 05 1964 p2.



WILLIAM WALSH



AMERICAN THEATRE Festival producers Kenneth Kohn, Walter Stump and Glenn Crane take a look at the addition to the list of guest artists at the Tibbits Opera House. The second season opens the first week in October, with plans already in progress for the second American Theatre Festival next summer.

Guest Artists. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 11 1964.

Stukey's Inn, Inc.

61 W. Chicago St. 774-4581 Ann 317
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN 49036

September 16, 1964

Mr. V. M. Stillson
200 W. Pearl St.,
Coldwater, Michigan

Dear Mr. Stillson:

I am sorry that you felt it necessary to write me your letter of August 24th with copies to all members of the Board of Trustees of the Tibbits Foundation. It appears to me that such differences as you and I may have, if any, should not be the subject of community discussion which might adversely affect the Foundation's objectives and purposes.

I am obliged to point out to you, however, that my interest is not that the management of the Foundation should be changed, only that the Board members and the community be given accurate and complete information respecting its finances, obligations and commitments and voice in the decisions made.

My record of financial assistance and interest in the Foundation speaks for itself.

Your recollection of the circumstances of your commitment of \$1500.00 to the American Theater Festival advance is not the same as mine, but this is a matter between us, it seems to me. If you now prefer not to reimburse me for the one-half of the advance, then the full amount of the advance I made of \$3,000.00 will presently be repaid to me by Messrs Crane, Kohn and Stump, together with the more than \$3800.00 which is owed to Stukey's Inn for meals and lodging for the players and personnel of the Festival while at Stukey's Inn.

I have confidence that the Tibbits Foundation can be a success here if its affairs are managed with financial prudence and good judgment and the decisions made on its

Stukey's Inn, Inc.

61 W. Chicago St. 774-4581 Ann 317
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN 49036

September 16, 1964.

Mr. V. M. Stillson
Page 2 -

behalf are carefully considered by the Board members.

You have a good Board to work with.

I have supported the Summer Theater group and trust that its next season will see it grow and prosper. Here, again, I think the key to its success is financial responsibility.

Mr. Crane, Mr. Kohn and Mr. Stump did not hesitate to execute their acknowledgment of liability to me and to Stukey's Inn. It appeared to be good business to have this since the funds were not immediately forthcoming, for the payment of these obligations. I would say that my patience and forbearance in this matter might more appropriately be commended than condemned.

No doubt they have some plans for liquidation of this liability which they may wish to communicate to me presently.

You may be assured that the contents of your letter have not deterred me from my objective to restore Stukey's Inn to such a position that the community will have pride in its presence and to establish it as a going business concern instead of one in which operations result in substantial losses.

I shall continue to be interested in such work of civic enterprises as the Tibbits Foundation and look forward to its future successful and responsible operation.

Yours very truly,

Harold F. Stukey

Harold F. Stukey

cc: Directors and
Officers of the
Tibbits Foundation



ANITA BRYANT



STAN GETZ



STOCKTON BURNS

Anita Bryant. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 17 1964.

Stan Getz. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 25 1964.

Stockton Burns. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 29 1964.



EVEN IN a sensitive, touching tribute to Carl Sandburg there is room for comic relief as illustrated by this rehearsal of a scene from "The World of Carl Sandburg" to open at the Tibbits Thursday evening. In the show are Stockton Burns, William Walsh and Ruth Chambers. (Daily Reporter photo)



STOCKTON BURNS, noted young actor from New York, will appear with Ruth Chambers and William Walsh Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings in "The World of Carl Sandburg" at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Carl Sandburg. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 06 1964.

Stockton Burns. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 07 1964.



ONE OF THE principal annual projects of the Delta Iota chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority is ushering at the Tibbits Opera House performances. This project is undertaken by the following (l to r standing) Mrs. Jack Hipchen, Mrs. William Jones, Mrs. Robert Corless, Mrs. Godfrey Collins, Mrs. Tille Ivey, Mrs. Charles Hapner, Mrs. E. John Klein, Mrs. Wendell Langwell, and Mrs. Philip Lundy. Seated left to right are Mrs. Edward Gifford, Mrs. Bernard Rurka, and Mrs. Norman Marszalec. Not pictured are co-chairman Mrs. Joseph Linteau and Mrs. Harry Cletcher. (Daily Reporter photo)

Delta Iota Project. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 07 1964 p16.

The Kiwanis Club of Coldwater

Presents

The Eighth Annual

WORLD TRAVEL SERIES

1964-65 Season

- 1—Oct. 17, 1964
HOLIDAY IN QUEBEC
Howard Pollard
- 2—Nov. 14, 1964
HUNZA LAND
Renee Taylor
- 3—Jan. 30, 1965
PAN-AM HIGHWAY
Don Cooper
- 4—Feb. 27, 1965
THE NEW HOLLAND
Harry R. Reed
- 5—Mar. 20, 1965
THE WORLD OF CALIFORNIA
LeRoy Crooks
- 6—May 1, 1965
AFRICAN WILDLIFE IN ACTION
Larry Linnard

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
8 p.m. Saturday Nites

Season Tickets \$5. Available at Craig's Pharmacy,
Coreys-Best, Tribolets, Corless Cleaners, Albright's
Electric Shop and Tibbits Box Office.

Kiwanis Travelogue Ad. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Oct 17 1964 p3.

Opening Tonight. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Oct 08 1964 p2.



OPENING TONIGHT — Tonight marks the opening of "The World of Carl Sandburg" at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are on sale for all three performances at the box office. Starring will be (l to r) Ruth Chambers, Stockton Burns, and William Walsh. (Daily Reporter photo)



STOCKTON AND MISS CHAMBERS

Stockton and Miss Chambers. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 31 1964 p2.



CHARLES T. MARSH

Charles Marsh. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 03 1964 p2.

*The American Theatre Festival Repertory
Co. under the auspices of*
The Tibbits Opera Foundation
presents
George Bernard Shaw's wonderfully
warm and witty romantic comedy
CANDIDA
Students $\frac{1}{2}$ price Special group rates
Nov. 4, 5, 6 8:30 curtain 278-2356

Candida Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 03 1964 p2.



"MR. BURGESS" (William Walsh) and "Miss Prossy" (Kathy Zeller) take on two ambitious character roles for the forthcoming Repertory company production of "Candida". Ruth Chambers will play the lead role with Stockton Burns as Marchbanks, the young poet who nearly upsets her married life with Glenn Crane.



GLENN CRANE (Dr. Morell), Ruth Chambers (Candida) and Stockton Burns (Marchbanks) discuss the problem of Candida's choosing between the two men in the American Theatre Festival's Repertory company's production at the Tibbits tonight and tomorrow night. Anger shows in Crane's face, while Burns exhibits the idealistic approach to the matter and Miss Chambers appears distressed by the whole matter

Mr. Burgess. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 03 1964.

No Title. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 04 1964.

Glenn Crane. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 05 1964.

Final Performance Tonight

George Bernard Shaw's

CANDIDA

278-2356 TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

8:30 Curtain Students 1/2 price Group rates

Candida Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 06 1964 p2.

To Appear. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 06 1964.

Hummon Sisters Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 06 1964 p2.

Don't Miss This Opportunity

to hear good Sacred Music

THE HUMMON SISTERS

at the

TIBBITS THEATRE

8:30 P.M. NOV. 7, 1964

*in co-operation with the Greater
Coldwater Ministerial Association.*



TO APPEAR — The Coldwater Ministerial Association, in conjunction with the Tibbits Opera Foundation, will present an evening of inspiration music featuring the nationally known Hummon Sisters Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Janet and Mary have presented shows throughout the Midwest and the East and are well known in this area. They married twin brothers and now reside in Buffalo, N.Y. Born in Ohio, they later moved to Michigan and their parents still live in Sherwood. Tickets are available at the Tibbits box office or from the Ministerial Association.



ANITA BRYANT

Anita Bryant. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 07 1964 p2.



ANITA BRYANT SINGS AT TIBBITS

Anita Bryant Sings. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 10 1964.



IVA JO ROBISON (second from right in front) is assistant director for this year's senior play. She is working with Miss Coscarely on staging, line interpretation and individual characterization. Sarah Strong, busy with prop gathering, etc., was not pictured with the cast here. (Daily Reporter photo)

Iva Jo Robison. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 12 1964.



Barbara Annear. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 16 1964 p2.

Play Rehearsal. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 14 1964 p13.

BARBARA ANNEAR seems to be telling David McKee that she doesn't care how tall he is, he doesn't scare her one little bit. In this scene from the forthcoming production of "Ondine" this year's senior class play, however, Miss Annear, who plays Ondine is telling the Lord Chamberlain, McKee, that she thinks the court reception should be held in the swimming pool. All manner of strange things will take place Thursday and Friday this week with the curtain going up each evening at 8 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)



PLAY REHEARSAL— Roger Bianst who will play the illusionist in this year's Coldwater high school senior class play "Ondine", makes a magical gesture which seems to stun Barbara Annear, the young lady who will be playing the title role. Tickets may be purchased from members of the senior class or at the box office Thursday or Friday evening. (Daily Reporter photo).

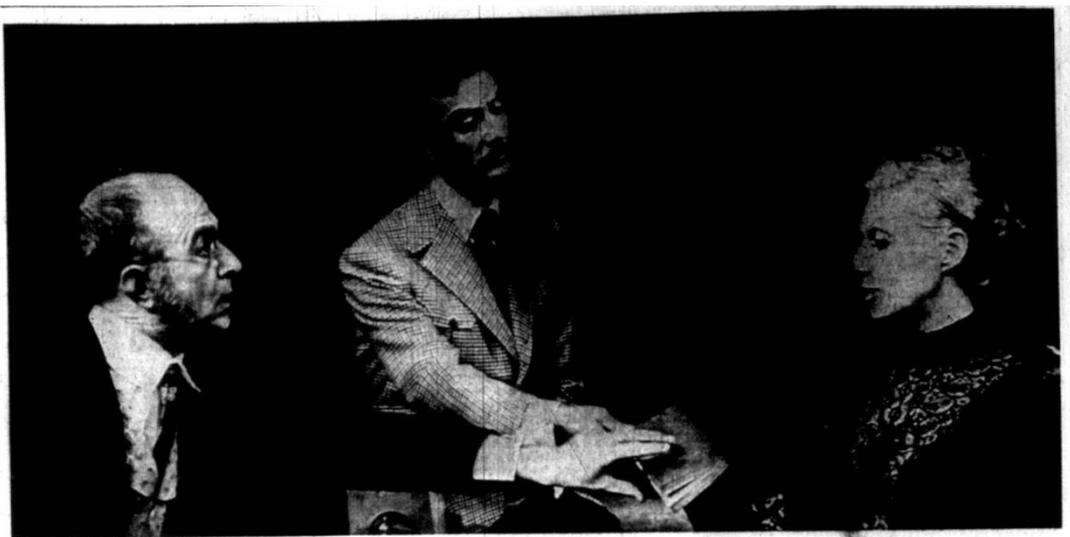


MISS ANNEEAR AND STRONG AS ONDINE AND HANS

Senior Class of CHS
presents
"ONDINE"
(by Jean Giraudoux)
A French drama with an international
theme:
Romance and Truth
Nov. 19th & 20th, 8:00 p.m.
Tibbits Opera House
Coldwater, Michigan
ADMISSION \$1.00

Ondine Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 18 1964 p2.

Miss Anneear and Strong. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 18 1964.



RICHARD WOODS, ELLIS RABB AND NANCY MARCHAND IN A SCENE FROM SHAW'S "MAN AND SUPERMAN"

Man and Superman. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 17 1964.



PAUL SPARER will play the Devil who spars with any and all comers in Shaw's witty, sparkling comedy, "Man and Superman" coming to the Tibbits for two performances on Saturday

Paul Sparer. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 19 1964.

In One Scene. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 19 1964.

Prince Eric. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 01 1964.



PRINCE ERIC (Stockton Burns) and Rapunzel (Kathy Zeller) will find themselves going through many trials and tribulations in the forthcoming production of "Rapunzel and the Witch" at the Tibbits Opera House.



IN ONE SCENE from "Ondine" to be presented tonight and Friday by the senior class of Coldwater high school, a number of characters are involved in a trial during which Hans, the knight, is found guilty of deceiving Ondine. In the scene are (standing l to r) Bob Nighwander, the Theatre Superintendent; Steve Barnes, the King; and Harry Brooks, the poet Bertram. Sitting are (l to r) Sam Strong, Hans; Barbara Annear, Ondine; and Dennis Reiter, as the judge. (Daily Reporter photo)



HANS AND ONDINE. (Sam Strong and Barb Annear) the lovers in this years' senior play, kiss goodbye for the last time in this scene (top photo), after a tumultuous love affair on which "Ondine" is based. The illusionist (Roger Blansit) strikes many a mysterious pose during the course of play (lower photo) in which he literally "runs the show." The play will be presented for the last time this evening at the -Tibbits. (Daily Reporter photos)



JOYCE JOLLEY AS 'FROSTY THE SNOWMAN'

Hans and Ondine. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 20 1964.

Joyce Jolley as Frosty. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 01 1964.



KATH ZELLER, Stockton Burns, and Glenn Crane, who are starring in "Dial M For Murder" find that there are some things one can laugh about, even in a play about murder. The show is to be presented Dec. 11 and 12 at the Tibbits.

Kath Zeller. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Dec 03 1964.

March of Toys. 1964.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Dec 02 1964.



MARCH OF TOYS — The Sweet Adelines show, "Happy Hollidays" which will be presented Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Tibbits will include the famous "March of the Toys", among many other holiday and Christmas offerings. Tickets may be purchased from Sweet Adelines or at the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo)



THE SWEET ADELINES show, "Happy Holidays" will have everything in it to make it seem like the holidays, including snow. The show will be presented Saturday and Sunday of this week at 8 p.m. and 3 p.m. respectively. (Daily Reporter photo)

The Sweet Adelines. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 03 1964.



QUARTET TO PERFORM — The well-known quartet, "Tri-State Misses", will be performing Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon at the Tibbits Opera House in the Sweet Adelines show, "Happy Holidays". The show, under the direction of "Skip" Frizzell, will include a host of Christmas and holiday music. Show time is 8 p.m. Saturday evening at 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Tickets may be purchased from any Sweet Adeline or from the box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Quartet to Perform. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 04 1964.



"DIAL M FOR MURDER" — Lovely young Kathy Zeller will play the woman accused of murder and William Walsh, the clever police inspector, in the American Theatre Festival's production of "Dial M" to be performed Dec. 11 and 12 at the Tibbits. Because a large audience is expected, reservations should be made soon at the Tibbits box office.

Sweet Adeline Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 04 1964 p2.

Stukeys Adeline Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 04 1964 p12.

Dial M For Murder. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 04 1964.



BEAUTIFUL RAPUNZEL (Kathy Zeller) and her father (Bill Walsh) are frightened by the evil powers of the witch, Old Mother Gothel (Ruth Chambers). The three will be in "Rapunzel and the Witch" along with Stockton Burns as the handsome young prince, for two performances on Saturday.

Beautiful Rapunzel. 1964.
 Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
 Heritage Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, Dec 07 1964.

Dial M For Murder Ad. 1964.
 Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
 Heritage Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, Dec 07 1964 p2.

THE TIBBITS OPERA FOUNDATION
 presents
a family weekend of entertainment
DIAL "M" FOR MURDER
Dec. 11 and 12 8:30 P.M.
 Tickets — \$3.50, \$3.00, \$2.50, \$2.00 — Students half price
 For the youngsters
RAPUNZEL and the WITCH
 Sat., Dec. 12th at 10:00 A.M. and 2:30 P.M.
 Adults \$1.00 — under 16 Balcony 50c, main floor 75c



RAY MCKINLEY will be leading the new Glenn Miller orchestra when it gives two performances in Coldwater Thursday at 7 and 9:15 p.m. The music arrangements of the pre-war days will bring back nostalgic memories for the audience. With the band will be Joan Soperford, the featured vocalist. Tickets are still on sale at the Tibbits box office.

Ray McKinley. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 08 1964.

Stukey's Glenn Miller Ad. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 09 1964 p14.



RAPUNZEL (Kathy Zeller), the Witch (Ruth Chambers), and Rapunzel's father (Bill Walsh), all look worried as Prince Eric (Stockton Burns) attempts to remove the witch's protective chain. The four will find the answer to their problems Saturday at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. when "Rapunzel and the Witch" is presented at the Tibbits.

Rapunzel. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 09 1964.



Tense Moment. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 10 1964.

TENSE MOMENT — Stockton Burns as Tony Wendice and Walter Stump as Captain Lesgate are shown in a dramatic scene from 'Dial M for Murder', which opens in Coldwater Friday night.



Tony Wendice. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 11 1964.

TONY WENDICE (Stockton Burns) finds himself in a rather tough spot in "Dial M for Murder", when Glen Crane, Bill Walsh and Kathy Zeller all point the accusing finger at him.



RUTH CHAMBERS

KATHY ZELLER

STOCKTON BURNS

Trio of Headshots. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 18 1964.



Rubinoff

Rubinoff. 1964. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 31 1964.

199 W Pearl St.
Coldwater, Mich.
December 23, 1964

Mrs. Dorothy Aitchison
23 Hull St
Coldwater, Mich.

Dear Dorothy;

This is to advise the Board of the Tibbits Theatre Corporation that I wish to present my resignation from the Board and the Presidency. I want the resignation to be effective as of this date.

Sincerely,

V. M. Stilson
V. M. Stilson

Stilson Resignation Letter to Aitchison. 1964. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 23 Dec 1964. TS. Coldwater, MI.

Parke Resignation Letter to Patterson. 1964. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 26 Dec 1964. TS. Coldwater, MI.

Tibbits Opera Foundation, Inc.

Tibbits Opera Foundation
Coldwater, Michigan

Attn: Mr. Roy Patterson, Vice-Pres.

Dec. 26, 1964

Dear Pat:

Effective immediately, please accept my resignation from the Board of the Tibbits Opera Foundation. I feel at this time it will be impossible for me to carry on my duties as representative of the Fortnightly Music Club, and chairman of the booking committee. I have enjoyed my affiliation with the Foundation, and wish it every continued success.

Very Sincerely,

Jenie Parke
(Mrs. Alfred G. Parke)

12-30-64
I donate the loan of \$1750.00
to Tibbits Foundation,
R. Stucky

Stucky Loan Donation Note. 1964. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 30 Dec 1964. HS. Coldwater, MI.

{ 1965 }

January 6, 1965

Mr. Roy C. Patterson
President
Tibbits Opera Foundation, Inc.
Coldwater, Mich.

Dear Pat:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify my position and to ease the mind of trustees of the Tibbits Opera past affiliation with the Tibbits. I have been told that in 1964 that I was no longer working for Tibbits Opera Foundation. I have never been informed of this dismissal. It is expedient for me to state the history of my relationship with the Tibbits. In August, 1964, I was contacted by Mr. V. H. Stilson, then Business Manager of the Tibbits. At that time my duties were defined as follows: regard to the physical plant, dressing rooms and offices.

- a) Office Manager including theatre business, correspondence, management of personnel and scheduling of publicity (it was planned to have a full-time publicity director), advertising and box-office policy, for bookings, ticket sales, payment of bills to the management of guest artists and other matters.
- b) I was to receive compensation in the amount of \$3000 or \$4000 per year, which would be paid on a part-time basis at a salary of \$10,000. I agreed to do this and began teaching in September at the colleges.
- c) I was to begin teaching in September at the colleges, the Tibbits and Oberlin. President V. H. Stilson, as well as the Tibbits and Oberlin Foundation. It was understood that I would not be affiliated with The American Musical Festival Repertory Company, a partnership formed by two associates.
- d) Within several weeks it became clear that the Foundation was in a position to fulfill this agreement. I was verbally agreed to wait for a week for a salary check, thinking that a grant would come when the promised construction grant came through. I have received this date exactly \$125.00, minus the usual deductions.

During the period of my employment, approximately

2

I have devoted my entire September through December 15. I have spent my time as a member of the Tibbits of the Theatre on days and some- times 12 hours per week, Saturdays, and on some occasions, early morning hours when sleep was much needed. I have not received any negative criticism concerning my job duties, at least not as far as the above outline. I have, however, been concerned. On entire occasions I have been urged to devote all my time to people and have to i.e. "go out" to sell tickets, but get the people who to a point of view. No man was ever made as who was to continue with the other several responsibilities out-

- lined above. It is not the purpose of this letter to ask for money for I as much to pay at this time. I will take this opportunity to outline the moral inequities I feel have been created by the Tibbits. These are:
 - a) my earning power above.
 - b) Cost of my wife to raise her children in Coldwater.
 - c) My occupation and seeing managing my art now be held in a town.
 - d) Being absent from my family.
 - e) My financial and paternal obligations to my family.
 - f) Considerable expense money for gasoline and other personal expenses required during my plans of the repertory.

It has recently been brought to my attention that the plans of the repertory board of the manager who can command a salary. I suggest active artist study in five year committees, of the very few courses in theatre management including, many in an advertising and management of two year areas, argumentation and in business years teaching life me to handle the job. If so, and union -- do not come successful. I am disappointed in that my efforts would be some cause never been requested. What does not of my position was never communicated to me - much less reasons for same.

