

COMMUNITY PLAYERS

of Salisbury



Back Stage

March 2023

From the desk of the President...



People are still telling me how great **Leading Ladies** was a week after it closed. Big congrats to director Matt Bogdan and the entire cast and crew. Special shout out to the stage crew and dressers who kept that fast-paced show moving!

No sooner did that show close than Robin Finley had auditions and announced a cast for **Crimes of the Heart**. Please be ready to volunteer to help with set construction or anything else needed backstage or front of the house. Want to help but don't know how? Contact Robin or producer, Sharon Benchoff. Both of their emails are listed in this newsletter since they are both board members.

The latest update on the performance space project is that the plans for parking lot and grounds have been approved by county authorities and have been submitted to several construction firms for bids. Sub-committees are working on interior design, technical needs and fund-raising.

Speaking of money, during the second weekend of **Leading Ladies**, we did 50/50 raffles and raised a total of \$379 for the three shows. The money will be the first new cash in the building fund. We plan to do it again for **Crimes of the Heart**. Having done it once, we will be more organized. We will be asking for volunteers to help. Also, if anyone wishes to be on the fund-raising committee, please let me know.

See you at **Crimes of the Heart**.

Kel Nagel



Cast Announced

Lenny Magrath.....Mary Cathell
Meg Magrath.....Kirsten King
Babe Botrelle.....Caroline Lewis
Chick Boyle.....Heather Oland
Doc Porter.....Matt Hatfield
Barnette Lloyd.....Will Townsend

With this exceedingly talented and diverse cast, **Crimes**, under the insightful direction of Robin Finley and with Shelbie Thompson as assistant director, promises to be a must-see production.

The show dates are April 20th – 22nd and April 27th – 29th

If you google Pulitzer Prize play **Crimes of the Heart**, the first two questions are “Is **Crimes** a drama?” and “Is **Crimes** a comedy?” The answer is “yes”. Set in a small Mississippi town, the play examines the lives of three quirky sisters who converge at the house of their grandfather. During the course of the play the sisters unearth grudges, criticize each other and reminisce about their family life.

Rated PG13 due to mature themes including suicide.

Love theatre? Then we are looking for you. We need help with the set construction, painting, gathering props, pulling costumes and more. Contact producer Sharon Benchoff (fresnelop@gmail.com) if you are interested.



NEEDED FOR CRIMES OF THE HEART



Do you have an old stove or wall mounted oven that you want to get rid of? Community Players can use it. Please contact Sharon Benchoff at fresnelop@gmail.com and we can make arrangements to pick it up.



Matt Bogdan, director of **Leading Ladies**, thanks the cast and crew for their time and effort in making this show a success. Matt said that the audience roared with laughter at each performance and were thoroughly entertained. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!

CPOS Children's Theater Workshop

July 10 - 14, 2023

For students entering grades 3 - 8

Players' Tap Class



Wednesday Evenings
5:30 - 6:30 PM
at Players on Nutters Cross Road

Members - FREE
Non-members - \$5 per class

Come tap with us!

THEATRE TEASERS

Trivia by Sharon Benchoff
The Ides, Irish and Birthdays of arch

1. In what Shakespeare play is the warning, "Beware the Ides of March" given?
2. In what musical does an elderly Irishman, Finian McLonergan, move to the United States to bury a stolen pot of gold?
3. This Irishman played King Arthur in Broadway's **Camelot**. Fans will also remember him as the original Dumbledore.
4. This red head began her acting career in community theater in Ireland before she went on to star in the original film versions of *Miracle on 34th Street* and *The Parent Trap*.
5. With a March 7th birthday, he played LBJ on Broadway in the play **All the Way** and starred in *Breaking Bad*.
6. You may not have known this actress was Irish, but you do know her as Mrs. Lovett and the voice of Mrs. Potts.
7. Matthew Broderick, born on March 21st, played what character in the Broadway production of **The Producers**?
8. This Irishman starred in the West End and was nominated eight times for the best actor Oscar, but never won. *Lawrence of Arabia* and *My Favorite Year* (one of my top 5 favorite films) are two.
9. Born in March 1947, he composed music for Disney's musical production **Aida** in 1999 and **Billy Elliot, the Musical**.
10. This Irish playwright is best known as the author of four intriguingly powerful stage plays; **Waiting for Godot**, **Endgame**, **Krapp's Last Tape**, and **Happy Days**.

Answers found on page 6



newsletter

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



Players' next meetings will be Wednesday, March 1 (7:00 PM) and April 5 (6:30 PM). There is a lot going on at Players right now. Join us to see when and where you can help.

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



1. Julius Caesar
2. Finian's Rainbow
3. Richard Harris
4. Maureen O'Hara
5. Bryan Cranston
6. Angela Lansbury
7. Leo Bloom
8. Peter O'Toole
9. Elton John
10. Samuel Beckett

Answers:



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS



Players has received nice thank you notes from last year's scholarship winners.

Grace Ashby tells us that she is now attending Shenandoah University as a vocal performance major. Lilly Dasher is currently attending Disciple Training School at YWAM University of the Nations in Louisville, Kentucky. One of Lilly's elective courses this semester is Music. She has also auditioned and been accepted in the Music & Worship program at Messiah University in Pennsylvania and is pleased they also have a Musical Theater department. We hope we will see them back on our stage in a few years.

Applications for this year's awards are currently available from school guidance counselors or our website. The deadline is March 16.



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

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*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
2022-23, your dues
are not up-to-date.*

Next Meetings - Wednesday, March 1 (7:00 PM) and April 5 (6:30 PM).

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

President: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Tom Robinson - tomchicken@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: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net

Board Members

David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023
Kate Adkins, Bobbie Calloway, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2024
Sharon Benchoff, Cass Dasher, Kyle Hayes - Term Expires 2025

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.