

Drama Group welcoming Brits for 20th partnership performance

BY CHRONICLE STAFF

A troupe of British actors is arriving in the South Suburbs to help The Drama Group celebrate two special anniversaries in June – Drama Group’s 90th year and the 20th year of its partnership with The Stables Theatre of Hastings, England.

The British actors will be at The Drama Group performing “Run for Your Wife,” a hilarious comedy whose main character, bigamist John Smith, a London cab driver, finds his perfectly arranged life with two wives thrown into a major catastrophe when he’s in a car accident and police have both of his addresses. Needless to say, Smith’s attempts to explain himself leads to plenty of laughs.

“It’s a standard farce and the Brits do farce better than anybody – it’s one of their forms,” said Drama Group’s Tony Labriola.

Performances at the Drama Group’s theater, 330 W. 202nd St. in Chicago Heights, will be 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11, and Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 16, 17 and 18, with 2 p.m. performances on Sundays June 12 and 19. For ticket information, visit www.dramagroup.com.

The exchange blossomed from a cruise romance— John Pohlhammer of Park Forest met Vanessa Slacke of Hast-



ing, England, while they were working as entertainers on a cruise ship. When their parents met, they discovered each was part of a local theater group. John’s dad, Don Pohlhammer, suggested an exchange. The idea came to fruition in 1999 when a Drama Group cast performed in England and the following year the British actors came to the Drama Group.

The exchange was a regular event, but the pandemic put things on hold for a few years. Labriola said they are excited to be welcoming The Stables Theatre back.

“It’s been a very rich experience,” he said.

Summer season kicks off with 60422 party, Artisan Street Fair

BY CHRONICLE STAFF

The summer event season will get into full swing on Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, with the Homewood Artisan Street Fair, and on Saturday, June 4, with Flossmoor’s big Zip Code Party.

The Zip Code Party refers to the convergence of the date and Flossmoor’s zip code, 60422; to celebrate that rare event, the village and Flossmoor’s Future have planned a day filled with cycling, live music, food and fun activities in Flossmoor Park. Visit the website the60422.com to learn more.

The Artisan Street Fair will run from 4 to 9 p.m. Friday, June 3, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 4, on Martin Avenue from Ridge Road to Hickory Road and Hickory Road from Dixie Highway to Harwood Avenue.

The event will feature more than 80 artists and crafters displaying their work, plus live music, food and activities for young and old.

The event also will feature the bike raffle sponsored by the Homewood

Business Association and GoodSpeed Cycles.

The two events lead a summer lineup that appears to be as full of opportunities to gather as residents did in any pre-pandemic season.

On Saturday, May 28, the Homewood Farmers Market officially kicked off its 40th outdoor season with weekly food, live music, activities for kids and a range of craft and produce vendors. The market, on Martin Square is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through Oct. 8. The evening market from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays will be July 6 through Aug. 10.

Another event returning to its pre-pandemic glory is the Homewood 4th of July parade, which attracts thousands of people who line Dixie Highway and Ridge Road as the parade makes its way from the St. Joseph Catholic Church parking lot to the Izaak Walton Nature Preserve.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. on July 4, and will follow its traditional route.

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