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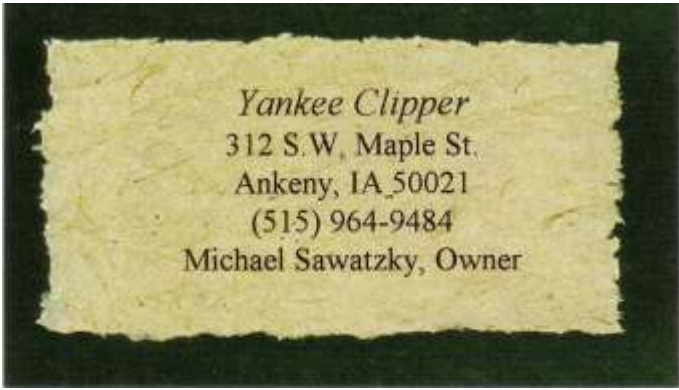
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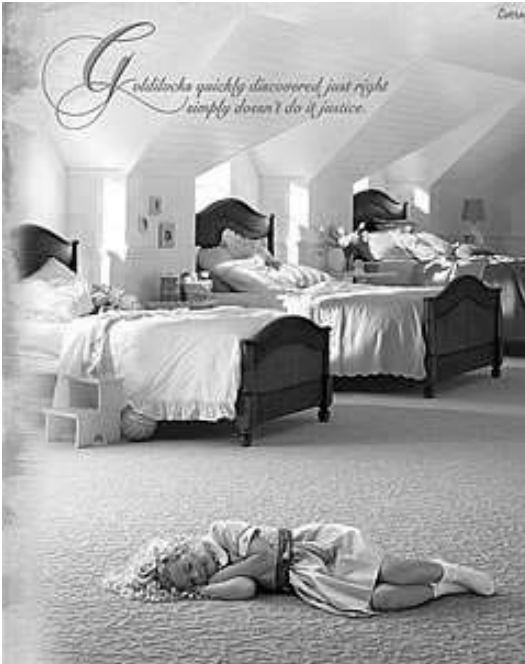
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Director's Notes

One of the most amusing things about *Fools* was Neil Simon's motivation. *Fools* allegedly was written as the result of an agreement Simon made with his wife during their divorce proceedings. She was promised the profits of his next play, so he attempted to write something that never would last on Broadway. Given it closed after forty performances, he succeeded. Think of it a similar concept to *The Producers* if Max and Leo WERE successful with their plot of producing a Broadway 'flop.' Even though it was destined to fail on Broadway, it's still classic Simon in all it's brilliance.

I would like to thank the following for all their support and help:

My amazing cast, crew and production team, Mark Tuttle, Kathryn Bisbey, Wendi Taylor, Michelle Nickell, Harv and Sandy Olsthoorn, Paul Ruby, and Newton Community Theatre.

Special thanks to my assistant Lynn Arterburn for all her hard work, dedication, and supporting me in every foolish decision I made! I couldn't have asked for a better assistant!

I also wish to thank my friend and theatre mentor, Barb Wagner, for believing I could do this, even when I didn't!

Lastly, I would like to thank my wife Cyndi for her love, support, and understanding why I had to be gone so much!

Please join us now, "A long time ago, in the village of Kuylenchikov, far, far away.

Steve Hickle
Director

	Mobile (515) 229-1595 Office (515) 963-8618 FAX (515) 963-8619 missy@hunziker.com
	Missy Walton Sales Associate
	
1255 N. Ankeny Blvd. Suite 101 Ankeny, IA 50023	

Fools

by Neil Simon

CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

Sophia Zubritsky

Leon Tolchinsky

Snetsky

Magistrate

Slovitch

Mishkin

Yencha

Dr. Zubritsky

Lenya Zubritsky

Count Yousekevitch

Clare Stordahl

Aaron Price

Abby LeBlanc

Mike Kentopp

Thomas Miller

Rodney Tomlinson

Susie Randall

Michael Banks

Annie Mielke

Kent Whitmore

Setting: Long ago in the Ukrainian village of Kulyenchikov

There will be a fifteen minute break between the two acts.

