

WEATHERVANE

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Mainstage Production No. 510

2004-2005

70th



THREE DAYS : OF RAIN

by Richard Greenberg

October 20 - November 7, 2004

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2004-2005 The 70th Season

Weathervane Community Playhouse

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330-836-2626 ♦ Fax 300-873-2150 ♦ www.weathervaneplayhouse.com

Noises Off

by Michael Frayn

September 8 - October 3, 2004

Three Days of Rain

by Richard Greenberg

October 20 - November 7, 2004

Joseph

and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

Nov. 20 - Dec. 19, 2004 (*YT)

Ain't Misbehavin'

conceived by Murray Horwitz & Richard Maltby, Jr. with music mostly by Fats Waller

January 12 - February 5, 2005

The Grapes of Wrath

by Frank Galati/novel by John Steinbeck

February 16 - March 6, 2005

Little Women

by Marisha Chamberlain

novel by Louisa May Alcott

March 18 - April 8, 2005 (*YT)

The Tale of the Allergist's Wife

comedy by Charles Busch

April 13 - May 1, 2005

Rumpelstiltskin

Performed by the Piper Puppets

May 7, 2005 (*YT)

Winnie-the-Pooh

dramatized by Kristin Sergel from

the stories by A.A. Milne

May 13 - 21, 2005 (*YT)

The Rocky Horror Show

by Richard O'Brien

June 15 - July 3, 2005

Patron Information

* **Emergency Exits** located at the left front of the auditorium and left side of the lobby. Front door and lobby doors will also be used.

* **Restrooms** Located in lobby alcove - wheelchair accessible.

* **Handicapped Services** Seating for a limited number of wheelchairs. Please notify in advance if needed.

* **Assistive Listening Devices** Available thanks to the generosity of Virginia and J. Robert Wilson.

* **Patrons:** Expecting a call? Leave name and seat number with the House Manager. Please turn off your cell phones, pagers and audible watches.

* **Beverages and Food** may not be taken into the auditorium during performances.

* **Use of Cameras and Recording Devices** is prohibited during performances.

* **Curtain time** Wed./Thurs. at 7:30 p.m., Fri./Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 2:30 p.m.

* **Latecomers** will be seated at the rear of the auditorium during a suitable break in the play if space is available and may take their reserved seats after intermission.

* **Exiting the Theater** Please remain seated until the auditorium lights are on. Parking lot illumination assures that getting to your car will be easy and secure.

* **Smoking** is permitted outside the building.

* **Lost and Found** items will be held at the Ticket Office until claimed.

* **Comments** from audience members are always welcomed with interest. Please feel free to write to Weathervane to express your views and opinions about our productions.

Send your comments to: *Executive Director, Weathervane Community Playhouse.*



Patron Generosity

Weathervane appreciates the continuing strong support of individuals, corporations, foundations and other donors who help finance the theater's operations, capital improvements and endowment program. Weathervane is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. Following are some of the many ways in which you can take pride in your support of the art of theater in our community.

* Become a Weathervane Member

Your annual support makes you a voting member of Weathervane Community Playhouse. You'll receive discounts on educational programs and other benefits, based on the membership level you choose. Members are invited to Weathervane's annual meeting and to other special events. Memberships are renewable annually, beginning at \$75 (Contributing), and continuing at Sustaining, Patron, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond Levels. Membership is actively solicited in the fall but is accepted at any time. Members are recognized in the Playbill.

* Give a Special Gift To Say You Care

Special donations may be made at any time to memorialize a friend or relative whose interest in Weathervane was significant to his or her life. You may also recognize and celebrate important dates or current achievements of relatives, friends or associates.

* Remember Weathervane in Your Will

What better way to carry on your tradition of support to Weathervane than by a planned gift. By taking advantage of the tax laws which encourage charitable giving, the U.S. Government will share in the cost of your gift to Weathervane. Your gift can fulfill a specific purpose or project while providing your estate with tax savings. To help ensure that Weathervane will continue, please contact our Executive Director for more information.

