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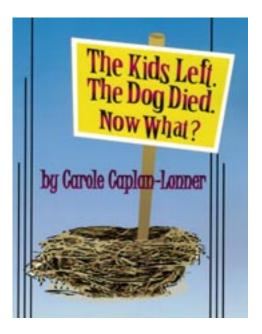
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BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE

Now in its 91st year Presents



By Carole Caplan-Lanner

September 28, 29, 30, and October 5, 6, 7 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Matinees:
September 30 and October 1, 7, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre 1225 Fourth Street, Beloit WI.

Produced by arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. 45th W. 25th Street New York, NY 10010 **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

When choosing a musical to direct, I try to find one that will not only strike a chord pardon the pun! - with the audience but also with the actors, crew, and myself as director. After reading and listening to several scripts and musical scores, I came across The Kids Left. The Dog Died. Now What? and instantly knew that I had found the one. The Kids Left. The Dog Died. Now What? is a humorous and heartwarming musical that explores the lives of several baby boomers as they enter their golden years. Through short sketches and songs, the show looks at the day-to-day concerns of the over-fifty "empty nester" crowd including everything from retirement, AARP, and grandparenting to plastic surgery, ever-changing technology, and the aches and pains associated with getting older. After retiring recently, I could definitely relate to many of those topics and knew that the majority of our audience, cast, and crew would too. Putting a musical together definitely requires teamwork, and I have had the pleasure of working with an exceptional cast and crew! Thanks to the cast for their dedication and hard work over the last two months. Also, special thanks to Adam Drefs, the musical director, and Christy Munch, the choreographer, for their artistic talents. In addition, thanks to Loren Sass, Peter and Doris Tropp, and Rod McFall for all of their technical expertise. Finally, special thanks to my stage manager, Les Blumreich. I wouldn't do a show without you!

Now, please sit back, enjoy the show, and keep the following quotes in mind about the beauty of aging.

Aging is not 'lost youth' but a new stage of opportunity and strength. - Betty Friedan

The longer I live, the more beautiful life becomes. - Frank Lloyd Wright

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.
- Abraham Lincoln

Count your age by friends, not years. Count your life by smiles, not tears.
- John Lennon

BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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|--|----------------|
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| Mike Fallon, Dee Fischer, Mary Mowers, Lisa Scholten, Susar | n Smith, |
| Peter Tropp and Sydney Winchester. | |

PLEASE NOTE

Refreshments will be available during the intermission. All proceeds go to the Beloit Civic Theatre Helen Hayes Teed Scholarship Fund. Each year awards are given to students going on after high school to study theatre arts or communications.

Please be aware that Beloit Memorial High School is a "non-smoking" facility. Please respect the school policy and state law and refrain from smoking on school grounds.

No photography is allowed during performance.

Please turn off ringing cell phones during performance.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please leave your name, address, and phone number with one of the volunteers at the ticket tables in the lobby. Address changes may also be given to one of our lobby personnel.

Please check out our website at www.beloitcivictheatre.org

Gift certificates are available for the entire season or for individual shows. They make wonderful gifts for all occasions. If interested, contact our box office at (608) 362-1595.

TIME TO SAY FAREWELL TO THE SASSES:



Fifty-five years ago, Diane and I moved to Beloit fresh out of college to begin our teaching careers. Within a few weeks of our arrival, Betty Reinholz contacted me and encouraged me to get involved in the Beloit Civic Theatre. As a first-year teacher at Lincoln Junior High

School, I somehow found the time to appear in all three shows that first season. Just the other week, someone commented on remembering my portrayal of the eccentric whooping crane expert in *Mating Dance* back in the fall of 1968. When I took over the position of high school theatre director in 1976, my time was more limited and I only occasionally acted in a production. When I retired in 2002, I joined the BCT board again and became more involved doing directing, acting, set design/construction, reservations and a long list of other things. Diane and I are heading to Minneapolis to live closer to family. Our years in Beloit have been filled with amazing friends and wonderful memories. Thanks for being a part of this one. – Loren

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Beloit Memorial High School Theatre Department

Thank you to a few special people who recorded the answering machine messages used in the show: Esther Wallendal, Pat Hoye, Simon Wallendal, Shannon Woods, Doris Tropp, Miles Wisdom, Rebecca Wallendal, Alex McNall

> Thanks to the cookie bakers from last spring's production of The Kitchen Witches:

Kathy Vogel, Marlene Skinkle and the members of our Board of Directors.

