

Lifestyle

Wednesday
February 19, 1992

Now's The Time To Be Composed

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Community Notebook

Art Auction: An all-Canadian, all-original art auction this Friday evening will raise money for the Burlington Cultural Centre. The more than 100 items at the annual event include paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics, jewelry and glass. Previews are Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 to 10 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 21 from noon to 6 p.m. The auction commences at 8 p.m. Friday and doors open at 7. Admission is \$15 with light refreshments provided. The centre is located at 425 Brock Ave. Burlington.

Snowshoe Discovery: Explore the trails at Crawford Lake Conservation Area on snowshoes Sunday, Feb. 23 beginning at 1 p.m. The event includes an introductory slide show, guided hike and snowshoe games followed by hot chocolate and a warming fire. Snowshoes are provided. Call 854-0234 or 336-1158 to book a spot.

Human Rights: The third annual Bishop Reding Coffee House on human rights will feature guest speaker Priscilla de Villiers, mother of murder victim Nina de Villiers. The theme for the Wednesday, Feb. 26 event is "The Oppressed Violence Against Women". The cost is \$5 per person with proceeds going to Halton Women's Place, a local shelter for abused women and their children. The coffee house runs from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the high school.

Show You Care: You have until March 2 to pitch into the Milton Kinsmen's Personal Care Drive, an annual campaign that collects items for needy residents. Donations of soap, shampoo, canned goods, peanut butter and pasta sauce are being collected in an effort to stock the Salvation Army food bank. Drop off items at Zellers, local grocery stores and Shoppers Drug Mart at Carriage Square and Laurier Avenue. Donations can also be made at the food bank between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., 42 Bronte St. Unit 13.

Swim for Heart: The first fundraising event to be held at the new Milton Leisure Centre will be a Heart Fitness Swim by members of Milton Masters Aquatic Club. The fundraiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario will have swimmers completing as many lengths as possible in half an hour. The last Heart Fitness Swim undertaken by the club in 1990 raised close to \$5,000. Club members will swim their hearts out Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 6:45 p.m. Sponsors are welcome.

Know the Law: "Understanding the Law" is the first of a series of workshops being sponsored by the Women's Information and Support Centre of Halton. On Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m., Karen Thompson, a local lawyer will be talking about women and the law and answering questions. "Communicating — Making your relationship work" and "Basic money smarts for women" are the topics to be covered at the March and April workshop. Registration is underway for the series which will cost \$10 or \$4 per session. The centre is located at St. John's United Church, 262 Randall St., Oakville. For information call 338-1953.

Hilarious comedy highlights Milton Players' 'Cheaters'

IF LAUGHTER IS LIKE medicine, the Milton Player Theatre Group's latest production is the perfect cure.

Cheaters isn't about people filing crooked tax returns. It's about infidelity, and it's hilarious.

Four middle-aged people trying to recapture the passion they've lost in their lives end up finding themselves in a compromising situation only Houdini could get out of.

Meanwhile, a young couple living together struggle as they battle over commitment or separation.

But the success of this comedy relies on the actors' abilities to deliver the relentless one-liners and insults that cut like a knife.

To a tee, the cast of the amateur theatre company pulls off this feat in the two-act play which is currently being staged at the St. Clair Masonic Hall.

Louise Prevost returns to the stage with the Players for the first time in three years, luckily with some arm-twisting from her husband, Steve, who also stars in the American-written play.

She portrays the snobbish Louise who desperately tries to convince her lover to leave his wife. It would be a shame if Mrs. Prevost makes Milton audiences wait another three years to enjoy her wealth of talent.

The knee-slapping antics of seasoned actor Wilf Brookes in his role as 54-year-old Sam makes for a fun evening. The cowardly Sam engages in adultery for the first time with Grace, played by four-year Players veteran Susan Cranford.

Ms Cranford, too, masters the art of comedy while the shy and soft character she plays gains sympathy from the audience. Grace is lorded over by her 56-year-old Archie Bunker-style husband Howard who is portrayed magnificently by Steve Prevost — a gifted actor who is no stranger to community theatre in this area.

Appearing in his second consecutive Players production (he starred in *Children*), Rick Knight is just as entertaining this time around. He plays Allen, the boyfriend of Michelle who has her sights set on marital bliss.

Gabriele Richter makes her debut with the Players as Michelle, but she is only a rookie on paper. Ms Richter is to



Photo by GRAHAM PAINÉ

Wife Brookes portrays Sam and Susan Cranford plays Grace in *Cheaters*, currently being staged by the Milton Players Theatre Group at the St. Clair Masonic Lodge.

Back Stage

with
KAREN SMITH



be congratulated for her sparkling stage presence.

Directors Edward Armstrong and Beth Gignac, producers Lorraine Cooper-Grenke, and stage manager Penelope Carlos should take a bow as well.

Throughout the play, the Players stage and set crews (there are too many people to name) move the audience nicely from New York to New Jersey with simple yet effective scenes including motel rooms and homes.

It's good to see an almost full house attend the group's opening perfor-

mance Thursday night. Saturday night dinner theatres were sold out long ago.

Rumour has it the award-winning theatre company's next production is a murder mystery called *Design for Murder*. Don't go expecting the *Phantom of the Opera*, but be ready to be entertained.

Tickets, available at the Paper Factory on Main Street, can still be purchased for show-only performances of *Cheaters* tonight (Wednesday) and Friday evening. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

Now in its 13th season, the Milton Players Theatre Group also welcomes new members. If you're interested in acting, lighting, sound, set design, set construction, stage managing, producing, or helping out in any other way, the non-profit organization is looking for you.

For more information, call 875-0629.

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