



# the PROMPTER

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT

OCTOBER 2012



by Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler

And you thought YOUR mother was overbearing? Wait until you see Momma Rose.

The classic Broadway hit "Gypsy" hits the VP stage for two weekends this November 9, 10, 16, and 17 at 8pm with matinees at 2pm on November 11 and 18. This show has it all: beloved songs, classic dance numbers, as well as sharp-witted and hilarious dialogue. But at its core, "Gypsy" is the story of a determined mother bringing up her daughters.

The show is based on the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee, the famous striptease artist. It's the Roaring '20s and Momma Rose (Priscilla Adams) is determined to turn her daughter, Baby June (Maggie May Shaw), into a star. Whether she is begging her Pop (Dan Charlton) for money or black mailing theater managers to score a featured slot in a show, Momma Rose will go to any lengths to achieve her goal. Meanwhile, daughter Louise (Olivia Guibitose) is relegated to the background, playing a newsboy, sewing costumes and trying to keep the peace as the family travels between second rate vaudeville shows.

Along the way, the thrice-married Momma meets Herbie (Wayne Gehman), who becomes the manager of the act and with whom she strikes up a complicated relationship. As Baby June grows up and becomes Dainty June (Randi Talbot) she becomes increasingly weary

of her mother's overbearing ways and decides to run off with Tulsa, one of the back up dancers (Mike Leonetta). The heartbroken, reluctant and now-adolescent Louise (Kaylin Dean) becomes the focus of Momma's quest for fame. The troupe's act is refurbished to feature Louise and limps along, despite rapidly disappearing opportunities and appetites for vaudeville-style performances.



Momma's determination is momentarily tested when Herbie inadvertently books the act into a house of burlesque, and that's when things get interesting!

The cast also includes Meghan Schmiermund as Miss Mazzepa, Tori Neal as Electra and Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler as Tessie Tura. The newsboys and other young performers are Jackson Boudman, Elliott Giessler, Nolan Urquhart, Lucia Miller, Abigail Wenczkowski, Jenni Talbot, and Mary Gubitose. The "farm boys" are Billy



Pomerleau, John Findlay, Vinny Amico and Corey Hale. Hollywood blondes include Crystal Lauer, Mandy Ferriman and Emily Ayers. Other supporting roles are

played by Rick Tessari, Robin Charland, Steve Curtis, Russ Ellis, Don Hargy, Barbara Curtis, Norm Rautenberg, Joyce Wood, Hilde Talbot, Helen Rautenberg, Jessica Reinert, Carol Cloutier and Jim Adams.

Of course, this large and talented cast cannot do it all. The production team for "Gypsy" being lead by co-directors Carol Bense and Jay Sydow. Music director is Keith Belanger with Kaylin Dean as

1.

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# The Railing Project

by Christian Boudman

The Village Players, currently enjoying it's 35th season staging top-notch amateur theater productions for the Lakes Region of NH, continues the ongoing renovation of its beautiful circa 1888 playhouse located just off Main Street in downtown



Wolfeboro. As long-time Village Players' members and patrons are aware, this project began when the building was

purchased from the Freemasons in 1995. Renovation of the 200 seat, air-conditioned venue has been undertaken in phases over the years, funded mostly through the generous donations of area residents and organizations and the labor of countless tireless volunteers.

As "The Players" busily rehearse for this year's fall musical, Styne and Sondheim's *Gypsy*, the group moves forward with its building renovations. Current projects include the installation of insulation in the roof and walls and improvements to the electrical system. In addition, several coats of fresh paint have just been added to the facade of the theater which overlooks Glendon Street. One last finishing touch will be the sanding and painting of the iron railings enclosing the portico leading to the box office. The railings are prominent features of the entryway and, besides being a safety feature, are literally touched by the approximately 3,000 annual theater-goers each time they buy tickets or attend a show. The Village Players Board of Directors is actively seeking donations to complete this \$2800.00 project. Any generous individuals interested in chipping in to fund this important task can mail checks to The Village Players Railing Project, PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894. Questions or comments should be directed to Village Players Board of Directors President, Diane Mork (569-5726), or any current board member. Feel free to visit the Village Players website for more information: [www.village-players.com](http://www.village-players.com).

## VP BITS

news about members etc.

Exciting news from **Lisa Rose Penny** and husband **Greg** - they will be welcoming TWINS into the world, a boy and a girl. **Grammy Sherry and Grampa Keith Hoover** look thrilled in the facebook photos.



And the latest addition to our extended family has arrived, Miss Sophia Brennon, daughter of **Kim and Chris Brennon**. Here she is.

If you have news about current or former Village Players, please forward it to [cwbense@roadrunner.com](mailto:cwbense@roadrunner.com).

## Be in a Music Video

by Tina Maxfield

I am looking for 2 actors for my new music video –entitled “I Will See You Again”—to play a mother and son. The mother has lost her soldier son in the war; he decided to serve his country at very young age. The script calls for a scene wherein she is sitting at her kitchen table, having a cup of tea, alone. Suddenly her handsome son appears through the door, in his uniform, smiling at her. Or is it her son? She felt a little breeze, although the windows are closed, warm like a caress. In the 2nd scene, the mother visits the son's gravesite and places one of his favorite toys from childhood at his tombstone. She grieves as she remembers. The son's spirit appears again and gives her a hug, smiles and disappears. Mother smiles and touches her face; he was there wasn't he? This will be one of 4 vignettes to accompany my new song. WCTV and I hope to launch this on YouTube late this fall.

