From the President...

Welcome Village Players Family,

At the end of August, my partner and I had the opportunity to see Wicked at the Stranahan Theatre. As I sat in the audience watching the show for the third time in my life, it struck me how different yet completely perfect this cast's rendition of the show was from my previous experiences. After the performance my phone rang. It was a friend who was working backstage at the show and she was practically bursting at the seams to tell me that Steven Schwartz was actually in the audience that evening. He came to Toledo, of all places, to see the tour perform his work.

I felt a great deal of pride that we in northwest Ohio have such a vibrant and diverse theatrical community; from the national tours at Stranahan and the Valentine, to the community theatres like The Rep and The Village. What's more, we've had no less than three other community theatre troupes form in the past few years; each one doing great work, and providing actors and techs a place to hone their craft.

In July of 2013 we launched The Upton Players — a summer theatre program for young people. They had a blast, and if you saw Anything Goes then you know just how much work they put into it. I was blown away by the talent of the young actors but it occurred to me that in addition to the Toledo School for the Arts, the theatre programs at Whitmer, Bowsher, Sylvania Northview, Saint Francis, Notre Dame, and many other high schools in the area are top notch. Seriously! The next time a friend tells you that their high school child is doing a play or musical, you should really go and see. You'll be amazed at skills and knowledge that our local drama teachers possess and impart.

It thrills me to know that our region enjoys and respects the theatrical arts enough to foster it in our schools, attract it in national companies, and support it in our community theatre. And it challenges me as an actor, a director, and a board member to bring the best quality theatre to you, our audience, as I possibly can.

So I want to thank you. Thank you for being a part of theatre and keeping it alive. And thank you for challenging us to do and be better. But now, we have a show to put on! So I will quote the man who inspired this letter, Steven Schwartz, from his show, Pippin ...

Join us ... We've got magic to do!

Jake Gordy
President
The Village Players Theatre presented its first play, The Great Sebastians, starring Rosemary Kahle and Edward C. Ames in 1957, in the Ottawa Hills High School. The original group performed in schools, churches and even in tents. The first musical, The Village Player's fifth production was Plain and Fancy, opened on February 25, 1958, in the Lincoln Hall at Collingwood Presbyterian Church. The show was directed by Arthur Lithgow, father of the television and movie star John Lithgow, and starred a whole cast of who's who in Toledo.

The Theatre stopped moving from site to site in 1960. We put down roots when we purchased this building and converted it from a church to a theater. That Theatre Board took a leap of faith when they agreed to pay $45,000 for the church. However, because of their faith in the future of the theatre and the city of Toledo, literally hundreds of plays and thousands of actors have crossed these boards.

In thankful recognition of the continuing support of our members and volunteers, The Village Players Theatre culminated its 50th season celebration with the successful Rhinestone Ball held at the Toledo Botanical Gardens on June 29, 2007. In the 51st season, the Board was pleased to provide new seating for our patrons. In our 52nd season we installed a new stage for our actors. This summer we have renovated our light and sound booths, redecorated our lobby, and gone digital with our ticketing system. These projects are the direct result of responsible management of monies earned through Sold Houses and special donations over the years.

The Village Players Theatre has no paid year-round staff — volunteers keep it running. We take great pride in this and invite you to join us as we continue to add to the history of an organization making a significant cultural difference to our community.
Can’t Get Enough of The Village Players?

Keep up with everything going on at The Village! You can follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see all of the upcoming productions and auditions, and behind-the-scenes pictures.
THE VILLAGE PLAYERS THEATRE
2740 Upton Ave.
Toledo Ohio
http://www.thevillageplayers.org

Last of the
Red Hot
Lovers

Book by
Neil Simon

Produced by special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc.

Produced by
Christopher Jagodzinski

Directed by
Carol Ann Erford

Set Design by
Rick Bush & Christopher Jagodzinski

Costume Design by
Sondra Henry

Sound Design by
Laura Crawford

Light Design by
Andrew C. Todd

There is one 15-minute intermission.