Thanks to Piggly Wiggly in Beloit for the loan of the grocery baskets.

THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

Elizabeth Armstrong David Bitter Larisa Chmielewski Jamie Dalton Christian Foss Stacy McNall

THE SETTING

Act I

Now What?

Who Says Progress is Good?

Doctors

Firsts

Headlights / Tail Lights

I Got A Case

Doctors (Reprise)

Everybody's Got a Cheap Spot

Sandwich Generation

It's Not a Date

There will be a twelve-minute intermission between the acts. Enjoy refreshments in the lobby.

Act II

Now What? (Reprise) If You Want to Stay Married Things I Wish I Could Forget Doctors (Reprise 2) Perfect Bliss Computer Chat AARPCasserole Stroll New Firsts

Now What?



Elizabeth Armstrong

WHO'S WHO

Elizabeth Armstrong Elizabeth serves on the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, where she has served as Costume Designer for the last few years. On stage, Elizabeth appeared in Nunsense: A Musical Comedy and also in Something's Afoot for BCT. She has also appeared in many other area theatres: Chippewa Valley Theater Guild, Menomonie Valley Theater Guild, Woodstock Musical Theater, Lakeland Players, Spotlight on Kids, and Theater Unlimited in such productions as Barnum, The King and I, Quilters, Oliver, Mame, Fiddler on The Roof, Carousel, Camelot, Sweet Charity, Mary Poppins and more. Elizabeth is a social worker for Beloit Regional Hospice, and she is married to husband, Brian; they have 2 daughters and 5 beautiful grandchildren. Elizabeth says, "I love to sing! I have found a real home in the theater. Besides being on stage, I love to make costumes and have costumed shows like The Rocky Horror Picture Show and Hello, Dolly!" Elizabeth would like to thank her very supportive husband who "...puts up with my hours of practice. Thank you for your patience when I turn our home into costume making shop or borrow your stuff for props!"



David Ritter

David Bitter David has appeared in many Beloit Civic Theatre productions including Bus Stop, Over the River and Through the Woods, Arsenic and Old Lace, Of Thee I Sing, Moonlight and Magnolias, and Lend Me a Tenor. For Theatre Unlimited, he appeared in Oliver, My Fair Lady, Music Man, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Jesus Christ Superstar, Camelot and Guys on Ice. David also performed in several radio shows at the Janesville Performing Arts Center: The War of the Worlds, The Miracle on 34th Street, It's a Wonderful Life and A Christmas Story. He is a retired pharmacist, is married to his wife, Kathleen, and they have 3 children, Aly, Josh and Emma. His hobbies consist of golf, playing the guitar, and enjoying music, books and movies.



Jamie Dalton

Jamie Dalton A few seasons ago, Jamie appeared in *Working* and *A Thousand Clowns* for Beloit Civic Theatre. He also appeared in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* and *Mary Poppins* for Spotlight on Kids, and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and *My Fair Lady* for Theatre Unlimited. Jamie works as a