My first music video entitled “O Lord” video has accumulated over 1,000 hits in the year it has been on You Tube. WCTV entered “O Lord” in several community TV film festivals and it has received 2 awards; one regionally and the other a national award. We hope to finish “I Will See You Again” soon and launch it on YouTube this fall. We hope for a similar or even better response to this new music video!

Please take a look at “O Lord” using the link below or by simply going to YouTube and putting my name- Tina Maxfield- in the search. I sincerely hope that you enjoy this music video. If you do, please send it to your friends and family. I love to watch the hits add up and up! I am proud to report that many people have gotten back to me to tell me how much they have liked it and that the lyrics and sentiments have truly spoken to them.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ktDCtCC4E5M>

## Kingswood Presenting *The Music Man*

by Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler

Can't get enough classic Broadway musicals this fall? Don't miss Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* presented by Kingswood Theater. This show stars students from high school and middle school with guest appearances by the Kingswood faculty and Crescent Lake students. The show runs November 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 7PM and November 11 at 2PM at the Kingswood Arts Center. For more information or tickets visit [kingswoodtheater.com](http://kingswoodtheater.com)



## ATHENA IS ON BROADWAY!

by Russ Ellis

Premiering October 17, 18 and 19 on Broadway - one of our own. You may know her as "Pestilence" (*A Christmas Carol* 1999) or "Delightful" (*Dearly Departed* 2006) or "Laurie" (*Oklahoma!* 2008) or you may also know her from her stage crew work on *The Foreigner* (2003) or as the stage manager for *Don't drink the Water* (2009) and *Almost, Maine* (2011) or a lot of other shows she's been involved with. But, most of us remember her as Athena Ellis, that little kid who was always there.

Athena will be Stage Manager for "The 23 Annual NY Cabaret Convention", three shows at Lincoln Center starting October 17th and running through the 19th. Yes, that Lincoln Center, the one at the intersection of Broadway and 60th St., New York City.

Athena has been studying at Hofstra University for the past three plus years. She has been pursuing a BFA in theater production, with her goal being to become a professional stage manager. She spent last summer as the "Company Manager" for Shakespeare in the Valley, producing and stage managing five shows a week for them. Her mother and father are very proud of her.

(As are we all. Go, Athena.)

*Gypsy* continued from page 1

choreographer. Cate Poole is the assistant director and Producer is Russ Ellis. Keeping the show running backstage will be stage manager, Megan Rohrbacher with her crew of Hilde and Brian Talbot, Josh Spaulding, James Adams, Donna Findlay, Robin Charland and Joyce Wood. The multitude of costumes will be created by Diane Sullivan, Dee Graham and Willie Mork. Corky Mork will design and operate the lighting. Publicity is in the capable hands of Josh Spaulding.



Tickets will be \$15, available in early October from Black's Paper and Gifts on Main Street in Wolfeboro or on-line at [www.village-players.com](http://www.village-players.com).

## Let's Keep the Theater Going

by Jay Sydow

As you know the Village Players Theater was built in 1886. It needs a lot of repair and maintenance. The Board hired out the dangerously high painting. It is done now and looks great. Now we need volunteers to complete the job. We really need to pressure the sides of the building and painting wood. before priming all the exposed wood.



We would love to get some last minute fall items wrapped up before the snow starts to fly. Jerome has set up three work days so we can take care of a few loose ends.

Please set these Saturday dates aside. 10/6, 10/13 and 10/20 from 9:00 to 3:00. Besides the priming and painting, We need shelves built inside for costume storage, a vent put in the stage attic, a short run of rain gutters installed and hotwire ice melt systems installed on the front of the building.

You don't have to make a day of it, a couple of hours would be a huge help. It's always something with a building, especially an old building, but if each of you could give just one or two hours, we could get the jobs done.

## CONTACT US...

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

**Web site:** [www.village-players.com](http://www.village-players.com)

**Email:** [info@village-players.com](mailto:info@village-players.com)

### 2012 Village Players Board

<b>President -</b>	Diane Mork.....	569-5726
<b>Vice President -</b>	Russ Ellis.....	569-9218
<b>Secretary -</b>	Theresa Crowell.....	522-2138
<b>Treasurer -</b>	Hilde Talbot.....	569-1006
<b>Members at Large -</b>	Jay Sydow.....	875-6792
	Christian Boudman (2yrs).....	569-3484
	Michael Wilkes (2yrs).....	569-4814
	Jerome Holden (1yr).....	569-0078
	Deb Jones (1yr).....	496-7522

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 special membership deals.

Contact Carol Bense - [cwbense@roadrunner.com](mailto:cwbense@roadrunner.com) or 569-1396 - if you have changes in your address or email, or if you are unsure about your membership status.

#### *Newsletter Committee*

Carol Bense      Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler      Jay Sydow

#### *Art Production*

Carol Bense



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### ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

Our Annual Meeting and Election will be held November 11, 2012 right after the matinee - 5:30 potluck. Anyone who paid dues for 2012 before April 1, 2012 is entitled to vote at the annual meeting. To find out if you are a voting member, go to <http://www.village-players.com/membership/Members063012.pdf>. Look for your name and then look in the 2012 column. If the date you paid your dues is before April 1, 2012, you are eligible to vote.

The following members have agreed to run for office:

President - Megan Rohrbacher; Vice President - Jerome Holden, Jay Sydow; Secretary - Cate Poole; Treasurer - Hilde Talbot; Two-year Members at Large - Deb Jones, Corky Mork, Priscilla Adams, Jim Adams. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

Please come to the meeting to vote and/or enjoy the company of your fellow members. (Our pot-lucks are rated 5 stars)