

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theatre

■ **Guys and Dolls** - The musical fable of Nathan Detroit, **Guys and Dolls** runs through Feb. 16 at the **Broadway Palm Dinner Theater**. The consummate gambling man, Detroit operates "The World's Largest Floating Crap Game". Songs include Luck Be a Lady, I've Never Been in Love Before, Sue Me and A Bushel and a Peck. This song and dance extravaganza is fantastic entertainment for all ages. It embraces the season with Broadway-style dancing, stunning costumes and the traditional holiday favorites you know and love. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 278-4422, by visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com, or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

■ **The Last Five Years** - Synergy Productions, Southwest Florida's professional musical theater company, in association with the Theater Guild of Southwest Florida, presents the award-winning musical, "**The Last Five Years**," at the **Foulds Theater** on the campus of **The Alliance for the Arts**. The play runs through Jan. 27. A fresh and contemporary musical, "The Last Five Years" chronicles a young couple's romance in a new and exciting way. Critics have praised the music as creative and groundbreaking. The lyrics evoke Stephen Sondheim. The musical style draws from pop, jazz, folk, Rock and classical. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m. For tickets call (239) 236-1645, visit the Foulds Theater Box Office or online at www.synergyproductions.org

■ **Doubt** - Winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play, "**Doubt, A Parable**" is on stage at the **Florida Repertory Theatre** through Feb. 3. Florida Weekly theater critic Nancy Stetson called Doubt, "as good as theater gets." Doubt is a mesmerizing piece that wrestles with conscience and uncertainty in a 1964 parochial school. John Patrick Shanley, an Academy Award-winning author and playwright, constructs a thrilling and dangerous play that dramatizes issues straight from today's headlines. Performances are Tues. - Sat. at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Wed., Sun. and selected Saturdays. Florida Repertory Theatre is located on Bay Street between Jackson and Hendry in the Historic Arcade Theatre in the Fort Myers River District. Subscriptions and single tickets are available through the Box Office (239) 332-4488, or visit Florida Rep online at www.floridarep.org.

■ **A Perfect Wedding** - Robin Hawdon's "**A Perfect Wedding**" is on stage at the **Sugden Community Theatre** in Naples through Feb. 9. It's a bedroom farce. It's a wedding-day fiasco. It's uninterrupted confusion, comedy and mistaken identity. The script is witty; utterly nonsensical and absolutely charming, and answers the question "Who love who?" For information and tickets go to www.naplesplayers.com or call (239) 263-7990.

■ **Caught in the Net** - Ray Cooney's "**Caught in the Net**" runs at **The Schoolhouse Theater** on Sanibel Island through Feb. 2. The sequel to "Run for Your Wife." 18 years later, modern technology is about to lead John Smith's two families into a head-on collision. His son Gavin (with his mum Barbara) and daughter Vicki (with her mum Mary) are discussing having met in an Internet chat room. They are amazed that they both have fathers named John Leonard Smith who are London taxi drivers, and since romance has blossomed, they are determined to meet in person. And chaos ensues. For

tickets and information, call the Box Office at 472-6862 or check out www.theschoolhousetheater.com

■ **Cash: Ring of Fire** - The Music of the Man in Black ignites the stage of the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** through Jan. 27 in the new Broadway musical **Ring of Fire**, featuring 38 signature songs from the legendary Johnny Cash. Stories of passion, redemption, humor, and salvation set the stage ablaze in this musical celebration of the world's most famous rebel. Hits include; "Walk the Line," "Hurt," "Jackson," "I've Been Everywhere," "Folsom Prison Blues," "A Boy Named Sue," and the title track "Ring of Fire". With smashing medleys and a hearty bounce in its guitar-driven step, this shindig will have you stompin' your feet and shoutin' for more. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling 481-4849 or online at www.bbmannpah.com.