Thomas and Carol Harman

Mary Alice Harris

Peggy Helwig

Richard and Charlotte Johnson

Elizabeth Johnston

Jeff and Susan Johnson

John Kalkirtz

Karen Kavanaugh

Billie Kenitzer

Jeneane Kiser and Terry Wilson

Frank Kollins and Carol Fox

Joe and Traci Kreitzmann

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Larry and Carol Sue LeVeque

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Donovan and Irma Murphy

Barbara Seguin and Dennis Murphy

Roger and Jean Neitzel

Royden and Lina Nelson

Kay and Kendall Nordstrom

Pamela Olson

Wayne and Phyllis Orrison

Betty Ortman

Bob Parrish and Twyla LaGrange

Jerry and Marge Peterson

Butch and Joanne Pickett

Louie and Bonnie Pody

Kathy Pohl

Brian and Theresa Popple

Joycelyn and Charles Ramsden

Earl and Linda Roberts

John and Barbara Sabaka

Bert Sadler

Judy Schellenberger

Sandy and Bob Schendel

Barbara Schlegel

Wayne and Joann Schulenburg

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Annie Collins

Rob Connor and John Draeger

Betty and Nathan Dygart

Hans & Connie Fleissner

Mike and Joanne Foss

Jane Fossum

BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE ANGELS

Beloit Civic Theatre wishes to thank the following members for their additional financial contributions to the theatre. If there are any errors or omissions in this list of supporters, please call Loren Sass at 608-201-3084. This list was compiled on September 6th, so if your name is not listed, we may have received your donation after that date. Thanks again to all of you for your generous support! The following donors have contributed over \$10,000 towards our operating budget this year.

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Donors from \$25 to \$99 Cecilia (Cissy) Frendahl

Carol Fryar Anonymous (18) Julie Gram Diana Alheid Monica Hady Dennis and Carol Alt Carolyn Hamilton Marietta Axmear

robotics technician at the Chrysler Corporation, is married to wife, Heidi, and they have 3 daughters, Abigail, Emmette and Sutton, ranging in age from 3 to 15...also a pit bull, Luna. When he is not working or appearing on stage, Jamie coaches his daughter's 4 and 5-year-old girls' soccer team.



Larisa Chmielewski

Larisa Chmielewski A long time actor for Beloit Civic Theatre, Larisa has appeared in *Mame*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Company*, Nunsense, She Loves Me, Something's Afoot, Singin' in the Rain, and Dames at Sea; her very first show with BCT was Showboat in 1992. For Theatre Unlimited, Larisa appeared in Annie, for Spotlight on Kids, Godspell, and at Carroll College, in Jesus Christ Superstar. Larisa works at the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. She is married to her husband, Adam, and they have 2 children, Cal and Isaac, both of whom are actors in the Turner schools. Larisa enjoys gardening, travelling, spending time and going to see theatre with family. Larisa is happy to be back at Beloit Civic Theatre which she thinks of as "her second family".



Christian Foss

Christian Foss Another returnee to Beloit Civic Theatre. Christian is the son of former board member, Mike Foss. Christian appeared in Cinderella, See How They Run, The Princess and the Pea, Camelot and Showboat for BCT. Christian works as Sales Support Manager at Blue Bunny Ice Cream. He is married to his wife, Amy, and has 2 daughters, Adeline and Olivia. He enjoys golf and travel, and of this experience, he says, "It's been 25 years since I've been on stage, but I've spent a lot of time in front of people since then, leading corporate sales trainings."



Stacv McNall

Stacy McNall A few years ago, Stacy appeared for Beloit Civic Theatre in Baby, Working, Company and Tally's Folly. Stacy also worked as Director for Spotlight on Kids for 17 years in over 35 productions, where she also appeared in Oliver, Annie and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Stacy works as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Journey Mental Health Center in Madison. Her family consists of her husband, Grant, and their 4 kids, Alex, Aidan, Ainsleigh and August along with their 4 dogs, Benny, Beau, Jack and Winnie. Stacy (when not taking care of 4 dogs! :) enjoys painting, reading and baking.



