



Greg Shackelford stands next to a Star Trek: Insurrection premier poster.

Taylor Theatre in new hands, still going strong

Theater to kick off movie premier event at 4 p.m. Friday afternoon; new management planning interior renovations for 'Re-Grand Opening' in January

BY SEAN JACKSON
Staff Writer

The Taylor Theatre and a local science-fiction club will have at least one thing in common Friday night: tickets to the nationwide premier of Star Trek: Insurrection.

New owners Bob Krochmal and Greg Shackelford have a slew of plans for their theater, but Friday night's festivities - including both a live remote from 103.7 FM and members of the Star Trek Fan Club: Shuttle Albemarle on hand - top the pair's short list of priorities.

The radio crew and approximately 15 "Trekkies" will set up in front of the theater Friday afternoon in preparation of Star Trek's latest motion picture release. The club will display a number of Star Trek memorabilia items, including signed collectibles, phasers, communicators and tri-corders, and will be in full uniform right down to a few pairs of

Vulcan ears.

Such excitement is what Shackelford wants to see continue as the theater seeks to bring in at least one premiere film per month. Getting quality films in town promptly is one way to boost ticket sales, Shackelford said.

"We're trying to get the movies in here as quick as we can," said Shackelford, who took over Taylor Theatre, with Krochmal, on Oct. 6. Already, things are moving fast, he said. "People are going to see a lot of activity down here Friday and Saturday. We're going to have some posters to give away, and maybe some buttons."

Shackelford said that numerous renovations, some of which are already underway, will create a better atmosphere for patrons.

"It's my understanding that people have already noticed some of the changes," he said.

From new carpets and ceiling tiles to surround sound and new, reclining seats, moviegoers should expect to see a rejuvenated theater in the months to come.

"Bob and I want to return the theater to the 'Showplace of the Albemarle,'" said Shackelford. Built in 1925, the original theater - which included a vaudeville stage - was, indeed, known as one of the finest theaters in the area.

But this Friday and Saturday, the theater will be the "Showplace of the Trekkies",

as members of the seven-month-old club hit Broad Street in full regalia. For Shuttle Albemarle members, the movie is a chance to spread word about the club.

"This is the best way for us to reach the Star Trek audience," said club president Brian Chappell, who works for the North Carolina Forest Service in Chowan County. "That's our main objective: recruitment."

Club member Tony Key offered insight into the world of Star Trek fans, and why Gene Roddenberry's vision still captivates audiences more than three decades after William Shatner donned the garb of Enterprise Capt. James T. Kirk.

"It's like a microcosm of what you want the universe to be like," said Key, "where all races, nations and cultures come together to work effectively and peacefully."

Both Key and Chappell said their club has proved to be a fun and thought-provoking group, with members joining from Chowan, Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank, and Perquimans counties.

"We love to get together and sit around and discuss the ideas of the series," Key said. "Even the ideas the villains have are good ideas. The series really allows different ideas to clash in melodrama."

For the Taylor Theater, the drama will continue long after Star Trek has fled to distant galaxies at warp speed. On Dec.

18, the theater will premier Prince of Egypt, the new, animated version of the Biblical hero Moses.

Shackelford said that the theater will undergo renovations to the lobby and bathrooms in upcoming weeks. The theater plans to have a "Grand Re-opening Ceremony" on Jan. 1, he said.

"We've got a lot of stuff going on around here," said Krochmal, who has worked with the theater for three years, including a 25-day stint this spring when then-owner Mark Sexton closed it down temporarily.

With the aesthetic improvements, along with a heavier advertising philosophy, Shackelford does not expect to see the doors closing again any time soon.

"The town has really supported us, and we have people from Elizabeth City who come on a regular basis," said Shackelford, who worked at the theater for a couple of years in the late 1970s.

He also said that Judy Adams, caretaker of the property for Jim Earnhardt, has assisted in efforts to restore the theater to prominence.

"She has bent over backwards for us. We really appreciate that, we really do," he said. "We're really going to give it a shot here and see if we can't make it work."

Pick up a copy of The Chowan Herald today at your favorite local newsstand! Or subscribe today by calling 482-4418!

SPECIAL SALE!!
\$198⁰⁰ (Mfg. Retail 499)

Introducing
The NEW 1999 Heavy Duty Auto Dial Singer Sewing Machine with a 25 year manufacturers warranty!!

(In-store service & Free Instruction Classes)
Sews all types and weights of fabrics, including upholstery, denim, and even leather. **FEATURES:** Open-Arm, auto-buttonhøler, stretch stitches, blind hem, serging overlock stitch. Sews on buttons, appliques, monograms and much more.

SINGER SEWING & VAC CENTER
117 S. Water Street (Downtown), Elizabeth City
Checks, MasterCard, VISA & Lay Aways

We wish you a safe and happy holiday.

JIM ELLIOTT
419 S. Broad St., Edenton
482-2121

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE
Nationwide is on your side

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and affiliated Companies
Home Office: One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215
Nationwide is a registered federal service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

"The Lighthouse"
Gifts & Home Accessories

GARLAND, FLORALS & WREATHS
TAPESTRIES & TABLE RUNNERS

KITCHEN GIFT SETS BY PARK IMPORTS
YANKEE CANDLES • TEACHER GIFTS
NEW LINE OF GIFTS FOR MEN
NAUTICAL GIFTS • PRINTS
ELTON GOLFER GIFTS

SHOP EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION

BROAD STREET CENTER, EDENTON
(Across from Tennis Courts)

Open Mon. - Fri.
9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat. 9 - 5

Gift Wrapping Available 482-7593

ALL THIS WEEK
at
Edenton Furniture Co.!

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

WAREHOUSE UNLOADING SALE

20% OFF ENTIRE STOCK

APPLIANCES LIMITED TO 10% OFF

EDENTON FURNITURE COMPANY
211 SOUTH BROAD STREET • EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA • TELEPHONE: (252) 482-8418

Creekside Restaurant & Bar Chowan Counties' First Ever Cigar Event

HOLIDAY SEASON CIGAR DINNER
Tuesday, December 15, 1998 • 6:00 P.M.

— RECEPTION —
Foster's Lager • Cash Bar

Firecreek Shrimp
Bacon & Cheddar Potato "Skins"
La Bamba "Churchill" Cigar

"A new handmade cigar by the legendary master tobacco blender and roller, Leo Pena"

— FIRST COURSE —
Mixed Greens, Blue Cheese, Walnuts & Olive Oil Vinaigrette
George DuBoeuf Chardonnay
Siglo 21 Two "Lonsdale" Cigar

"One of the premier handmade cigars from the Cibao Valley Region in the Dominican Republic, considered to be the finest cigar tobacco-growing area in the world"

— MAIN COURSE —
Filet of Beef, Chasseur
Roasted Garlic & Parsley Mashed Potatoes
Sweet Peas & Pearl Onions in Butter-Herb Sauce
Van Asperen Zinfandel 1995
Macanudo Ascot "Petit Corona" Cigar
"The best-selling 'small cigar' in the world with tobaccos from Jamaica, the Dominican Republic & Mexico"

— DESSERT —
Warm Apple Crisp with Vanilla Ice Cream
Warre's "Warrior Port" • Coffee or Hot Tea
Santiago Silk "Torpedo" Cigar

"The 'flagship' handmade cigar for a new brand, released with much acclaim and fanfare, from the Cibao Valley Region of the Dominican Republic"

\$40 Per Person • Reservations Required: 482-0118

406 West Queen St., Edenton, NC