

COMMUNITY PLAYERS

of Salisbury



Back Stage

November 2023

From the desk of the President...

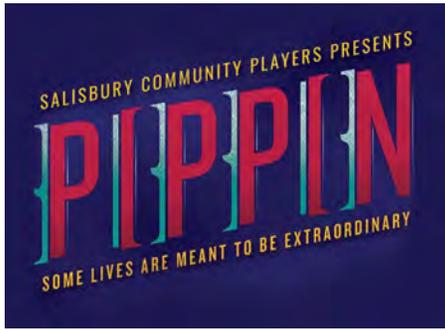


Great news! The paving is complete--the parking lot will be completely finished in a couple of weeks, complete with landscaping, bumpers, and striping.

Tom Robinson
President

grateful
♥

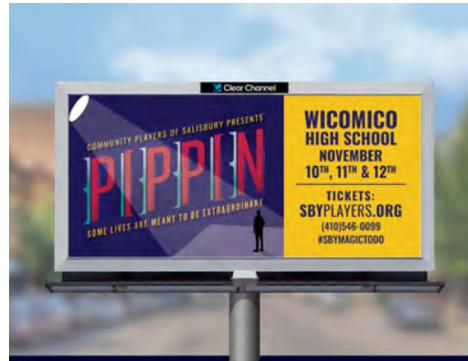




We are working hard but it actually feels like play! The cast is enthusiastic, talented (oh yes, talented) and ready to Broadway a run for its money! Tell everyone you know that this is not to be missed!!

Set work is moving along at a steady pace and we will have an amazing piece of art.

The story and music will carry you away, the beautiful faces and voices will enchant, and the night will be magic!



All of you do so much for us and Community Players appreciates all the audiences, actors, patrons, techies, production team and directors. A special day, Tuesday, November 28th is your opportunity to do even more for us. The Community Foundation is sponsoring The Shore Gives More event to help non-profit organizations like Players raise funds to continue our mission. Starting on November 20th, you can go to shoregivesmore.org and type in Community Players of Salisbury to donate. That's enough from me for now. We will be sending out more information via Facebook and emails. But I would like to conclude by sharing a testimonial from one of our long-time members Kristi Toadvine:

My first introduction to Community Players was attending many of their plays and musicals as a child. I was immediately impacted and knew this was something that I wanted to experience firsthand. I became involved with theatre and chorus at my school and by the time I was 16 yrs. old, I landed my first role in the chorus of Community Players production of "Cinderella". As soon as I experienced my first Players curtain call, I was bitten by the stage bug. All through high school and college I continued to participate in choirs and in theatre and acted in several shows through Community Players and at Salisbury University. It was a creative outlet for me and the relationships that I made have been very important over the years.

My last big show before taking a hiatus and starting my own family was Little Women in which I played Jo March directed by Cindy Gore. In the book, Jo says, "I do think that families are the most beautiful things in all the world!" Community Players is like a family to me and six years later, my son and I were cast in Oliver. Throughout the next 5 years, I got to see him, and his sister grow to love music and experience performing arts. My favorite memories were when we got the opportunity as a family to share the stage together in several Community Players of Salisbury's productions including Les Misérables and Mary Poppins. Being in a show is a big commitment for the actors involved but it also is a commitment for the family back home that supports them during their 2-month hiatus from their normal daily routines and responsibilities. My spouse loved seeing the shows, but he was not interested in ever gracing the stage.

. However, he supported my kids and me to share our passion with the community and when asked to paint a set piece, help with strike or run around town placing yard signs around to publicize the next show, he was always willing to help. That was a regular occurrence to see multiple family members helping in all aspects of a production.

Theatre is more necessary than ever these days. Getting to create an escape for a couple of hours for our audience to leave their worries and screens behind and to immerse themselves in the magic of live entertainment and storytelling is truly the best therapy. Giving to Community Players is a gift that keeps giving through the years. Players bring families and communities together for a shared experience, ignites imaginations and passions for the arts and enlightens our cultural awareness.

Thanks for taking the time to read this message,
Sharon Benchoff



Rumors, the second production of our season, is scheduled for the January slot at Wor-Wic Community College. Director Sherri Hynes has scheduled auditions for Mon., Nov. 13, and Tues., Nov. 14, at 7 PM at Players on Nutters Cross Road. Callbacks, if necessary, will be scheduled for Wed., Nov. 15, at 7 PM. Following is the list of characters:

Chris Gorman – married to Ken Gorman, lawyer, just quit smoking, easily excited, has way too much to drink, “smokes” on stage

Ken Gorman – married to Chris Gorman, lawyer, very excitable, runs up and down the stairs, these two bicker a lot

Claire Ganz – married to Lenny Ganz, socialite, country aficionado, tends to be very snarky, especially with her husband

Lenny Ganz – married to Lenny Ganz, CPA, narcissist, materialistic, a sort of a control freak

Ernie Cusack – married to Cookie Cusack, psychiatrist, very attentive to his patients and especially his wife

Cookie Cusack – married to Ernie Cusack, a TV celebrity for a cooking show, has a bad back, very sappy with her husband

Glenn Cooper – married to Cassie Cooper, running for State Senator, tired of rumors and innuendos

continued on next page>>>

Cassie Cooper – married to Glenn Cooper, “trophy” wife, low self-esteem, odd, into crystals...