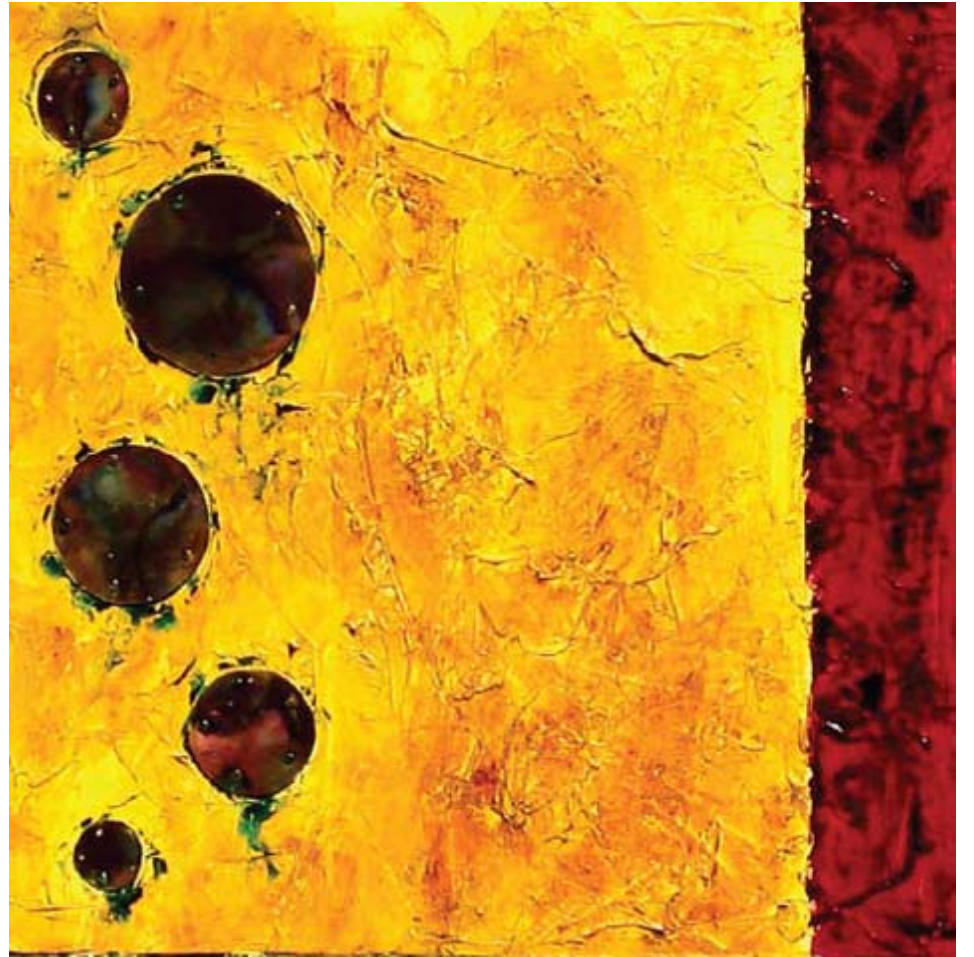
■ **Monky Business** - The musical comedy "**Monky Business**" is running at the **Off Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre** through March 15. The show features some fun-loving monks who hold a fundraiser to save their monastery. The Monks have a divine plan with plenty of singing, dancing and vaudeville routines. For information and tickets call (239) 278-4422 or online at www.broadwaypalm.com.

■ **The Drowsy Chaperone** - "**The Drowsy Chaperone**" opens at the **Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts** on Tuesday, Jan. 28 and runs through Sunday, Feb. 3. Get ready to be transported to a magical, wonderful world. A world where the critics are in awe, the audiences are in heaven and the neighborhood is buzzing with excitement. Welcome to "The Drowsy Chaperone," the new musical comedy that is swooping into town with tons of laughs and the most 2006 Tony Awards of any musical on Broadway. It all begins when a die-hard musical fan plays his favorite cast album, a 1928 smash hit called "The Drowsy Chaperone," and the show magically bursts to life. With thrills and surprises that take both the cast (literally) and the audience (metaphorically) soaring into the rafters. For information or tickets call (239) 597-1900 or online at www.thephil.org.

■ **Nonsense** - **Nonsense**, the Outer Critics' Circle Award-winning play will hit the stage at **Cape Coral High School** for three shows only on Jan. 25, 26 and 27. The "Best Off-Broadway Musical" that became the second longest-running off-Broadway musical of all time is being produced locally by Jodick Productions. The show starts at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday Jan. 25-26. The Sunday Jan. 27 matinee is at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$16, \$15 for seniors and can be had by calling (239) 297-3077 or at the door. Cape Coral High School is located at 2300 Santa Barbara Blvd in Cape Coral.