* **Check For Matching Gifts** Many national and local corporations will

match your donations to Weathervane, increasing your generosity to the theater. Please check whether or not your company participates in such a program.

* Designate Gifts To Local Foundations

Several of this area's larger foundations accept memorial and tribute gifts in the name of specific organizations such as Weathervane Community Playhouse. Such gifts help assure continuing grants to the theater's operations and special projects. We are enormously grateful for the impressive history of foundation support in this community.

* Sponsor or Underwrite a Production

Our productions may be underwritten by local corporations or foundations. Benefits can include private "command performances" and special receptions for employees and friends when your business chooses this important method of support. Please call 330-836-2626. We'd like to discuss this kind of opportunity with you.

* **Capital Project** The construction segment of the Capital Project included a scene shop with basement storage, a 2nd-floor classroom and rehearsal hall, soundproof production booth, elevator and fly gallery pocket above the stage and installation of the rigging system for the fly gallery. Donations for Stage Two of the project continue to purchase classroom furnishings, update the lighting system, renovate the lobby and replenish the Capital Fund for maintenance and repairs.

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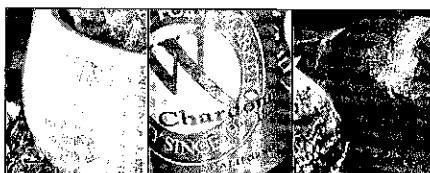
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How?

**By participating in a new initiative to
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Special Collections, the Library's division responsible for maintaining local history materials, is planning a permanent collection of area music from Summit County-based musicians, professional or amateur, past and present.

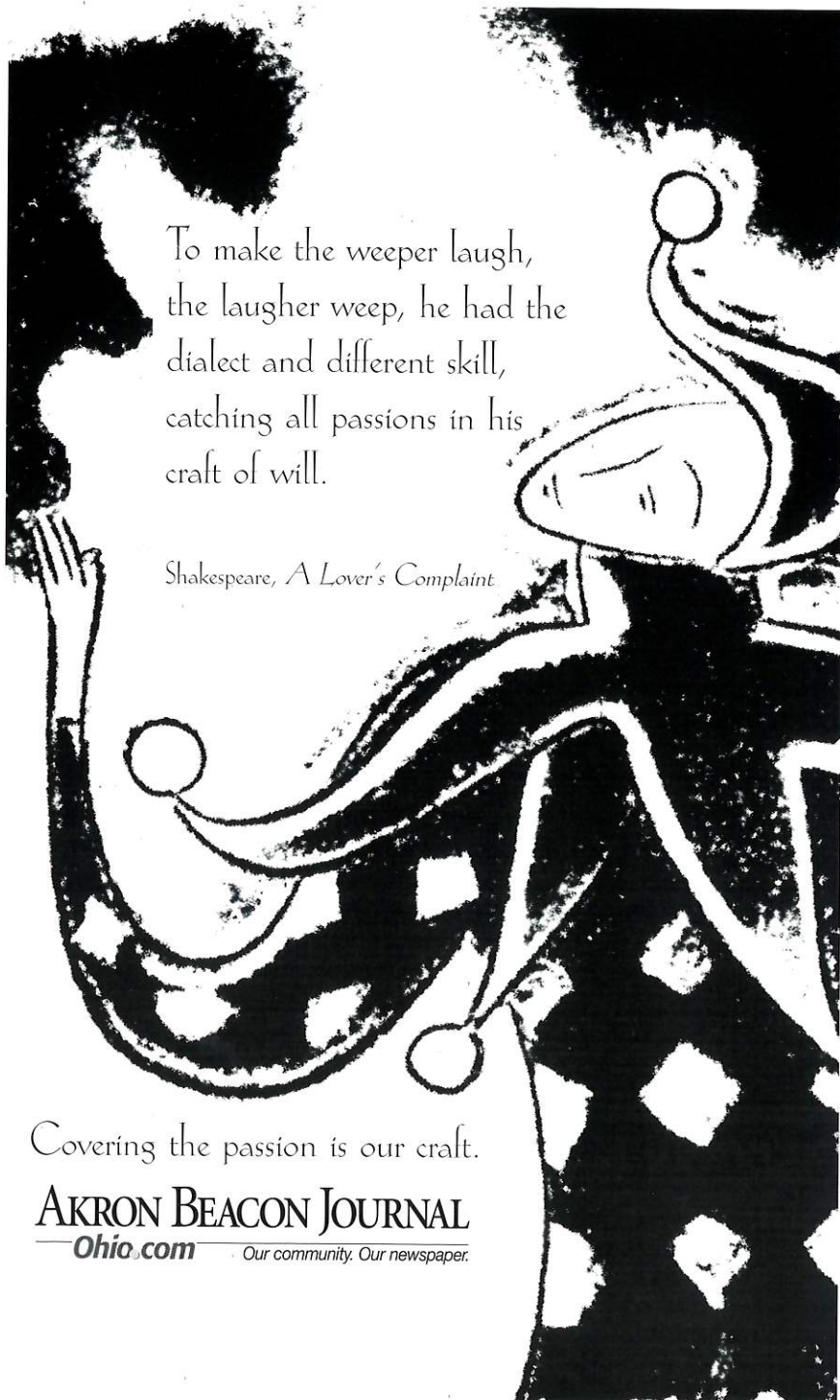
Our local music wish list includes recordings by local

