



# The Marquee

February 2010

## What's Next You Ask?

In June at a place TBA, Colleen Cook and Ryan Hurley will be performing ***The Last Five Years***, a one-act musical written by Jason Robert Brown. It premiered in Chicago in 2001 and was then produced off-Broadway in March 2002 followed by numerous other productions in the US and internationally (including one by the 11th Hour Theatre Company a few years ago). The story explores a five-year relationship between Jamie Wellerstein, a rising novelist, and Cathy Hyatt, a struggling actress. The show uses a form of storytelling in which Cathy travels backwards in time (beginning the show at the end of the marriage), and Jamie travels forwards (starting just after the couple have first met). The characters do not directly interact except for a wedding song in the middle as their time-lines intersect. The show was inspired by Brown's failed marriage to Theresa O'Neill.

In August at the Sidney theater, Sock & Buskin will be performing Music Theatre International's ***Beauty and the Beast***.

This show first premiered at Houston's Theater Under the Stars in December 1993. There were 40 performances in Texas before the show opened at Broadway's Palace Theater on April 18, 1994. The original cast included Susan Egan as Belle, Terrence Mann the Beast, and Tom Bosley of TV's *Happy Days* as Belle's father. The show broke box office records for single-day ticket sales and was nominated for nine 1994 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. *Beauty and the Beast* has been performed in 15 countries and 7 languages around the world. You won't want to miss this!



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*Everyone is encouraged to submit ideas, suggestions, news, and features to the editor.*

## Music is in the air!!

Fairlawn High School will be doing *The Music Man* on March 26-27-28 with some familiar faces in the barbershop quartet.

Lehman High School has their spring musical *All Shook Up* scheduled for March 25-26-27 and Ft. Loramie High School has their spring musical scheduled for March 26-27-28. March is going to be a very musical month.

Kevin Frazier-Jones will be directing *Pajama Game* at Sidney High School on April 8-9-10.

***The next S&B meeting will be held on Saturday, March 13 at 9 am***

## In memory of...

It seemed like we lost a lot of talented people in 2009, besides the likes of Michael Jackson, Walter Cronkite, Paul Harvey, Ed McMahon, John Updike, Ellie Greenwich, Mary Travers, Henry Gibson, Les Paul, Al Martino, and political celebrities Eunice Shriver and Ted Kennedy:

**Pat Hingle**, who portrayed Commissioner Gordon in the *Batman* movies, was a Tony-nominated actor who appeared on Broadway in such parts as Oscar Madison in *The Odd Couple* and Benjamin Franklin in *1776*.

**Patrick McGoohan**, seen on television in *The Prisoner*, was nominated for a Drama Desk award for *Pack of Lies* (1985)

**Ricardo Montalban** best remembered for his portrayal of Mr. Roarke on *Fantasy Island* and who was in one of my all-time favorite Esther Williams movies, *On an Island with You* (1948), was nominated for a Tony for Best Actor in a Musical for *Jamaica* in 1958.

**James Whitmore** who appeared in movies like *Tora, Tora, Tora* and *Shawshank Redemption* won a Tony for *Command Decision* in 1948

**Horton Foote** who adapted *To Kill a Mockingbird* for the screen, was a Tony-nominated writer and wrote *The Trip to Bountiful*.

**Ron Silver** appeared in many television shows and won a Tony for *Speed the Plow*.

**Natasha Richardson** won a Tony in the 1998 revival of *Cabaret* and a Theatre World Award for *Anna Christie*.

**Beatrice Arthur**, familiar to television audiences for *Maude* and *The Golden Girls*, won a Tony for *Mame* (1966).

**Dom DeLuise** was in *The Cannonball Run* and another of my favorites, *The Glass Bottom Boat*, and appeared on stage in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*.

**David Carradine**, known to many for his role in *Kung Fu*, received a Theatre World Award for *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*.

by Christi Thomas

**Farrah Fawcett**, famous as one of *Charlie's Angels*, appeared on Broadway in *Bobbi Boland*.

**Harve Presnell** was one of my all-time favorite singers and appeared on Broadway in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* and *Annie*.

**Karl Malden** was an Oscar-winning actor who appeared on Broadway in such shows as *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

**Patrick Swayze**, remembered for his roles in *Dirty Dancing* and *Ghost*, appeared on stage in *Chicago* and *Grease*.

**Soupy Sales**, comedian, appeared on stage in *Come Live With Me*.

**Lou Jacobi**, character actor on television, was seen on stage in such shows as *The Sunshine Boys* and *Don't Drink the Water*

**Carl Ballantine**, remembered for his character on *McHale's Navy*, appeared in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

**Edward Woodward**, one of my favorites as *The Equalizer*, appeared on Broadway in *High Spirits*.

**Gene Barry**, on my list from last month of television stars (*Bat Masterson* and *Burke's Law*) to Broadway star, was nominated for a Tony in *La Cage aux Folles*.

**Jennifer Jones**, who was famous for her portrayal on screen in *Song of Bernadette*, appeared on stage in *Portrait of a Lady*.

**Brittany Murphy**, actress known for her work on screen in *Clueless*, appeared in *A View from the Bridge* which won Best Revival of a Play and a Tony nomination for Allison Janney.

### You know you work in community theater if...

...you can find a prop in the prop room that hasn't seen the light of day in ten years, but you don't know where your own sweeper is.