I have reasons to believe there has been consid- erable "talk" concerning my job performance and efficiency of opinions have been made regarding my teaching difficult to Tibbits men. These opinions are particularly in progress and that effect is far- with my qualifications in attempting to find employment do thank you for the opportunity for a person of this great service. The time to read this. You could shed light on the other members of the high-lights shedding light on a matter of very great importance to me.

Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Kohn

Kenneth Kohn Letter to Patterson.
1965. Tibbits Opera House
Archives, Tibbits Administration
Building, Coldwater. 06 Jan 1965.
TS. Coldwater, MI.



FREDERIC DE SANTIS will portray Petruchio in the Jan 23 production of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* at the Tibbits Opera House. The play is sponsored by the Coldwater High School. The photo by [unreadable]

Mrs. Winnifred M. Morency
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

January 6, 1965

To the Board Members of Tibbits Opera Foundation:

In spite of the fact that my resignation of December 27, 1964 was not accepted, due to my health and also the fact that I expect to be out of town for some time, I must insist that my resignation now be accepted and my name be taken off the Tibbits Foundation Board.

Sincerely

Winnifred M. Morency

Winnifred Morency Letter to Board Members.
1965. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 06 Jan 1965. TS. Coldwater, MI.

Frederic De Santis. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 04 1965.



SCENE FROM 'THE SHREW'

Scene From The Shrew. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 05 1965.



Rubinoﬀ Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 07 1965 p2.



Stucky's Rubinoﬀ Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 07 1965 p12.



RUBINOFF'S GREATEST attractions are his personality and his dedication to the youth with whom he comes into contact. One of the concerts he performed in Coldwater today was for the children at Roosevelt Intermediate school. Following the concert, Rubinoﬀ played a selection for the student council of that school. (Daily Reporter photo)

Rubinoﬀ 's Greatest Attractions. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 11 1965.

Rubinoﬀ Shows His Proudest Possession. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 12 1965.



RUBINOFF (center) shows his proudest possession (a \$100,000 Stradivarius) to members of the Tibbits Board (left to right) Duane E. Davidson, vice president; Roy C. Patter-

son, president; Charles Bristol, treasurer; and H. F. Stukey. (Daily Reporter photo)

NOTICE

"Taming of the Shrew"
 Shakespearian comedy
 at
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 Curtain time 8 p.m. Sat.

*Enjoy a fine
 Dinner at
 Stukey's Inn
 before the show*

**NOW SERVING YOUR
 FAVORITE COCKTAIL**

for reservations
 Call 278-4581

Stukey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater

Stukey' Taming of the Shrew Ad. 1965.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 21 1965 p2.

Shrew Tamer. 1965.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 20 1965.



SHREW TAMER — Frederic DeSantis will portray Petrucio (center) in Saturday's performance of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" presented by the Michigan State Theatre of Performing Arts, sponsored by the Coldwater high school Thespian troupe. The show will be at 8 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House and tickets may be purchased from any Thespian or at the box office. Katherine will be played by Chilton Cunningham.

MICHIGAN STATE PERFORMING
ARTS COMPANY

Shakespeare's
Taming of the Shrew

JANUARY 23
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

8:00 p.m.

Tickets — \$1.50

Sponsored by: Coldwater High School
Thespian Troupe No. 196

Taming of the Shrew Ad. 1965. Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 21 1965 p12.



PURCHASE, PERCHANCE? — Tibbits Board president, Roy (Pat) Patterson ran into Gretchen Gottschalk today and found her eager to sell him two tickets to "Taming of the Shrew" which will be presented Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. The performance is to be given by the Michigan State Theatre of Performing Arts and is sponsored by Coldwater high school's Thespian troupe. Tickets may also be purchased from the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Purchase Perchance. 1965. Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 21 1965.



DE SANTIS AND MISS CUNNINGHAM



De Santis and Miss Cunningham. 1965. Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 25 1965.

Kiwanis Travelogue Ad. 1965. Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 29 1965 p12.

**DON'T
MISS
MONDAY'S**



**SPECIAL
SECTION
ON THE**

**Susan Lowe
COOKING SCHOOL**

& Fashion Show

To be presented by the
Coldwater Daily Reporter
and your
Local Merchants

Tuesday 7:30 p.m. & Wednesday 1:00 p.m.
at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

*** FREE**

- Admission
- Fashion Show
- Groceries
- Door Prizes
- Cook Books
- Etc.



WOODY HERMAN

Woody Herman. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 29 1965.

Cooking School & Fashion Show Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 30 1965 p3.



MRS. DONALD DULL

WINNING COOKS — These three Coldwater area cooks have been chosen as the winners of the big Daily Reporter-sponsored recipe contest held through January. Mrs. Dull, of Quincy, topped the salad entrees with her recipe for fruit salad which features fresh orange juice and whipped cream. Ray Austgen, a Coldwater resident, made a place for the men in the contest, walking off with the first-place award for his Beef Parmigiana main course dish. The recipe is a



RAY AUSTGEN

baked dish with round steak as its main ingredient. Sinda Morrison, a senior at Coldwater high school who lives near Glivard, topped the desserts with her recipe for French cherry dessert, a baked dish topped off with whipped cream or ice cream. All three first-place winners will be awarded five-dollar cash prizes. Three honorable mention awards in each of the three contest classes were also made, with the winners also announced in today's paper. Don't forget to



SINDA MORRISON

look at today's special Kitchen Classics cookbook section of the Reporter. It's packed with recipes entered in the contest, and is in a handy tabloid form so homemakers can keep it in their kitchens for later reference. The contest was sponsored in conjunction with two Susan Lowe Cooking Schools, to be presented at the Tibbits Opera House Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Wednesday at 1 p.m. (Daily Reporter photos)

Winning Cooks. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 01 1965.



TO APPEAR — The new Woody Herman "Herd" will appear in Coldwater at the Tibbits Opera House Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 7 and 9:15 p.m. The Herman "Herd", which has gained world-wide recognition for its music will give two performances so that everyone wishing to hear the group will have the opportunity. Tickets are now available at the Tibbits box office for both performances. The office is open from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Reservations may also be made by telephone for the concerts. The new Herman band consists of 15 musicians who, according to Herman, "like to blow and are really fine young musicians". Critics have said that this is the best of the several Herman Herds and Coldwaterites will have their chance to decide on Feb. 10.

To Appear. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 02 1965.



TONDA ATTARDI (Gretchen Gutschalk, left) grieves for her son, about to be executed for conspiracy against a foreign captain. **MATISSE ROIBA** (Linda Hamard), betrothed to the condemned man, inquires anxiously about his last words to his mother. The one act drama "The Wall" by Verne Powers will be presented by the Trustees of CTH during the Fine Arts Festival, rescheduled for Feb. 28 and March 1. Daily Reporter photo.

Tonda Attardi. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 04 1965 p3.

Woody Herman Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 04 1965 p2.

TIBBITS OPERA FOUNDATION

Presents

Woody Herman

and his Orchestra

in Concert

WED., FEB. 10th

2 Performances

Curtain time 7 and 9 p.m.

Call 278-2350

or write Box Office

Tibbits Theatre

for tickets

\$4.00 - \$2.50 Students \$1.00

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Coldwater, Mich.

Stukey's Woody Herman Ad. 1965.
 Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
 Heritage Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, Feb 04 1965 p12.



NOTICE

TIBBITS OPERA
 HOUSE
 Coldwater, Mich.
 Presents
WOODY HERMAN
 and his orchestra
Wed., Feb. 10th
 Curtain time 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 Call 278-2356 for tickets
 Tickets \$4.00 - \$2.50 - \$1 students
Enjoy a fine Dinner
before or after the show
COCKTAILS
 Call 278-4581
 for dinner reservations
 at
Stukey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater



APPEARS TONIGHT — The world famous Woody Herman and his band will appear in two concerts at the Tibbits Opera House tonight, 7 and 9:15 p.m. Tickets for the performances are still on sale at the box office and reservations may be made by telephone. Herman will blend both old and new music in this concert which is designed to please youngsters and oldsters alike.

**Tibbits Opera
 Foundation**
 Presents
WOODY HERMAN
 and his
 Orchestra
 in Concert

**WEDNESDAY,
 FEB. 10th**
 7 P.M. and 9 P.M.

Call 278-2356
 for ticket reservations
\$4.00 - \$2.50 - \$1.00 student

**TIBBITS OPERA
 HOUSE**
 Coldwater, Mich.

Woody Herman Ad. 1965. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb
 10 1965 p2.

Appears Tonight. 1965. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb
 10 1965 p2.



THE "HERD" moves out and prepares to stampede as they take off on Rodgers and Hammerstein's hit "My Favorite Things" from their musical "Sound of Music". Ronnie Zito (center) piles the traps as the featured soloist in the

number, with the backing of Woody Herman's sweet tenor Saxophone (extreme left). The number was a highlight of the concerts played by Herman's band at the Tibbits Opera House last night. (Daily Reporter photo)

The Herd. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 11 1965.

NOTICE

We are already receiving
**DINNER
RESERVATIONS**
for the
Roger Williams Show
to be presented at the
Tibbits Opera House
MARCH 10th
at 7 and 9:15 p.m.

Why don't you call 278-4581 and reserve your table for a fine dinner before or after the show at

Stukey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

**IN PERSON
"MR. PIANO"
ROGER
WILLIAMS**

and HIS company
featuring
**THE DUTTON
ENSEMBLE**

At TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
SUNDAY, MARCH 7
7 P.M.—TWO SHOWS—9:15 P.M.
FOR RESERVATIONS: PH. 278-2356
TIBBITS BOX OFFICE Open 12 to 5 daily

Roger Williams Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 22 1965 p2.

Stukey's Roger Williams Ad. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 18 1965 p12.



SUNDAY NIGHT — Roger Williams will present two performances, 7 and 9-15 p.m., Sunday at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are still available at the box office, which is open from 12 to 5 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. The theatre is also accepting telephone reservations during those hours. Williams will bring with him the well-known Dutton ensemble.

CORRECTION
Roger Williams will
appear at the
Tibbits Opera House
MARCH 7th
instead of the 10th as stated in the ad
of Stukey's Inn.

Correction. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 22 1965 p3.

Sunday Night. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 01 1965.

In Coldwater. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 26 1965.



IN COLDWATER — The great Roger Williams, "Mr. Piano", will be in Coldwater at the Tibbits Opera House Sunday, March 7 for two performances, 7 and 9 15 p.m. Tickets are available for these performances at the Tibbits Box office which is open from 12 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Telephone reservations may also be made during those hours. Featured with Williams will be the Dutton Ensemble who, among the group, play some 50 different instruments.



Stukey's Roger Williams Ad.
1965. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Feb 18 1965 p12.

Junior Play. 1965. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, March 11 1965.



JUNIOR PLAY — Miss Phyllis Coscarelli (right front) finds sometimes that just telling someone how to do something isn't enough. Her problem here was showing Cozette Beach (left front) how to "pose" in one scene from "Pioneer, Go Home!" the play to be presented March 18 and 19. Miss Beach seems a bit puzzled by the whole thing as the rest of the large cast looks on. The play, a comedy about a peculiar family and their problems with the state, will be presented

at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets will go on sale next week from members of the junior class. Others pictured are (seated) Marilyn Nash, Becky Pratt, Carolyn "Rusty" Gillespie, Stephanie Shank; (standing) Cheryl Patton, Bill Wise, Vicky Vlery, Kitty Adair, Bill Shaw, Terry Tarr, Greg Bria, Mike Simons, Bill Gibson, Mike Clark, Doug Smith, Bob Shaw, Steve Prestidge and Sheryl Sisson.



ON STAGE — Four characters involved in the play "Pioneer, Go Home" to be presented March 18 and 19 at the Tibbits Opera House, are Jack Wolf (Toby Kwimper), Terry Tarr (H. Arthur King), Stephanie Shank (Miss Claypoole), and Carolyn Gillespie (Holly). Here Toby seems oblivious to the threats of King as Miss Claypoole dreams adoringly of Kwimper. Holly is obviously not pleased with the attention Miss Claypoole is giving Toby. (Daily Reporter photo)



PROP GIRLS — One of the more distinguishing characteristics of this year's junior class play, "Pioneer, Go Home!" to be presented Thursday and Friday evening's at 8 o'clock at the Tibbits, is that the prop girls are involved in the actual play, not just behind the scenes. Kitty Adair (left) and Marilyn Nash both look done in from all their work, as they carry a bench from one side of the stage to the other. Tickets for the show are available from any member of the junior class. (Daily Reporter photo)



POETRY CORNER — When Morristown Kwimper (Becky Pratt) sees something of interest to her, she always begins spouting poetry, usually to the distress of her family. That distress shows rather plainly on the face of her father (Bill Wise) while absolutely no reaction is evident from her "unidentical" twin South Orange (Cognite Beach). Her brother Toby (Jack Wolf) appears to be thinking of something else entirely while the only one in the group really showing interest is Holly, the babysitter, played by Carolyn Gillespie. The play opens Thursday evening at 8 p.m. at the Tibbits and tickets are on sale now. (Daily Reporter photo)

On Stage. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 13 1965 p2.

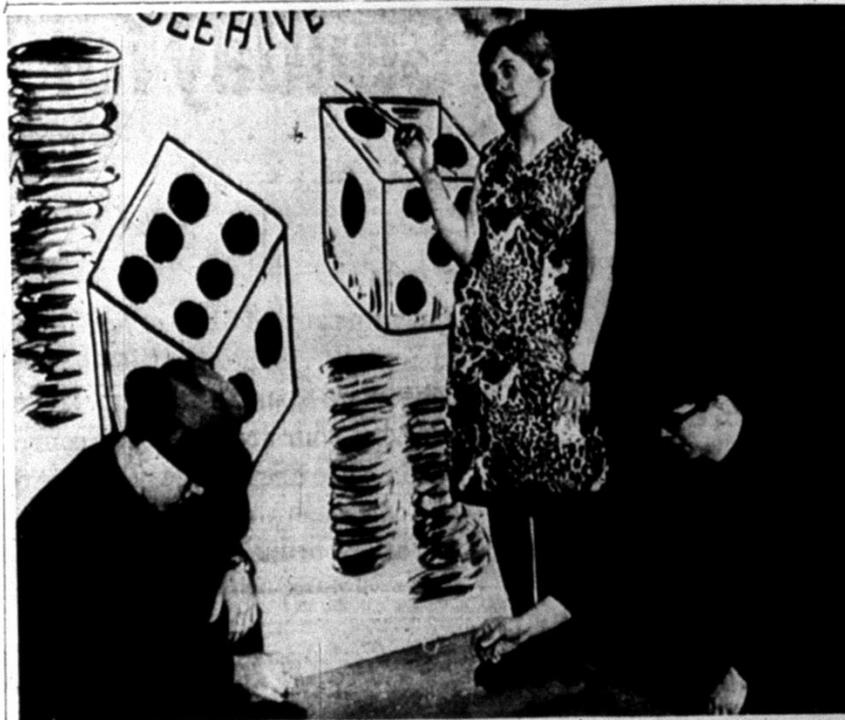
Prop Girls. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 16 1965 p2.

Poetry Corner. 1965. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 15 1965.



POP KWIMPER played by Bill Wise (center) has a determined look as he "whomps" up an answer to the right-of-way problem facing his family in "Pioneer, Go Home!" which opens tomorrow evening. H. Arthur King, director of Public Improvements, played by Terry Tarr, (left) appears to be thinking "curses, foiled again", as he realizes Pop is right. Toby Kwimper (Jack Wolf) looks on, amazed at his father's answer. The citizens of Kwimperville all seem pleased at King's having been out-thought by their leader. (Daily Reporter photo)

Pop Kwimper. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 17 1965.



"BABY NEEDS SHOES" — Lee Treat is uninterested in the throw of the dice as she acts the part of Queen Bee in the forthcoming junior class play "Pioneer, Go Home!" to be presented tonight and tomorrow night at 8 o'clock at the Tibbits. Members of her gang shown here are Greg Bria and Mike Clark. The show involves a family called the Kwimpers who settle on state land and establish a thriving community, including gambling casino, much to the chagrin of state employees. (Daily Reporter photo)

Baby Needs Shoes. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 18 1965.

Ralph Little, President

March 18, 1965

Mr. Douglas G. Burrill, President
Burrill Incorporated
Suite 200-424 Nichols Road
Kansas City 12, Missouri

Dear Mr. Burrill:

Our Board Of Directors has asked me to write you concerning the results of your late Capital Funds Drive for the Tibbits Opera Foundation. The general feeling is that it was almost a complete failure. This opinion of the Board is based on the fact that we set out to raise \$200,000 and actually only received approximately \$20,000 in cash and pledges and at a cost of over \$11,000. For this reason we believe that you should rebate part of the fee we gave you for this service.

In the first place we selected your Company on the basis of your reputation and record of success in other areas. This decision was fortified by a survey made by your Mr. Little in Coldwater and vicinity. He made thirty or thirty three contacts with important people and their reaction to the drive was almost 100% for the possibility of its success. Mr. Little read the testimonies, but did not tell us who made them.

We feel that as professional fund raisers you certainly expected a greater degree of success. The Board of Directors of the Tibbits Opera Foundation by the same reasoning feel that the drive was a failure and the Foundation should be entitled to a rebate.

In appreciation of the effort that has been expended by your own organization as well as ourselves we would appreciate your earnest consideration of this request and an early reply. We are

Sincerely yours,

Tibbits Opera Foundation, Inc.

R.C.Patterson, President

RCP-~~mma~~



**YOU HAD
BETTER
BE
THERE**

**THE
"ROARING 20's"**

recreated for you by the

Coldwater Rotary Minstrels

AT THE

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

April 8 - 9 - 10

All the song hits from the "Follies", varieties, Passing Show, Scandals, Comedy skits from the speak easys.

See it all at the Tibbits

**Tickets from any Rotary member or
Box office**

\$1.00 Thurs., \$1.50 Fri., \$1.50 Sat.



CAROLYN GILLESPIE and Jack Wolf finally resolve their problems in "Pioneer, Go Home!" and Miss Gillespie starts "working" on Wolf, who seems a bit dismayed by the whole thing. Tonight is the final performance of the play at the Tibbits Opera House. The curtain rises at 8 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)



MISS KAILER

Miss Kailer. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 24 1965.

Carolyn Gillespie. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 19 1965.



ENTHUSIASM KEYNOTED last evening's local Cancer Crusade kickoff at the Tibbits Opera House as Coldwater area Crusade chairmen cross the ACS "Sword of Hope" in a pledge to fight a successful campaign against the disease in April. County Crusade Chairman John Mathews beams his approval of the determination of (l to r) Mrs. William Miller, Batavia-twp chairman; Mrs. George Pierce, Coldwater chairman; Mrs. Thomas Halsall, first ward chairman; Mrs. Thomas Rafferty, second ward chairman and one of her co-chairman, Mrs. Ronald Scantlen; and Mrs. Dale Mollenkopf, southwest Coldwater-twp chairman. The women are part of team of 35 key leaders heading the house-to-house educational and fund-raising Cancer Crusade starting in Branch county this week. (Daily Reporter photo)

Enthusiasm Keynoted. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 19 1965 p2.



COVERED WITH COLOR — Mrs. Don Swart, a model for Falconer's, shows a pale yellow, shaped coat with a Chelsea collar and detachable dickey in nubby weave wool and orlon. Her accessories are in navy, with the bag done in a wicker weave. (Daily Reporter photo)



SUMMER DRESS-UP — When it's time to dress up for these special summer occasions, Sam Strong seems to be right in step with this lightweight Denim Blue jacket from Reynburn's Clothing Store. To wear with this jacket, to be modeled in the annual Spring Style Show, Strong picked a tie with wide, contrasting stripes, and to add a bit of dash, a poplin hat with a striped band. The Hospital Auxiliary will be highlighted by the Style Show and its members are selling tickets, along with participating merchants and the Tibbits box office. Show time is 8 p.m. Saturday at the Tibbits. (Daily Reporter photo)

It's here! beautiful, beautiful...
SPRING

Take a cure from nature . . . it's time to shake off old winter habits and think in terms of the new season!

You'll want new spring wardrobes for the whole family . . . and you'll find them all at the

SPRING FASHION SHOW

at the
Tibbits Opera House

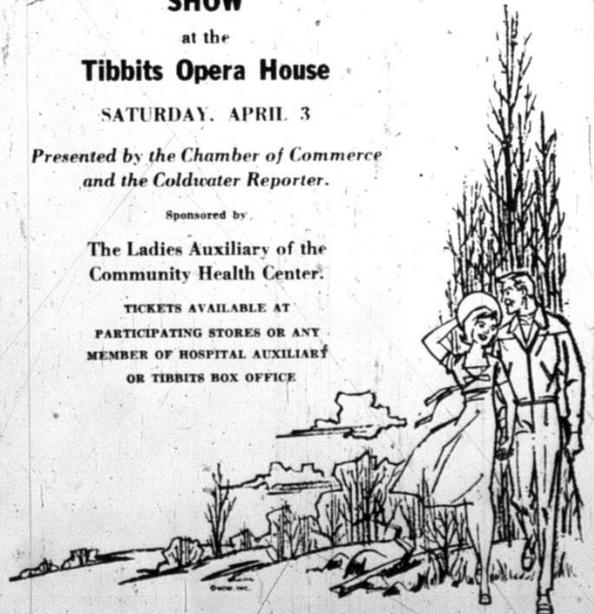
SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Presented by the Chamber of Commerce
 and the Coldwater Reporter.

