

ALLEN COUNTY

JANUARY

Jan. 8-10, 15-17 — "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)," Encore Theatre, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday matinee. Deconstructs all 37 of the Bard's plays, plus the sonnets, into a two-hour whirlwind. "Titus Andronicus" becomes a cooking show; "Othello," a rap song. All of the comedies are combined into one convoluted reading (the justification being that they all recycle the same plot devices anyway); the histories are acted out through an American football game with the British Crown as the football. The entire second act is a retelling of "Hamlet" with audience participation as the subconscious of Ophelia. \$13, senior \$11, student to age 18, \$8. Encore Theatre, 991 North Shore Drive, Lima. (419) 223-8866 or (800) 944-1441.

Jan. 9 — Paranzino Brothers building materials auction, 9 a.m., Allen County Fairgrounds. Tom Paranzino (330) 549-3133 or www.pbauctions.com.

Jan. 10 — Lima Bride 2010, noon-5 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Lima. \$5. Brides admitted free. Tickets available at The Lima News for \$3. (419) 993-2118 or (419) 223-1010.

Jan. 11-Feb. 5 — Bluffton University Art Exhibit, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, Bluffton University, Sauder Visual Arts Center, Grace Albrecht Gallery. Exhibit: "Susan Mitchell: Drawings." 1 University Drive, Bluffton. (419) 358-3453.

Jan. 15, Feb. 12 — Interactive Mystery Dinner Theater: "Away with the Breeze," 7 p.m., The Old Barn Out Back Restaurant. \$28 per person includes buffet. Reservations required. Old Barn Out Back Restaurant, 3175 W. Elm St., Lima. (419) 991-3075.

Jan. 16 — Lima Symphony: Mozart by Candlelight, 8 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, 301 W. Market St., Lima. Performance will feature Mozart's "Violin Concerto" as well as "Symphony No. 1," written when Mozart was 8 years old. \$20, student \$10. (419) 222-5701.

Jan. 16 — W.A.R. Wrestling. Doors open 6:30 p.m., bell time 7:30, UAW Hall, 1440 Bellefontaine Ave., Lima. \$10 advance or 4 for \$30. \$12 at the door. Tickets available at Rigali's Pizza Village and Groamy CDs & Tapes. Nine action-packed matches. (419) 230-4879, www.warwrestling.com or www.myspace.com/warwrestling.

Jan. 17 — Winter Star Party, 7 p.m., Kendrick Woods. Members of the Lima Astronomical Society (weather permitting) will have various telescopes set for views of the night sky. Hot drinks and storytelling around a campfire. Bring telescope or binoculars if you have them. Registration required by Jan. 15. Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District (419) 221-1232.

Jan. 19 — Evening Forum, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 7 p.m., Bluffton University, Yoder Recital Hall. Speaker Addie Banks, Bronx, N.Y. (419) 358-3453.

Jan. 19 — Day Forum, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Lima Arts Magnet, 11 a.m. Bluffton University, Founders Hall. "The More I Understand, The More I Accept." Bluffton University, (419) 358-3453.

Jan. 21 — Broadway in Lima: "The Drowsy Chaperone," 7:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center. A musical comedy with the most 2006 Tony Awards. Season package (4 shows) \$185 per seat. Single ticket pricing available at a later date. Civic Center Box Office (419) 224-1552.

Jan. 22 — Women's Night Out. Activities: 5-9 p.m. Comfort Inn, 1210 Neubrecht Road, Lima. To benefit the West Ohio Food Bank. Women will be able to spend the night at Comfort Inn and participate in a number of activities, including: posture assessments, relaxing in a hot tub, watching a fashion show, receiving a manicure and pedicure, obtaining make-up tips, enjoying a chair massage, learning a new recipe. Room price includes admission to all of the activities and a deluxe continental breakfast. Rooms with two double beds or a king sized bed: \$69.99 plus tax. Rooms with a queen sized bed and an in-room whirlpool: \$99.99 plus tax. \$10 from each room occupied by "Women's Night Out" guests will be donated to the West Ohio Food Bank. There will be a fashion show, a motivational speaker, and a movie just for hotel guests to enjoy. This event is open to the public, but there is an entrance fee for those not staying overnight at the hotel: a monetary donation or a donation of a canned meat or peanut butter. To reserve a room(s), call: Elizabeth or Julie at Comfort Inn, (419) 228-4251.