This week's symphony

■ **Pops No. 1, Nothin' But the Blues** - **The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra**, conducted by Grammy Award-winner Jeff Tyzik, plays the blues at the **Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts** on Friday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Highlights include *Birth of the Blues*, *Basin Street Blues*, *Night Train* and *St. Louis Blues*. For information or tickets call (239) 597-1900 or online at www.thephil.org.



>>Lane at the Foruth Annual Temple Beth El Invitational Art Show Sunday, Jan. 27.

Saturday, Jan. 26

■ **Art** - The **5th Annual Edison Celebration of Art** runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the **Edison & Ford Winter Estates**. The outdoor art festival showcases the work of national and local artists, as well as emerging artists and Lee County students. Live music, performance art, art demonstrations, and children's art activities round out the celebration. Edison Celebration of Art is partnering with the Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center, the School District of Lee County, and the Edison & Ford Winter Estates. Net proceeds of the Celebration are donated to the Lee County Schools to foster the music and art programs. Grants are also made available to qualifying teachers in the Lee County Public School System.

■ **Edison Day of Discovery** - Celebrating 51 years, the **Edison Day of Discovery** showcases over 800 student finalists from Southwest Florida at the **Harborside Event Center** in downtown Fort Myers from 1 p.m. until 4:30. Exhibits include everything from botany, engineering, zoology and medicine. This year's special guest is Dr. Robert J. Lang an avid student of origami for over thirty years is now recognized as one of the world's leading masters of the art, with over 400 designs catalogued and diagrammed. The event is free to the public.

■ **Celtic festival** - **The 5th Annual Caloosahatchee Celtic Festival**, opens at 10:30 a.m. at **Centennial Park**. Seven hours of non-stop Celtic music on two stages begins at 11 a.m. Featured musicians include Brigid's Cross, West of Galway, Irish Cream, Heartstrings, Marcille Wallis & Friends and much more. Bring your blankets and or lawn chairs and plan to join a great Fort Myers tradition! Admission is \$5.00 and children under 12 are free. Centennial Park is located in downtown Fort Myers along the Caloosahatchee River. For More Information call the City of Fort Myers Recreation Division at 338-2287

■ **Ms. Courageous** - The children's play **Ms. Courageous**, presented by the Florida Repertory Theatre, is on stage at 11 a.m. at the **Brick Bar** in downtown Fort Myers. It's a collage of scenes from the lives of Elizabeth Blackwell and Marie Curie. Blackwell was the first woman in the United States to become a doctor with a medical degree, and Curie won two Nobel prizes for her work in

physics and chemistry. Written by Joanna Halpert Kraus, **Ms. Courageous** explores the difficulties and challenges these two remarkable women faced and overcame. For tickets and more information, contact Florida Rep's box office at 239-332-4488. Please do not call the Brick Bar for ticket information.

Sunday, Jan. 27

■ **Art** - The **Fourth Annual Temple Beth El Invitational Art Show** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the **Dubin Social Hall at Temple Beth El**, 16225 Winkler Road in Fort Myers. The show features more than 30 local artists representing media such as painting, ceramics, photography, sculpture and jewelry. For further information call 433-0018.

Monday, Jan. 28

■ **Chamber Music** - **The Chamber Music Society of Southwest Florida** launches its inaugural season at the **Foulds Theatre** in the **Alliance for the Arts** at 7:30 p.m. Led by mezzo-soprano and Artistic Director Janelle McCoy, the chamber music society will present four concerts that will include international chamber groups, Grammy-winning composers and several regional premieres. The concerts, themed "Journeys," are designed to promote and make accessible chamber music of the last 100 years through lectures, composer appearances and performances in intimate spaces. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by visiting www.chambersociety.com.

■ **Capitol Steps** - **The Capitol Steps** are the only people in Washington who attempt to be funnier than the politicians. The troupe performs at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** at 7:30 p.m. This troupe of former (but not disgruntled) Congressional Staffers travels the country satirizing the very people and places that once employed them. Over the years, the Capitol Steps have been featured on three national PBS specials, "Good Morning America," "Entertainment Tonight," "NBC Nightly News," and CNN's "Inside Politics." Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling 481-4849 or online at www.bbmannpah.com.