Sponsored by

The Ladies Auxiliary of the
 Community Health Center.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
 PARTICIPATING STORES OR ANY
 MEMBER OF HOSPITAL AUXILIARY
 OR TIBBITS BOX OFFICE



Covered With Color. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. [The Daily Reporter](#), March 26 1965.

Spring Fashion Show Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. [The Daily Reporter](#), April 02 1965 p3.

Summer Dress Up. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. [The Daily Reporter](#), April 01 1965.



Stukey's Spring Fashion Show Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 02 1965 p3.



Stukey's Rotary Show Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 06 1965 p2.



REHEARSALS FOR the 1965 Coldwater Rotary Show moved into Tibbits Opera House Monday night as the large cast began final preparations for Thursday night's opening performance of "The Roaring Twenties." Above photo shows cast pausing during practice of its "Girl Of My Dreams" number to receive instructions from Show Director Duane

Davidson. Ticket Chairman G. W. Collins today reported a heavy ticket demand for the Thursday and Saturday night performances with the possibility that Friday night may be the only night there will be tickets available at the door. (Daily Reporter photo)

Rehearsals. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 06 1965.

Rotarians Revive Twenties



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Rotarians Revive Twenties. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 09 1965 p2.

Holy Week



NOONDAY SERVICES

12:10 to 12:30 p.m.

MONDAY through THURSDAY

(April 12)

(April 15)

at the

Tibbits Opera House

Singing

Scripture

Prayer

Brief Meditation

Holy Week Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 09 1965 p12.

This Was The Scene. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 06 1965.



THIS WAS THE scene as the curtain rose Thursday night at Tibbits Theater for the opening performance of the 1965 Rotary "Roaring Twenties" show before a capacity audience. Other photo highlights of the first night's performance may be seen by turning to Page 2. Ticket Chairman G. W. Collins

announces this morning that Saturday night's performance is sold out. Those without tickets are advised to attend tonight's performance as it appeared at noon that there would be some tickets available at the door. (Daily Reporter photo)

NOTICE

Piano and Organ
CONCERT
featuring
Dzidra Bonfiglio
Sunday, May 2, 3:00 p.m.
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Tickets \$1.00 Students 75c

Enjoy a fine
DINNER
in the Victorian
TIBBITS ROOM
before or after the show
Call 278-4581

Ask for Marjy, the party mgr.

Stukey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Concert Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 21 1965 p16.

JAZZ CONCERT
at
Tibbits Opera House
Sunday, May 9th, 4:00 P. M.
(All tickets \$1.00)
17 PIECE STAGE BAND
Featuring—"The Big Band Sound"

- ★ Players are Band Directors from 50 mile radius—selected for their experience in Jazz groups.
- ★ Brenda Davis, vocalist (star of Bye, Bye, Birdie)
- ★ Tom Reaume, vocalist.
- ★ Chuck Stokes Quartet.
- ★ John Clayton Quintet.
- ★ The Malibus.

Put some fun in your life and
come to the TIBBITS
SUNDAY, MAY 9, 4:00 p.m.

Jazz Concert Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 05 1965 p16.



REHEARSALS are in "full swing" for the jazz concert to be presented Sunday at the Tibbits Opera House. Here, a combo takes off on "Fly Me to the Moon" in preparation

for their jam session portion of the concert. Tickets for the show are available at the Music Mart and the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo).

Rehearsals. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 05 1965.



BRENDA DAVIS, framed by drummer's cymbals, sings "Days of Wine and Roses" in rehearsal for Sunday's Jazz Concert at the Tibbits. The female star of "Bye, Bye, Birdie," to be presented this month, Brenda will sing several numbers with the 17 piece band and a combo Sunday. Tickets for the 4 p.m. concert are available at the Tibbits box office and the Music Mart. (Daily Reporter photo).

Brenda Davis. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 06 1965.

Robert Sphatt. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 11 1965.



ROBERT SPHATT



THE ALL-STAR JAZZ BAND, IN REHEARSAL FOR SUNDAY'S CONCERT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF WAYNE FELLER

All-Star Jazz Band. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 07 1965.



ROGER BLANSIT, the Birdie of the title in "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" to be presented May 18-22 at the Tibbits Opera House, shows his muscles in the show and the girls all faint. Overcome by his great, alleged "sex appeal" is Shelley Kingsley who passes out into the arms of another stronger, Birdie admirer, Mary Mensch. Curtain for the the show each evening will be 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Roger Blansit. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 12 1965.



WALTER STUMP, director of the forthcoming production of "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" sometimes finds it necessary to go onto the stage at the Tibbits to get closer to those he's directing. Here he explains an exit to several members of the large, principally teenage cast. (Daily Reporter photo)

Walter Stump. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 13 1965.



The Sparkling Musical **BYE BYE BIRDIE**

Book by MICHAEL STEWART Music by CHARLES STROUSE Lyrics by LEE ADAMS

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Coldwater, Michigan

MAY 18-19-20-21-22

CURTAIN 8 P.M.

ADULTS \$1.50 STUDENTS \$1.00
GENERAL ADMISSION

Sponsored by Olivet College
in co-operation with the
Branch County Area Schools.

Bye Bye Birdie Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 14 1965 p14.



NOTICE

See
"BYE BYE BIRDIE"
Sparkling Musical Hit
at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
MAY 18-19-20-21-22
Curtain 8 p.m.

Call
278-4581
Ask for Marty,
the party mgr.
for Dinner
Reservations at

Stukey's Inn

In the heart of Coldwater

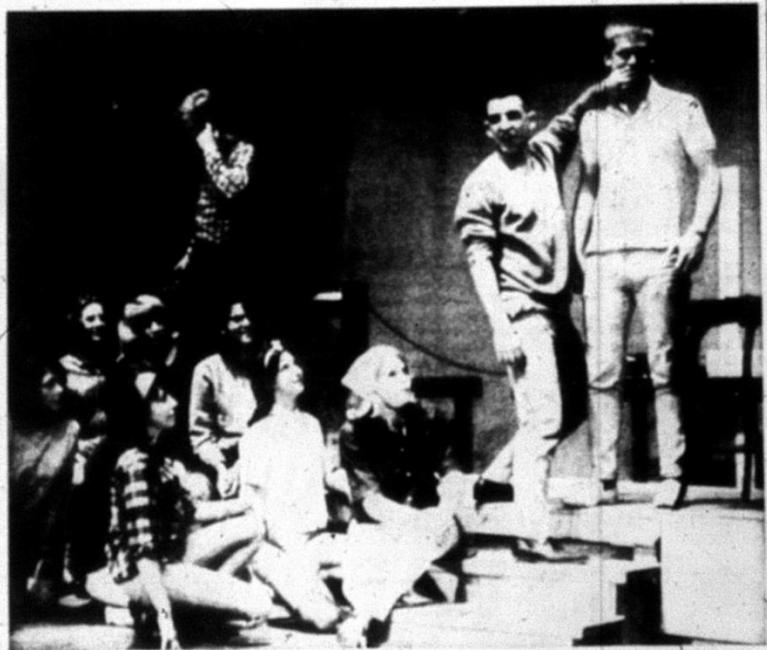
Stukey's Bye Bye Birdie Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 14 1965 p14.



"BIRDIE" FAMILY—One of the central groups in the May 18 through 22 production of "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" is the MacAfee family, which is involved in the plot because daughter Kim, played by Diane Hoopingartner (seated left) is chosen to give singing idol Conrad Birdie (Roger Blansit) his last kiss before going into the army. Other members of the family, thrilled about its impending appearance on the Ed Sullivan show, are Douglas Hoopingartner, Mrs. Wayne Feller, and Tim Blansit. Show time will be 8 p.m. each evening. Tickets are available from local business es and at the box office at the Tibbitts Opera House. (Daily Reporter photo)

Birdie Family. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 14 1965.

Cast Works Long Hours for 'Birdie'



Cast Works Long Hours. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 15 1965 p6.



GRRRR!—Rose Alvarez (Brenda Davis) appears quite upset with Albert Peterson (John Phipps) because he has left teaching for the music business and because he refuses to "get involved" with her. The two will appear, beginning this evening, in "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" at the Tibbits Opera House. Performance begins at 8 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo).



O-O-O-O, CONRAD—Kim MacAfee, played by Diane Hoopinger of Quincy, finally decides that even though she's "Goin' Steady" with Hugo (David Dean, left) she thinks Roger Bianat as Conrad Birdie, the singing idol in "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" is just wonderful. The show will be presented Tuesday through Saturday next week at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are now on sale from various local merchants and Board of Education office in Coldwater. This is the first all-county musical and is done through the cooperation of many county organizations, sponsored by Olivet College. (Daily Reporter photo).

O-O-O Conrad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 17 1965.

GRRRR. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 18 1965 p2.



WITH GREAT dignity, Franc Gay, as Mrs. Peterson, shows her son that she "doesn't care" if he just drops her into the garbage can". Albert (John Phipps) looks stunned and Rosa (Brenda Davis) appears to think it might be a good idea. The show plays tonight through Saturday at the Tibbits with performances beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets are nearly gone for Friday and Saturday, and it is suggested that Wednesday and Thursday are the best nights to go. (Daily Reporter photo).

With Great Dignity. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 19 1965.



NEXT SEASON — The fabulous Ruth Page Ballet will be the featured concert in the Community Concert 1965-66 season for which tickets are being sold this week. Premiere Danseuse Irina Borowska will be guest artist with the company when it comes to Coldwater in the fall. Tickets for the entire season may be purchased at Community Concert Headquarters at 78 West Chicago at which will be open from 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. through Saturday

Next Season. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 21 1965.

American Theatre Festival. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 27 1965 p2.

Hammel. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 20 1965.



HAMMEL

Yes, We're Open . . .

American Theatre Festival
 Second season of Professional summer stock
TUESDAY JUNE 15 - SEPT. 4, 1965 SATURDAY
Tibbits Opera House
 COLDWATER, MICHIGAN - 49036 TELEPHONE 278-2356

Come in and inquire about the most unique and versatile addition to our 1965 season — the coupon ticket.

 <p>Don't Miss The Fantasticks June 15-19 Musical Comedy</p>	<p>Available now at discounts of 20% and more. Box-office open Monday - Saturday 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.</p>
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MISS ARNBERG

Miss Arnberg. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 07 1965.



"THE FANTASTICKS" — Louisa (Ann Breniser) listens intently as Matt (Milt Bailey) tells of his love for her. The main characters in the lighthearted musical, they will appear with other American Theatre Festival professionals in the opening show of the season Tuesday. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. and the show runs through Saturday. (Daily Reporter photo)

The Fantasticks. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 09 1965.

Birdie Profits. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 29 1965.



"BYE, BYE, BIRDIE!" PROFITS — Orchestra conductor and high school band director John Visosky presents a check to Tibbits Opera House Foundation Treasurer Roy Patterson as other "Birdie" production members look on. Left to right are: Doug Hoopingarner, choral director at Coldwater high and an actor in the recent production: Phyllis Coscarely.

speech instructor and assistant director of "Birdie"; Patterson and Visosky; Glenn Crane, producer for the American Theatre Festival and the "Birdie" production; and Guy "Skip" Frizzell, music instructor in Coldwater schools and musical director for "Bye, Bye, Birdie!" (Daily Reporter photo)



OPENS JUNE 15 — Pretty Ann Breniser will be playing Louisa, the girl, in "The Fantasticks" which opens this year's summer stock season at the Tibbits on June 15 at 8:30 p.m. Miss Breniser, who is only 20 years of age, will play all the musical leads this summer. Others in the cast are Bob Sphatt, Milt Bailey, William Walsh, Larry Life, Larry Carrico, Marge Foley and Phil Goble. (Daily Reporter photo)

Opens June 15. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 10 1965 p2.



HARP DEMONSTRATION — A public harp lecture-demonstration will be given at the Music Mart Tuesday at 3 p.m. for anyone wishing to attend by Arcoia Clark, harpist in the coming production of "The Fantasticks" here. A graduate of Michigan State, Miss Clark is on a special fellowship to MSU for study above the Masters degree program in the performing arts. She will play in the orchestra for "The Fantasticks" Tuesday through Saturday, curtain time 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)

Harp Demonstration. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1965 p2.

NOTICE

"Fantasticks"
Musical Romance
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Starting Tues., June 15.
Curtain time 8:30

Call 278-4581
and Marty the party mgr.
will be glad to
reserve your
table and tickets.

Ask about the
Theatre Festival Plan
Dinner for 2 and
2 reserved seats for
\$10.00

Cocktail Lounge
Delightful Dining

Stukey's Inn
In the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Fantasticks Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 10 1965 p16.



Walsh. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1965.



"IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU PAY!" El Gallo (guest star James M. Bloom) expounds upon the many modes of abduction that can be had for various fees. Narrator in the current American Theatre Festival production "The Fantasticks". El Gallo has been hired by Hucklebee (Larry Life) and Bellomy (William Walsh) to fake an abduction of Bellomy's daughter, allowing Hucklebee's son to rescue her. As shown above, Bloom receives fine supporting action throughout the play by Walsh (left) and Life. (Daily Reporter photo)

It Depends. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 16 1965.

GRAND OPENING TONIGHT

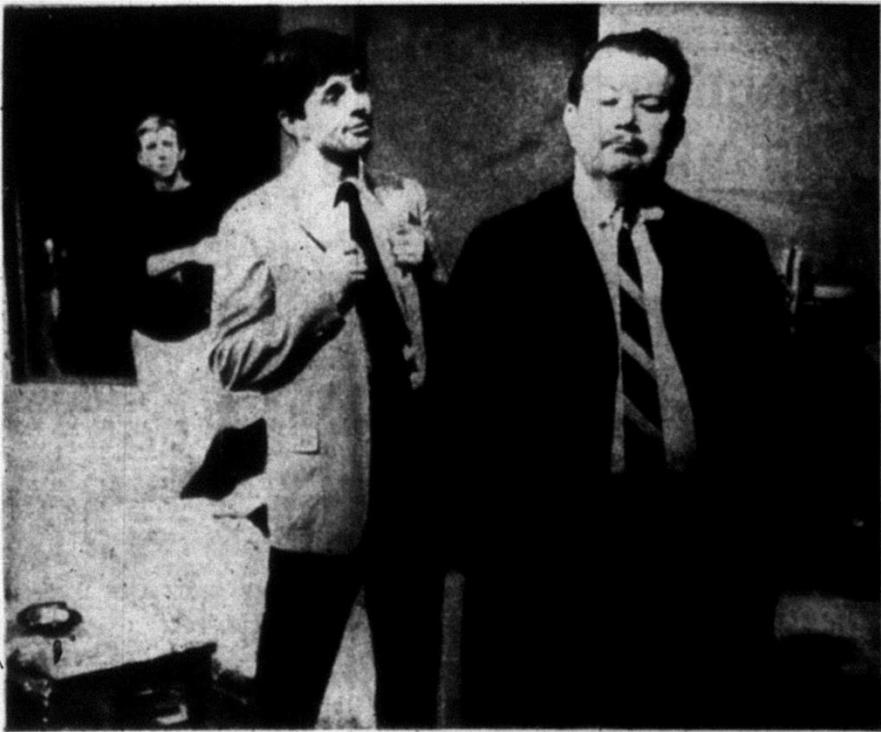
American Theatre Festival

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

The Fantasticks

Tickets available at Box Office, call 278-2356

The Fantasticks. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 15 1965 p2.



"BUM!" HARRY BAKER (William Walsh, right) flatly asserts that both of his sons, Alan (Robert Sphatt) and Buddy (Phil Goble, background) are bums. The main reason for his assumption is their continuing bachelorhood and insistence upon living life to its fullest. The action is in the hit Broadway comedy "Come Blow Your Horn", an adult rib-tickler written by Neil Simons, author of television's "Sergeant Bilko". The play will be produced at the Tibbits Opera House this week by the American Theatre Festival, beginning 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. (Daily Reporter photo)

Bum. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 21 1965.



ROBERT SPHATT looks a little surprised at what lovely Laura Seager is saying in this scene from "Come Blow Your Horn", which is a play just full of little surprises. The curtain rises on the opening of the show at 8:30 this evening at the Tibbits Opera House. (Daily Reporter photo)

Robert Sphatt. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 22 1965.

A Shaken Buddy Baker. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 23 1965.



A SHAKEN BUDDY BAKER (Phil Goble) prepares to down a drink of scotch and ginger ale (?) as stunning Peggy Evans (Lynda Arnberg) finishes a silent toast in "Come Blow Your Horn". The plight of Buddy in this scene, a highlight of the production, will be re-enacted tonight through Saturday with curtain time at 8:30 and tickets still available for all performances. (Daily Reporter photo)



"THAT'S SOME COOK YOU'VE GOT OUT THERE!" Harry Baker (William Walsh) is a little upset after his encounter with the provocative girl from the upstairs penthouse in "Come Blow Your Horn" Peggy Evans (Lynda Arnberg) has a habit of dropping into Alan Baker's (Robert Sphatt) apartment and disconcerting everyone from father to Buddy Baker (Phil Goble, seated). The show runs tonight through Saturday, curtain time 8:30 at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are still available; reservations can be made by calling the box office. (Daily Reporter photo)



ROBERT SPHATT and Laura Seager play the newlywed couple in "Abie's Irish Rose", the next presentation of the American Theatre Festival at the Tibbits Opera House. The fourth longest running comedy in Broadway history will also feature Phil Goble, William Walsh, Fay Command, and Larry Life in a crazy mixed up plot full of marriages — all for the same couple! A family comedy, it will begin Tuesday at 8:30 with reservations and tickets available for all shows through Saturday. (Daily Reporter photo)

That's Some Cook. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 24 1965.

Robert Sphatt. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 25 1965.



IT'S A SHOCKING thing to discover that your son has married an Irish girl when you've wanted a nice little Jewish girl for a daughter-in-law! Especially when you find out from the father of the bride. Phil Goble (left) plays Solomon Levy, the father of Abraham Levy in "Abie's Irish Rose" and William Walsh (right) becomes Patrick Murphy, father of Rosemary Murphy. The smash Broadway classic is a fun-filled comedy for the entire family and opens at the Tibbits Opera House Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)

Shocking. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 26 1965 p2.

NOTICE

Tibbits Festive
Dinner and Show
plan

2 Delicious Dinners
in the Victorian
Tibbits Room
and
2 reserved seats
for the current production
of
The American
Theatre Festival
Summer Stock
at the
Tibbits Theatre
All for \$10.00

Call 278-4581
and Marty the party manager will make
your dinner and ticket reservations.

Stukey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Tibbits Festive Dinner and Show Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 28 1965 p12.

FREE GUEST NIGHT
Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Coupon Holders!

Take a guest FREE on your coupon; or, use your coupon for two admissions for the price of one on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

"Abie's Irish Rose"

Curtain-raiser special — Tuesday and Wednesday

		Musical
Reserved	\$2.50	\$2.65
Gen. Adm.	\$1.50	\$1.65

"We guarantee a side-splitting evening. One of the funniest shows around. See for yourself." —Glenn Crane

"Superbly talented . . . sterling performers . . . Fantasticks!" —Battle Creek Enquirer-News.

COMING

The original musical fantasy
The Wizard of Oz
July 3 — 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Abie's Irish Rose Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 28 1965 p2.



THE CAST for "Able's Irish Rose", next in line for American Theatre Festival production at the Tibbits Opera House, contains the following main characters' (Left to right) Mrs. Isaac Cohen (Fay Command), Solomon Levy (Phil Gobie), Abraham Levy (Robert Sphatt), Rosemary Murphy (Laura Seager), Patrick Murphy (William Walsh), and Isaac Cohen (Larry Life). The all-time favorite Broadway comedy will open Tuesday at the Tibbits with curtain time at 8:30 p.m. Tickets and reservations are still available for all performances. (Daily Reporter photo).



MR. AND MRS. ISAAC COHEN—Friends of the family, you know, and such great help in times of trouble. Take for instance when your son Able marries an Irish girl in France, of all things, and you have to get them remarried in the synagogue. And other strange things happen in "Able's Irish Rose", too, so it's good to have solid friends like the Cohens (Larry Life and Fay Command) around to help out. And they're such sensible looking people . . . (Daily Reporter photo)

The Cast. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 28 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Cohen. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 29 1965.

**THE AMERICAN
THEATRE PRESENTS**



**Abie's
Irish
Rose**

SPECIAL MATINEE SATURDAY 2:30 P.M.
"THE WIZARD OF OZ"
 OLIVET COLLEGE CHILDREN'S THEATRE.
 Children 75c Adults \$1.00

Don't Forget Tuesday and Wednesday Nights
COUPON HOLDERS, TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

NEXT WEEK
"MUSIC MAN"
 Call 278-2356 immediately — It's filling up

Abie's Irish Rose Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 30 1965 p3.



ONE OF THE RARE moments of friendliness between Patrick Murphy (William Walsh, left), and Solomon Levy (Phil Goble) comes in the third act of "Abie's Irish Rose". The comic war introduced by the two highly prejudiced men provides many humorous moments in the production. The classic family comedy can be seen at the Tibbits Opera House tonight through Saturday, curtain time 8:30 p.m. Tickets and reservations are still available for all performances. (Daily Reporter photo).