Christy Munch (Choreographer)

Christy Munch (Choreographer) Christy lives in Beloit with her husband and two dogs and comes to the area with over twenty-five years of experience in the Chicago area as a dancer, performer, independent choreographer, dance educator and costume designer. She trained in jazz dance under Gus Giordano, was a member of the Hedwig Dance Company and outreach program, a founding member of Chicago's NEXT Dance Festival, and a primary dancer in several pieces by Timothy Buckley, two of which were performed at Jacob's Pillow and Dance Theatre Workshop in NYC. While Christy worked in Chicago as a dance artist, her work was reviewed by the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Sun Times, the Chicago Reader and Dance Magazine. Recently, she has focused on creating opportunities for adults to enjoy dance as a serious art form or for its fitness and social benefits. She has performed various roles in the Rockford Dance Company's productions of The Nutcracker, Cinderella, and Sleeping Beauty, and served as Rehearsal Assistant for the same. She teaches Adult Ballet and Adult Jazz at the Rockford Dance Company and BeMoved Dance Fitness and Yoga Stretch at the Janesville Athletic Club. Christy will retire from a twenty-three-year career as a public-school teacher this year!



Adam Drefs
(Musical Director/
Accompanist)



Rob Connor (Director)

Adam Drefs (Musical Director/Accompanist) Adam appeared in Beloit Civic Theatre's last season's production of *Being Earnest*, and previously in *Pump Boys and Dinettes* for BCT where he also served as Musical Director and Accompanist for *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*. He also performed for Chapel on the Hill in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Seussical, Fiddler on the Roof* and *Godspell*. In addition, he directed and/or served as pianist for Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella, The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* and *The Addams Family* at Delavan-Darien High School. Adam works as a private voice and piano teacher and is an aspiring Christian content creator. His family consists of his wife, Lily, his parents, Annette and Matt and many siblings, nieces, and nephews. In his spare time, Adam enjoys "Pathfinder", a roleplaying game.

Rob Connor (Director) Rob has appeared in and directed several shows for Beloit Civic Theatre since first appearing for BCT in 1992 as Captain Andy in *Showboat*. Also, our audiences were

treated in BCT's 90th season, to his performance in *The Outsider* along with *Kitchen Witches* which he directed. In addition, Rob appeared for BCT in *Sylvia, Greater Tuna, She Loves Me, Cinderella, Little Shop of Horrors, Baby,* and *Laura*. He appeared as The Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz* and Mr. Banks in *Mary Poppins* for Spotlight on Kids. Rob recently retired after 33 years in education as a teacher, academic learning coach, and principal. Rob and his partner, John, live in Janesville with their three dogs, Zeke, Eli, and Adah.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

| Director |
|--|
| Music Director |
| Choreographer |
| Stage ManagerLes Blumreich |
| Set DesignLoren Sass |
| Set ConstructionLes Blumreich, Deb Burns, Joe Colletta, Mike Fallon |
| Shannon Fie, Mike Foss, Jackie Johnston, Max Joos, Dawn Kabor |
| Tom Lepinski, Richard McFall, Rod McFall, Kristina Miller, Savvas Mourtzis |
| Gwen Rusmisel, Loren Sass, Bob Strecker, James Wolfe |
| Lighting and SoundPeter Tropp |
| CostumesElizabeth Armstrong, Mary Mowers, Rebecca Wallenda |
| Properties and Running Crew Lily DrefsMary Easland, Dawn Kabon |
| Rod McFall, Karen McSorley, Doris Tropp |
| Make-up DesignSydney Wincheste |



AUDITIONS FOR THE WINTER SHOW

Auditions for *Steel Magnolias* directed by Matthew Tiritilli will be held on November 13th and 14th at 7 p.m. at the theatre. Performance dates are January 25, 26, 27, and February 1, 2, 3, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on January 27, 28, and February 3 at 3:00 p.m. The script requires 6 females of various ages. Please contact Matthew if you are interested in auditioning but cannot be

present at either of the above audition dates. (608-295-7178) or mftiritilli80@gmail.com.

You may request to be added to our actor database if interested. Postcards announcing auditions are mailed before each show's auditions. Just give your name, phone number and postal mailing address to anyone working in the lobby or e-mail us at: beloitcivictheatre@gmail.com