...you have your own secret family recipe for stage blood.

...you've ever had to haul a sofa off stage in an evening dress and heels in the dark (and you're a guy)...or if that is your sofa and gets more stage time than you do.

...you get home from rehearsal and have to go back to the theater because you forgot your kids.

## TV Stars to Broadway

As an addendum to my article in the December issue of *The Marquee*, Debby Wentz (now at Olde Towne Hall Theatre) added Gary Sandy to the list. Known for his portrayal of Andy Travis in *WKRP in Cincinnati*, she saw him in *Grease* on stage and I also saw him in a Kenley Player production of *Barnum* at Memorial Hall in Dayton. His other stage credits include the Pirate King in *Pirates of Penzance* and Billy Flynn in *Chicago*.

But that also made me think of other television stars that I had seen at Kenley Players (John Kenley just passed away last fall at age 102). Ed Ames, who played Mingo on the old *Daniel Boone* television series, appeared on Broadway in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Carnival* and in Dayton in *Shenandoah*. Bill Bixby, known for *My Favorite Martian* and *The Incredible Hulk*, appeared in *The Boyfriend* and *Catch Me If You Can*. Dr. Kildare, Richard Chamberlin, appeared in *Private Lives*; Florence Henderson of *The Brady Bunch*, appeared in *South Pacific*; Barbara (*I Dream of Jeannie*) Eden, was in *Finian's Rainbow* (currently in revival on Broadway); Elizabeth Montgomery of *Bewitched* fame won a Theatre World Award for *Late Love*; and Dick York, also of *Bewitched*, appeared in *Bus Stop*.

And, yes, this list could go on, and on, and on, and on.....

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## Fill those seats

If we think we sometimes have trouble filling our seats for a performance, it seems that Broadway is no different. Last month in my article about TV stars performing on Broadway, I noted that some shows use big names to pull in an audience. In the October 25 *New York Times*, there was an article about Tony winner Neil Simon, 82, who had two revivals on Broadway with *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *Broadway Bound* running at the same time. The November 2 *New York Times* **then** reported that *Brighton Beach Memoirs* closed a week after it opened. The article noted there were no big stars, no marketing campaign, and no "wow" factor that brought the period piece to life. "People, for whatever reason, didn't want to see the Simon play about a Depression-era family." An article in the December 2 issue notes that theatergoers favor the big-brand musicals over newer, celebrity-free fare. Producers cite the abundance of shows currently playing as a major factor in the empty rows of seats.

For those of us who do community theater, we don't have the big-named stars, just the unsung heroes who volunteer to do one of the greatest jobs in the arts today, perform!

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## MEMBERSHIP / PATRON Form

S&B considers its members and patrons to be partners in all its artistic endeavors. To become a supporter, just fill out this form and return it to Sock & Buskin Community Theatre, P. O. Box 743, Sidney, Ohio, 45365 along with your check. Through your contributions, you are helping ensure that quality community theater is available for all. Patron contributions are tax deductible.

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- \$10 adult  
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 \$1000 and up - Tony Winner

\*voting members must be over 18 years of age

## Sock & Buskin Community Theatre

P.O. Box 743  
Sidney, OH 45365

### Return Service Requested

Established in 1974....Sock & Buskin Community Theatre is a volunteer group whose purpose is to produce, perform, and introduce theater to the community by utilizing local talent and resources.

**Sock & Buskin has received a \$1,100 grant from the Gateway Arts Council for the 2009-10 season.**

**S&B is proud to be a member of:**



and



**Sock & Buskin is funded in part by the Gateway Arts Council.**



## What to see...

**Bubba's Revenge**—January 13-Feb 28  
**Phantom**—March 4-May 2  
Lacomedia—800-677-9505

**Steel Magnolias**—March 19-28  
Dayton Playhouse—937-424-8477  
www.daytonplayhouse.org

**Wicked** – February 17-March 7  
Schuster Center – 888-228-3630

**All Shook Up** – March 9-21  
Victoria Theatre – 888-228-3630

**Romeo & Bernadette** – March 12-21  
Beavercreek Community Theatre  
937-429-4737—www.bctheatre.org

**Kimberly Akimbo** – Feb. 26-March 14  
Dayton Theatre Guild – 937-278-5993  
www.daytontheatreguild.org

**Bus Stop** – March 12-21  
**Little Prince** – April 16-18  
Amil Tellers – 419-223-8866  
www.amiltellers.org

## From Kent's kitchen...

### Three-Bean Beef Soup

*(for those cold winter nights)*

1# beef cubed steak, cut into 1-inch pieces

2 T margarine

1 can (28 oz) whole tomatoes

1 can (10¾ oz) beef broth

1 cup water

½ cup regular barley

¼ cup chopped onion

¼ t marjoram

1 pkg (10 oz) frozen baby lima beans

1 pkg frozen French-style green beans

1 can butter beans, drained

¼ cup grated Romano cheese

1½ t salt

¼ t thyme

Brown beef steak pieces in butter. Stir in tomatoes (with liquid), beef broth, water, barley, onion, salt, marjoram, and thyme. Heat to boiling; reduce heat; cover and simmer 50 minutes.

Stir in thawed lima beans and green beans. Heat to boiling; reduce heat; cover and simmer 10 minutes. Stir in butter beans; cover and simmer 10 minutes.

Sprinkle cheese on servings.