

Store offers items, services for those 'special moments'

By Cydney Wilson

Special Moments is a relatively new addition to the Gunny's Complex, 1235 Q St., and adds some variety to downtown stores. Special Moments features inside exactly what the name says. They sell seasonal items, (currently St. Patrick's Day decor), any type of party item (regardless of theme) and wedding accessories.

Diane Mulligan, co-owner, explained the idea behind the shop.

"I used to make wedding cakes and my customers kept telling me that they were getting tired of running around making arrangements, that there were no places to get all of the arrangements made in one stop." Also many people did not know exactly where to go to find other things they needed for their wedding, she said. Special Moments offers a one-stop shopping service, she said.

Arrangement advice

Thus, Diane Mulligan and her mother-in-law, Harriet, opened Special Moments in mid-October. In addition to selling decor for parties celebrating baptisms, first communions, birthdays, anniversaries, Hawaiian Luau's and westerns, they offer a service for people seeking advice or information in making wedding arrangements.

"There was no one in Lincoln who was a bridal consultant. There were dress or china consultants, but no one who had information on all of the details," Mulligan said.

Special Moments sells invitations, cake toppings (more than 100), photo albums and wedding veils, just to name a few accessories. They can help you find anything for a wedding they do not sell, she said.

Researched sources

Diana and Harriet Mulligan say they have done a great deal of research in the Lincoln area finding sources to which they could recommend customers for all aspects of planning a wedding such as caterers, florists, musicians, and what halls to have a reception in. They also have their own cake baker and photographers.

In addition, Special Moments has guides, brochures and idea books, which people are free to come in and browse through and all services are provided without a charge to the customer.

"We try to keep our ear to the ground, as to services which are offered in the line of weddings in the Lincoln area. We make sure that the people we recommend to our customers will supply excellent service, or we wouldn't recommend them. We have tested the food of the caterer that we recommend and have done research and testing of the other services suggested so we know what kinds of sources to send our customers to," Mulligan said.

Bulk Quantity supplies

Special Moments also carries a whole range of silk flowers which can be purchased to arrange yourself, or which the staff at Special Moments can arrange to your specifications.

In addition, Special Moments has access to bulk quantity paper supplies, which are reportedly difficult to find in the Lincoln area. The plates, napkins and tablecloths are available in a variety of coordinating colors. The store also sells numerous types of disposable glass and silverware.

"We were a part of the KFRX bridal forum, which made many people aware of the services of our store," Mulligan said.

Special Moments has a wide variety of decorations available for parties, and a wealth of knowledge and information which they are able to provide in the area of planning a wedding.

Howell debut includes Ibsen play

Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen's theatrical portrait of a restless, destructive woman living in the late 19th century, will inaugurate the newly refurbished Temple Building's Howell Theatre at UNL.

University Theater will present the play, considered the masterpiece of the Norwegian playwright, March 4 through 6 and 8 through 13 at 8 p.m.

The play is part of a week long series of events marking the reopening of the Temple Building. A symposium will include panel discussions and speeches featuring Ibsen scholars. Prints and paintings from the period about which Ibsen wrote will be displayed.

Kate Burke, assistant professor of theater arts, will appear as Hedda. The role has attracted many of the world's great actresses since it was first performed in 1891. Claire Bloom gave a much-acclaimed interpretation of the role in New York in 1971.

Hedda is a proud woman who rebels against the boredom of her dull, narrow existence by lashing out at others in malice. The trap she is in is her own doing: Her mockery tires many suitors, so she is compelled to marry a mousy man whose stuffiness leads her to destroy other people's lives. Graduate student Mark Magill will play

Hedda's husband.

One of those she destroys because of her jealousy is a gifted writer, to be played by Dencil Backus. The writer had been one of Hedda's unsuccessful suitors.

Hedda's schoolmate, to be played by Cynthia Campbell, saves the rejected writer Lovborg and inspires him to write a book. Hedda burns it in jealous fury, but her vindictiveness is not complete until she pulls Lovborg back into drunkenness and disgrace. He has no alternative but to accept the gun Hedda offers him as a vehicle to a suicide that will serve as a memory to her forever.

Others in the cast will be Rex McGraw, chairman of the theater arts department, as Judge Brack; Patti Raun as Miss Juliane Tesman; and Kate Gienger as Berte.

The play is directed by Tice L. Miller, professor of theater arts. Scenic design is by Thomas C. Umfrid, assistant theater professor and costumes are by graduate student John R. Hill. John Stark, graduate student in theater, is in charge of lighting.

Tickets are \$3 for students and senior citizens, \$4 for general admission and \$2 each for groups of 15 or more. Reservations may be made at the box office, 472-2073.

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