Jan. 23 — Allen County Horse Council Flea Market, 9 a.m. Tack auction: 4 p.m. Allen County Fairgrounds. Proceeds help support the construction of the new livestock pavilion at the Allen County Fairgrounds. Open to the public. No admittance fee. Darla Buettner (419) 204-4246

Jan. 30 — Buffett on the Beach, 8-11 p.m. FAST, 3477 S. Dixie Hwy., Lima. Sponsored by ArtSpace/Lima and Carter's Crusade. Music by Parrots of the Caribbean. Ticket cost: \$25, includes food. (419) 222-1721.

Jan. 31 — B & B Auto Parts Swap Meet, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Allen County Fairgrounds. Admission \$5. Bob McDonald (419) 331-3837.

Jan. 31 — Kildeer Plains birding trip/winter photo opportunity, 1:30-8 p.m. Meet at the Park District Office, 2355 Ada Road, Lima. Carpool to Kildeer Plains, an 8,000-acre public wildlife area, which is home to numerous hawks, owls, falcons and a pair of bald eagles. Dress in layers for the cold, pack a water bottle, snacks, bird field guide and binoculars. Bring money for eating out on return trip. Registration required by Jan. 21. Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District (419) 221-1232.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 5 — Legacy Five in Concert, 7 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Lima. \$15 and \$10. WTGN Radio (419) 227-2525.

Feb. 6-7 — Tri-State Gun Show. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Allen County Fairgrounds. Guns, knives, hunting equipment and associated collectibles. Adults \$4, children 14 and under free, must be accompanied by an adult. Manetta Sneary (419) 647-0067.

Feb. 12 — Interactive Mystery Dinner Theater: "Away with the Breeze," 7 p.m., The Old Barn Out Back Restaurant. \$28 per person includes buffet. Reservations required. Old Barn Out Back Restaurant, 3175 W. Elm St., Lima. (419) 991-3075.

Feb. 12 — Lima Exchange Club Art Auction, preview 6 p.m., auction 7 p.m., St. Gerard's Parish Hall, 1311 N. Main St. Admission, adults only: advance \$5; \$10 at the door. Major credit cards and checks accepted. 50/50 raffle and free door prize. Wine, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. To benefit Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness. Jacob Elrod (419) 303-9020 or (419) 331-6604, ext. 7232.

Feb. 12-14 — "Willy Wonka Junior," McDonald's Youth Theatre, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Encore Theatre. \$7. 991 North Shore Drive, Lima. (419) 223-8866 or (800) 944-1441.

Feb. 12 — Rodney Carrington, comedian, actor, writer, 7 p.m. Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Crouse Performance Hall. Carrington has recorded eight comedy albums selling more than two million copies, has starred in his own self-titled TV sitcom and has co-written and co-starred with Toby Keith in the movie "Beer for My Horses." \$42.75. For mature audiences. (419) 224-1552.

Feb. 14 — J & M Collectibles motorcycle swap meet, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Allen County Fairgrounds. Admission: \$6, age 12 and under free. Mary Godwin (419) 795-4185.

Feb. 14 — Jeans 'n Classics: Madmen Across the Water, 8 p.m. (Pre-show dinner with The Bistro on Main. Details pending.) Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Crouse Performance Hall. Classic rock meets Lima Symphony Orchestra. Madmen Across the Water performing the music of Elton John. (419) 224-1552 or (419) 222-5701.

Feb. 20 — Jack Beggin and Dave Cook Memorial Table Tennis Tournament, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Senior Citizens Service. Open



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Feb. 20 — Lima Symphony: All Tchaikovsky Spectacular, 8 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Crouse Performance Hall. From the grand and joyous "Festival Coronation March" and the emotional depth and rich drama of "Swan Lake" to the striking fanfares and lyric waltzes of "Symphony No. 5." Adult \$28-\$22; student \$14-\$11. Lima Symphony Orchestra (419) 222-5701.