Nervous Bride. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 01 1965 p2.

Rare Moments. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 30 1965.



ON THE WAY TO OZ—The Tin Woodman (Rick Hyde) gets a little oil from Dorothy (Mary Jane Pierce) so they can get on to the Wizard of Oz in the special Saturday appearance at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets for adults and children are available at the door for the 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. performances.

NOTICE

"Music Man"
Musical comedy
TIBBITS OPERA
HOUSE
Starting Tues., July 6th
Curtain time 8:30

Call 278-4581
and Marty the party man
will be glad to
reserve your
table and tickets.

Ask about the
Theatre Festival Plan
Dinner for 2 and
2 reserved seats for
\$10.50
for Musical,
Cocktail Lounge,
Delightful Dining

Stukeey's Inn
At the Corner of Coldwater



"GARY, INDIANA!"—Mitch McCullough, local youth who will play the part of Winthrop in "Music Man" next week, lets out with one of his numbers, "Gary, Indiana." Watching are producer Glenn Crane, Professor Harold Hill, and Ann Breniser (Marian Paroo, Winthrop's older sister. (Daily Reporter photo).

The Way to Oz. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 01 1965.

Stukeey's Music Man Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 03 1965 p20.

Gary Indiana. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 02 1965.



Music Man Opens Tues. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 03 1965.



Music Man . Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 06 1965.

NOTICE

Tibbits Festive
Dinner and Show
plan

2 Delicious Dinners
in the Victorian
Tibbits Room
and
2 reserved seats
for
"MUSIC MAN"

All this week Tuesday thru Saturday
Presented by
The American Theatre Festival
Summer Stock
at the
Tibbits Theatre
All for \$10.00
Musicals \$10.50
Call 278-1581
and Marty the party manager will make
your dinner and ticket reservations.

Stukeey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

Stukeey's Music Man Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 06 1965 p12.

OPENING TONITE

8:30 P.M.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

THE MUSIC MAN



MUSIC & LYRICS BY
**MEREDITH
WILLSON**
BOOK BY MEREDITH WILLSON &
FRANKLIN LACEY

Company of 60

Huge Band

Hear 76 Trombones
as it's never been
heard.

Our biggest, most
colorful show yet

This is a rare treat
for Coldwater

Matinees Wed. and
Sat. 2:30

Adults \$1.65 up

Children (Wed.) 80c — (Sat.) \$1.30

American Theatre Festival

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Call 278-2356 for seats NOW!

Still good seats for later in the week



A DONATION of \$500 was made last week by the Fortnightly Music Club to the Tibbits Opera Foundation. Above, Fortnightly Treasurer Mrs. Roy Olsen presents the check to Foundation President Roy C. Patterson. Daily Reporter photo.

Donation. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 07 1965.

Goodnight My Someone. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 08 1965.

**HELD OVER
SECOND BIG WEEK
DON'T MISS THIS ONE!
8:30 P.M.**

THE MUSIC MAN

Company of 60

Huge Band

Hear 76 Trombones
as it's never been
heard.

Our biggest, most
colorful show yet

This is a rare treat
for Coldwater

Matinees Wed. and
Sat. 2:30
Adults \$1.65 up

Children (Wed.) 80c — (Sat.) \$1.30

American Theatre Festival
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Call 278-2356 for seats NOW!
Still good seats for later in the week



"GOODNIGHT MY SOMEONE"—Ann Breniser (Marian Paroo) sings one of the popular "Music Man" songs while Amaryllis (Cindy Weidner) dreams of her someone on the Paroo porch. A record attendance of 527 persons filled the Tibbits auditorium for last night's performance and gave the show a spirited response including three curtain calls. Talented Miss Breniser is one of the leads of the musical and shares the spotlight with Miss Weidner and other principals in the large cast. (Daily Reporter photo).

Music Man Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 09 1965 p2.



AGAIN THIS WEEK — The "Music Man", Meredith Willson's hit musical about a lovable con-man and his sweetheart will again be playing Tuesday through Saturday evenings with a matinee Sunday afternoon. In the cast of the show are Robert Sphatt and Margaret Foley, who not only act but dance beautifully. The two of them, plus Larry Life, brilliant young choreographer for the company, brighten up the show with several memorable dance numbers. Tickets for the show are available at the box office. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)

Again This Week. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 11 1965.



AFTERNOON AND EVENING—There will be two performances of "The Music Man" at the Tibbits today. Tickets for both shows are still available at the box office. Included in the cast are four young men who form a barber-shop quartet. They play the school board members of River City, Iowa, who are charged with getting Professor Harold Hill's credentials. In the foursome are (l. to r.) Guy Frisler, Milton Bailey, John Phipps, and Jim Gross. They are on the statue in the town square, created by Larry Carlson. (Daily Reporter photo)

Afternoon and Evening. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 10 1965 p2.



THE AMERICAN Theatre Festival production of "The Music Man", Meredith Willson's rollicking Broadway musical includes a large cast with many major roles. Pictured here during one of many curtain calls this week, are (l. to r.) Larry Life, Margaret Foley, Robert Sphatt, Phil Goble, Mitch McCullough, Ann Breniser, Glenn Crane, Fay Com-

mand, Cindy Weidner, Laura Seager and William Walsh. These actors, plus many local people will continue to play the characters in "The Music Man" tonight, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening, and in addition, will run another full week beginning Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House.

The American Theatre Festival. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 09 1965.



"**MARIAN THE LIBRARIAN**", a light-hearted song and dance number from "The Music Man", gets the treatment from (l-r) Robert Sphatz (Tommy D'Jilas) Ann Breniser (Marian Paroo) and Marge Foley (Zaneeta Shinn). Miss Marian tries unsuccessfully in the number to keep her library quiet, but the impish twosome find it difficult to remain silent as they "read" a great literary classic. Curtain time for the second week of performances at the Tibbits Opera House is 8:30 p.m. tonight through Saturday. (Daily Reporter photo).

Marian the Librarian. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 13 1965.

Mrs. Paroo. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 14 1965 p2.

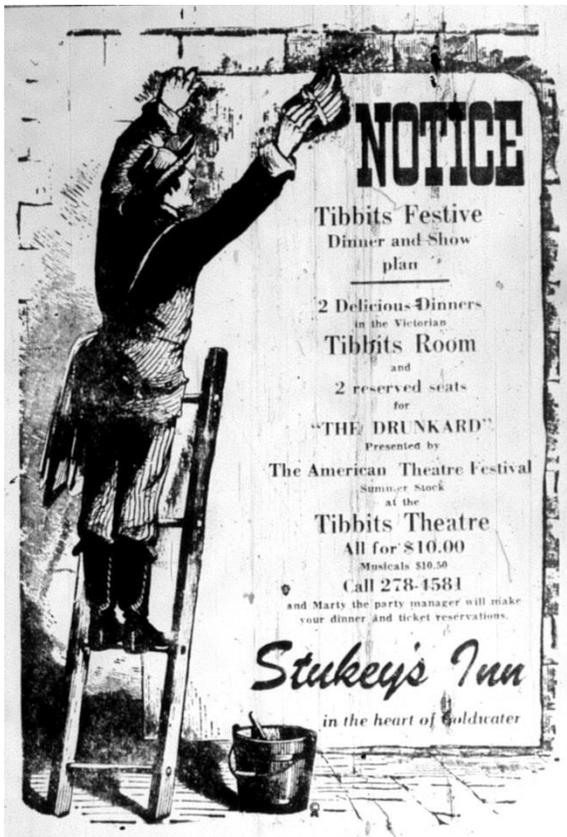
Larry Life. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 16 1965.



MRS. PAROO, strong-willed Irish mother of Marian the Librarian is played by Fay Command (standing, above) in the American Theatre Festival production of "Music Man", held over at the Tibbits Opera House for a second week. Miss Marian (seated) is played by Ann Breniser, singing ingenue. Curtain time tonight through Saturday is 8:30 p.m., with a matinee Saturday featuring special rates for Senior Citizens. (Daily Reporter photo)



LARRY LIFE, enthusiastic choreographer for the American Theatre Festival this year, is one of the principals in "The Music Man", running tonight, Saturday afternoon, and Saturday evening. With the earlier "The Fantasticks" and the present musical to his acting and choreographing credit here. Life is also directing the dance segments of the coming production of "The Drunkard", as well as acting in the show. Curtain times are 8:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Saturday for remaining performances of "The Music Man." (Daily Reporter photo)



IT'S DIFFICULT to tell who is giving the eye to whom, what with Marge Foley playing Sally the Stripper and William Walsh playing the villain in "The Drunkard". The classic melodrama opens at 8:30 p.m. tonight at the Tibbits Opera House, with tickets and reservations still available for all performances. Adapted to the Tibbits stage by Walter Stump, the play has been turned into musical with original music by Donna Douglass. (Daily Reporter photo).



PHIL GOBLE plays the title role in "The Drunkard" while Larry Life appears as the minister who saves him. Goble has received acclaim for his acting in each of the American Theatre Festival productions this year. He appeared as the old Shakespearean actor in "The Fantasticks", 21 year old Buddy in "Come Blow Your Horn," the spry old Jewish father in "Able's Irish Rose", and traveling salesman Charlie Cowell in "The Music Man." A graduate of Indiana University, Goble is a three time winner of IU's highly competitive Acting Award Scholarship. (Daily Reporter photo)

Stukeey's The Drunkard Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 19 1965 p10.

It's Difficult. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 20 1965.

Phil Goble. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 19 1965.

OPENING TONITE

8:30 P.M.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE!



A Musical Melodrama

Hiss the villain — cheer the hero

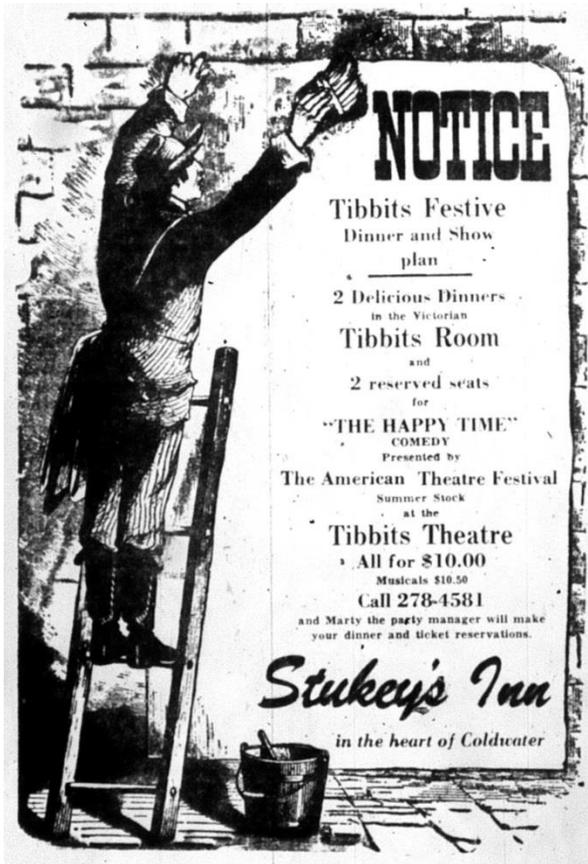
American Theatre Festival

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Call 278-2356 for seats NOW!

Still good seats for later in the week

The Drunkard Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. [The Daily Reporter](#), July 20 1965 p2.



Stukey's Happy Time Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 26 1965 p2.



MAMMA! HELP!—Lovely Ann Breniser (Mary) seems to be beseeching her mother, Fay Command, for help in the attentions of William Walsh, the villain of the piece in "The Drunkard", as Brenda Davis (Julia) (left) looks on. The show will be held each evening this week at 8:30 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. Special guest at Wednesday evening's performance was Charlene Kralochvel, Miss Indiana-1964, from Kokomo, Ind. Reservations may be made for this extremely funny show by calling the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo).

Mamma! Help! Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 22 1965.



When People Are In Love. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 24 1965 p10.

WHEN PEOPLE ARE IN LOVE, life is "The Happy Time", and Robert Shoatt and Marge Foley are again teamed in the coming American Theatre Festival comedy by that title which opens Tuesday. The popular ATF version of "The Drunkard", which can truly be called unique, will close with tonight's performance at 8:30 p.m. Tickets and reservations are available for all performances of "The Happy Time" next week. (Daily Reporter photo).



"THE HAPPY TIME" CAST—Part of the cast for the comedy opening Tuesday at the Tibbits Opera House is pictured in one of the scenes from "The Happy Time". Left to right are: Kenneth Kohn (on couch); William Walsh, Robert Sphatt, Larry Life, Marg Foley (standing, rear); Fay Command, and Laura Seager. Others not pictured are: Craig Davidson and Debbie Cornell of Coldwater, Phil Goble, Charles Hutchins, and Walter Stump. Curtain time Tuesday is 8:30 p.m. with reservations and tickets available for all performances. (Daily Reporter photo).



CRAIG DAVIDSON AND DEBBIE CARNELL IN A SCENE FROM "HAPPY TIME"

Happy Time Cast. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 26 1965.

Craig Davidson & Debbie Carnell. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 27 1965.

The Happy Time Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 28 1965 p2.

TONIGHT THRU SATURDAY

THE HAPPY TIME

Laugh filled comedy about a family's complications with wine, women and la puberte.

AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

Call 278-2356

Next week: "MY FAIR LADY"

COMING NEXT WEEK ONLY
AUG. 3-7



the WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL
MY FAIR LADY

Adapted from Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion"

Book and lyrics by
ALAN JAY LERNER
Music by
FREDERICK LOEWE

LAST TWO NITES, FRI. and SAT.
"THE HAPPY TIME"
*"A comedy of birds and bees,
wine and women"*

American Theatre Festival
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Call 278-2356 for seats NOW!
Still good seats for later in the week



BIBI STICKS WITH COOKIES for the time being as he turns down his father's offer of a cigar. Craig Davidson plays Bibi, while Larry Life acts as his father in "The Happy Time", a sensitive adult situation comedy now playing at the Tibbits Opera House. Reservations and tickets are still available for all performances through Saturday, with curtain time each night at 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo).

My Fair Lady Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 30 1965 p2.

Bibi Sticks With Cookies. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 28 1965.



THE TRANSFORMATION of Eliza Doolittle (Ann Breniser) from a poor flower girl in the dirtier parts of London to a knowledgeable young society lady is a near miracle performed in "My Fair Lady" by Professor Henry Higgins (Glenn Crane). The all time classic musical will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House starting Tuesday, and producers urge theatre goers to make reservations as soon as possible for the award winning production. Tonight and Saturday "The Happy Time" will continue to play at the Tibbits, with curtain time at 8:30 p.m. Matinees for "My Fair Lady" will be held on Wednesday and Saturday next week, with Wednesday's show being a special Senior Citizen's matinee. (Daily Reporter photo).

The Transformation. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 30 1965.

My Fair Lady. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 31 1965 p2.



"MY FAIR LADY" will follow "The Happy Time" in professional summer theatre at the Tibbits Opera House next week. "The Happy Time", playing its last performance tonight at 8:30 p.m. is an adult situation comedy which has drawn enthusiastic audiences throughout the week. Above, Eliza Doolittle (Ann Breniser) lets out with some of her cockney peech while her father (William Walsh) tries to appeal to her sense of reason. The classic comedy will run Tuesday through Saturday next week, with matinees on Wednesday (special rates for Senior Citizens) and Saturday. (Daily Reporter photo).

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at the
Tibbits Theatre
All for \$10.00
Musicals \$10.50
Call 278-4581
and Marty the party manager will make
your dinner and ticket reservations.

Stukey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's My Fair Lady Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 02 1965 p12.



"THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL" — Colonel Pickering (Phil Goble, left) places a bet in "My Fair Lady," maintaining that even the best phonetician, Professor Henry Higgins (Glenn Crane) can't turn Eliza Dolittle (Ann Brenner) into a presentable lady capable of speaking the English language properly. Does she, or doesn't she . . . (Daily Reporter photo)



QUITE A SHOCK TO DISCOVER your cockney daughter looking like a proper lady, it is. William Walsh and Ann Brenner register their respective expressions of surprise at a chance encounter in 'the home' of Professor Henry Higgins where she is learning to speak the English language properly. "My Fair Lady" will continue to play to large audiences for the rest of the week, according to Festival producers, but tickets and reservations are still available. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. for evening performances; the Saturday matinee begins at 2:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)



"A-A-O-O-W. Professor Higgins, why won't you teach me to talk like a proper lady?" Glenn Crane and Philip Goble look amazed at the thought that Eliza (Ann Brenner) could possibly be turned into a lady. In "My Fair Lady" the impossible happens, and Eliza does become a lady. The outstanding production will run tonight through Saturday, Aug. 14, with a matinee Saturday, Aug. 7. There will be no performances Sunday, Aug. 8 or Monday, Aug. 9. According to Theatre Festival producers, "Because of extremely high advance sales we have found that it is now possible to hold over 'Fair Lady' for one more week." The best seats available for this week are on Friday evening, with excellent seats left for next week's shows. (Daily Reporter photo)

The World's Greatest Musical. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 02 1965.

Quite a Shock to Discover. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 04 1965.

A-A-O-O-W. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 05 1965.

Stukey's My Fair Lady Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 02 1965 p12.

HELD OVER
 BY POPULAR DEMAND
The world's most perfect musical



the WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL
MY FAIR LADY
 Adapted from Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion"
 Book and lyrics by **ALAN JAY Lerner**
 Music by **FREDERICK LOEWE**

Tickets available for all shows
 Call 278-2356 for seats now
 Tuesday and Wednesday prices:
 Reserved seats — Adults \$1.75 — Students \$1.35
 General admission Tuesday & Wednesday
 Adults \$1.65 — Students 80c

American Theatre Festival
 TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 Aug. 9th to 14th

My Fair Lady Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 09 1965 p12.

Next Week. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 10 1965.



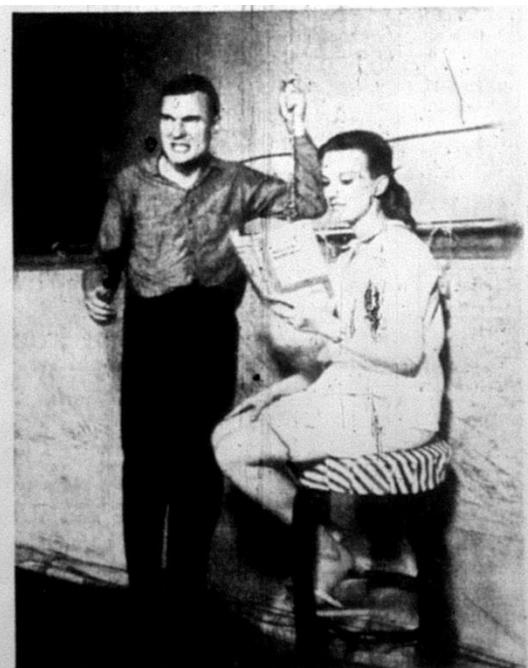
NOTICE

Tibbits Festive
 Dinner and Show
 plan

2 Delicious Dinners
 in the Victorian
Tibbits Room
 and
 2 reserved seats
 for
"MY FAIR LADY"
 HELD OVER
 FOR 2ND WEEK

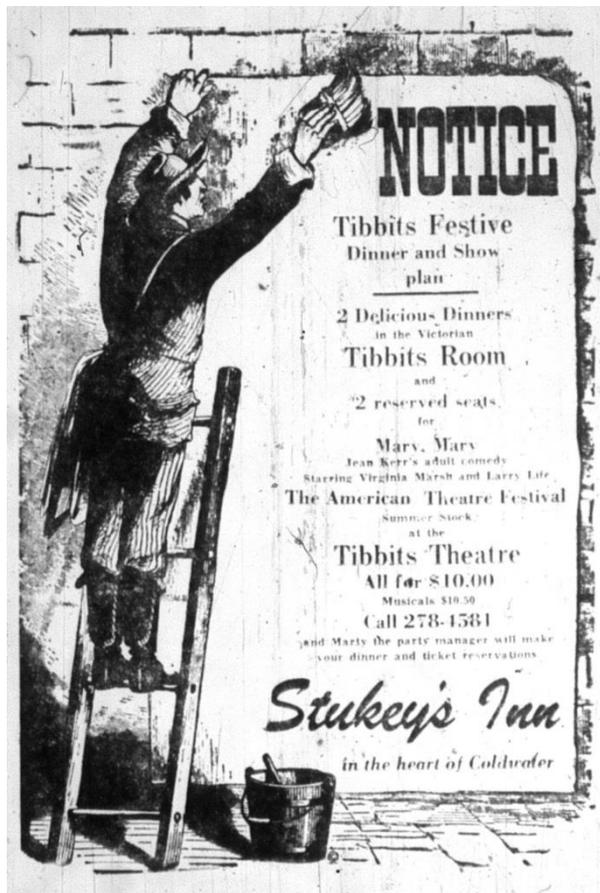
The American Theatre Festival
 Summer Stock
 at the
Tibbits Theatre
 All for \$10.00
 Musicals \$19.50
 Call 278-1581
 and Marty the party manager will make
 your dinner and ticket reservations.