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- rap/hip-hop
- country
- folk and ethnic
- recording artists

Also accepting related historical materials such as photographs, posters, programs, flyers and videos.

**All materials will be housed in the Library's new
Special Collections Division at Main Library**

If you are willing to donate your materials to the Library, please contact the Special Collections Division at 330-643-9030, by e-mail at speccollections@ascpl.lib.oh.us or visit the Web site at www.ascpl.lib.oh.us/main-sc.html



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Ticket Information

*** Tickets** Purchase in person or charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard or Discover at 330-836-2626, Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on performance Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weather Vane Super Coupon Book, complimentary tickets or coupons offered from any other cooperating arts organization.* Please arrive 20 minutes before curtain time to pick up your tickets. Unclaimed tickets will be released for sale five minutes prior to curtain at the discretion of the Box Office Manager and volunteers.

*** Special seating** Please inform us if you have seating preferences due to visual, auditory or other physical needs. Please remember orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with season subscribers and advanced group sales taking first priority.

*** Season Subscriber Exchanges** must be phoned in at least 24 hours prior to your originally scheduled performance.

We can't always guarantee the same seats but we'll give you the closest available replacements. An upgrade fee applies when changing from a Preview Night. *If you cannot use your subscription seats, please call us at least 24 hours in advance to release them. We will recognize this as a donation.*

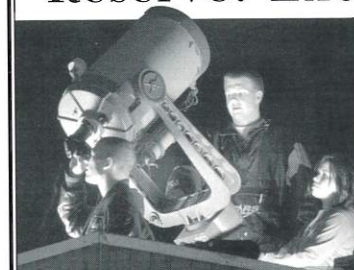
*** Student Rush Tickets** go on sale 30 minutes before curtain time. Students with a valid ID may purchase any remaining tickets for half price. Rush tickets cannot be reserved in advance.

*** Discounted Group Reservations** are available for groups of 15 or more. Call Weather Vane at 330-836-2626 to learn how you can entertain friends, associates, or clients with a night at the theater or to plan a fund-raising event for larger groups.

