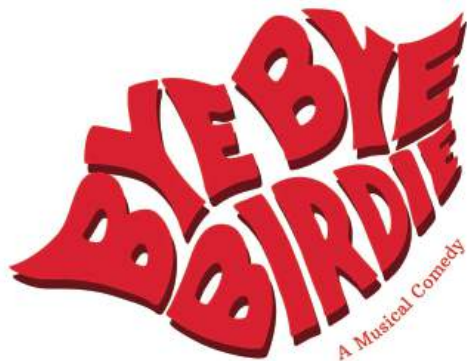




the PROMPTER

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT OCTOBER 2024



by Carol Bense

Don't miss this funny and charming musical which will take you back to the nostalgic 50s and the days of Rock and Roll when Elvis was drafted into the army. Director Kathleen Hill says "you will go home humming the songs and tapping your toes." Performances are scheduled for November 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 7:30 with matinees on November 3 and 10 at 2:00.

She has announced the cast as follows:

Cast List (in alphabetical order):

Amelia Bickford – Teen Ensemble
Delina Bickford – Adult Ensemble
Russell Carbone – Randolph
Dave Dauphinais – Charles Maude, Adult Ensemble
Vivienne Dauphinais – Kim MacAfee
Olivia Etchings – Gloria, Teen Ensemble, Tap Dancer
Mary Foedermaier – Adult Ensemble
Brittany Frager – Mrs. MacAfee
Liam Frager – Albert Peterson
Cecilia Hamilton – Deborah Sue, Tap Dancer
Natasha Kharitonov – Ursula, Teen Ensemble, Tap Dancer
Janice Knepp – Adult Ensemble
Olivia Lee – Rosie Alvarez
Madeline Maimone – Teen Ensemble, Tap Dancer
Kali Martin – Adult Ensemble
Alex Matheson – Teen Ensemble
Corky Mork – Adult Ensemble
David Morrison – Mr. MacAfee
Ray Mtimbiri – Hugo Peabody
Kristi Nieman – Mrs. Merkle, Adult Ensemble
AJ O'Neil – Conrad Birdie
Philip Reilly – Mr. Johnson
Sydney Rohrbacher – Teen Ensemble, Tap Dancer
Ava Roriston – Teen Ensemble
Kristen Sturtevant – Mae Peterson
Benjamin Tedcastle – Harvey Johnson

Bye bye cont. on pg.3 1.



by Kathleen Hill

The Village Players invite community members to audition for the hilarious holiday classic, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, by Barbara Robinson. There are roles for several adults and plenty for kids. Auditions take place at the Village Players Theater, 51 Glendon St, Wolfeboro on Thursday, October 10 and Sunday, October 13 with performances scheduled for December 13, 14, and 15.

“The Herdmans were the worst kids in the history of the world! They smoked and cursed and burned down Fred Schumacher’s old tool shed!” Things get really exciting when the Herdmans show up at Sunday school because they think they will get snacks and take over the annual Christmas Pageant! No one knows what will happen. But trust me, chaos ensues! Everyone in town is expecting the Christmas pageant to be a disaster, but the Herdmans’ unconventional performances actually bring the town together, even the grumpy church ladies, and fill every heart with the spirit of Christmas.

For auditions Thursday, October 10, children should attend 6:00-7:00, and adults 7:00-8:00.

For the Sunday October 13 auditions, children should come from 2:00-3:00, and adults 3:00-4:00. Rehearsals begin on October 17, and continue Thursdays until October 24, and change to Wednesdays and Thursdays on November 6. Tech week is December 8-12. Please register by October 8—that helps us to be organized. Registration and details are at village-players.com.

The roles available are:

THE BRADLEY FAMILY (AGES ARE STAGE AGES)
GRACE BRADLEY (MOTHER). 30+. A main role who takes over the annual Christmas pageant; mother to Beth and Charlie; wife to Bob.
BOB BRADLEY/ (FATHER). 30+. Husband to Grace and father to Beth and Charlie. A solid family man.

Best Christmas cont. on pg.2

News from Your Board of Directors

by Rosemary Lounsbury

In an effort to keep the membership up to date on what's going on "behind the scenes," we will report in The Prompter what has been discussed at recent meetings of the Board.

All members are invited to attend any board meeting. If you would like to speak, please let Paul Stewart know so that he can add you to the agenda. Our next meeting is Monday, October 14. The annual membership meeting is usually the Sunday after the first matinee of the musical (should be November 3 this year).

Our meetings have included a lot of discussion about the upcoming construction project to replace the front entrance to the theater. With such a large undertaking, we want to ensure that we do everything in the best way possible.

Other upcoming events: Karaoke night at the theater (members and their invited guests only), a Christmas "Panto" production for 2025, another Comedy Night in July, and of course the 2025 season as revealed at our announcement party on Sept. 6.

We are also looking forward to better (stronger signal) wifi in the theater, and a more efficient system for purchasing tickets online with a credit card.

Looking for volunteers: If anyone has an interest in organizing our participation in the Festival of Trees at the Wright Museum in December, (decorating a tree), or in coordinating a float in the Independence Day parade next July 4, please let Paul Stewart know at stewart.i.paul@gmail.com.



BETH BRADLEY. Teen The show's narrator. Grace/Bob's daughter. Beth needs a strong voice and stage presence; is in most scenes dealing with a range of moods and situations.

CHARLIE BRADLEY. 10-12; Beth's brother – the typical kid brother..

THE HERDMANS (AGES ARE STAGE AGES)

RALPH. Teen. The oldest Herdman; ragged, scroungy, slouching manner, touch of adolescent cool.