Stukey's Inn
 in the heart of Coldwater



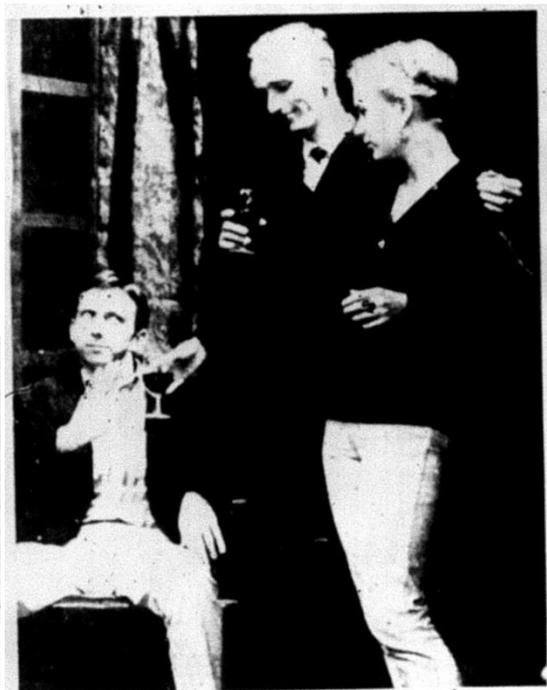
NEXT WEEK — Beginning Aug 17 at 8:30 p.m. Coldwater audiences will once again have the opportunity to see Joel and Virginia Marsh, Festival favorites from last summer. Mrs. Marsh will be seen as Mary in the comedy hit "Mary, Mary", with her husband in the role of the aging actor with whom she falls in love. Here they are seen working on lines from last summer's "Mr. Roberts" production, in which Marsh played the title role. Others in "Mary, Mary" will be Larry Life, Philip Goble, and Laura Seager as Tiffany Richards.

Too Early For Me. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 13 1965 p2.



Stukey's Mary Mary Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 16 1965 p12.

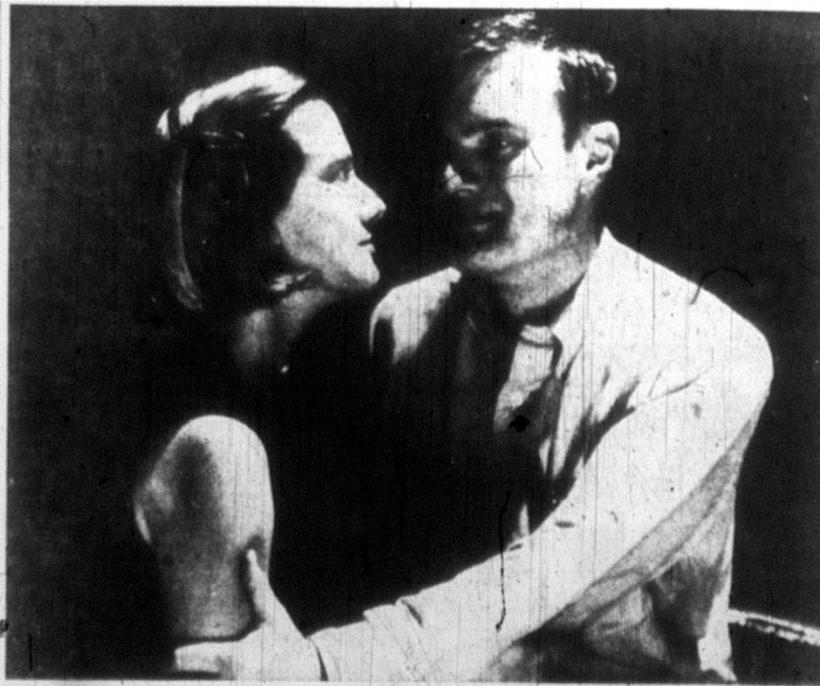
New Role. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 12 1965.



TOO EARLY FOR ME — Oscar Nelson (Philip Goble) refuses the "morning cocktail" offered him in "Mary, Mary" by Tiffany Richards (Laura Seager) as Bob McKelway (Larry Life) looks on. The three will be seen beginning Tuesday evening along with Joel and Virginia Marsh in the long-running Broadway comedy. Tickets are available for the performance, which runs through Saturday, Aug. 21. (Daily Reporter photo)



NEW ROLE — William Walsh will not be acting in next week's American Theatre Festival production of "Mary, Mary", but his years of doing character roles has made being a director not so different from other character parts he's played. Here he strikes a Hollywood-type attitude as Larry Life and Laura Seager, two actors in the forthcoming production, wait for him to get back to the business at hand, stuck in the middle of a love scene. This is the first ATF show in which Walsh has not appeared on stage, but it looks as though he's making up for it as director of the long-running Broadway comedy. Tickets are still available for "My Fair Lady" which runs through Saturday and reservations for "Mary, Mary" may be made at the Tibbits box office. (Daily Reporter photo)



OPENS TOMORROW — "Mary, Mary", Jean Kerr's adult comedy about love and life, opens Tuesday evening at the Tibbits with Virginia Marsh in the title role. Playing the part of an aging actor with whom Mary falls in love will be Mrs. Marsh's husband Joel. Mary's ex-husband Bob will be played by Larry Life with Philip Goble as the attorney friend of the couple and Laura Seager as Tiffany Richards, Bob's girlfriend. Tickets are available for all performances of the show which begins each evening through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo.)

Opens Tomorrow. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 16 1965.

*This Season's Newest
Broadway Comedy Release.*



JEAN KERR'S
comedy hit

MARY, MARY

Aug. 17th
thru
Aug. 21st

Curtain 8:30

Group Rates
Dinner Parties

COMING AUGUST 24 THRU 28,
OKLAHOMA
Matinees August 25 thru 27
The American Musical Classic

Phone Now for Reservations 278-2356

**TIBBITS OPERA
HOUSE**
Coldwater, Mich.

Mary Mary Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 17 1965 p2.



They'd Rather Fight. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 17 1965 p2.

Sitting With His Wife. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 19 1965.

THEY'D RATHER fight than switch! Virginia Marsh and Larry-Life as Mary and Bob McKellaway in "Mary, Mary" find that the only thing they enjoy together anymore is a cigarette and divorce follows in this adult comedy about love and marriage by Jean Kerr. Although Tuesday and Wednesday night houses are very good, there are still excellent seats left for all five performances of this light-hearted look at life. (Daily Reporter photo)



SITTING WITH HIS-WIFE, who is clad in her pajamas, on the couch in his living room can be a rather shaking experience to a fellow like Bob McKellaway (Larry Life). And unexpected things happen when Mary (Virginia Marsh) revisits Bob to straighten out tax problems after their divorce. The action happens in the adult comedy "Mary, Mary," written by Jean Kerr, and being produced by the American Theatre Festival at the Tibbits Opera House through Saturday this week. Tickets and reservations are still available. Not all performances, with curtain time each night at 8:30 p.m. (Daily Reporter photo)

NOTICE

Tibbits Festive
Dinner and Show
plan

2 Delicious Dinners
in the Victorian
Tibbits Room
and
2 reserved seats
for
OKLAHOMA
Rodgers & Hammerstein's
Musical Comedy

The American Theatre Festival
Summer Stock
at the
Tibbits Theatre
All for \$10.00
Musicals \$10.50
Call 278-4581
and Marty the party manager will make
your dinner and ticket reservations.

Stukey's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Oklahoma Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 24 1965 p10.



THE WHOLE CAST of "Mary, Mary" assembles on stage in one scene of the comedy by Jean Kerr. Philip Goble (left) watches over Larry Life, who seems a bit "out of it", while Virginia Marsh and Joel Marsh talk with Laura Seager (seated). The group will present the show tonight and tomorrow night with good seats still available for both shows. Reservation may be made by calling the Tibbits box office. Beginning Tuesday, Aug. 24, the American Theatre Festival will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical "Oklahoma!" (Daily Reporter photo)

The Whole Cast. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 20 1965.



"OKLAHOMA!" — All Hakim (Phil Goble, center) puts on the old soft sell technique as he prepares to sell exotic perfume to Laurey (Ann Breniser), fancy unmentionables to Aunt Eller (Sally Garrico, left) and a night in a hotel to Ado Annie (Charlotte Button, right) in that order. The trouble All runs into provides a side splitting sub plot to the main action of the popular musical, now in production at the Tibbits Opera House. (Daily Reporter photo)

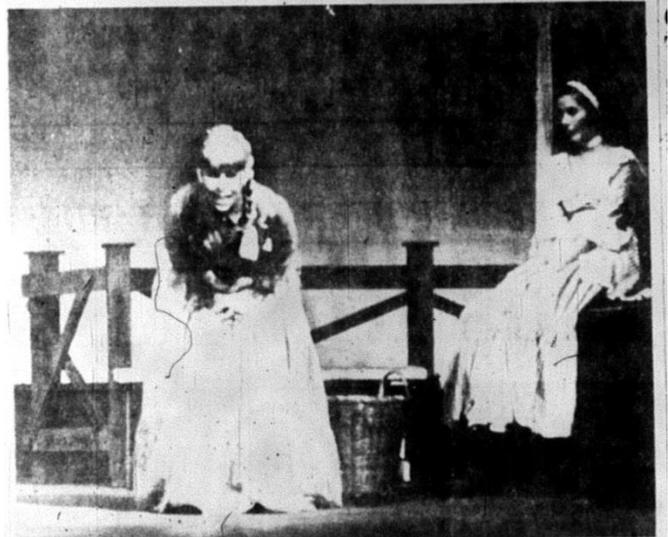
Oklahoma. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 25 1965.

I Cain't Say No. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 27 1965 p2.

Surrey With a Fringe on Top. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 24 1965.



"SURREY WITH A FRINGE ON TOP" — Curley (Milt Bailey) tells Laurey (Ann Breniser) what she's missing if she doesn't go with him to the box social in his special surrey in "Oklahoma!"; the all-time great Rodgers and Hammerstein musical comedy. The show will run this week and next, opening tonight at 8:30 p.m. with a near capacity crowd, and showing in two matinees this week at the Tibbits Opera House. The original stage musical, as we know them today, "Oklahoma!" contributed several of its songs to the list of standards that have remained popular year after year. Both tonight and Wednesday are filled. Tickets are available, however, for all other performances. (Daily Reporter photo)



I CAIN'T SAY NO! Ado Annie Carnes (Charlotte Button) tells her friend Laurey (Ann Breniser) in this week's American Theatre Festival production "Oklahoma!". Also featured in the cast are Milton Bailey, Larry Life, William Walsh, Philip Goble, Sally Carrico, Glenn Crane and many local chorus members. Tickets are still available for all scheduled performances. (Daily Reporter photo)

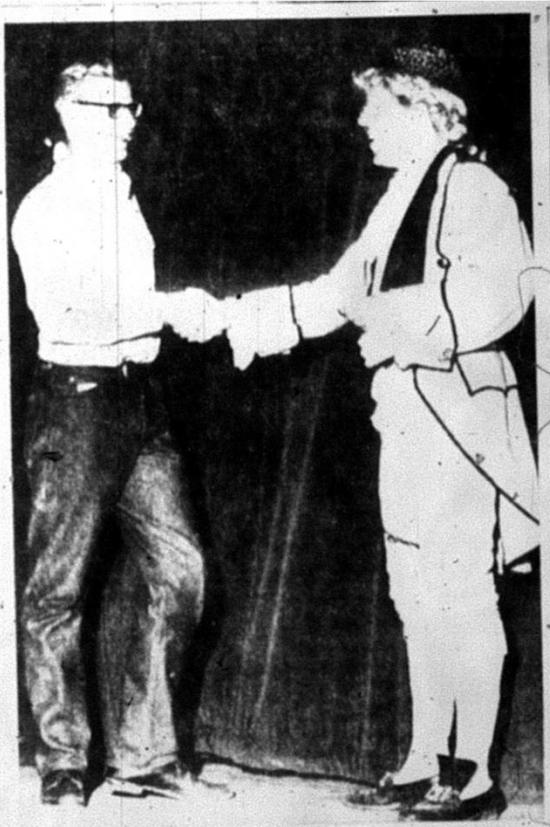


SHAKE HANDS FELLAS! says Andrew Carnes (Glenn Crane) to Jud Fry (William Walsh, left) and Curley (Milton Bailey) after a scuffle over Laurey's affections. Jim Marinelle looks on in this scene from "Oklahoma!" now playing at the Tibbits. The show plays through Saturday evening with a 2:30 matinee on Saturday and begins again on Tuesday, Aug. 31, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are still available for all performances of this rollicking musical about the old west. (Daily Reporter photo)

Shake Hands Fellas. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 26 1965.



TWO LOCAL TEENAGERS RECEIVE AWARDS. The American Theatre Festival gave two awards Saturday evening to two Coldwater young people who have worked with the company for two summers. Brad Green (right) photo received the Outstanding Apprentice of the Year award from Jonathan (Glenn Crane) just before Saturday evening's performance. Green, in addition to working with the technical crew of most of both summers' productions, has acted in many of them this summer. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Green, Brad is a student at Coldwater high school. The other presentation was made to Charlotte Button, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Button, who is playing the role of Ado Annie in the Festival production of "Oklahoma!" Miss



Button was advanced to the position of a member of next summer's company, having been elevated to that position from apprentice, because of her outstanding work. She is a graduate of Coldwater high school and will attend Kellogg Community College in the fall as a sophomore student. Miss Button worked with the ATF company last summer as an apprentice and had a role in "Little Mary Sunshine". This summer she has worked in several shows, climaxing her portion of the season with a well-received portrayal in the present production "Oklahoma!" will run Tuesday through Saturday evenings with performances beginning at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are still available for all performances. (Daily Reporter photos)



DON'T SHOOT, I'LL MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER! Philip Gobie (Ali Hakim) grimaces at the thought of Glenn Cline (Andrew Carnes) lending his association with Charlotte Button (Ado Annie). The three are in the cast of "Oklahoma!" which tonight begins the second week of performances at the Tibbits. Reservation may be made by calling the box office. (Daily Reporter photo)

Two Local Teenagers. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 30 1965.

Don't Shoot. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 31 1965.



CURLEY AND LAUREY — Making' their last appearances of the season at the Tibbits Opera House are Milton Bailey and Ann Breniser (above). The couple has been a popular duo in the season's musicals, and are presently starring in "Oklahoma!" which is running now through Saturday in its second week. Tickets and reservations are still available for all performances, with curtain times at 8:30 p.m. each night. (Daily Reporter photo)



WATSON

Curley and Laurey.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Sept 01 1965
p2.

Music, Magic and Mirth
Ad. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Sept 10 1965
p3.

**GET YOUR FREE
TICKETS**
and enjoy yourself at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Sunday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
See
**MUSIC!
MAGIC!
and MIRTH!**
Over \$800.00 to be given in
prizes, bonds and cash.
ASK FOR YOUR TICKET AT
**SHORT & SON, INC.
MUSIC MART**

Watson.
Microfilm
Archives,
Holbrook
Heritage
Room,
Coldwater.
The Daily
Reporter,
Sept 11
1965 p2.

Stukey's Wayne King Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 30 1965 p3.

Tuesday, Oct. 5

WAYNE KING

and his
world famous
orchestra

AT
**TIBBITS
OPERA
HOUSE**
COLDWATER

Reserved tickets \$3.75
General admission \$2.50
Ph. 278-2356

2 performances
7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Wayne King Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 24 1965 p2.

Here on Oct 5. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 27 1965.



NOTICE

*A treat for gourmets and
Theatre Buffs*

Deluxe Buffet Dinner
Prepared and served by
Chef Rudy
and his staff
in the Victorian
TIBBITS ROOM
6 p.m. - till 10 p.m.
Tuesday, October 5th

Call now and reserve
your table and your tickets for the
Wayne King Concert
7:30 - 9:30
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Stimulating cocktails from the Stirrup Cup

Stukeley's Inn
in the heart of Coldwater



HERE ON OCT. 5 — Wayne King and his Orchestra will play a return engagement at the Tibbits Opera House on Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by phoning the Tibbits box office Monday through Saturday from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. or going in during those hours.

Tuesday, Oct. 5



RETURN ENGAGEMENT

WAYNE KING

and his
**WORLD FAMOUS
ORCHESTRA**

AT
**TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE**
Coldwater

Reserved Tickets \$3.75
General Admission \$2.50

Ph. 278-2356

2 PERFORMANCES
7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.



**I TOLD YOU NOT TO SET
IT WHEN THE TRAVEL &
ADVENTURE SERIES WAS SHOWING!**

Presented by Thayer Soule

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

1st date of Travelogue Sat., Oct. 9, 8:00 p.m.

"BYWAYS OF BRITAIN"

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FROM ANY KIWANIAN
\$5.00 ADULTS \$3.00 STUDENTS & CHILDREN

6 BIG EVENINGS -- 6 GREAT ADVENTURES

"Byways of Britain"

"This Is Egypt"

"Inner Space"

"America"

"Summer In Italy"

"Yucatan Trails"

*Byways of Britain Ad. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Oct 06 1965 p2.*

*Wayne King Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter,
Oct 01 1965.*



FINAL PLANS for re-opening the membership campaign of the Branch County Community Concert Association from Oct. 18 to 23 to bring the Chicago Opera Ballet (shown) and two other nationally known artists to Tibbits Opera House during the 1965-66 season were discussed on Sunday afternoon at a meeting of board members held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Felley at 184 Fairfield-dr. William P. Good, president, presided over the meeting which was attended by Mrs. Roy Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Good, Miss Beulah Gay, Mrs. Conrad Asbury, Mrs. Harold Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Feller, Miss Alma Hildebrand, Mrs. Maurice Payne, Mrs. Herman Myers, Mrs. Joseph Bonfiglio and Miss Kathryn L. Sbatuck. Good announced that Niles Community Concert association has

offered the local association reciprocity, which means that three additional concerts will be available to members of the Branch County Community Concert Association. These concerts include "Two Go Dancing," ballet and classical dance concert on October 30; the Norman Luboff Choir on Feb. 9 and Jean Paul Seville, pianist on March 10. Mrs. Roy Olsen has invited workers in the campaign to a social evening at the Olsen home at 166 West Pearl-st. This marks the kick-off for the campaign drive for memberships. Good also announced that headquarters for the fall drive will be located in the lobby of Stukey's Inn. Anyone desiring a membership should contact board members or call at headquarters.

Final Plans. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 04 1965 p2.

Kiwanis Travelogue Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 08 1965 p2.

**KIWANIS
TRAVELOGUE
TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE
SAT., OCT. 9
Don't miss a one!**



PREPARING FOR PERFORMANCES — The Coldwater chapter of Sweet Adelines is now in rehearsal for several forthcoming events. On Saturday the chorus will appear in the annual Sweet Adelines show put on by the Kalamazoo chapter. Monday, Oct. 18 is the annual membership night for the local chapter. All interested women are invited to attend the meeting which will begin at 8 p.m. Meetings are held at the Elks Temple, Pearl and Division-sts. each Mon-

day evening. The chorus is rehearsing right now for the annual show, which will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House on Dec. 4 and 5. This year's show will feature music of America with Mrs. Charles B. as general chairman. Those persons who would like to attend Monday's meeting and need transportation should contact any Sweet Adeline or call Mrs. Clyde Williams. (Daily Reporter photo)

Preparing for Performances. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 13 1965 p16.



FOLKSINGERS TO APPEAR HERE. — In line with the Daily Reporter's salute to women, the Tibbits Opera Foundation today announced that the "Womenfolk", a group of popular folksingers and recording artists will be appearing at the Tibbits on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 7 and 9 p.m. The all female folksinging group has most recently appeared on the Ed Sul-

livan Show, the Bell Telephone Hour, and Hullabaloo. Tickets for the two-show appearance will be available soon at the Tibbits box office. On Saturday, Nov. 6, the famed Reed Marionettes will perform at 2 p.m., doing "Pinocchio". Tickets at reduced rates are presently on sale at the Opera House box office.



REEDS AND THEIR MARIONETTES

Folksingers to Appear Here. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 28 1965.

Reeds and Their Marionettes. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 29 1965.

Pinocchio Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Oct 29 1965 p2.

Saturday, Nov. 6

The *Reed Marionettes*
present . . .

"PINOCCHIO"

at

**TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE**

Coldwater

21 CHARACTERS
15 SCENES
2 FOOT PUPPETS
SPECIAL EFFECTS,

Children 75c
Adults \$1.00

Ph. 278-2356

CURTAIN 2:00 P.M.

COMING

Famous Folk Singers
"THE WOMEN FOLK"



"PINOCCHIO" TO BE PRESENTED — Edith and Robin Reed, puppeteers of the famed Reed Marionettes, will present "Pinocchio" at the Tibbits Opera House Saturday at 2 p.m. Tickets are now on sale at the Tibbits box office which is open each day, Monday through Saturday from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. The Reeds will work the puppets, talk for them, and handle all the scenery for the presentation. Tickets for this performance are being sold at reduced rates. On Nov. 28 the Tibbits Opera Foundation will present the world-famous "Womenfolk" folksinging group. Tickets for this show will be on sale soon at the box office.



THIS AFTERNOON at 2 o'clock, the Reed Marionettes will present the favorite children's story "Pinocchio" at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets will be on sale at the box office up to the time of the performance. The show will be done in 15 scenes with puppetry, lighting, scenery and voices all being done by Robin and Edith Reed, puppeteers.

