Print Page



conroe courier - lifestyles

MCPAS presents 'Queen of Hearts' Juice Newton Nov. 20

By Peggie MillerPerforming arts columnist

Published: 11.11.10

JUICE NEWTON could be known as "Angel of the Morning" after her best known hit of the same title. Or even "Queen of Hearts" after another.

But Newton's impact on country as well as pop and even rock music goes farther than that.

Now local fans can experience the Grammy winning singer in person Saturday, Nov. 20, when THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY brings her to downtown Conroe's Crighton Theatre.

"With the energy of her touring band and the intimacy of [the Crighton Theatre], we can give the audience a complete spectrum of Juice's music," said her longtime musical partner, songwriter OTHA YOUNG.

After winning a Grammy Award for "Break it to me Gently," Newton produced a string of hits that include "Hurt," Old Flame," "Love's Been a little hard on Me," and more. Many of these are in the repertoire she will perform at the Crighton, as well as her first country hit "The Sweetest Thing."

Born in Lakehurst, N. J., in 1952, Juice Newton began her career in 1975, which led to 1983's Grammy. Her expertise, honed by singing in

MCPAS brings Juice Newton to the Crighton Theatre stage Nov. 20. $\,$

hometown coffee shops at Virginia Beach where she grew up with a naval background, kept expanding as she went to college in California, and continued singing engagements.

After a stint in Los Angeles clubs, her trio, SILVER SPUR, was signed by RCA, and later by Capitol Records where her hits came. A return to RCA later forged more hits.

Some of Newton's career honors include Billboard Country Top 100 Songs as well as Grammy for Best Pop Female Vocalist; CMA New Female Vocalist of the Year, Album of the Year, Top Video of the Year, gold and platinum records and more. Worldwide, 10 million copies of her recordings have been sold, and she toured with band Alabama.

Juice Newton performs here at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20. For more information visit www.MCPAS.org or reserve for \$47 each with JIM BINGHAM at the Crighton box office, (936) 441-7469. Volunteer marketing vice president for MCPAS is "SPIDER" MOHLE of Bentwater, and CARRIE CHASTELLAINE is executive director.

The hush you don't hear in downtown Conroe may be mimicking the calm before a burst of Christmas

shows.

The merrymaking begins tomorrow about dark at the Conroe Outlet Mall on League Line Road, exit 91 off Interstate 45 North, not in Conroe at all. (Conroe's Christmas observation is Dec. 10 and 11.)

Santa's coming to the outlet mall tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. and he's lighting that center's gigantic Christmas tree.

But before Santa arrives with the jollies, STAGE RIGHT, resident theatrical troupe of the Crighton Theatre, presents scenes from its "Christmas Belles," that opens Dec. 3.

Soon, the Crighton will be resplendent with huge Christmas ornaments that the outlet donated in appreciation to the theatre troupe last season. Of course, the grand old dame's always a vision after Jim Bingham finishes dolling her up at Christmas.

Stage Right's portrayal is at 5:00 tomorrow, according to CAROLYN WONG, whose hubby STEVEN WONG, directs the rollicking reprisal of "Christmas Belles." Written by JESSIE JONES, NICHOLAS HOPE and JAMIE WOOTEN, the PG rated comedy continues weekends Dec. 3-19.

In case you've been wondering about HARLEY, THE WONDER DOG, I, as self-appointed chief of his fan club, want all his devotees to know that he takes on the persona of a reindeer in SR's holiday show. Yes, the big lovable lug has talent he hasn't even used yet.

He (a rescued pet) and associate Carolyn Wong meet ever increasing obligations as their therapy duties in hospitals and recovery centers expand.

For this repeat of SR'S Christmas show a couple years ago, only two new cast members were chosen. All the other actors are making comebacks in their previous roles.

Both the new cast members have connections to last summer's hit musical "Annie."

PATRICK SLAGLE, Daddy Warbuck's butler in "Annie," portrays the church minister in "Christmas Belles," while CATHY REAGAN is Twink, the middle sister in this trio that instigates small town mayhem and mirth.

Cathy Reagan took Ginger, a rescued animal, into her home last summer and trained her for the stage role of Sandy, Annie's mutt.

The July opening night crowd got more than it paid for when an unabashed Ginger lustily began scratching herself as HOPE HARRIS held her while singing the show stopping "Tomorrow." The 10-year-old continued her song as though she didn't notice, exhibiting such immense poise that the audience raved, and Ginger kept on scratching.

Apparently, even dogs can develop ego when they grab center stage. According to Carolyn, Ginger implemented her little scene stealing gimmick at most performances, whether it was Hope or the alternate Annie, KAYLIE KING of Katy, belting out the big number.

See, it's not just human actors who pilfer the limelight.

Contact Peggie Miller at (936) 448-6455 or pegmillr@juno.com with performing arts and people news.

Copyright © 2010 - Houston Community Newspapers Online

[x] Close Window