IMOGENE. Teen. Loud, bossy, tough, crafty. The Herdman leader.

LEROY. Teen. Tough, very sure of himself.

CLAUDE. Teen. Tough, combative. A crime buddy to Ollie.

OLLIE. 10-12. Boy or girl. Always looking for trouble. Claude's usual partner in crime.

GLADYS. 9-10. Small, wiry, feisty. Often funny; sometimes mean.

ADDITIONAL ADULT ROLES (AGES ARE STAGE AGES)

MRS. ARMSTRONG. 50s+. Managerial, in voice and manner; bossy and impatient.

MRS. SLOCUM. 35-60+. Pleasant, motherly woman.

MRS. CLARK. 35-60+. Pleasant, motherly woman.

MRS. CLAUSING. 35-60+. Pleasant, motherly woman.

MRS. McCARTHY. 40s, 50s. A younger, less imperious version of Mrs. Armstrong.

REVEREND HOPKINS. 40s+. A nervous-about-most everything pastor.

FIREFIGHTER 1. Ready for any fire.

FIREFIGHTER 2. Ready for any fire.

ADDITIONAL CHILD ROLES (AGES ARE STAGE AGES)

ALICE WENDLEKEN. Teen. Prim, proper, pain in the neck.

MAXINE: Teen. Beth's Sunday school classmate.

ELMER. Teen. The minister's son; dislikes church.

HOBIE, DAVID, BEVERLY, JUANITA, DORIS. Various ages, 10-18.

ADDITIONAL ROLES. Various ages, 9-up. Angel Choir members; baby angels, shepherds.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com and is generously sponsored by Bruce and Kris Gurall.

Our 2025 Season

As announced at our recent celebration, for 2025 we will be presenting:

Spring - *Escabana in Da Moonlight* - a comedy based on a hunting and fishing family in the upper peninsula of Minnesota.

Summer - *Calendar Girls* - this comedy centers on a group of women who decide to produce a "nudish" calendar to raise money for the local hospital.

Fall - *Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* - this Sondheim musical about an evil Victorian-era barber and his pie-making accomplice won the Tony Award for Best Musical of the year.

Winter - A Christmas show yet to be decided.

It's a big season with lots of surprises and we hope you will be able to be involved or be in the audience or both.

Bye bye cont. from pg.1

Robert Tuttle – Mayor
Joyce Wood – Edna

Director: Kathleen Hill
Assistant Director: Phoebe VanScoy Giessler
Music Director: Rob Dionne
Producer: Joshua Spaulding
Stage Manager: Judi Rogato
Set Design: Russ Ellis
Costume Design: Stef Marsh
Props: Delina Bickford and Carol Light

Tickets are \$25 each and will be available in early October at Black's Paper and Gifts, online at www.village-players.com or at the door.

Bye Bye Birdie is generously sponsored by Richard J. Neal, DMD.

The All-important Village Players Annual Appeal Is Coming Soon

by Stefanie Marsh

Thanks to our incredible community of supporters, we had a fantastic summer fundraiser for the front entrance renovation. Now, it's time for our next big push to ensure the theater can thrive in the year ahead.

As one of only two community theaters in New Hampshire that owns its own building, we face significant costs to cover heating, utilities, and general upkeep. Your generous support makes it all possible.

Keep an eye on your mailbox for our upcoming annual appeal. We hope you will be able to make a generous donation this year, to help us continue bringing comedies, dramas, and musicals to life on our Wolfeboro stage. Thank you in advance for being an essential part of our theater's success!



Wyrd Sisters took the stage in August and directors Jeannie LeGrow and Paul Stewart were delighted to welcome Magner Peruto, Jim Bomersbach, Brendan Berube, Mary Foedermair, Syllas Kenerson and Janice Knepp, first time Village Players performers! We love growing our VP community and we hope all of them will join us for another production very soon!

Also, you may not know, but in order to produce this play, The Village Players was required to make a \$500 donation to the Gorilla Foundation. (This is quite different from royalties paid for most productions.) Director, Jeannie LeGrow, has told us that several members of our audience saw the poster from this group and made additional donations of their own.

CONTACT US...

Mail: PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894 **Voice-mail:** 603-569-9656

Web site: www.village-players.com

Email: info@village-players.com

2024 Village Players Board

- President - Paul Stewart 603-866-9445
- Vice President - Kathleen Hill 603-520-1372
- Secretary - Rosemary Lounsbury 603-569-2599
- Treasurer - Stefanie Marsh 603-569-6382
- Past President - Matt Johnson 781-437-7007
- Members at Large
- Dawn Alie (2yrs) 603-767-0379
- Jeannie LeGrow (2yrs) 603-366-6529
- Mandy Ferriman (1yr) 603-986-6178
- Carol Light (1yr) 603-393-4277

Board meetings are scheduled for the first Monday evening of each month. All dues-paying members are also welcome to attend. Be sure your membership is current to receive your newsletter and notice of special events. Contact info@village-players.com or call 603-569-9656 if you are unsure of your membership status.

Newsletter Committee

- Carol Bense, Cathy Fraser
- Jay Sydow, Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler
- Art Production
- Carol Bense, Cathy Fraser



P.O. Box 770 Wolfeboro, NH 03894



2025 Dues

It's time to renew (or begin) your membership to The Village Players for 2025. Dues are \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families. A family includes 2 adults and all children under 18 living in the same household.

You can pay with a credit card on the website, www.village-players.com, or send your check to:

The Village Players, PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.

Be sure to include your name, address and email with your check.