Pinocchio. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 02 1965.

This Afternoon. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 06 1965 p2.



COMING NOVEMBER 28 — Tickets are now on sale at the Tibbits Opera House box office for the two scheduled performances on Nov. 28 by the "Womenfolk". The Sunday

evening performances will be given at 7 and 9 p.m. by this group of R.C.A. Victor recording artists. The box office is open Monday through Saturday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Coming November.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, Nov 10
1965 p2.

To Appear. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 15 1965
p2.



NOAH (Roger Burk) shows characteristic patience, as his wife (Stephanie Shank) beats character on his chest in a fit of temper. The two are part of the cast to present "Noah" at the Tibbits Opera House on Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets are available from any member of the Coldwater high school senior class and at the door on performance nights. (Daily Reporter photo)



TO APPEAR — Richard Cass, pianist, will be presented as the first artist in the 1965-66 series of the Branch County Community Concert Association on Saturday evening, Nov. 20 at 8:30 p.m. in the Tibbits Opera House. Cass, who is from Greenville, S.C., rocketed into the national spotlight when he was chosen pianist winner in the twentieth biennial young artists' auditions of the National Federation of Music Clubs. Since that time he has won acclaim for his playing at home and abroad. In the summer of 1964 he won new laurels when he made his London debut. London's most important and conservative newspapers were lavish with praise headlining the review of his performance with "Gifted Playing of Debussy." He has appeared in Paris in a debut recital which was described as a highly successful event. He was also a winner in the Viotti International contest in Vercelli, Italy, where he competed with musicians from all over the world.

Noah. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 15 1965.



ALL IS NOT SOUND AND FURY in the senior play "Noah" to be presented this evening and Friday at 8 o'clock at the Tibbits Opera House by Coldwater high school's senior class. Here Larry Parks (left) as Japhet looks disgusted as Bill Shoop (Ham) listens with interest to the tender, loving words of Norma (Carolyn Worst). Sneering at the scene are Kitty Adair (Ada) and Becky Pratt (Sella). (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

All Is Not Sound and Fury. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 18 1965.



DRIVEN BEYOND ENDURANCE by the taunts of his son, Ham (Bill Shoop, third from l) Noah (Roger Burk) strikes him. The rest of the family, shocked at the loss of patience by Noah and Ham's continuing mockery of his father, look

on. They are (l-r) Becky Pratt (Sella), Bob Shaw (Shem), Carolyn Worst (Norma), Stephanie Shank (Mama), and Kitty Adair (Ada). (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Driven Beyond Endurance. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 19 1965.

**SWEET
ADELINES**
to present
**"SING
AMERICANA"**
DEC. 4, 8 P.M. DEC. 5, 3 P.M.
at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE




TICKETS AVAILABLE
FROM MEMBERS OR
BOX OFFICE

*Sweet
Adelines
Ad.*
Microfilm
Archives,
Holbrook
Heritage
Room,
Coldwater.
The Daily
Reporter,
Nov 19
1965 p2.

Sunday, Nov. 28

THE
Womenfolk
Folk Singers

AT THE
TIBBITS

Womenfolk Ad. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, Nov 20 1965 p7.

Womenfolk Ad. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, Nov 24 1965 p2.

Sunday, Nov. 28

The
**W
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K**

FOLK SONGS
R.C.A. VICTOR
RECORDING
STARS
RESERVED
SEATS \$3.75
GENERAL ADM.
\$2.50
2 SHOWS
7:00 & 9:00 p.m.
PH. 278-2356

**OPERA HOUSE
TIBBITS
COLDWATER**



ONE PERFORMANCE — The Womenfolk will be in Coldwater on Sunday, Nov. 28 for a show to be presented at the Tibbits Opera House at 7 p.m. They sing old standards and new songs, both with a new exciting sound. The five girls are Joyce James, Jean Amos, Leni Ashmore, Barbara Cooper and Judy Fine. Tickets are available at the Tibbits box office which is open from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

One Performance.
 Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook
 Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
 Nov 26 1965.



SUNDAY EVENING—The Womenfolk, RCA Victor recording stars, will be in Coldwater on Sunday evening for one performance at 7 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are on sale at the Tibbits box office for the show. Reservations may be made by phoning the box office from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening.
 Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook
 Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
 Nov 27 1965 p2.

“Sing Americana”
 to be presented at the
Tibbits Opera House
Sat., Dec. 4th 8 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 5th 3 p.m.
 by the Coldwater Chapter of the
SWEET ADELINES

ENJOY

- Songs from the days of the covered wagon to the present jet age.
- Songs describing the building of our great nation.
- Whimsical songs.

TICKETS
 Available from any Sweet Adeline Member or at the Box Office.

Stukey's Sweet Adeline Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 01 1965 p14.

NOTICE

THIS WEEK IN COLDWATER
Sweet Adelines Show
“SING AMERICANA”
 at the Tibbits Opera House
 Saturday & Sunday

Cliff Somers at the piano bar in the
STIRRUP CUP

2 DAYS ONLY
Dorothy Rowen
 Sunday & Monday
 Dec. 5 Dec. 6
 singing and playing /
 at

Stukey's Inn

Sing Americana Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 29 1965 p2.

In Show. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 30 1965.



IN SHOW — The Tri-State Misses will be singing of the Roaring 20's in the annual Sweet Adelines show, "Sing Americana" to be presented Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. The show includes a brief musical history of America, songs of the North, South, East and West and a patriotic section. Tickets are available from Sweet Adelines and at the box office on show days. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



THE GALLOPING Grannies (l-r, Irene Christianson, Franc Gay, Doris Reppert and Lucille Asbury) will be "Cruising Along" in the Sweet Adeline show, "Sing Americana" to be presented on Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. They are only four of the many women of the chorus who will be performing in this, the sixth annual Sweet Adelines show. Tickets are available from chorus members and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Sing Americana Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 02 1965 p16.

"SING AMERICANA"
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

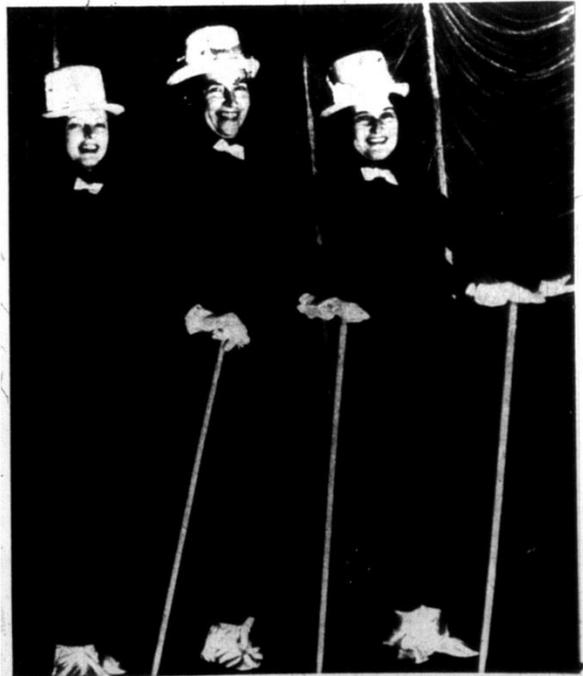
Sat. 8 p.m. Tickets \$1.50

Sun. 3 p.m. Tickets ,

Adults \$1.50 - Children 75c

The Galloping Grannies. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 01 1965.

Give My Regards. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 02 1965.



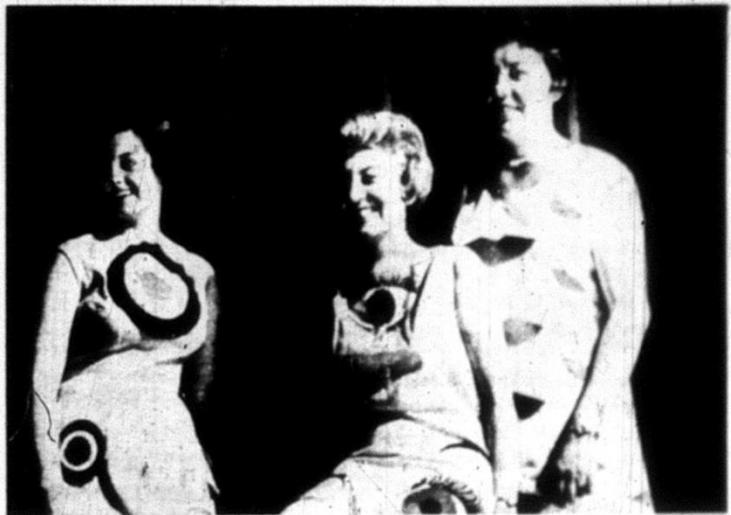
GIVE MY REGARDS—Eather Norton, Lu Yarger and Lois Bristol will be dancing their "Regards to Broadway" on Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. when the Coldwater Sweet Adelines present "Sing Americana" at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are available from chorus members and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr).

First Time Tonight. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 04 1965 p3.

Director. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 10 1965.



DIRECTOR — Head director for the Tibbits Opera Company's production of "Hazel and Owen" is Evelyn Orbach. An exciting new young director, Miss Orbach has in the past 100 years distinguished herself in directing such plays as "The Majority of One" and "The Tenth Man" as well as two contemporary operas, "Sweet Adeline" and "The Bird with the Broken Heart." Her latest work will be seen in Coldwater on Dec. 16, as the Tibbits Opera Foundation brings "Hazel and Owen" to the Tibbits Opera House for two performances. Tickets for the 11 a. m. or 1:30 p. m. performance are on sale at the Tibbits box office daily from 12:30 to 5:30 p. m.



FIRST TIME TONIGHT — The Sweet Adeline show, "Sing Americana" will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House for the first time at 8 p. m. this evening. The second show is Sunday at 3 p. m. Three of the chorus members will participate in a "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" fashion show with several others of the group. The clothing in the number is designed in the modern, op art manner, with Mrs. Richard Holben Jr. (left) wearing bull's eyes; Mrs. B. K. Pearce wearing eyes; and Miss Jane Hurley covered with lips. Tickets are available from members or at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



OPENING The Sweet Adeline show, "Sing Americana", was an Indian dance done by (l-r) Margo Rollins, Sue Ann Hime-

baugh, Irene Whitten and Barbara Klimmer. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Opening. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 06 1965.

SATURDAY,
DEC. 18

**"HANSEL
and
GRETEL"**

"THE CLASSIC CHILDREN'S OPERETTA, PRESENTED BY A PROFESSIONAL CAST FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART"

A MUSICAL
FAIRY TALE

TICKETS

CHILDREN 75c

ADULTS \$1.25

★ 2 Performances

||| 11:00 a.m.
||| 1:30 p.m.

Ph. 278-2356

**TIBBITS
Opera House.**
Coldwater

Hansel and Gretel Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 14 1965 p2.

On Saturday. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 14 1965.



ON SATURDAY—This is a scene from "Hansel and Gretel" as presented in its world premiere at Ford Auditorium in Detroit. This musical fairy tale will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale at the box office for this holiday presentation. Box office hours are 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. daily.

SATURDAY, DEC. 18

The
Piccolo Opera Co.

presents

"HANSEL and GRETEL"

||| Professional Cast
||| Musical Fairy Tale

"For the young and the young
in heart"

TICKETS		2 PERFORMANCES	
CHILDREN	75c	11:00 A.M.	
ADULTS	\$1.25	1:30 P.M.	

Phone 278-2356

**TIBBITS
OPERA HOUSE**

Coldwater

*Hansel and
Gretel Ad.* Microfilm
Archives,
Holbrook
Heritage
Room,
Coldwater.
The Daily
Reporter, Dec
14 1965 p2.

{ 1966 }



TO BE PRESENTED FEB. 5 — Hamlet, by William Shakespeare will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House on Saturday, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. The play is presented by the Michigan State Performing Arts Co. Playing the role of Claudius, King of Denmark, will be Roger Cornish. Tickets for the performance are available from the Tibbits box office which is open Monday-Friday from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

To Be Presented. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 17 1966.

Kiwanis Travelogue Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 20 1966 p2.

Thrills - Adventure
SPECTACULAR COLOR MOTION PICTURES
NARRATED IN PERSON!
SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1966
"INNER SPACE"



JACKSON WINTER

"EXPLORING INNER SPACE" (Deep Sea Adventure) is a color film of high adventure and breathtaking beauty underwater and presented by Owen Lee, master diver of the Calypso Oceanographic Expeditions. Owen Lee is a delightful person, a charming speaker, who despite his years underwater, is no fish out of water on the platform. He is a master diver, an expert with the underwater camera, and is also adept at the typewriter. He is also producer and host of a new television adventure series called "VIVA!"

The Ninth Annual
KIWANIS TRAVELOGUE

Presented at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE 8 P.M.
Tickets Available From Any Member or at the Tibbits



COMMUNITY CONCERT ON JAN. 26 — The Musical Arts Trio with Joseph Wolman at the piano, John Wummer on flute and David Sackson playing the violin-viola will present the second concert in an current series of the Branch County Community Concert association at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at the Tibbits Opera House, according to William

Good, president of the association. These artists, under the patronage of Columbia Artists of New York, have received acclaim for their performances in the Coolidge Foundation concerts in the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., and for their recitals in Carnegie Hall, New York city.

Community Concert. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 21 1966.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR for Cultural Activities at the University of Michigan Extension Service Michael P. Church (left) discusses a painting displayed on the Tibbits stage during the weekend's Art Council here. With Church are Tibbits Opera Foundation President Roy Patterson and Theatre Manager Lawrence Carrico.

Assistant Director. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 26 1966 p2.



CLAUDIUS, King of Denmark, confronts Hamlet in a scene from the coming production of Hamlet at the Tibbits Opera House. This great Shakesperian tragedy will be presented with full costumes and lighting on Saturday, Feb 5 at 9 p.m. by the Performing Arts Company of Michigan State. Tickets for the presentation are now on sale at the Tibbits box office. Group rates are available.

Claudius. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 02 1966.

SATURDAY,
FEB. 5
 Shakespeare's
"HAMLET"
 AT
TIBBITS
OPERA
HOUSE
 Coldwater
 presented by
MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Tickets | ADULT \$1.50
 | STUDENT \$1.00
 Ph. 278-2356

 One Performance 8:00 p.m.

Hamlet Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Jan 31 1966 p2.

The Carricos. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 16 1966.



THE CARRICOS

Kiwanis Travelogue. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 17 1966 p14.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1966
"AMERICA"
 "OF THEE I SING" will be presented by Robert Brouwer whose electrical training has proved valuable in planning and designing much of his special equipment. Controlled light, three vivid screens, four projectors, Ampex tape recorder and quality stereo speakers contribute to the dramatic effect of this unusual program. You will enjoy the delightful variety of scenes in the program, in which you will see, Mighty Niagara Falls, Autumn color in Vermont, and much, must more.
ROBERT BROUWER
The Ninth Annual
KIWANIS TRAVELOGUE
 Presented at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE 8 P.M.



TWO OF THE best known character actors in the theatre stopped at Stukey's Inn for luncheon Sunday on their way to Oakland University. Hans Conrad and Ruth McDevitt were traveling with the national tour of "Absence of A Cello" which starred Coldwater born Miss McDevitt on Broadway last season. Florida Friebus (back to camera) was with the company. She was Doble Gillis' mother in the television show called the "Many Loves of Doble Gillis". Staff photo by Kathy Tarr



PERFORMANCE WEDNESDAY — The Chicago Opera Ballet, a company of 50 celebrated dancers and musicians will be brought to Coldwater to present the third and final concert of the 1965-66 season of the Branch County Community Concert association on Wednesday, March 9 at 8:30 p.m. on the stage of the Tibbits Opera House. All the ballets which interpret operas will be performed with settings and costumes created for them by artists just as they were presented at the Lyric Opera in Chicago, on Broadway, in London, Paris, Monte Carlo and hundreds of American cities. Ruth Page is the director. One of Europe's top-ranking ballerinas, Josette Amiel, will appear in the production at the Tibbits.

Character Actors. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Feb 28 1966.

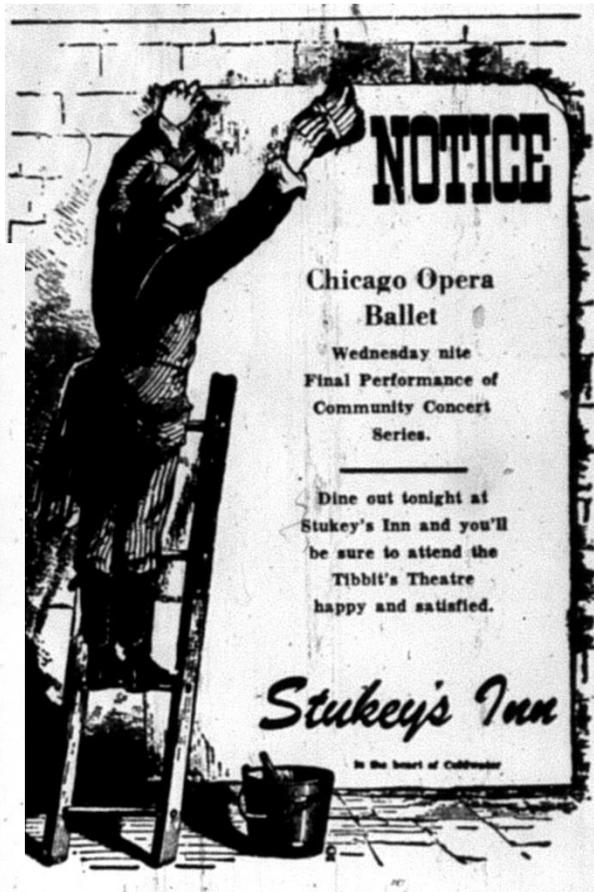
Performance Wednesday. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 07 1966.

Stukey's Chicago Opera Ballet. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 08 1966 p2.

Miss Josette Amiel. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 10 1966.



MISS JOSETTE AMIEL



THE WISE old stage manager in Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" will be played by Brad Bean. The stage manager narrates the show, which is directed by Larry Carrico. He tells the story and fills in bits of material unsaid by the play's characters. The play will be seen Thursday and Friday evenings at the Tibbit's Opera House at 8 p.m. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

The Wise. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 14 1966.



MRS. GIBBS (Sherry Gatesso) and Mrs. Webb (Dobbie Fleenor) discuss Mrs. Gibbs' desire to go to Paris. The two will be seen Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House in the Coldwater high school junior class production of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town". (Staff photo)

Mrs. Gibbs. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 16 1966.

Opening Tonight. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 17 1966.



OPENING TONIGHT — Dr. Gibbs (Tom Snyder) tells his son George (Skip Davenport) that he must start helping his mother around the house. The scene is from "Our Town" which opens tonight at 8 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets for both tonight and Friday evening's performance are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



COMING APRIL 3 — Papa Jac Assunto, founder of the Dukes of Dixieland is featured with the group in a one-concert appearance at the Tibbits Opera House on Sunday, April 3 at 8 p.m. This most famous of all dixieland bands will present seven of the country's top dixieland jazz artists in a never-to-be-forgotten appearance here in Coldwater. Call or stop by the Tibbits for reservations.

Coming April 3. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 25 1966.



OVER 400 persons attended the Spring Fashionists held Saturday evening at the Tibbits Opera House. In which 10 local models were involved. Models showed everything from bathing suits to line dresses. Fashion show was sponsored by B. B. Tupper, Golden Rule Shop, Reburn's Clothing Store and Sears, Roebuck and Co. Participating in the show were: Mrs. Maggie Hopkins, Granite Hill, Meigs, Carajohn and Mrs. Z. Livermore. The show was sponsored by the Daily Reporter and the Greater Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Branch County Hospital Auxiliary. Opening the Saturday evening proceedings were: Paul McKee, manager, Chamber of Com-

merce, Mrs. William Newberry, Hospital Auxiliary president and Fred Hough, hospital administrator. Proceeds from the show will go toward the purchase of an isolation incubator for the obstetrics department of the Community Health Center. (Staff photos by John Phipps)

SUNDAY, APRIL 3 — 8:00 P.M.
 NATION'S NO. 1 DIXIELAND BAND

"DUKES of DIXIELAND"

TICKETS \$3.50 — \$2.00 * PH. 278-2356

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 COLDWATER, MICH.

Over 400 Attending. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 28 1966.

Dukes of Dixieland Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, March 28 1966 p2.



Stukey's Dukes of Dixieland
Ad. Microfilm Archives,
Hollbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, April 011966 p2.



FRED AND FRANK Assunto, members of the famed Dukes of Dixieland, are featured in the seven man Dixieland group to appear at the Tibbits Opera House on Sunday, April 3 at 8 p.m. This top band has appeared at every top hotel, nightclub and ballroom in the country as well as on hundreds of network television programs. Tickets may be reserved by calling the Tibbits or stopping at the box office any day between 12:30 and 8:30. Don't miss this exciting musical evening.

Fred and Frank Assunto.
Microfilm Archives,
Hollbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, March 30 1966.



A SURE SIGN of Spring is when the Coldwater Rotary club gets down to serious rehearsals for its annual variety show. Practice for this year's production, "Fabulous Forties," has reached that stage as this photo, taken during a chorus rehearsal at Elks temple Tuesday night, would indicate.