*** Gift Certificates** are available at any time in any amount you choose.

*** Recycle your playbills** Anyone who doesn't wish to keep the playbill may drop it in our recycling box.

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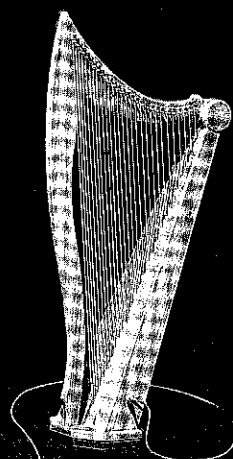
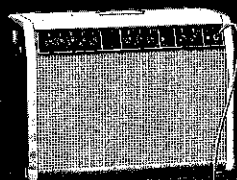
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History *From the Barn to the Valley*



From 1935 until 1951, Weathervane was housed in a modest carriage house barn on Marshall Avenue. Some recall its cramped quarters but especially the energy and devotion of four ladies, **Grace Hower Crawford**, **Laurine Schwan**, **Helen Troesch** and **Muriel MacLachlan**, who believed that Akron deserved the best in theater and that volunteers could make it happen. A lobby plaque lists the names of other founders who shared their commitment. The rooftop weathervane gave the theater its name and logotype character, the Chanticleer.

In 1951, the organization renovated a building on Copley Road and, from 1960 - 1992, Bob Belfance served as director. Along with custodian/ticket office manag-

er, **Nora Scott**, the two-person staff relied on volunteer support. Paid guest directors and children's theater instructors served in part-time positions. Ticket receipts and donations helped meet expenses and created a modest endowment. A fund-raising drive resulted in construction of the present 263-seat facility which opened in 1970. Thanks to **Grace Crawford's** legacy, the mortgage has been paid off.

Construction made possible by the most recent Capital Campaign added classrooms, rehearsal space, scene shop, additional prop storage, elevator, library, fly gallery and fly system, a sound-proof production booth and a costume workshop.

Weathervane celebrated its 500th Mainstage production, *The Laramie Project*, during the 2002-2003 season. Thanks for being a part of our history as we celebrate this 70th season!

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Tue. - Fri.: 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sun.: by appointment only.



Women's Board

The Women's Board was formed in 1938 to "offer voluntary service and financial assistance to the Playhouse." Women's Board has energized youth education programs, sponsored productions, spearheaded fund raisers and paid for many of the amenities we appreciate in the Green Room/kitchen. Members of this active group are invaluable as hostesses, office helpers and backstage. The Women's Board sponsors an annual puppet presentation for children and also operates the Gift Boutique and Bank One Art Gallery.

New members are welcomed.

2004-2005 Officers

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Newsletter**Lois Simmons**
 Pat Weill
Puppet Show**Betty Williams**
 Leslie Lund

Boutique Treasures

Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of our Weathervane Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission for great gift items. Prices are extremely reasonable and the items on sale include a

delightful variety from clowns and animal figures to pens, pins and earrings. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on purchasing gallery art works.



Weatherlane's

Professional Staff

ELYNMARIE KAZLE (Executive Director) is in her seventh Weatherlane season. In a 25+ year theatre career, she began as a stage manager then moved into producing, fundraising and public relations in the early 1980s. She's had the pleasure of working with a wide range of artists from Baryshnikov to John Ritter, Ed Asner to Chita Rivera, in theaters such as San Diego's Opera and Old Globe, Sacramento Theater Company, LA Classical Ballet, Great Lakes (when it was Shakespeare) and Brooklyn Academy of Music. Akron became important early on when she was lighting apprentice to Tom Skelton at The Ohio Ballet. Her diverse experience includes a stint with the *Wall Street Journal*, assisting in a NY dramatic agency and working as a cultural ambassador to Sweden. She currently serves as USITT's VP of Membership and Development and founded the nationally-known Stage Management Mentoring Project. She lives in Akron with husband Mark and son Banno.