Note: Please set all cell phones and pagers to "off" or "vibrate."

Friends - $25 (cont.)
Thomas & Dottie Nortz
Gail Odneal & Mel Honig
Michael & Laura Omori
Judy Pfaffenberger
Mark & Jo Lyn Philippi
Robert Philips
Carl & Judy Pohl
Bob & Judy Rank
Mae Jo Ritchie
James & Mary Rooney

Harry P. Schulman
Sherman School Teachers
Dale Siefke
Bob & Barb Skinner
Bob & Pat Suttle
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Please be sure to let us know if your name has been omitted and we will correct future programs.

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Jean & Nobr Mills

Director's Circle - $250
Zac Gilley

Sponsors - $125
Curtis & Marilyn Black
Marlene & Ray Brinker
Marge Dembowski
Russ & Vicky Griggs
Laura Hanzi
Earnest & Nancy Hatfield
Herb Hoskins & Deb Rasmusson
Madge Levinson
Carol Matthews
Willard E. Misfeldt
Owens Illinois
Charles D. Shrader
Ray & Kathreen Simon
Cheryl Stough
Christopher & Laurie Towles

Patrons - $50
Sandra Ahrens
Harvard Armus
Marlene Bable
John & Nancy Burton
Thomas & Gisela Cain
Darlene & Robert Cook
Ryan McCarthy & Elizabeth Cottle
The Drotar Family
John & Carole Forte
Alvenia Crawford & Jack Wallington
Barbara Sayers & Paul Epstein
Wanda Foster
Duane “Dewey” Hall
David & Shelly Hopson
Bill & Shirley Justen
Ted & Janice Lang
Sam & Anna Lovalenti
John & Joan Malak
Mrs. Suzanne S. Moesser
John J. & Virginia Myers
Bill & Dorothy Nunemaker
Steve Cotner & Debby Peters
Robert & Joan Shreve
Bob & Marian Smith
Claus & Suzanne Stang
Jim & Barb Sullivan
Rev. James Van Brussel
Larry Von Kuster & Teresa Roth
Brigitte Wagener
David & Carol Zenk
Marilyn Agee
Brenda Blackshear
George & Kayrl Boos
Ron Brennan
Cheryl & Dwight Bryan
Charles & Jane Case
Lisa & Michael Clark
Terry & Barbara Cooper
Ted & Billie Dennison
Richard Dockett
Sally Ferguson
James Garbers
Nancy Ibarra
Mary Jane Joehlin
Edward & Nancy Kelley
Charlotte Lauer
Maryruth Mabbitt
Ila Maurer
Philip & Rebecca Miller
Jane Miller
Barb Myers
Barney Cashman.......................................................... Zac Gilley
Elaine Navazio.......................................................... Aggie Alt
Bobbi Michele .......................................................... Emily Remaklus
Jeanette Fisher .......................................................... Cindy Bilby

Setting
Time: Contemporary, 1960s
Place: An apartment in New York's East Thirties.

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Production Staff

Director: ................................................................. Carol Ann Erford
Producer: ............................................................. Christopher Jagodzinski
Stage Manager: ...................................................... Kari Kapszukiewicz & Elizabeth Piel-Black
Lighting Design: ......................................................... Andrew C. Todd
   Light Crew: ............................................................ James Harris
Sound Design: ............................................................ Laura Crawford
   Sound Crew: .............................................................. Marc Malley
Costume Design: ........................................................ Sondra Henry
Props Gatherers: ....................................................... Brad Riker
Stage Crew: ................................................................. Tim Keogh
Set Design: ............................................................... Rick Bush & Christopher Jagodzinski
Set Dressing: ............................................................. Brad Riker
Set Construction: ........................................................ Rick Bush
   Assistant: ................................................................. Schyler Graham
Painters & Dutchers ................................................... Brad Riker
House Manager: ........................................................ Ann Veasey
Box Office Manager: .................................................... Ann Veasey
Box Office Staff: ......................................................... Kimberley Bruggemann, Pam Engle, Dan Finkel, Sandy Fry,
   Jake Gordy, Darlene Hatfield, Sue Holliger, Patty Hoover,
   Christopher Jagodzinski, Debbie Marinik,
   Jean Mills, Susan Rice, Sara Speelman
Publicity: ................................................................. Christopher Jagodzinski
Program: ................................................................. Jake Gordy
Program Art & Cover Design: ..................................... Christopher Jagodzinski
Production Logo: ....................................................... Christopher Jagodzinski
Program Printing: .................................................... AIM Specialists
Marquee Sign: .......................................................... Jake Gordy & Christopher Jagodzinski
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Theatre Photographer: ............................................... Frank Venda