This year's show, which will be presented April 14-15-16 at Tibbits Opera House, is being directed by John Visovsky with Mrs. Roy Patterson again serving as accompanist. Tickets are now on sale and may be secured from any Rotarian. (Staff photo by Beton Bovee)

A Sure Sign of Spring.
Microfilm Archives,
Hollbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, March 30 1966.

Fred, Papa Jack, and Frank Assunto.
 Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter,
 April 02 1966 p2.



FRED, Papa Jack and Frank Assunto, founders and lead men in the DUKES OF DIXIELAND, jazz band No 1 dixieland in the United States, appearing at the Tibbits Opera House in Coldwater tomorrow evening, April 3 at 8 p.m. Reservations are recommended.

Stukey's Rotary Show Ad. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April
 12 1966 p2.

NOTICE

Call 278-4581
 for
 Dinner Reservations
 Thurs., Fri., & Sat.
 and Attend
THE ROTARY SHOW
 At The Tibbits
 Opera House
 14th - 15th - 16th

Dancing Fri. & Sat. Nites

Stimulating cocktails from
 the Stirrup Cup

Stukey's Inn
 In the heart of Coldwater

*Smile and the world
 smiles with you*

Sing a Song

of the

**"FABULOUS
 FORTIES"**

to be presented
 Thurs., Fri., and Sat., April 14, 15, and 16
 at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
 8:15 P.M.
 by the
**Coldwater Rotary
 Minstrels**

Turn back the calendar and recall the wonderful Broadway musicals of the 40's and the crew cuts of World War II.
 NEW—Voices, Music, Staging, Lighting and Comedy

TICKETS
 Thursday \$1.00 per person
 Friday and Saturday \$1.50 per person
 available from all Rotary Members

Fabulous Forties Ad. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April
 11 1966 p2.



CURTAIN TIME NEAR — The Coldwater Rotary club minstrels have moved their rehearsals to Tibbits Opera House where the opening performance of their 1966 variety show, entitled "Fabulous Forties," will be given this Thursday night. The production, as in past years, will run three nights, closing Saturday night. The large chorus is shown

working on one of its special numbers Monday night. Tickets for opening night were disappearing rapidly today with a noticeable step up in demand for Friday and Saturday night seats. Tickets may be secured in advance from any Rotarian. (Staff photo by Seton Bovee)

Curtain Time Near. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 12 1966.



OK YA BUMS!
the Coldwater
ROTARY MINSTRELS
will present the
"Fabulous Forties"
at the
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
at 8:15 p.m. this
Thursday - Friday and Saturday

YOU WILL BE CHARGED
\$1.00 each Thursday Nite
\$1.50 each Friday & Saturday Nite
ANYONE NOT GOING WILL BE SORRY!
Get your tickets now from any Rotarian

A Complete New Show - New Voices,
Music, Songs, Comedy, Lighting
and Stage Sets.

DON'T MISS THIS ANNUAL FUNFEST!

TONITE thru Sat.
the
"Fabulous Forties"
to be presented
by the
**Coldwater Rotary
Minstrels**
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
8:15 P.M.
Tickets Available At
The Box Office
Ph. 278-2356

Fabulous Forties Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 14 1966 p2.

Ok Ya Bums! Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 13 1966 p2.



John Walker.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
April 14 1966.

Larry Sherman.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
April 19 1966 p2.

JOHN WALKER, making his umpteenth appearance in a Coldwater Rotary show, goes through his routine in a western sequence of this year's "Fabulous Forties" production during dress rehearsal at Tibbits Opera House Wednesday night. The show is scheduled to open at 8:15 tonight with performances also slated for Friday and Saturday nights. Tickets may be secured at the Tibbits boxoffice, from Ticket Chairman Godfrey Collins or any Rotarian. (Staff photo by Seton Bovee)



LARRY SHERMAN (Ted) eggs on Bernie Stankewicz (Tommy) in this scene from the St. Charles senior play "It's A Great Life" as the latter calls on a man to take his sister to the spring dance. The two will be among cast members to be seen in the production which will be held on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 o'clock at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are available from any member of the St. Charles senior class and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



Rotary Scores With Fabulous Forties

Dukes of Dixieland Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 15 1966.



AUNT GERTRUDE (Linda Smith) tells off father (Mike Kuplecki) in this scene from "It's A Great Life" this year's senior class play, to be done Friday and Saturday evenings at the Tibbits Opera House at 8 o'clock. Although the father in the Wilson family is the alleged head of the family, Aunt Gertrude always manages to have the last word. Tickets are available from any member of the St. Charles senior class and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Aunt Gertrude. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 20 1966.



IN A SERIES of humorous occurrences, members of the St. Charles senior play cast (l-r) Susan Butcher, Mike Kuplecki, Joan Smith and Dan Post are all involved in "It's A Great Life". The play will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 o'clock. Tickets for each performance are on sale from members of the senior class and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

In a Series. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 21 1966.



OPENING TONIGHT — The annual high school Variety Show will open at 8:15 this evening at the Tibbits Opera House. Among those in the cast of this year's show will be Lauren Adair, who will be doing a humorous monologue. Tickets for the show are available from any member of the cast or at the Tibbits box office. The show is directed this year by Carolyn Worst. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Opening Tonight. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 28 1966.

Lil Abner. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 26 1966.



LIL ABNER AND DAISY MAE — Nancy Goldstone and Doug Smith will be portraying comic characters Daisy Mae and Lil Abner in the high school variety show to be given Thursday and Friday evenings at the Tibbits Opera House. Each performance will begin at 8:15 p.m. The cast from the Broadway show, 'Lil Abner,' will be part of a show planned with something for everyone. Tickets are available at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



THIS YEAR'S Coldwater high school variety show will feature everything from musical comedy sketches to poetry to interpretive reading. Part of the poetry presentation will be given by these five students, (l-r) Barb Balcom, Scott DeLoach, Bill Bobler, Gerry Dulin, Louann Crowder, who wrote the poetry which is being used, and Bill Shoop. Tickets for the show, to be presented Thursday and Friday evenings at 8:15 at the Tibbits Opera House, are available from members of the cast and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Variety Show. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 27 1966.



WARMING FOR concert night is the Coldwater high school Cardinal choir, here rendering the sophisticated version of "Sit Down, Servant", a popular Negro spiritual. The choir will appear in a cappella concert on the Tibbits Opera House stage Tuesday at 8 p.m., with the Balladiers and Treble Choir included on the program. Selections will range from spirituals to the classics, and two vocal soloists will be fea-

tured, as well as a piano soloist backed by the choir. The group is under the direction of Arvid Berg, vocal music instructor at CHS and recently captured ratings of "first" in regional choral competition. The Balladiers, advised by Berg, but independent of direction on stage, also rang up a "first" in state solo and ensemble competition. Admission to the concert is free. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Warming For Concert Night. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 02 1966.



DOGPATCH CHARACTERS IN LI'L ARNER CAST

Dogpatch Characters. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, April 29 1966.

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE
Professional Resident Company

Season Tickets NOW ON SALE!

SAVE **10%**

PARQUET \$15.00
PARQUET CIRCLE ... \$13.00

South Pacific
The Pulitzer Prize Award & V. Oscar Award
June 29, 30 July 1, 2
July 4, 7, 8, 9

SHOW BOAT
July 12, 14, 15, 16
July 20, 21, 22, 23

THE SOUND OF MUSIC
RODGERS, HAMMERSTEIN
LINDSAY-CROUSE
July 27, 28, 29, 30
August 2, 4, 5, 6

5 BROADWAY MUSICALS

The Student Prince
August 10, 11, 12, 13
August 17, 18, 19, 20

CAMELOT
The Great Musical Hit by the Authors of "My Fair Lady"
Book and Lyrics by **BLANCK AND LEBNER**
Music by **FREDERICK LANGE**
August 24, 25, 26, 27
August 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3

THE MCKEON TONED

CURTAIN TIME
WED., THURS., FRI., SAT. 8:30
SATURDAY MATINEE 2:00

SINGLE TICKETS
PARQUET \$3.25
PARQUET CIRCLE \$2.75
BALCONY \$2.25

SPECIAL STUDENT AND GROUP RATES

"EACH SEASON TICKET BOOK CONTAINS FIVE COUPONS. EACH COUPON MAY BE EXCHANGED FOR ONE RESERVED SEAT TICKET FOR ANY PERFORMANCE OF EACH OF THE FIVE SHOWS."

PHONE 278-2356

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Coldwater, Michigan

Please send me season ticket books at \$ each. My check for \$ is enclosed.

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:

Tibbits Summer Theatre Ad.
Microfilm Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 06 1966 p2.



NOTICE

Call **278-4581**
for
Dinner Reservations
Saturday, May 7th
and Attend
Dzidra Bonfiglio's
PIANO CONCERT
At The Tibbits
Opera House
8 P. M.

Piano and Organ -
Tues., Wed., Thurs.,
6-10 p.m.

Dancing Fri. & Sat.
in the Coach Room
Band

Stukey's Inn
In the heart of Coldwater

Stukey's Piano Concert Ad.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 12 1966 p2.



APPEARING ON THE Tibbits Stage tonight will be the Balladiers (above), as well as the cappella Cardinal Choir, Treble Choir, and three featured soloists. Curtain time for the free concert will be 8 p.m. The program was planned by the Coldwater high school vocal department in conjunction with National Music Week, being observed this week. Selections in the concert include a sampling from the Negro spiritual library, sacred music, the classics, and popular music. The Cardinal Choir is slated to give Bach the treatment when they offer a new "do-be-do" rendition with string bass accompaniment and vocal soloists Lucy Loud and Pam MacRae will sing "Alleluia!" by Mozart and "How Beautiful Upon the Mountain" by Harker, respectively. Betty Barlund will take the spotlight with "Malgueña", backed by choral singing. The groups are under the direction of Arvid Berg. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Appearing. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 03 1966.

Virginia Symphony Ad.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, May 09 1966 p2.

To Perform Saturday.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, May 06 1966.

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 8:15 p.m.
★ **THIRD APPEARANCE** ★
**“VIRGINIA SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA”**
ADULTS \$1.50 — STUDENTS 75c
Ph. 278-2356
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN



TO PERFORM SATURDAY — Dazdra Bonfiglio will be performing, along with baritone Hubert Wash and several of her piano students, in a concert-recital Saturday evening, May 7 at the Tibbits Opera House at 8 p.m. Tickets for the performance, proceeds from which go to Spring Arbor College where Mrs. Bonfiglio teaches, are on sale at the Tibbits box office and the Music Mart.



TO APPEAR HERE — Friday evening, May 13 at 8:15 the Virginia State Symphony orchestra will pay a return visit to the Tibbits Opera House. This will be the third appearance of this fine professional organization. Tickets are now on sale at the Tibbits box office.

To Appear Here. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 11 1966.



Stukey's Virginia Symphony Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 12 1966 p2.



MARCIA GOMLEY (Sleeping Beauty) sleeps on as the Prince (Dave Norton) leans down to kiss her awake in this scene from "Sleeping Beauty" to be given twice on Saturday at the Tibbits Opera House by Coldwater high school's Thespians troupe. Performances are at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. According to director Phyllis Coscarelli, this play is for the young and the young at heart and will be enjoyed by all who see it. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Marcia Gomley. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 18 1966.



MARIE VONMALTZAHN takes time out from a "Sleeping Beauty" rehearsal for Lee Treat, costume designer, to touch up her wings. Performances of the play will be done at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Tibbits Opera House. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Marie Vonmaltzahn. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, May 17 1966.

Egad! Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 20 1966.

Down to the Wire. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 04 1966.



DOWN TO THE WIRE — The Tibbits Opera Foundation received a boost toward its electrical wiring deadline of June 18 today when General Cable of Quincy (represented by Robert Shipper, right center) donated \$1,500 worth of cable and wire for house and stage wiring. James Bryan of the foundation (left center) accepted the donation and noted that some \$700 is still needed to successfully complete the project, which will give top performance in electrical facilities to this year's summer stock musicals and future presentations by the foundation. The foundation also expressed gratitude to Robert Sweet for \$1,500 of time and materials he donated to the Tibbits Opera House renovation. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Sleeping Beauty Ad.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, May
20 1966 p2.



EGAD! SHE'S PRICKED HER FINGER! — The queen (Lin Bennett) and the king (Terry Mulchahey) are shocked and worried when their daughter Beauty (Marcia Gornley) tells them she fulfilled the obligations of the curse which will make her sleep for 100 years. The three are members of the cast of "Sleeping Beauty" to be presented Saturday at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are available at the box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Sleeping Beauty

Play by the
Thespian Troupe

May 21 at the

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

10 A.M. & 3:30 P.M.

25c for Children
50c for Adults

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★SHOWBOAT—July 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23

★SOUND OF MUSIC—July 27, 28, 29, 30, Aug. 3, 4, 5, 6

★STUDENT PRINCE—Aug. 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20

★CAMELOT—Aug. 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3

Season Tickets

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Single Tickets

\$3.25 - \$2.75 - \$2.25

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Coldwater, Mich.

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THE TIBBITS Opera Foundation was the recent recipient of all new beige carpeting given by Wolf's Floor Covering of Coldwater. Wolf's also donated the time of two employees to lay the carpeting throughout the Tibbits theatre. (Staff photo by Judy Quimby).

Tibbits Summer Theatre Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1966 p2.

New Carpeting. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 14 1966.

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE
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5 BROADWAY MUSICALS!

PULITZER PRIZE MUSICAL PLAY
South Pacific
Book by **ROBERT MORGAN**
Lyrics by **COCHRAN MURKINSTEIN 2nd**
Music by **OSCAR WASHINGTON 2nd & HERNA LORAN**
Based on **MARY A. RICHIE'S Play**
From the play **"ISLES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC"**

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South Pacific Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, June 20 1966 p2.

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Pit Orchestra
All Professional Players

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Live Music Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NITES
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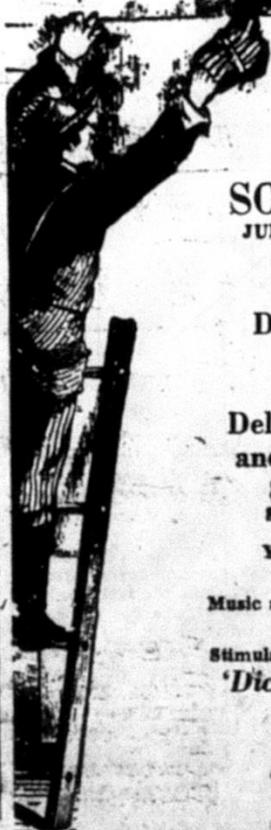


Stukey's Summer Stock Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 17 1966 p2.

John Whiting. Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, June 23 1966.



JOHN WHITING AND Barbara Link, Emile deBeque and Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" go over their lines together at the Opera House. Photographs and stories of these two and all of the other members of the company and crew may be seen in the supplement to today's Daily Reporter which is sponsored by local merchants and welcomes the Tibbits Summer Theatre company to Coldwater. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr).



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COLDWATER, MICH.
presents
SOUTH PACIFIC
JUNE 29, 30 and JULY 1 thru 9

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for Coffee and
Dessert

BEER - WINE - COCKTAILS
Gracie O'Shanahan's
2 miles west on US-12 . . . Coldwater

Gracie O'Shanahan's Ad. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 24
1966 p3.

Stukey's South Pacific Ad. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 24
1966 p2.



"YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME" — Bob McClaren and Marjie Guthrie (Lt. Joe Cable and Liat) will be seen in the Tibbits Summer Theatre opening production of "South Pacific". They play young lovers whose romance is thwarted by his refusal to marry a person of another race. Opening night for the Summer Theatre season will be Wednesday, with the curtain to open at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are still available for all performances of the Rodgers and Hammerstein hit musical, and may be reserved by calling the Tibbits Opera House box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Younger Than Springtime. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 28 1966.

Emile DeBecque. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 02 1966 p2.



LUTHER BILLIS (Al Zolton) strikes a pose in the "Honey Bun" number from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" which opens at 8:30 this evening at the Tibbits Opera House. Tickets are still available for all performances of this hit musical. (Staff photo by John Phipps)



EMILE DE BECQUE (John Whiting) a French plantation owner on an exotic South Sea island, looks back at his new-found love, Ensign Nellie Forbush (Barbara Link) with a touch of wonder in his eyes that the whole thing could happen at all. The scene is from the all-time great musical show "South Pacific", currently playing at the Tibbits Opera House. The show will take the stage at 2 p.m. this afternoon and again at 8:30 p.m. tonight, with performances nightly next week beginning Wednesday. Senior citizens and students will receive special rates for all performances, according to the theatre box office. Only general admission tickets will be \$20. at the Saturday matinee today and next week, but reservations are still available for all evening performances. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Luther Billis. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, June 29 1966.

Touching Moment. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 06 1966.



IN A TOUCHING moment from "South Pacific" which opens its second week this evening at the Tibbits Opera House, Bloody Mary (Lucille Friss) sings of the fabulous island "Tall Hail". Looking on with only thoughts of the famous boat's tooth ceremony is Luther Billis (Al Zolton). Tickets for all of the remaining performances — tonight, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoon and evening — are still available at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE

NEXT AT THE TIBBITS

SHOW BOAT

Mus. by JEROME KERN
Book and Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II



July 13, 14, 15, 16 - July 20, 21, 22, 23

Tickets 3.25 - 2.75 - 2.25 Phone (513) 278-2356

NOW PLAYING

"SOUTH PACIFIC"

Thurs., Fri. at 8:30 — Sat. at 2:00 & 8:30

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COLDWATER, MICH.

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SPECIAL PRICES on groups of 20 or more for family style dinners.	FRIDAY SPECIAL Southern Fried Chicken or Fried Perch \$1.00
Gracies invites you to come back after seeing "South Pacific" for coffee & dessert	DANCING Friday & Saturday Music by The Four Keys

Beer - Wine - Cocktails
Gracie O'Shanahan's
2 miles west on US-12 - Coldwater

O' Shanahan's Summer Theatre Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 07 1966 p3.

Show Boat Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 07 1966 p2.



LOOKING FORWARD to a successful run of Jerome Kern's "Show Boat" which opens Wednesday, July 13 are Charlotte Burton and Jeffery K. Neill who play Kille and Frank in the cast. The two are the lead dancers for the show which tells the story of a Mississippi river boat and its passengers. Both Miss Burton and Neill will also be seen tonight, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening in the final three performances of "South Pacific". Tickets for both "South Pacific" and "Show Boat" are available at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)



BERYLDENE POWELL, playing the role of Julie in "Show Boat" delivers one of the famous songs from that show, "Bill" in a second act scene. Miss Powell comes to the Tibbits stage with intimate knowledge of the art of singing, having studied music extensively in England before coming to the states and, once here, singing in anything from operas in St. Louis to "Camelot" on Broadway. She appears this week and next with other resident professionals in the Tibbits Summer Theatre's 10-performance run of "Show Boat". Reservations are available for all performances, tonight through Saturday. Curtain time for the opener tonight is 8:30 p.m., with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Next week's schedule is the same. (Staff photo by John Phipps).

Beryldene Powell. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 13 1966.

Looking Forward.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter, July 08
1966.

Show Boat. Microfilm
Archives, Holbrook
Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, July 11 1966.



"SHOW BOAT", one of the greatest of musical comedies, will open Wednesday at the Tibbits Opera-House with Al Zolton as one of the main characters of the show. Zolton plays Cap'n Andy, the obviously genial proprietor of the show boat, and is shown in characteristic form with two of the chorus girls, Bonnie Link (left) and Marcie Guthrie. Reservations are available for all performances, and the show will run through Saturday this week, beginning its second week next Wednesday when it will also run through Saturday. Senior citizen and student rates are available. Matinees will be shown Saturdays at 2 p.m., with evening performances at 8:30 p.m. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

'Show Boat' Leads.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, July 14 1966.



"SHOW BOAT" LEADS—Robert McLaren as Gaylord Ravenal and Barbara Link as Magnolia Hawks play the lead roles in the Tibbits Summer Theatre production of "Show Boat" by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II. They can be seen with the rest of an all-star cast tonight through Saturday, and again Wednesday through next Saturday. (Staff photo by John Phipps).

Stukey's Showboat Ad.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, July 18 1966 p2.

**The Tibbits
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SHOWBOAT
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Stimulating cocktails from Stirrup Cup
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Stukey's Inn
 1/4 block from the Tibbits
 on the corner of Coldwater



"OLD MAN RIVER" — John Dietz, a graduate student at the University of Michigan, is playing the role of Joe in "Show Boat" which reopens this evening at 8:30 at the Tibbits Opera House. Dietz is in Coldwater for one show only and contributes greatly to the production. Tickets are still available for all of the performances of Jerome Kern's classic, "Show Boat" at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Old Man River. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, July 20 1966.

August 6, 1966

Mr. Wayne Feller
Music Mart
22 West Chicago Street
Coldwater, Michigan

Dear Mr. Feller:

The Tibbits Opera Foundation and Arts Council wishes to acknowledge and thank you for the wonderful gift of the Baldwin Style D Concert Grand Piano. It is understood according to the terms of your fine gift that if the character of the Foundation should change in that it should cease to be a non-profit organization, the title of this piano shall revert to yourself or heirs. It is also understood that the foundation shall not, at any time or for any cause whatsoever, subject this personal property to any incumbrances or liens of any kind or nature or transfer the ownership of the same to any other firm, person or corporation.

