

COMMUNITY PLAYERS

of Salisbury



Back Stage

December 2023

From the desk of the President...



Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Pippin*. Director Pete Cuesta did a magnificent job. It looked like everyone on stage was having a great time. It was a wonderful show.

Some more exciting things are happening at Community Players.

Director Matt Bogdan is busy with a new (or old) show, Old Time Radio Christmas Show. It will be presented at Community Players, 5109 Nutters Cross Road, on Saturday, December 16, at 7 PM.

Director Sherri Trader Hynes has selected the cast for the upcoming show, *Rumors*. Rehearsals are underway. The show will be at Wor-Wic Community College on January 26-27 and February 2-3, 2024.

As we are coming to the end of 2023 and if you would like to make a year-end a tax deductible contribution to Community Players Building Fund, please send your donation to Community Players, PO Box 2431, Salisbury 21802.

Susan and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tom Robinson
President

NEIL SIMON'S RUMORS



Director Sherri Hynes is very pleased to announce the cast of *Rumors*, our second production of the season:

Chris Gorman – Maria Demetriou

Ken Gorman – Steve Culver

Claire Ganz – Heather Oland

Lenny Ganz – Mike Murphy

Ernie Cusack – Ted Demetriou

Cookie Cusack – Bobbie Calloway

Glenn Cooper – Jay Plummer

Cassie Cooper – Devin Bradley La Femina

Officer Welch – Sammy Barnes

Officer Pudney – Charlie Szentesi-Thomas

Rumors will be presented at Wor-Wic Community College on Friday January 26 at 7:30, Saturday January 27 at 2 and 7:30, Friday February 2 at 7:30 and Saturday February 3 at 2. Check our website (sbyplayers.org) for ticket sales very soon.

Rehearsals have begun and are going very well. If you would like to help with the show, please contact Sherri at sherri.hynes@yahoo.com or 443-669-5599.



The Rumors production team is in search of a bar similar to the one in the picture to the left. If you have one or know someone who does and would be willing to loan it to us, please contact Sherri.

Old-Time Radio Christmas Show

An Old-Time Radio Christmas show will be presented Saturday, December 16, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 17, at 2 p.m. at the Players Playhouse at 5109 Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury. Act One will feature *Miracle on 34th Street*, a radio play based on the classic movie which proves there is a Santa Claus. Act Two will feature *A Christmas Carol*, a radio play based on Charles Dickens' classic tale about Ebenezer Scrooge and ghostly visits. "These are two radio plays that the whole family will enjoy," said Matt Bogdan, director and producer of the show. The show is sponsored by The Bank of Delmarva and Ernie Matthews, in memory of his wife Elizabeth. Admission is \$10 at the door, cash or check. Seating is limited, so call 443-235-3272 for reservations.

We are seeking additional sponsors and program advertisers. Sponsorships are \$200 and a full-page ad is \$50. If you would like to sponsor the show, place an ad in the program, or make a donation, contact Matt at 443-235-3272 or oceancityhappyme@aol.com.

Cast List for *Miracle on 34th Street* (in order of appearance)

Commercial Announcer for Parkay
Margarine: Bridget Mazur
Commercial Announcer for DUZ Detergent:
Lew Kadushin
Commercial Announcer for Pillsbury:
Debby Nagel
Show Announcer: Joan Adkins
Kris Kringle: Bob Herbertson
Drunk: Pete Evans
Doris Walker: Judy Hearn
Mrs. Shellhammer: Carol Willette
Fred Gailey: Rusty Mumford
Susan Walker: Maddie Shockley
Commercial Announcer for RCA Victor:
Ann Northam
Peter: Darshan Jothivel
Peter's Mother: Padma Mano
Macy: Kel Nagel
Sawyer: Jessica Windsor
Commercial Announcer for Anacin:
Adrienne Kadushin
Mara: Amanda Keaney
Judge: Josh Nordstrom
Commercial Announcer for Car of the Year:
Joan Adkins
Tommy: Darshan Jothivel