Feb. 20-21 — Native American Mid-Winter Powwow. Doors open 10 a.m. Dancing starts 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday, UAW Hall, 1440 Bellefontaine Ave., Lima. Powwow will feature Indians dancing in full regalia. The programs bring Native American educators, scholars, tribal members and dancers from across the United States and Canada to provide a hands-on experience with the Native ways and culture. Native food, native arts and crafts and native entertainment. Drums by invitation only. Traders by invitation only. No outside raffles or blanket dances. No drugs, alcohol or firearms. Public invited. Adults \$5, children \$3. Larry Grigsby (513) 398-7441 or tbirddesigns@zoomtown.com.

Feb. 25-28 — Buckeyes in the Arts: "Antigone," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, OSU Lima, Reed Hall, Martha W. Farmer Theatre for the Performing Arts, 4240 Campus Drive, Lima. (419) 995-8382.

MARCH

March 2 — Broadway in Lima: "The Rat Pack is Back," 7:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center. Tribute recreates one of the famous "Summit at the Sands" hotel shows, when the swingin' ring-a-ding group known as the "Rat Pack" was creating hipster legend with a free-wheeling, no-holds-barred nightclub act starring Vegas' four favorite sons: Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Dean Martin and Joey Bishop. Season package (4 shows) \$185 per seat. Single ticket pricing available at a later date. (419) 224-1552.

March 5 — "Are You Brighter than a Night Light?" Mayhem & Mystery dinner theater, 7 p.m., The Old Barn Out Back Restaurant. \$28 per person includes buffet. Reservations required. Old Barn Out Back, 3175 W. Elm St., Lima. (419) 991-3075.

March 5-6 — Pickle's Blues Extraganza, 6 p.m., music starts at 7:30 p.m., Allen County Memorial Hall, Lima. Blues bands from around the country. Reserved tables: 10 seats, \$200; balcony: 1 person to a seat, \$10. Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center (419) 224-1552 or Jerry (Pickle) Feldner (419) 234-1238.

March 6 — Maple Festival/public festival training. 6-9 a.m. pancake breakfast, 9:30 a.m. training. McElroy Environmental Education Center. Have a pancake and sausage breakfast and hear the facts and the fiction behind the production of maple syrup. Come prepared to go outside. Hike the trail and hear tips and techniques for leading weekend hikes. Experienced and new volunteers are encouraged to attend. Registration required by March 4. Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District, 2355 Ada Road, Lima. (419) 221-1232.

March 6-7 — Tri-State Gun Show. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Allen County Fairgrounds. Guns, knives, hunting equipment and associated collectibles. Adults \$4, children 14 and under free, must be accompanied by an adult. Manetta Sneary (419) 647-0067.

March 7 — Zoomphony: The Lima Symphony Orchestra Goes Wild, 3 p.m. Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Crouse Performance Hall. March with lions, waltz with elephants and enjoy tortises doing the Can Can during this family concert in which animals do the impossible, the improbable, and the entertaining. Featuring Saint-Saens bouncy "Carnival of the Animals," familiar tunes such as "How Much is that Doggie in the Window" and "Turkey in the Straw," with appearances by some intriguing animal friends. \$10. Lima Symphony Orchestra (419) 222-5701.

March 11 — Buckeyes in the Arts: University Chorus, 8 p.m., OSU Lima, Reed Hall, Martha W. Farmer Theatre for the Performing Arts, 4240 Campus Drive, Lima. (419) 995-8382.

March 12-14, 19-21 — "Bus Stop," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Encore Theatre. In the middle of a howling snowstorm, a bus out of Kansas City pulls up at a cheerful roadside diner. All roads are blocked, and five weary travelers are going to have to hole up until morning. Romance blossoms. Adult \$13, senior \$11, student to age 18 \$8. Encore Theatre, 991 North Shore Drive, Lima. (419) -223-8866 or (800) 944-1441.