With best personal wishes and our most sincere thanks,
we are

Sincerely yours,

TIBBITS OPERA FOUNDATION
AND ARTS COUNCIL, INC.

Roy C. Patterson
President

RC-ht

President Patterson Letter to Wayne Feller. 1966. Tibbits Opera House Archives, Tibbits Administration Building, Coldwater. 06 Aug 1966. TS. Coldwater, MI.

A Fight Breaks Out. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 22 1966.

The Sound of Music Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 21 1966 p2.

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE
 COMING

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music and Lyrics by
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN
 Book by
LINDAY & CROUSE

Presented by "The Tappan Family Message" by Myra Augusta Thero

JULY 27, 28, 29, 30 - AUGUST 1, 4, 5, 6

TICKETS \$1.25 - \$3.75 - \$2.25 TELEPHONE (527) 276-2254

NOW PLAYING
"SHOW BOAT"

TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE



A FIGHT BREAKS out in the early moments of "Show Boat" at the Tibbits Summer Theatre, when Steve (Paul LaRou, center) finds Pete (John Whiting, on floor) talking to his wife Julie (Beryldene Powell, upper left). The brawl is broken up by Captain Andy (Albert Zolton) and (l-r) Sharon Church, Randy Hopkins and Penny Kinter look on. The show will be presented for the last three times this evening at 8:30, Saturday at 2 p.m. and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

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FRIDAY SPECIAL—Southern Fried Chicken or Fried Perch \$1.00

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT Tues., Wed., 5-12
 After seeing "SHOWBOAT" come back for coffee and dessert

Beer - Wine - Cocktails

Gracie O'Shanahan's

2 miles west on U. S. 12 Coldwater

Continuous entertainment and **DANCING** Friday & Saturday Music by The ...cys featuring **Tinker Reason** Recording Artist

Gracie O'Shanahan's TST Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 21 1966 p16.

The Children.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
 July 27 1966.



THE CHILDREN IN "The Sound of Music" are greatly responsible for its appeal to audiences all over the country. Playing the roles of the seven Trapp family children in the Tibbits Summer Theatre production which opens this evening are (l-r) Gwen Prather, Lorna Zimmer, Cindy Davis, Roland Parlette, Susan Claar, Carl Tubbs and Sharon Church. Miss Church, who hails from Union City, is an apprentice with the company this summer, while the rest of the children will be in this show only. Tickets for the show, which opens this evening at 8:30, are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr).

Tom A. Aston.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
 July 26 1966.



TOM A. ASTON



"SOUND OF MUSIC"—Rodgers' and Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music" will open at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Tibbits Opera House, under the direction of Albert Zolton. One member of the large cast will be localite, Fat Feller, in the role of the Mother Abbess. In this part, Mrs. Feller will again sing the lovely "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" which she has sung before for Coldwater audiences. Tickets for the show are presently on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr).

Sound of Music. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter,
 July 25 1966.

Outspoken Members. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, July 29 1966.



THE TWO MOST outspoken members of "The Sound of Music" cast are Max Detweiler (Robert McClaren) and Elsa Schraeder (Beryl Idene Powell). The two play friends of Captain von Trapp, with McClaren portraying a character who likes the beta in life but doesn't like to work for it, and Miss Powell playing the Captain's early-show love interest. Directed by Albert Zolton, the show will be presented tonight, Saturday at 2 p.m. and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. with performances to begin again next week on Wednesday. (Staff photo by John Phipps).



SIXTEEN GOING ON seventeen-year-old Liesl (Sharon Church) is in love with Rolf Gruber (Jeffery K. Neill) in the production of "The Sound of Music" being presented at the Tibbits Opera House again, beginning Wednesday evening at 8:30 p.m. The two are members of a large cast headed by Barbara Link and John Whiting as Maria and Captain vonTrapp in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. Tickets should be reserved at the Tibbits box office as early as possible. (Staff photo by John Phipps)



JOHN WHITING AND BARBARA LINK will be playing the leads when "The Sound of Music" reopens this evening at 8:30 at the Tibbits Opera House. They play Captain von Trapp and Maria Ranier in the beloved Rodgers and Hammerstein musical about a postulant who falls in love with an entire family. Tickets are one sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

Sixteen Going on Seventeen.
Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 02 1966.

John Whiting and Barbara Link.
Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 03 1966.



VERSATILE JEFFERY NEILL will be playing Rolf Gruber, the beau of Liesl vonTrapp, tonight, Friday, and Saturday evenings and Saturday afternoon, when the Tibbits Summer Theatre presents the final performances of the highly successful production of Rodgers and Hammersteins "The Sound of Music." Neill, the choreographer with the company, has one major production in the show, the well-known "Sixteen Going On Seventeen". Tickets for the final performances may be reserved at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)

The Student Prince.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Aug 08 1966.

Versatile Jeffery Neill.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Aug 04 1966.

The Student Prince Ad.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Aug 09 1966
p16.



"THE STUDENT PRINCE" will be offered this week and next by the Tibbits Summer Theatre with Edward Kingins of Detroit as the special guest performer. He will play the prince, who falls in love with Kathy, a common waitress played by Beryldene Powell of the resident company. The show opens this week with a Wednesday evening performance, curtain time 8:30 p.m. and runs through Saturday evening, with a 2 p.m. matinee Saturday. Student and group rates are available, as well as Senior Citizen rates. Reservations are available for all shows. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE





AUGUST 10, 11, 12, 13 — 17, 18, 19, 20

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\$3.25 - \$2.75	Evenings at 8:30
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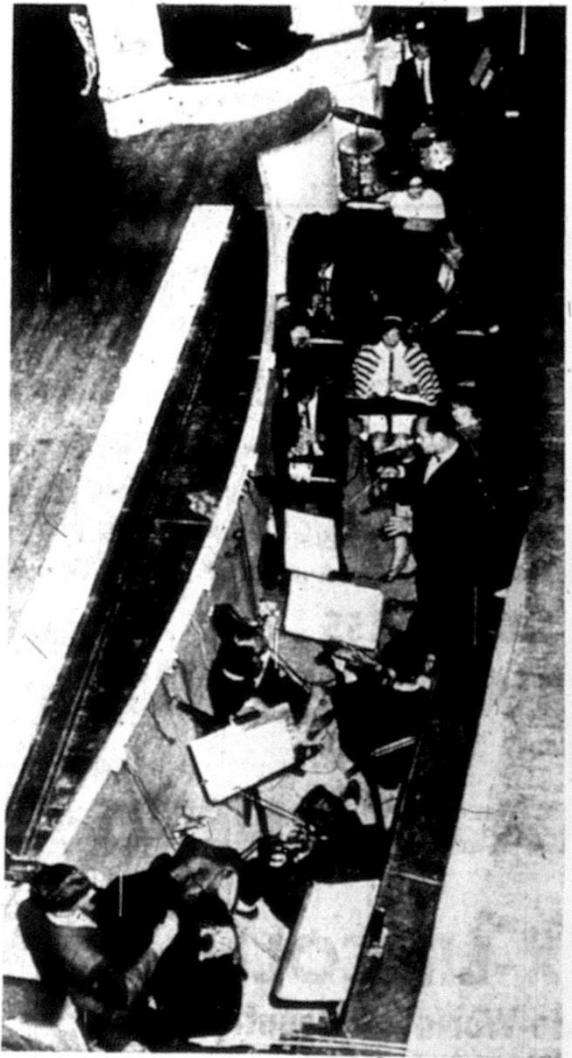
Edward Kingins.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
 Reporter, Aug 09 1966.



EDWARD KINGINS



'STUDENT PRINCE' OPENING — Jeffery K. Neill (Butz) and Lucille Frisa (Duchess) will be among those present this evening at 8:30 when the curtain at the Tibbits Opera House rises on Sigmund Romberg's beloved "Student Prince". The two are comic characters in the cast, with Neill playing the prince's valet and Miss Frisa as the mother of the prince's intended, played by Barbara Link. Tickets for tonight and the rest of the performances of "Prince" are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



HAROLD THEM MEN AND TIBBITS ORCHESTRA

Harold Themmen and Tibbits Orchestra.
 Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug
 12 1966.

'Student Prince' Opening. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 10 1966.

The Student Prince. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 13 1966.

Camelot Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 18 1966.

TIBBITS SUMMER THEATRE

The Great Musical Hit *Camelot* by the authors of "My Fair Lady"

Camelot

Book and lyrics by **ALAN JAY Lerner**
Music by **FREDERICK LOEWE**

**AUGUST 24, 25, 26, 27
31, SEPT. 1, 2, 3**

★ Air Conditioned ★

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\$3.25 - \$2.75 - \$2.25

Friday & Saturday - 8:30
Saturday at 2:00

"STUDENT PRINCE"

Ph. (517) 278-2356
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE
Coldwater

Reopens Tonight. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 17 1966.



"THE STUDENT PRINCE" (Ed Kingins) and Dr. Engle (John Whiting) sing several duets in the production presently playing at the Tibbits Summer Theatre. There will be two performances of the rollicking Sigmund Romberg operetta today, at 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The show re-opens Wednesday evening, Aug. 24. Tickets for each performance are available at the Tibbits Opera House box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



REOPENS TONIGHT — "The Student Prince", Sigmund Romberg's classic operetta, reopens at 8:30 this evening at the Tibbits Opera House. Among those in the cast will be (l-r) Brad Green as Hubert, Larry Carrioco as Ruder and Marcia Guthrie as Gretchen. Tickets for all performances are on sale at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Paul Larou. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 19 1966.



PAUL LAROU and Barbara Link sing and wait to the music of "Just We Two" in "The Student Prince" which is now playing at the Tibbits. LaRou is cast as Tarnitz, with Miss Link portraying Princess Margaret, the Prince's intended. Tickets are available for the final three performances of the show. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Raymond Sharp. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 18 1966.



RAYMOND SHARP



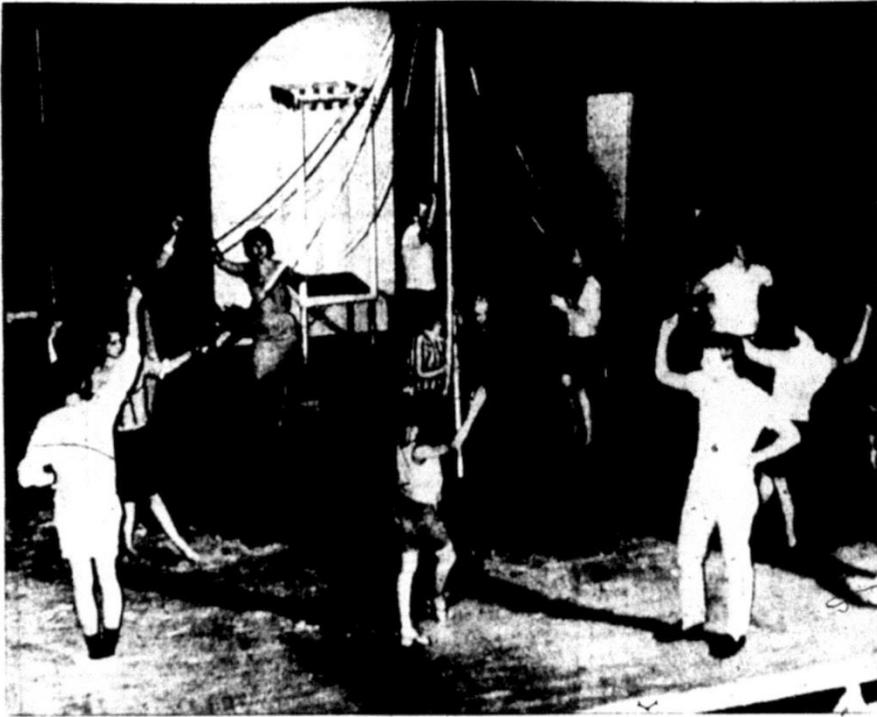
"CAMELOT" CAST (The five leading roles in the Tibbits Summer Theatre production of Lerner and Loewe's "Camelot" which opens Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. will be played by (top l-r) Al Zolton, Berylene Powell, Jeffrey K. Neill, Morired; (bottom l-r) Edward Kingins, Sir Lancelet. Management recommends that those wishing to see "Camelot" make reservations as seats are being sold rapidly for all performances. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



MONK WATSON

Monk Watson. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 24 1966.

Camelot Cast. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 22 1966.



DANCERS IN Lerner and Loewe's "Camelot", which opens Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House will be performing a May pole dance, choreographed by Jeffery K. Neill. Among the chorus members in the show are (clockwise from left) Randy Hopkins (back to camera), Charlotte Button, Jack Ward, Sharon Church, Tom Towler, Ann Bailey, Mil' Bailey, Barbara Link (back to camera), Paul LaRou and Ellen Weiss (center). Holding the pole are Joanne Steacie (l) and Marcie Guthrie. Tickets are available for all performances of the show. (Staff photo by John Phipps)



LANCELOT (Ed Kingins, left) attempts to disarm Mordred (Jeffery K. Neill) in this scene from "Camelot" which will be given at the Tibbits Opera House tonight, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening this week and all next week. The scene comes as Mordred discovers Lancelot and Guenevere (Berydene Powell) together. Assisting are Sir Dinadan (Mil' Bailey) and Sir Lionel (Paul LaRou). Tickets for the show are available from the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by John Phipps)



BEFORE THE DINNER Sunday evening for the Tibbits Summer Theatre company, those present enjoyed a social hour. In the photo are (l-r) Mrs. Robert Sweet, Mrs. Rex T. Kless, Roy Olsen, Charles Westeadarp, Beryldene Powell and Robert McClaren (backs to camera) Jan Anderson, Mrs Margaret Hayes and Randy Hopkins. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Before the Dinner. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 29 1966.



KING ARTHUR (Robert McClaren) seems unperturbed in this scene from "Camelot" which re-opens at 8:30 p.m. this evening at the Tibbits Opera House in the face of a threat from the evil Mordred (Jeffery K. Neill). Reservations for the remaining seats for the final week's performances are suggested, as tickets are going rapidly. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

King Arthur. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Aug 31 1966.



HAPPY AT THE discovery of their love for each other, momentarily, Lancelot (Ed Kingma) and Guinevere (Beryldene Powell), gaze into each other's eyes. The happiness is short-lived in the Tibbits Summer Theatre production of "Camelot" which will be given tonight at 8:30 at the Tibbits Opera House. Reservations may be made by calling the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Happy. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 01 1966.



CAUGHT IN THE act of praying to St. Genevieve to help her avoid marriage to King Arthur (behind tree) is Guenevere (Beryldene Powell). The King, played by Robert McClaren makes her believe he is someone else in order to avoid showing how frightened he is of marrying her. The two are leading characters in "Camelot" which will be presented for the last three times tonight, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening. Reservations may be made by calling the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Caught in the Act.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 02 1966.

Finishing. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Sept 07 1966.



FINISHING THE 1966 summer stock season with all the honors were Robert McClaren, whose performance as King Arthur was a brilliant season climax, and Beryldene Powell, who performed with excellence throughout the summer. The two contributed greatly to the tremendous success enjoyed by the Tibbits Summer Theatre in its first season. (Staff photo by John Phipps).



COOKING SCHOOL. — Approximately 170 women and men from Branch county braved the wintry weather last evening to attend the Daily Reporter Food Fashion Fair held at the Tibbits Opera House. Miss Fran Klemm, instructor, showed the audience how to cook various dishes and prizes were awarded to many of those present. A fashion show, with clothes from Brinches, Falconers, Horton, Penneys and Woodward's, preceded the cooking school and featured local models. (Staff photo by Joyce Brown)



ART ERICKSON

Art Erickson.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter, Oct 11 1966.

Cooking School.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
Nov 03 1966.



Playing the Role. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 07 1966.



FRANCO IGLESIAS

Franco Iglesias. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 08 1966.

PLAYING THE role originally created by George M. Cohan in the senior class production of "The Tavern" will be Brad Bean. The Vagabond is one of the characters in a play concerning a country tavern on a dark stormy night. Tickets are available from any senior and at the Tibbits box office. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)



"THE TAVERN" — The ever-fainting Violet (Lana Tackett) faints again in the Coldwater high school senior class production of George M. Cohan's "The Tavern" to be presented Thursday and Friday evenings at 8 o'clock at the Tibbits Opera House. This time tavernkeeper Zack Freeman (Steve Foley) does the honors and carries her up to her room. The two are among the cast which will present the play about a country tavern on a dark, stormy night. (Staff photo by Kathy Tarr)

Don Shirley. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 10 1966.



DON SHIRLEY, PIANIST

The Tavern. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Nov 08 1966.

Robin and Edith Reed.
 Microfilm Archives,
 Holbrook Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Dec 01 1966.



Conductor to
Appear.
 Microfilm
 Archives,
 Holbrook
 Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
 Nov 17 1966.

CONDUCTOR TO APPEAR — American conductor Edward Alley will appear at the Tibbits Opera House Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. where he will be conductor of the Goldovsky Opera Theatre's production of *Rigoletto*. Alley was musical director and conductor of the Seventh Army Symphony for three years. As a result of this work, he was awarded the US Government Commendation medal in 1960. He has been associated with the Goldovsky Opera Theatre since 1960 when he was appointed associate conductor. In 1962 he was named tour director and conductor. Tickets are now on sale at the box office.



ROBIN AND Edith Reed, creators and puppeteers of the Reed Marionettes will present "The Wizard of Oz" at the Tibbits Opera House on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. See this exciting childrens tale come to life with all the colorful characters, elaborate scenery and special effects, and performed by one of the best marionette companies.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 8:00 p.m.

**THE GOLDOVSKY
 GRAND OPERA THEATER**

NORIS GOLDOVSKY, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR,
 presents A NEW EXCITING PRODUCTION OF
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 IN ENGLISH
 A COMPANY OF 30

ALL SEATS RESERVED
ADULTS: \$5.50 & \$4.50
 ★ SPECIAL STUDENT & GROUP RATES ★

Phone (517) 278-2356
TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE



Robert Hale to
Perform Here.
 Microfilm
 Archives,
 Holbrook
 Heritage Room,
 Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
 Nov 16 1966.

ROBERT HALE TO PERFORM HERE — American baritone Robert Hale brings a wide experience in the operatic repertoire to his performance in *Rigoletto*, to be seen at the Tibbits Opera House on Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. The nationally known Goldovsky Opera Theatre, now in its 20th consecutive season of Opera-in-English will present the opera. Hale was winner of three awards: in 1962, from the National Association of Singing Teachers; in 1963, the Amalfillo Young Artist award; in 1964, with the New England Metropolitan Opera Auditions. He has been guest artist with orchestras and choral groups, and has been engaged for leading roles by a number of leading opera companies.

Rigoletto Ad. Microfilm
 Archives, Holbrook Heritage
 Room, Coldwater. The Daily
Reporter, Nov 10 1966 p2.

Midwestern
Jamboree Ad.
Microfilm Archives,
Holbrook Heritage
Room, Coldwater.
The Daily Reporter,
Dec 09 1966 p2.

**Midwestern
JAMBOREE**
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Coldwater this*
SATURDAY 8 P.M.

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IN PERSON**

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- Tall Timber Boys
- Wayne Smith
& the Wheels
- Tiny Ross
- The Highland
Ramblers

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SELLOUT**

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TICKETS NOW AT THE
TIBBITS OFFICE.**

Tickets \$1.25
Children
under 12 50c



IN A SCENE FROM the "Wizard Of Oz", to be presented Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Tibbits Opera House, Dorothy and the scarecrow help the tin woodman by oiling his joints. The performances will be given by the Reed Marionettes. Tickets for each performance are on sale at th Tibbits box office.

Wizard of Oz
Scene.
Microfilm
Archives,
Holbrook
Heritage Room,
Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
Dec 05 1966.

Time Out.
Microfilm
Archives,
Holbrook
Heritage
Room,
Coldwater. The
Daily Reporter,
Nov 18 1966.



TIME OUT! — These four members of the Goldovsky Opera Company take a chess break backstage as they await their cues to go on stage. The four and 46 others will be in Coldwater Tuesday, Nov. 22 as the company presents "Rigoletto". The Tibbits Opera House hosts this fine opera-in-English company for one performance only. The box office is open daily from 1 to 5 p.m. for reservations.

MEN'S STAG NIGHT

THURSDAY

STORES
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6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Watch for the ads on
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and
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CIGARETTES**

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**GREATER COLDWATER
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COMMERCE**

Men's Stag Night Ad. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 08 1966 p2.

Wizard of Oz. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 06 1966.



"WIZARD OF OZ"—The children's classic "Wizard of Oz" will be presented at the Tibbits Opera House Saturday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The production, given by the Reed Marionettes, will feature nearly life-size puppets, op-

erated by the Reeds, Edith and Robin. The company has been in Coldwater before and well-known to children in the area. Tickets for the performances are on sale at the Tibbits box office.



TOMMY WATKINS (center), Detroit lion halfback, converses earnestly with Pat Kelly (left) and Dick Blakemore during a visit to Coldwater Thursday night. Topic being discussed?—football, of course. (Staff photo by Seton Bovee)

Tommy Watkins. Microfilm Archives, Holbrook Heritage Room, Coldwater. The Daily Reporter, Dec 09 1966.