Cast List for *A Christmas Carol* (in order of appearance)

Narrator 1: Carol Willette
Bob Cratchit: Mike Murphy
Scrooge: Pete Evans
Fred: Sammy Barnes
Charity Woman 1: Ann Northam
Charity Woman 2: Adrienne Kadushin
Marley: Lew Kadushin
Narrator 2: Ann Northam
Christmas Past: Holly Bruce
Fezziwig: Kel Nagel
Belle: Padma Mano
Young Scrooge: Owen Shockley
Narrator 3: Bridget Mazur
Robert: Pete Cuesta
Narrator 4: Jessica Windsor
Christmas Present: Josh Nordstrom
Belinda Cratchit: Maddie Shockley
Mrs. Cratchit: Debby Nagel
Martha Cratchit: Amanda Keaney
Peter Cratchit: Rusty Mumford
Tiny Tim: Darshan Jothivel
Narrator 5: Maddie Shockley
Narrator 6: Kristen Shockley
Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come: Joan Adkins
Charwoman: Judy Hearn
Joe: Bob Herbertson
Boy: Sammy Barnes
Narrator 7: Owen Shockley

Dear Players Friends,

I cannot tell you how surprised and thrilled I was last Sunday afternoon. Although I am still a "member" of Players, I am not able to do the things I used to do. For over 40 years, Bruce and I worked on shows - backstage, acting, directing, serving as officers and board members, etc. We loved every minute of it. Katie (our daughter - who is now 41) went to sleep many times on a quilt on top of the carpeting in the Wi Hi auditorium. And when she was old enough, she started being in the shows - beginning with "The Sound of Music" when she was 7. To receive the lifetime achievement award for Bruce and myself is appreciated more than I can express in words. And I appreciate all the trouble you went to to make it happen (my friends and Katie filled me in.)

Please know that the trophy and paperweight are displayed prominently in my living room on either side of Bruce's urn. We share in our gratitude to you.

Thank you so much. Keep up the good work - providing wonderful entertainment for our community.

Fondly,
Phyllis



THEATRE TEASERS

Trivia by Sharon Benchhoff
December - "William"



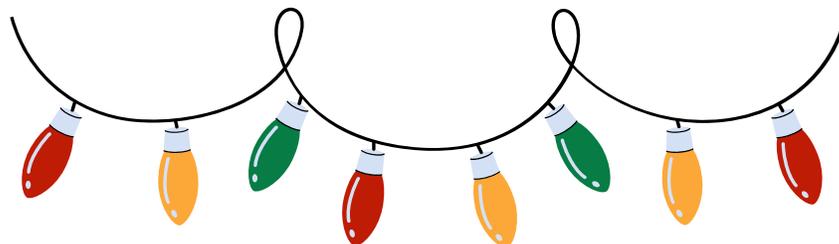
- 1.. He penned the play *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*.
2. He played John Adams in the original Broadway production of *1776*.
3. The character Billy Bigelow is from this Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II musical.
4. He wrote the play *Sweet Bird of Youth*.
5. This Williams took on the role of Sally Bowles in a 2014 revival of *Cabaret*.
6. This Billy wrote the show *Mr. Saturday Night*. His films include *When Harry Met Sally* and *Monsters, Inc*.
7. He may consider himself a dog lover, but this character in *Oliver!* is a truly terrible person.
8. William "Willy" Loman is the protagonist in this American theatre classic play.
9. This musical is a coming-of-age story about a motherless British boy who begins taking ballet lessons.
10. What is the name of the trial lawyer character in the musical *Chicago*?

Answers found on page 6

BACK STAGE SUBMISSIONS

Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

Rusty Mumford
Corresponding Secretary



PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

Matt Bogdan, vice president of Players and chairperson of the production committee, has appointed eight members to the production committee, including Holly Bruce, Jason Bruce, Melissa Dasher, Dory Hayman, Mike Murphy, Heather Oland, Shelbie Thompson, and John Wixted. This committee will read musicals and plays submitted by anyone, discuss the shows, and evaluate each show based on specific criteria. Each show is ranked, and a four-show season will be recommended to the Board of Directors at the March 2024 meeting.

