

## arts & entertainment news

### TONIGHT AT SPANISH SPRINGS TOWN SQUARE

#### Second Slice

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### TONIGHT AT LAKE SUMTER LANDING MARKET SQUARE

#### Andrew Morris Band

Andrew Morris Band are known for their original material, along with exciting takes on the old.



### TONIGHT AT BROWNWOOD PADDOCK SQUARE

#### Sherry and the Rockafellas-

Rock-a-Billy dance night.



#### LONDON

### 'Fake' Botticelli Work Turns Out to Be From Artist's Studio

Art experts in Britain have discovered that a painting long thought to be a fake Sandro Botticelli in fact came from the master's own Florence workshop. After stripping back a century of yellowing varnish and surface dirt, conservators confirmed Thursday that "Madonna Of The Pomegranate" — a smaller version of the famous 1487 painting in Florence's Uffizi Gallery — was "stylistically too similar to be an imitation."

— The Associated Press

## Backstage Pass

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

# 'A Doll's House' Still Pertinent 140 Years Later

By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Writer

I couldn't help but laugh at Torvald Helmer, and I wasn't the only one.

He calls his wife, Nora, a "scatterbrain" and compares her to birds and other woodland creatures. He makes her do tricks, her main one being the Tarantella, an Italian folk dance. He tells her that she is his "most treasured possession."

There's nothing funny about any of this, but it seems so outrageous that all you can really do is laugh. But then you have to think about the fact that when these lines were written in the late 1800s, they weren't out of the norm at all.

The lines in question are from "A Doll's House," which I saw at the Studio Theatre Tierra del Sol on Wednesday night.

The classic play, written by Henrik Ibsen, is the Studio's first truly period piece and last show of season three, which

centers on the theme of celebrating individuality.

The leads are seasoned actors Whitney Morse as Nora and Alex Jorth as Torvald. Both have appeared in previous shows at the Studio.

Upon first appearance, Nora comes off as cheerful and slightly materialistic. But, as the audience soon learns, Nora is a character with layers and has much more going on in her "scatterbrain" than arrogant Torvald would ever believe.

Please See NEXT PAGE



Submitted photo

"A Doll's House," starring Whitney Morse and Alex Jorth, will play at the Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol through April 28.

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## arts & entertainment news

### CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



#### KEN BURNS

The filmmaker Ken Burns made a spacious, rumbling tour bus his home on wheels for four days this month, as a rolling advertisement for his upcoming PBS documentary "Country Music," featuring interviews with country stars.



#### RITA MORENO

The Peabody Awards on Thursday announced it will honor the actress, singer and dancer with the career achievement award. That means the 87-year-old will become the third person to achieve "PEGOT" status.



#### JAY-Z

Jay-Z will receive the presidential treatment Saturday at the 50th NAACP Image Awards, hosted by Anthony Anderson at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. The rapper will be given the President's Award.

### DETROIT

#### Motown Museum to Display Clothing Worn By Singer Marvin Gaye

Clothing worn by singer Marvin Gaye will go on display at the Motown Museum in Detroit as part of the music label's 60th anniversary celebration. The museum said Thursday that the items include a knit cap and military-style jacket and pants. Pictures of them will be posted on Facebook today and displayed at the museum, beginning Saturday through the end of April.

— The Associated Press



Submitted photo

"A Doll's House," starring Whitney Morse and Alex Jorth, is currently open at The Studio Theatre Tierra del Sol.

Continued from Previous Page

In fact, her "feminine vulnerability" is also her power, her way to subdue and distract Torvald from her secret, an impending doom that drives the show as the situation gets stickier and stickier.

I can't tell you what that secret is, because it would spoil the show for you if you haven't seen it. But let's just say that Nora is the more complex one in the relationship, which you may already have gathered.

The play is split into three acts, and it moves with a sort of anxiety that gets stronger and stronger with each act until it all ultimately explodes at the end of the third act.

The set for this show is in the round, meaning that the stage is in the middle of the room with audience members seated on all four sides.

As a whole, the set is mostly true to its setting – 1879 – with a few modern elements mixed in. This juxtaposition complements the show nicely.

"They do so much with this theater," said Jean Satterlee, of the Village of Hemingway. "Every play is different, which is nice. You never know how it's going to be set up. They're doing a lot with what they have, and it just gets better each time."

"A Doll's House" is rapid and wordy. Morse and Jorth in particular have a lot of lines

to deliver, and they did it well. "The amount of dialogue is impressive," said Denice Bova, of the Village of Hillsborough. "It's so fast-paced. They really get into their roles."

She and her husband, Steve, said they have had season tickets at the Studio since season one and have enjoyed the shows there.

In regards to "A Doll's House," they both said they found it intriguing and felt that they were hanging on every word to find out what would happen next.

"A Doll's House" opened last week, and performances of the show will continue at the Studio until closing night, which is April 28.

Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

Having "A Doll's House" at the Studio certainly offers a space for reflection. It was extremely controversial when it first came out, and it still is, in a way.

The show helps the audience realize how far things have come for women, but I think it also makes them think about how far there is to go.

Because in truth, it's more relevant than ever right now.

Kristen Fiore is a senior writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5270, or kristen.fiore@thevillagesmedia.com.

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