Out of consideration to the actors and your fellow patrons, please turn off all cell telephones, pagers or other audible electronic devices before the show begins. No video recording or photography are allowed during any of our productions.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Steve Hickle
Assistant Director/Producer	Lynn Arterburn
Lights	Harold Mosier
Sound	Polly Taylor
Stage Manager	Becky Plager
Stage Crew	Scott Nielsen, Aaron Primrose, Gillian Randall
Costumer	Lynn Arterburn
Costume Construction	Lynn Arterburn, Cynthia Ewald, Pam Koelling, Bekah Tuttle, Janet Tuttle
Set Design	Harvey Olsthoorn
Set Construction	Doug Arterburn, Monte Engh, Levi Kralik, Bob Kuehl, Harvey Olsthoorn, Sandy Olsthoorn, Larry Overton, Mark Tuttle, Matt Tuttle, Dick Wilson
Set Painting	Jennifer Ramsey, Rachel Ramsey, Mark Tuttle, Matt Tuttle
Choreographer	Kathryn Bisbey
House Managers	Doug Arterburn, Monte Engh
Playbill/Photographer	Lynn Arterburn
Marketing	Lynn Arterburn, Doug Arterburn, Shelley Blok, Becky Plager

Special Acknowledgments

The cast of *Fools* would like to thank the following for their generous contributions to the show.

Michelle Nickell (nickelldesigns@gmail.com) - logo design

Newton Community Theatre - costumes & cart

Crossroads Celebration Community - housekeeping

Paul Ruby - special prop

Wendi Taylor - ram's horn

First Church of Christ - shepherd's rod



Michael Banks (Dr. Zubritsky) has appeared at ACT in *Godspell* and *The Phantom Tollbooth*. He has also appeared at the Des Moines Playhouse in *The Sound of Music*, *Treasure Island* as Captain Billy Bones and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* in a favorite role as Charlie's Grandpa Joe. Michael enjoys karaoke and photography. He is an engineer for KDSM television.



Mike Kentopp (Magistrate) has appeared in many shows around the Des Moines/Ankeny area for the past 15 years. Roles have included small parts to lead roles and all of them have been the "best parts" at the time. A few of his favorites include Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* and Captain Andy in *Showboat*. Mike's hobbies include photography and outdoor enterprises.



Abby LeBlanc (Snetsky) is making her first appearance on the ACT stage. She has appeared at the Des Moines Playhouse in *Holes*, *Seussical*, and *Night of the Living Dead*. Abby enjoys movies with her friends, art and chocolate. She is a junior at Valley High School. She works at Kmart as a cashier.



Annie Mielke (Lenya) is making her debut at ACT but she is certainly no stranger to theater. She has appeared in numerous shows at the Des Moines Playhouse including *The Hobbit*, *Hank Williams*, *Charlotte's Web* and *Metamorphoses*. Annie enjoys spending time with husband, Chris, and their children, Josiah, Jordan and Joy. She also enjoys reading and meeting girlfriends over a good cup of coffee. Annie is the co-founder of Adventures in Social Drama. She is attending Drake University working on an Elementary Education degree with an emphasis in Special Education.



Tom Miller (Slovitch) made his ACT debut this year appearing in *A Christmas Carol*. Before moving to Ankeny, he has appeared on stage at the Omaha Community Playhouse and at Kent, Washington. Tom's hobbies include photography, traveling and Nebraska football. He is an IT Data Analyst for John Deere Credit.



Aaron Price (Leon Tolchinsky) recently appeared on ACT's stage in *The Sensuous Senator*. He has been in twelve shows at ACT including *And Then There Were None* and *Dearly Departed*. His favorite roles have been Joe Pendleton in *Heaven Can Wait*, Axel McGee in *Don't Drink the Water*, and Fred in *A Christmas Carol*. Aaron works at YRC Customer Service as an Account Specialist. He collects DVDs and comic books and likes to watch movies and read.



Susie Randall (Yencha) is making her stage debut at ACT but she is certainly no stranger to the stage. She has appeared at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre in *Getting Mama Married*, *Oklahoma*, *The Music Man* and *My Fair Lady* and at the Drama Workshop in *Rocky Horror Show*. She was the stage manager for ACT's *A Christmas Carol*. Acting is her hobby, activity and passion. Her daughter, Gillian, also keeps her busy running her to her activities and sewing costumes for her and others on the figure skating team. She would like to dedicate this show to the love of her life, her husband David. Thank you for being my biggest fan, best critic and for putting up with all the craziness! Susie is a wholesale manager at Chocolaterie Stam.