Show submissions begin November 1 and end on December 31, 2023. If you are interested in submitting a show, contact Matt Bogdan at 443-235-3272 or oceancityhappyme@aol.com.



Players' next meetings will be Dec. 6 (7:00 PM) and Jan. 3 (7:00 PM). Join us after the December meeting to share some holiday refreshments and social time with fellow members.



ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



- Answers:
1. William Shakespeare
 2. William Daniels
 3. *Carousel*
 4. Tennessee Williams
 5. Michelle Williams
 6. Billy Crystal
 7. Bill Sikes
 8. *Death of a Salesman*
 9. *Billy Elliot*
 10. Billy Flynn

Multiple Show Season Ticket Order Form

Adult Tickets

4 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Season – Pippin, Rumors, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Kiss Me Kate	\$90	Total \$ for Adult tickets
3 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$68	
2 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$45	
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Senior & Student Tickets*

4 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior or <input type="checkbox"/> Student		Total \$ for Senior/ Student tickets
3 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Season – Pippin, Rumors, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Kiss Me Kate	\$72	
2 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$54	
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Child Tickets**

4 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Season – Pippin, Rumors, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Kiss Me Kate	\$54	Total \$ for Child tickets
3 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$41	
2 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$27	
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>			

Family Tickets***

4 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Season – Pippin, Rumors, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Kiss Me Kate	\$234	Total \$ for Family tickets
3 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$176	
2 Show Option	<input type="checkbox"/> ___Pippin, ___Rumors, ___Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, or ___Kiss Me Kate	\$117	
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>			

*A Senior is anyone 55 years of age or older. A student is anyone over the age of 12 and under the age of 18 or a college student.

**A child is anyone under the age of 12.

***A family is both parents and all children under the age of 18 who attend the same performance.

Please put a check next to the performance you plan to attend. Be sure to print your phone number and email clearly on the form below so that we can contact you when the Wor-Wic dates are finalized.

Pippin	Rumors	Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike	Kiss Me Kate
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 11/10/23 7:30 PM <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 11/11/23 7:30 PM <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 11/12/23 2:00 PM	January/February Dates to be determined	March/April Dates to be determined	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 6/21/24 7:30 PM <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 6/22/24 7:30 PM <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 6/23/24 2:00 PM
Wicomico High School	Wor-Wic Community College	Wor-Wic Community College	Wicomico High School

Please complete the information below and return this form to *Community Players, P.O. Box 2431, Salisbury, MD 21802*. Make all checks payable to Community Players. Please print clearly.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone _____ EMAIL _____

Single Show tickets may be purchased on our website (sbyplayers.org) by phone (410-546-0099).

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Check # _____ / AMOUNT _____

Community Players of Salisbury
P. O. Box 2431
Salisbury, MD 21802

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SALISBURY, MD 21801
PERMIT 186

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please consider becoming a member of Community Players. If you are not sure if your dues are paid for the current year, please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If it does not show 2023-24, your dues are not up-to-date.



Back Stage is funded, in part by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council (SWAC). Players would like to thank SWAC for their continued support.

Next Meetings - Wednesday, Dec. 6 (7:00 PM) and Jan. 3 (7:00 PM).

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

President: Tom Robinson - tomchicken@aol.com
Vice-President: Matt Bogdan - oceancityhappyme@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Darrell Mullins - dgmullins@salisbury.edu
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net
Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com
Immediate Past-President: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com

Board Members

Kate Adkins, Bobbie Calloway, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2024
Sharon Benchoff, Cass Dasher, Kyle Hayes - Term Expires 2025
Lynne Bratten, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2026

Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, physical & mental ability, and religious & political beliefs.