

By James Reach

Ankeny Community Theatre
November 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 & 18, 2007

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2007-2008 Season

The Phantom Tollbooth

Susan Nanus

September 21 - October 7

Murder Takes the Stage

James Reach

November 2 - 18

Plaza Suite

Neil Simon

January 11 - 27

The Money in Uncle George's Suitcase

Pat Cook

February 29 - March 16

Heaven Can Wait

Harry Segall

April 25 - May 11

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Monica Green

President Elect - John Claes

Past President - Monte Engh

Kyle Chizek
Troy DeStigter
Bev Heldt

Dawn Hockemeyer
Al Ites
Susan Jacobson

Keith Pederson
Paul Ruby
Polly Taylor

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

After I first read *Murder Takes the Stage*, I wanted to read it again to see where I missed the clues that revealed the murderer. It is a real brain teaser. We are betting we can outwit you and we hope you have trouble spotting the murderer.

This play combines a great cast with a story that is fun, full of intrigue and a super puzzle. What more can you ask of an entertaining evening at the theater except "Who Dunnit?"

Please, keep the answer to that question a secret from future ACT audience members.

Enjoy,
Jo



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SUSPECTS

(In Order of Appearance)

Jane Bond	Kat Beane
Mitzi Bond	Clare Stordahl
Miss Liz Truesdale	Lisa DeWaard
Ollie Dunning	Bud Pratt
Drew Pelman	Mike Kentopp
Larry Strickland	Aaron Price
Ellen Drake	Shelly Saforek
Bob Rayfield	Bob Fry
Sara Farnham	Karen Pederson
Hal Rush	Larry Johnson
Hazel Laverne	Kay Mueller
Ann Martin	Susan Jacobson
Sheriff Wiley	Keith Pederson

The action of the entire play takes place on the bare stage of the Ivytown Summer Theater, located in a New England village.

WARNING: Murder can be noisy. Be prepared for the sound of a gun.

ACT ONE

Scene I: A summer morning in the present.

Scene II: A few days later; late afternoon.

15 Minute Intermission

ACT TWO

Scene I: A few days later; morning.

Scene II: About one hour later.

5 Minute Intermission

ACT THREE

Several hours later; that evening.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Jo Reid
Producer	Grace Leverenz
Set Construction	Dick Wilson & Jerry Reid
Stage Designer	Bev Heldt
Light Designer	Harold Mosier
Sound Designer	Polly Taylor
Props/Costumes	Shelley Blok
Hair Design	The Stordahl Sisters
House Manager	Jerry Reid
Refreshments	Bev Heldt
Playbill/Photographer	Lynn Arterburn
Marketing	Dawn Hockemeyer, Lynn Arterburn & Jolene Schwarz

Special Thanks go to Monte Engh, Paul Ruby, John Claes, Jerry Reid and Al Ites for getting our theater floors and curtains in tip-top shape for our production.

Out of consideration to the actors and your fellow patrons, please turn off all cellular telephones, pagers or other audible electronic devices before the show begins.

No recording devices or flash photography are allowed during any of our productions.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.





Kat Beane (Jane Bond) is a newcomer to the ACT stage, but has performed elsewhere in musicals, operas, comedies and children's theater. Her singing career was enhanced while she attended and graduated with a music major from Luther College. Kat works at Midland Credit Union in Urbandale and lives in West Des Moines.



Lisa DeWaard (Miss Liz Truesdale) has performed in two shows in the past year at ACT. She sang and danced in *Godspell* at the theater and at the Iowa State Fair, and played four different characters in *Phantom Tollbooth*. Her energy is endless. She is an avid karaoke fan and is known as The Hugger. Lisa works as an annuity specialist and lives in Clive.



Bob Fry (Bob Rayfield) has performed in seven shows for ACT. His debut was in the 1996 *Plaza Suite*. He has also been in numerous other shows around the Des Moines area. His reputation as a class act precedes him. Bob works in the insurance industry and lives in West Des Moines.



Susan Jacobson (Ann Martin) has a long list of theater credentials, many of them on the ACT stage. She also serves on the ACT Board of Directors. She has many hobbies including dance classes, reading and baking. She is a veterinarian and lives in Ankeny with her husband and pets.



Larry Johnson (Hal Rush) is not a newcomer to theater or ACT. He has used his singing voice in *Lil' Abner*, *The King and I*, and at the Iowa Fringe Festival to name a few. He has also performed in dramas and mysteries. Larry lives in Ankeny, loves to travel and is an eligible bachelor.



Mike Kentopp (Drew Pelman) is a familiar name around ACT and the former Ingersoll Dinner Theatre. Mike's roles for ACT include several murder mysteries when he was the "cop." No one will ever forget Mike's portrayal of Teddy Roosevelt in short pants and tooting the bugle.



Kay Mueller (Hazel LaVerne) has performed in most theaters in Central Iowa, including the murder mystery, *Towards Zero*, at ACT. Her favorite shows were *How the Other Half Loves* and *Whose Wife Is It Anyway?* Her activities include swimming and reading mysteries. Kay teaches speech and theater at DMACC in Boone. She also lives in Boone.



Karen Pederson (Sara Farnham) has become a familiar thespian at ACT. She has directed, acted, served on the Board of Directors, built sets and can fall out of a door - splat! She even sings, when necessary. She is the Library Director in Bondurant and lives in Ankeny with her husband and son.



Keith Pederson (Sheriff Wiley) has been bitten by the acting bug. *Murder Takes the Stage* is his seventh show in five years. His first appearance at ACT was in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and the second was *Death and Taxes*, directed by wife, Karen. Keith lives in Ankeny and works for USPS.