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The Director

Carol Ann Erford (Director) is very pleased to be directing again at The Village. What better way to start off a season of comedies than with Neil Simon. This show is dear to her heart, as she once played Elaine. Last seen at The Village in Born Yesterday, she hopes to hit the stage soon as an actor. Let’s hope someone will give this old gal a role. She last directed Fox on the Fairway at the Toledo Rep last season. Previous to that, she directed From Up Here, last season’s Village Players opener. Please enjoy this wonderful heartfelt comedy, and go home with a smile on your face.

The Cast

Zac Gilley (Barney Cashman) is thrilled to be on the stage at The Village Players once again after taking some time to gain experience working behind the scenes. In addition to acting, he can be found in the sound and light booth as well as stage managing. His notable roles include Leonato in Much Ado About Nothing, Vincent in Inventing Van Gogh, Moriarty in Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure, and Cohen in The Underpants. He’s also an accomplished writer, with his poetry installed as part of the sidewalk in front of the Great Lakes Maritime Museum at the Toledo Skyway Marina. As always, he wishes to dedicate his performance to his parents, Jerry and Sharon, who have always encouraged him to do what he loves and to all of his former directors for believing in him and giving him the chance to grow as an actor.

Aggie Alt (Elaine Navazio) has been doing theatre here in Toledo since her college days, where she earned her Master’s degree in the Performing Arts at BGSU. She has been privileged to be able to do theatre throughout her life, including owning a dinner theatre in Virginia Beach and directing a show for Jim Wann (of Pump Boys and Dinettes fame) at the Kennedy Center, as well as performing and directing at the Rep and Village Players, and acting in one show at the Valentine. She is currently acting as the Community Awareness Director for the Seagate Food Bank.
Emily Remaklus (Bobbi Michele) is very excited to be performing in her first Village Players’ production. She is a recent graduate from Bowling Green State University’s theatre department. While at BGSU, she performed with Treehouse Troupe Children’s Theatre and The Humanities Troupe. As well as performing onstage, she has performed in numerous student and local films. Emily would like to thank her family, friends, The Village Players, and everyone who has come to see the show.

Cindy Bilby (Jeanette Fisher) is delighted to make Last of the Red Hot Lovers her first show at The Village. Recent credits include include Louise Seger in Always ... Patsy Cline opposite Lisa Layne at Sandusky’s State Theater, Diana in Next to Normal at Harlequins in Sandusky, the title role in Becky Shaw in the Rep’s Edgy Reading series, and Gooch in Auntie Mame on the Toledo Repertoire’s mainstage. Although her career has been in law and county government, Cindy earned a B.F.A. in Acting from Ohio University in 1992.

Fundraising Opportunities at The Village Players

Would you like information on Sold-House opportunities at The Village Players Theatre? How your group, church, or other organization can purchase a performance and raise money through ticket sales?

Musical Sold-Houses are $800.00 per show; standard plays are $700.00 per show. The theater seats 165 patrons. You determine the ticket price for your show and how much profit you make! A punch reception is provided at no additional cost. Show dates are limited.