Officer Welch – long time police officer, no nonsense kind of person

Officer Pudney – Welch’s partner

If you have any questions, please contact Sherri Hynes, the director, at sherri.hynes@yahoo.com or 443-669-5599.

Old-Time Radio Christmas Show Interest Meeting

A meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19, at 4 p.m. for those who are interested in taking part in the Old-Time Radio Christmas Show. We will be discussing the production and reading the script, which features radio shows from *The Bickersons*, *Blondie*, and *My Favorite Husband* in Act One and the classic *Miracle on 34th Street* in Act Two. Email Matt Bogdan, director and producer of the special production, if you are interested in the show and whether or not you can attend the meeting. His email address is oceancityhappyme@aol.com. The Old-Time Radio Christmas Show will be presented Saturday, December 16, at 7 p.m. at the Players Playhouse on Nutters Cross Road.

LIST OF CHARACTERS

The Bickersons

Announcer
John (the husband)
Blance (the wife)

Blondie

Wilcox (Announcer)
Dagwood
Brown (the postman)
Alexander (Blondie and Dagwood’s son)
Blondie
Guy (Big and tough)
Cookie (Blondie and Dagwood’s daughter)
O’Toole (Irish Christmas tree salesman)
Dithers (Dagwood’s boss)

My Favorite Husband

Announcer
Liz (the wife)
Katy (the maid)
George (the husband)
Mother (the mother)
Clerk (sales clerk at department store)

Miracle on 34th Street

ANNOUNCER
KRIS KRINGLE
DRUNK, unfriendly
DORIS WALKER, department store executive
SHELLHAMMER, unctuous
SUSAN WALKER, Doris’ precocious daughter
FRED GAILEY, lawyer
PETER, a little boy, New York accent
MOTHER, Peter’s mother
MACY, department store owner
SAWYER, nervous, high-strung
MARA, district attorney
JUDGE
SALESMAN, on radio (1 line)
TOMMY, Mara’s young son



THEATRE TEASERS

Trivia by Sharon Benchoff

November- *Can you name the ten titles of these traditional musicals/plays where these lines are sung/said?*

1. You alone can make my song take flight. Help me make the music of the night.
2. I don't want to see you, I don't want to hear you and I don't want to smell your cooking. Now get this spaghetti off my poker table.
3. Master of the house, doling out the charm, ready with a handshake and an open palm.
4. It's a hard knock life for us.
5. Choose the least important day in your life. It will be important enough.
6. I'm gonna show you and everybody else that Willy Loman did not die in vain.
7. Consider yourself at home. Consider yourself one of the family.
8. When you see a guy reach for stars in the sky You can bet that he's doing it for some doll.
9. Look at me way up high, suddenly here am I, I'm flying!
10. Double, double toil and trouble : Fire burn, and cauldron bubble

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

THANKSGIVING

meeting
TIME

Players' next meetings will be Nov.1 (7:00 PM) and Dec. 6 (7:00 PM). The new season is in gear. There is no better time to get involved.

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.

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Horror. Mike Murphy performed "The Tell-Tale Heart" and was a narrator in "Hop-frog". Pete Cuesta performed "The Raven" and was Hop-frog in "Hop-frog". Charlie Szentesi-Thomas performed "The Masque of the Red Death" and was a narrator in Hop-frog. Jason Bruce was Edgar Allan Poe and the King in "Hop-frog". Judy Hearn was Poe's mother and a narrator in "Hop-frog". Kim Cuesta was Poe's wife and a narrator in "Hop-frog". Matt Bogdan performed "The Black Cat" and produced and directed the show. Performances were held at Poplar Hill Mansion, the Wicomico County library, and Kylan Barn. This was the third year the Poe show has been performed.



ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



- Answers:
1. Phantom of the Opera
 2. The Odd Couple
 3. Les Miserables
 4. Annie
 5. Our Town
 6. Death of a Salesman
 7. Oliver!
 8. Guys and Dolls
 9. Peter Pan
 10. Macbeth

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 | |
| _____ | | | |

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 | |
| _____ | | | |

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 | |
| _____ | | | |

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 | |
| _____ | | | |

*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).

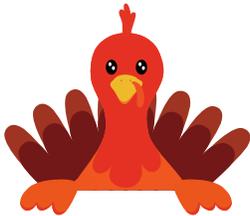
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Check # _____ / AMOUNT _____

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

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
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.*



Next Meetings - Wednesday, Nov.1 (7:00 PM) and Dec. 6 (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.