

icons

A TOAST TO TELEVISION'S BEST

PEE-WEE ON THE GREAT WHITE WAY

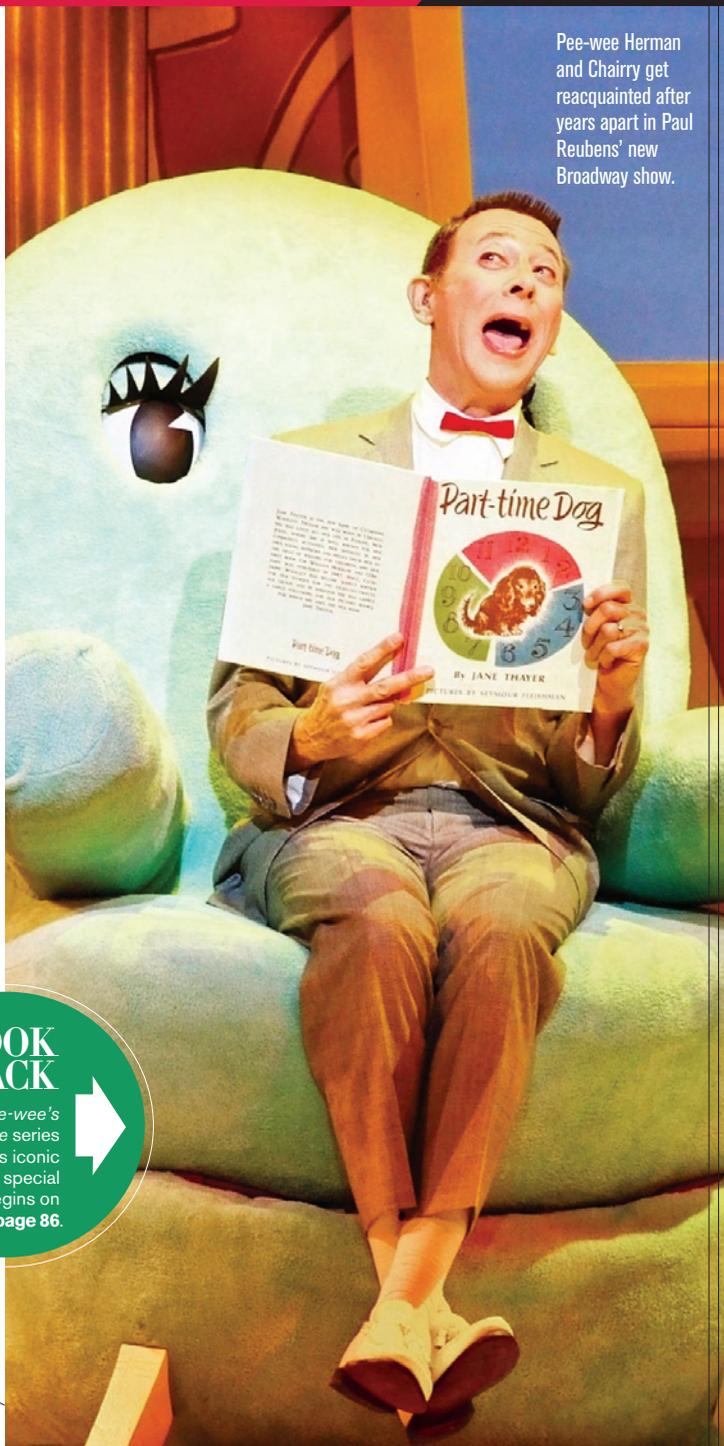
Reubens revisits classic character in Broadway debut

THINK OF HIM as Betty White in a bow tie: In 2010, Pee-wee Herman has had a year that reinvigorated his long career.

After nearly two decades in mothballs, actor Paul Reubens' kiddie character returned in January for 32 sold-out performances in Los Angeles, where Pee-wee and his Playhouse gang presented a live version of his 1986-91 CBS Saturday morning show—and elicited squeals from a now largely middle-aged audience and their offspring, a new generation of fans.

In June, the Los Angeles Film Festival presented 1985's *Pee-wee's Big Adventure* at the historic Orpheum Theatre, followed by a Q&A with Reubens that, by popular demand, stretched on for hours.

Now Reubens has made his Broadway debut: For 48 performances, which run through Jan. 2, Pee-wee appears with all his puppet pals at New York's Stephen Sondheim Theatre. "As the curtain opens, the set starts to get outlined in light, and I can hear people let out a huge, collective gasp, and then scream and applaud," Reubens says. "Every night, I get choked up about how excited everybody is." — *Jim Colucci*



Pee-wee Herman and Chairry get reacquainted after years apart in Paul Reubens' new Broadway show.

A LOOK BACK

at the *Pee-wee's Playhouse* series and its iconic Christmas special begins on **page 86**.

WANT TO WATCH?

Tickets for *The Pee-wee Herman Show* are \$67-\$122. Order at telecharge.com or by calling 212-239-6200.