March 13 — Lima Beane Barbershop Chorus, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center, Crouse Performance Hall. Theme is "A Melody Lingers On," with all Irving Berlin music. \$15 all tickets. All reserved seating. Veterans' Memorial Civic & Convention Center (419) 224-1552 or Terry Reichenbach, Lima Beane Chorus (419) 384-3119, cell (419) 306-0374 or terryr@q1.net.

ATTRACTIONS

Allen County Museum, 620 W. Market St., Lima — The museum offers exhibits for all ages and includes Native American and pioneer displays; local history exhibits; a steam and electric railroad collection; fire-fighting equipment; mineral and fossil displays; library; and a scale model of George Washington's Mount Vernon home. Tour guides available for arranged tours. No admission fee. Donations welcomed. Open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Closed Mondays and national holidays. (419) 222-9426 or www.allencountymuseum.org.

Children's Museum, 620 W. Market St., Lima — A hands-on facility that encourages "learning by doing." New exhibits and activities are developed annually. Part of the Allen County Museum complex. (419) 222-9426.

Canal Commission Museum, 111 W. Third St., Delphos — This folklore museum features exhibits on the canals and canal boat history in Allen County, as well as artifacts from life in Delphos since 1851. Walking tours of historic homes and buildings and refreshments available upon request. Groups by appointment. Admission is free.

(419) 695-7737.

Postal Museum, 131 N. Main St., Delphos — Learn about mail processing, the development of the letter, stamps and postmarks. Enjoy a guided tour, videos, books and reference materials on every aspect of the post office. Find a 1906 Harrington rural coach, a rural mail sled, a 1/4 ton right-hand-drive Jeep, a 1963 West-coaster and a 1957 Cushman mailster among the exhibits. Groups by appointment. Admission is free. (419) 695-2811.

Welsh Community Museum, 7365 Gomer Road, Gomer — The Welsh Community Museum was established to serve as a center for Welsh culture, local history and genealogy. Open 1:30-4 p.m. the second and fourth Sundays of each month. (419) 999-5820.

Veterans Memorial Park, Harrod — The park displays a 155mm M114 A2 howitzer cannon, an anchor from the USS Texas, an M60 A3 battle tank and a UH-1 Huey helicopter. The park was created in honor and memory of all Veterans who served in the United States armed forces. (888) 222-6075.

Lima Fire Fighters Memorial Museum, Elm and Shawnee streets, Lima — From a 19th century horse-drawn steam pumper to the hero-inscribed honor walk, the museum perpetuates this great history of selfless duty. View photos, newspaper accounts, even original equipment used to fight some of Lima's most devastating fires. Open for outdoor viewing during daylight hours. For tour arrangements call (419) 221-5164.

Lincoln Park Railway Exhibit, Elm and Shawnee streets, Lima — The exhibit features a Nickel Plate 779 — the last steam engine ever built in Lima, at the Lima Locomotive Works — a luxurious private car, built in 1883, a Nickel Plate caboose built in 1882 and an authentically equipped 1895 country station from the DT&I Railroad. Open for outdoor viewing during daylight hours. (419) 221-5195.

MacDonell House, Victorian Mansion, 632 W. Market St., Lima — This 1890s Victorian mansion has more than 15 rooms furnished in great detail and open to the public. This home and its decor are reminiscent of the great wealth brought into Allen County during the oil boom era. Guided tours available through the Allen County Museum. (419) 222-9426.

The Shay Locomotive Display, 620 W. Market St., Lima — A restored narrow-gauge geared locomotive, known as the Shay Locomotive, was built in 1925 by the Lima Locomotive Works and is located at the Allen County Museum. (419) 222-9426.

Spencerville Historical Museum, 119 E. Fourth St., Spencerville — (419) 647-4851.

Tilton Farm, 6555 Madden Road, Lima — As you enter the gate and travel the winding path to Tilton Farm, imagine yourself taking a step back in time. Barb Tilton, (419) 648-6835.

Artspace Lima, 65-67 Town Square, Lima — An art gallery and educational center housed in a turn-of-the-century brick building. Components are the Ellen Nelson Gallery, Time Warner Cable ArtZone, Gallery for Young People, and Gallery Shop. (419) 222-1721 or www.artspace-lima.com.