Bud Pratt (Ollie Dunning) is a familiar face in Ankeny and ACT. His booming voice and laughter has been a trademark for Bud. He has been known to lead the laughter in ACT comedies. Bud's first ACT show was *The Sound of Music* back in 1984. He and his wife, Hazel, now live in a retirement complex in Urbandale.



Aaron Price (Larry Strickland) was only 10 when he made his ACT debut in *Annie Get Your Gun*. Since then he has followed in his father's footsteps and is hooked on acting. Aaron, a graduate of the University of Iowa with a BA in English, has done several shows with ACT. He has over 2,500 comic books and is still collecting. He works for Yellow Transportation.



Shelly Saforek (Ellen Drake) is making her debut on the ACT stage. Her other experiences include singing in *Anything Goes*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Calamity Jane*. Her hometown is in Wayland, Iowa. Shelly is a youth director at the local Methodist church. She lives in Ankeny.



Clare Stordahl (Mitzi Bond) has followed in her father's footsteps by doing her third murder mystery for ACT. She has also worked behind stage doing makeup, fixing hair and doing stage work. Clare is a hair stylist and works at a salon in Ankeny.



Jo Reid & Grace Leverenz (Director & Producer) have had a director/producer relationship for 19 ACT productions. They met in 1986 with the production of *Guys and Dolls*. Jo was directing and Grace was in the chorus. Their partnership began in 1989 with the first ACT production of *Bad Seed*. Counting *Murder Takes the Stage*, they have worked on eight musicals, eight mysteries and three comedy/feel good shows together. While Jo and Grace have gone solo in several other ACT shows, they hope to team up again many more times in the future.



Jada and Emy Lou Kentopp (Diva Dogs) are making their first appearance at ACT. We hope we will be seeing both young starlets again on stage in the future.

2007 - 2008 Season Contributors

Angel's Circle (\$500+)

Glenn & Vi DeStigter	Al & Sue Ites	Jessie Reid	Delores Van Oort
Monica Green	Jerry & Jo Reid	Juanita Rogers	Arlyn & Connie Weieneth

Producer's Circle (\$250 - \$499)

Doris Anderson	Monte & Vicki Engh	Jeff & Ann McGill	Dick & Pat Wilson
Gerald & Pam Bair	Jeanne Ginger	Evelyn Rigby	
John & Anne Claes	Fred Lewis	Roger & Sandra Spahr	

Director's Circle (\$75 - \$249)

Jim & Sharon Anderson	Bob & Mary Jo Frasier	Jack & Grace Leverenz	Christine Rourick
Doug & Lynn Arterburn	Ed & Joan Gibson	Jay & Margaret Munson	Paul & Kaylene Ruby
Orville & Bonnie Ballard	Kirk Reeder & Sharon	Jim & Beverly Nelson	Rhonda Snyder
Jim & Carolyn Bauer	Hall*	Harvey & Sandy Olsthoorn	Polly Taylor
Aaron Beckerman	Bev Heldt	Larry & Jo Overton	Kay Wayman
Don & Shelley Blok	Greg & Dawn	Keith & Karen Pederson	Sandra Zimmerman
Aldo & Donna Bulgarelli	Hockemeyer	Bud & Hazel Pratt	Don & Carolyn Zuck
Dick & Ellen Crowe	Lory & Mary Johnson	Al & Jan Price	
Troy DeStigter	Ken & Donna Kelling	Drew & Christy Primrose	
Loanne Dodge	Bob & Leighann LaRocca	LaVerne & Janice Quass	

Patron's Circle (\$50 - \$74)

Dotty Blewer	Jeff & Susan Jacobson	Kathy Polson	Dorothy Wyant
Robert & Leona Carlson	Janet Kerrigan	Steve & Georgene Raver	
Roger & Mary Ann Cozine	Abby Ostrem	Kent & Vonnie Whitmore	
Marian Garner	Ruth Politsch	Janet Wilson	

Artist's Circle (\$40)

Kay Bower	Rebecca Herring	Verdel Odgaard	Barbara White
Karen Cross	Liz Johnson	Bertha Perry	
Nicole Frericks	Jennifer Mahlow	Carrol Rolow	
Bettie Hampton	Marilyn May	Vikki Ver Huel	

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Home Federal Loan Bank of Des Moines has generously contributed through their employee matching gift program. * Indicates this gift was matched by an employee matching program.

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank all of our anonymous donors whose gifts total \$575.

ACT NEEDS YOU!

ACT depends on the citizens of Ankeny and the surrounding communities to keep the theater running. Each volunteer is a valuable asset to the theater. Everyone is welcome. 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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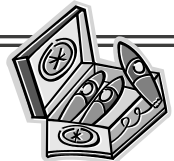
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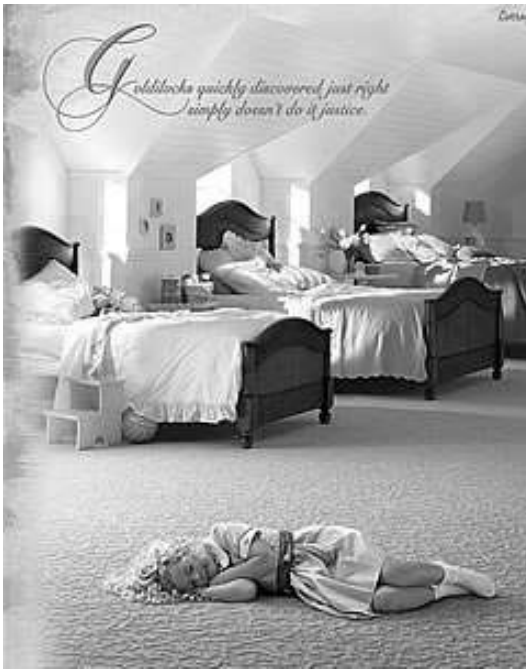
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