

# Arts

## 'Broadway Holiday' lights up Victoria

By Gary Gregory

Concert shows often use the tried-and-true formula. It goes like this: A popular singing star or group dressed in gaudy costumes perform on a large stage with scenic bells and whistles and a big band that periodically drowns out the lyrics.

These shows usually start late, run too long, and if you're lucky and leave the parking lot within a reasonable time, you may arrive home around midnight. Not so with "Broadway Holiday," the current touring show that continues through Dec. 20 at the Victoria

Theatre. The brisk two-act musical revue includes nearly 30 songs, mostly Broadway tunes featured on the White Way in the last 50 years. Holiday tunes, though slim, are sprinkled in throughout the show.

In the tradition of a musical revue, the show is anchored by Neil Berg, the talented pianist who serves as the narrator of the proceedings. A casual Berg proves to be humorous as well as informative. Kudos also to the talented musical trio consisting of a drummer, bass player and keyboardist.

Oakwood resident Ken Neufeld, the new president and CEO of the

Victoria Theatre Association, made his speaking debut Tuesday, Dec. 8, for the 2009-10 VTA Broadway Series sponsored by Miami Valley and Good Samaritan Hospitals. He characterizes the show as a "hand-crafted musical revue." Much credit to Neufeld and his staff for keeping a clear focus on the many VTA theatergoers. Although devoting much time and energy in recent months promoting the upcoming musical hit "Wicked," the VTA can take a bow with their season opener, a top-notch production.

For ticket information and reservations, call 228-3630

**Brass** from page 10  
Centerville High School *Forte* singers. These attractive youths gave a new dimension to the traditional gospel music of the church choirs.

The DCDC Company includes DCDCII. This is hardly a second company but an additional group of fabulous dancers. Under Shonna Heckman-Matlock, they carry on the tradition of Jeraldyn

Blunden and Debbie Blunden-Diggs which is simply great dance.

The Masonic Temple Auditorium vibrated with the sounds of song and the gyrations of the dancers. Special guests included Jazz saxophonist Kirk Whalum and gospel artist Shirley Murdock. The vibration was replete with decibels of sound which almost reached the "megabel" level.

DCDC has many new faces. The stalwarts, Sheri Williams in her 36th year as a dancer, Crystal Michelle, William McClellan, G.D. Harris, and Rebecca Sparks Vargas lead the rest of the dancers with their inspiration and their own choreography.

The next months take DCDC to Michigan, Georgia, Maine, New Hampshire and Texas. Mercifully, they stop briefly in Dayton on February 27<sup>th</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup>. These single performances should be red-letter dates on your calendar. DCDC is a don't miss experience.

### WDPR/WDPG

Dayton Public Radio, WDPR/WDPG, is a great classical music station. They are also a fun bunch.

One of the latest social activities is the wine tasting at the Wine Gallery. A light dinner is hosted by the genial owners of the gallery which is about to move to 5 West Monument Avenue. They feature five wines all available for tasting and comparing.

In addition to food and wine, the gathering attracts the interesting and interested. Everyone is convivial, enjoying the wines and tasty snacks and talking music.

The music was not all talk. Chamber music accompanies all the goodies. For the December event, a string quartet from University of Dayton held forth. The young people played very well, hardly distracted by the clinking glasses.

The ensemble consisted of music students Quentin Marsh, Leonardia Hardy and Anna Bumiller on violin, viola and cello. To demonstrate the depth of the student body, engineering student David Sosa brought his talent and violin.

Dayton Public Radio has these events regularly. To learn about them, listen to the great music on 88.1 or 89.9 FM. You will get more than wine and food. Your soul will be fed, as well.

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## Merry Christmas



*Thinking of you...*



### Christmas Eve Dinner

December 24, 12:00- 6:30 pm

Please call for menu and reservations

### New Years Eve Events at L'Auberge

December 31

Please call for seating times and menus for the Bistro and Main Dining Room. For all information visit our web site at [www.laubergedayton.com](http://www.laubergedayton.com)

Holiday Brunch

Sunday, Dec. 20, 11:30 am - 3:00 pm

A visit from Santa Claus for the kids along with Leeann Kinner & her choir singerts and classic piano

Brunch Buffet Menu:

Eggs Benedict with Hollandaise, Quiches, a Seasonal Selection of Fresh Fruits & Cheeses, Smoked Salmon with Traditional Garnish, Shrimp Cocktail with Cocktail Sauce, Bacon & Smoked Sausage, Crispy Belgium Waffles with Maple-Truffle Syrup, Bakery Basket with Assorted Breads & Breakfast Pastries, Black Angus Prime Rib Carving Station with Horseradish Aioli or Natural Jus.

Adults \$29.95 • Kids 10 & under \$9.95 • Reservations required

Brunch does not include soft drinks, coffee, tea or carryout



Please call Josef or Brian for reservations,  
 4120 Far Hills Ave. • 299-5536