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**The Village Players’ 2013–2014 57th Season**

**Last of the Red Hot Lovers** (Comedy)
by Neil Simon  
Directed by: Carol Ann Erford  
September 6-21, 2013  
Samuel French

Middle-aged and married, overworked and overweight, Barney Cashman wants to join the sexual revolution before it’s too late and arranges three seductions: the first, Elaine Navazio proves to be a foul-mouthed bundle of neuroses; Bobbi Michele is next, a 20-ish actress who’s too kooky by half; finally comes September and Jeanette Fisher, a gloomy, depressed housewife who happens to be married to Barney’s best friend.

**Lettice and Lovage** (Comedy)
by Peter Shaffer  
Directed by: Jeffrey Albright  
November 1-16, 2013  
Harper and Row

Lettice Duffet, an expert on Elizabethan cuisine and medieval weaponry, is an indefatigable but daffy enthusiast of history and the theatre. As a tour guide at Fustian House, one of the least stately of London’s stately homes, she theatrically embellishes its historical past, ultimately coming up on the radar of Lotte Schon, an inspector from the Preservation Trust. Neither impressed or entertained by Lettice’s freewheeling history lessons, Schon fires her. Not one however, to go without a fight, Lettice engages the stoic, conventional Lotte in battle to the death of all that is sacred to the Empire and the crown. This hit by the author of Equus and Amadeus featured a triumphant award-winning performance by Dame Maggie Smith in London and on Broadway.

**Queen of Bingo** (Comedy)  
by Jeanne Michels and Phyllis Murphy  
Directed by: Jake Gordy  
January 10-25, 2014  
Auditions: Sat., Oct. 12, 2013 noon-4pm & Sun., Oct. 13, 2013 noon-4pm  
Dramatists Play Service

Where can two sisters on the other side of fifty, who want to add a little zest, fun and excitement to their lives, find it? Bingo! On any Bingo night at St. Joseph’s, you can find Father Mac, Lonnie and Cindy Conklin, Marge Meranski, Coach Anderson, and the many off beat, colorful regulars we meet through the eyes of

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**The Liar** (Comedy)  
by Pierre Corneille  
Translation by David Ives  
Directed by: Barbara Barkan  
March 7-22, 2014  
Auditions: Sun., Dec. 15, 2013 noon-3pm & Mon., Dec. 16, 2013 7pm-9pm  
Dramatists Play Service

Paris, 1643. Dorante is a charming young man newly arrived in the capital, and he has but a single flaw: He cannot tell the truth. In quick succession he meets Cliton, a manservant who cannot tell a lie, and falls in love with Clarice, a charming young woman whom he unfortunately mistakes for her friend Lucrece. What our hero regrettably does not know is that Clarice is secretly engaged to his best friend Alcippe. Nor is he aware that his father is trying to get him married to Clarice, whom he thinks is Lucrece, who actually is in love with him. From all these misunderstandings and a series of breathtakingly intricate lies springs one of the Western world’s greatest comedies, a sparkling urban romance as fresh as the day Pierre Corneille wrote it, brilliantly adapted for today by All in the Timing’s David Ives.

**Proposals** (Comedy)  
by Neil Simon  
Directed by: Wes Skinner  
May 9-24, 2014  
Auditions: Sat., Feb. 22, 2014 4pm-8pm & Sun., Feb. 23, 2014 4pm-8pm  
Samuel French

This elegiac memory play delightfully recalls the last time the Hines family gathered at their retreat in the Poconos. The summer of 1953 brings romantic entanglements that coalesce one idyllic afternoon; Burt Hines, mid-50’s and convalescing from a second heart attack, eagerly anticipates the arrival of the ex-wife he still loves. Daughter Josie has just broken her engagement to a Harvard law student and pines for his buddy Ray, an aspiring writer with whom she once had a brief fling. Clemma, the black housekeeper at the center of the action casts a astute eye on the complications while facing with her own unresolved past.