Clare Stordahl (Sophia Zubritsky) has only appeared in murder mysteries at ACT until this show. Her favorite role was Mitzi Bond in *Murder Takes the Stage*. She has also helped backstage with hair and make-up. Clare is a part-time student at DMACC and is a self-employed hair stylist at Azik Salon Suites. She enjoys movies, cooking, live music and socializing with her friends. Clare is also a member of the ACT Board of Directors



Rodney Tomlinson (Mishkin) is a newcomer to ACT. He has appeared in *The Creature Creeps* and *Witness For The Prosecution* during high school, *The Good Doctor* at DMACC and *Last Will and Testament* for the Ankeny Elks Lodge. Rodney has been the home field voice for the JSPC Rams football team in Jefferson for eleven years. He is also the P.A. voice for the Iowa Lightning - Des Moines semi-pro football team. His hobbies include softball, golf and photography. He works for Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa in Public Relations. He would like to thank his very understanding wife, Karen, and his 3 year old son, Cade, for their support.



Kent Whitmore (Count Yousekvitch) has entertained audiences on stages around the metro area including ACT, Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, Shoestring Productions, First Church Potluck Theatre and Ankeny Elks Lodge Theatre. His hobbies include TV trivia, standup comedy, impressions and youth ministry. He is a social worker at Broadlawns Medical Center.



Steve Hickle (Director) made his directing debut in Pella for *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* in 2007. He was assistant director for *Our Town* and *And There Were None* at ACT. *Fools* is his directing debut for ACT. Steve's onstage credits at ACT include *A Christmas Carol*, *Phantom Tollbooth*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, *Don't Drink The Water* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. He appeared onstage last year at the Des Moines Playhouse in *Holes* and *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*. Steve has appeared at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, Theatre for a Change, Iowa Fringe Festival and has also appeared onstage in Pella and Prairie City. His hobby is theatre, (who has time for anything else?). He also enjoys movies, concerts and surfin' the net. Steve works at Marsh.



Lynn Arterburn (Assistant Director/Producer) keeps herself quite busy with various jobs around ACT such as ACT board member, marketing coordinator, membership, children's theater, director, stage manager, costumer, and creator of all playbills and newsletters. The list goes on and on and she LOVES every minute of it. Lynn works at Crocker Elementary as a literacy associate working with K - 4th graders. She enjoys spending time with her two adorable eight-month-old twin grandchildren - Olivia and Owen. She would like to thank her husband, Doug, for putting up with all the craziness that happens at their household while she's preparing for a show.



2008 - 2009 CONTRIBUTORS

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Al & Sue Ites	Juanita Rogers	Deloris Van Oort

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ACT NEEDS YOU!

ACT depends on the citizens of Ankeny and the surrounding communities to keep the theater operational. Each volunteer is a valuable asset to the theater. Time commitments can be large or small. Volunteer possibilities include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Costuming
- ◆ Set building
- ◆ Make-up
- ◆ Concessions
- ◆ Committee work

You may also support the theater by purchasing season tickets or a membership. Check out the opportunities by picking up volunteer forms or season tickets and membership forms from the box office or visit our website. You may also call the theater and the volunteer coordinator will return your call. Make new friends, have fun with old friends, and know the satisfaction of being part of live theater.

MATCHING FUNDS

Several companies have volunteer programs in place where the employer will match the amount of money that an employee donates to nonprofit organizations. Several also have programs where they match hours an employee has volunteered with a dollar contribution. Pioneer, Meredith, Federal Home Loan Bank and MidAmerican Energy are just some of the companies that have provided such funding to ACT based on employees contributing and working with ACT. Please check with your employer to see if you could be taking advantage of these programs and help secure ACT financing.

EMAIL NOTIFICATION

If you would like to receive information about ACT such as newsletters, audition **information, children's activities and show reminders**, please go to our website to sign up for email notification. Help us cut down on our mailing costs while keeping yourself informed of the most current events at ACT. If you are already signed up, please keep us updated on any email address changes so we may continue to send you email notifications.

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ACT has several exciting drama camp opportunities this summer for students ages PreK - Grade 9. Flyers are located at the refreshment area or you may find a registration form on our website at ankenycommunitytheater.com.



It takes a lot of supplies to make this experience a success for our participants. Items needed include markers, crayons, glue sticks, construction paper and other craft supplies. If you happen to be doing some spring cleaning and find you have some items that you would like to donate, please give the theater a call at 964-5007.



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