JANIS L. HARCAR (Director of Marketing & Development) holds an M.A. in Arts Administration from The University of Akron and a B.S. in Music Education from Kent State University and has been a Weatherlane staff member since 1993. She serves as the Artistic Director of the Ravenna Community Choir and Director of St. Paul Lutheran Church Choir also in Ravenna. Jan was honored with the 2003 Trustees Award. She recently shared in the joy of the birth of her first grandchild.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weatherlane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. He spent six years at Cuyahoga Falls High School as auditorium manager. During that time, he was awarded a Design Excellence citation from USITT for

Carousel, and a place in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He has also designed for many local high schools as well as for The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has earned four Chanticleer Awards -- one as stage manager for *Fences*, the others as lighting co-designer for *A Man for All Seasons* and lighting designer for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. Scott also takes great pleasure in writing the end-of-the-season revue for The Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at our annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.

SEAN MCCONAHA (Director of Education and Producer of Youth/Family Productions) holds a dual major in Theater Performance and Pre-Law from West Virginia Wesleyan College and an M.A. in Theater from The University of Akron. He is a free-lance actor and director throughout Northeastern Ohio. Sean directed the OCTA award-winning production of *Romeo and Juliet* as well as Chanticleer winners for Best Production, *The King of the Kosher Grocers* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. He lives in Bolivar with wife, Beth, daughters, Leda and Delaney, and one-year-old twins Zoe and Griffin.

KEITH D. CAMPBELL (Supervisor Front-of-House & Patron Services) holds a B.A. in English from The University of Akron, where he served as editor of *The Buchtelite* and sang with the Akron Symphony Chorus. During the summers of 1995 and 1996, he interned in the box office at Porthouse Theatre Company. Keith has done post-baccalaureate studies in Arts Administration at The University of Akron. This is his ninth season at WCP.

JOHN COTTER (Business and Public Relations Assistant) has the duties that come with helping Jan and Keith in the Marketing and Box Office areas. He also



Professional

Staff continued

serves on Weatherlane's Production Board as Co-Chair of Auditions. John is a retiree of 36 years with Ohio Edison and has been a long-time volunteer of the Playhouse having served on the Production Board as its President and Co-Chair of Properties. He has also worked backstage for many productions and has won Chanticleers for Properties Design for four productions. He is, however, most proud of his three grandchildren, Dana, Nicholas and Kristin.

KATHRYN A. KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in Elementary Education from BGSU and a Master of Business Management degree from Aurora College in Aurora, IL. She began her theater career as a volunteer on many lighting, set construction and props crews. She won a Chanticleer for properties co-design of *The Philadelphia Story*. Kathy also serves as Resident Master

Carpenter and Master Painter for the Theatre Department at Firestone High School. She lives in West Akron with husband Doug and their three children, Stephanie, Zachary and Katie.

DREAJEAN L. BROWN (Data Services Manager) holds a Master of Science degree in Technical Education and a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from The University of Akron. She is the Director of Administration for the Ohio & Erie Canal Corridor Coalition. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Akron Alumnae Chapter. Drea says her major priority is spoiling her grandchildren. Balancing her time with work and family, she still finds time to crochet baby blankets for the Neo Natal Unit at Children's Hospital in Akron, and lap afghans for the Life Care Facility in Pittsburgh, PA.

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Weathervane Community Playhouse is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation operated by a board of volunteer trustees representative of the general community.
Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are open.

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Next On

Our Stage



November 20 to December 19

That magical, musical, Biblical tale of the brother sold into slavery by his jealous siblings; of the father who mourns his lost son and of the king in need of advice, vision and wisdom, comes to the Weathervane stage for its fifth (!) year. It brings with it the toe-tapping songs of **Tim Rice** and **Andrew Lloyd Webber**, the glorious costumes of Weathervane's costumers, the enthusiasm of a youthful cast, and student choruses from King, Case & Windemere elementary schools. This is a family-friendly show with something for everyone. **Don't miss it!**



January 12 - February 5

This musical features show-stopping songs with that stride bass made famous by "Fats" Waller in a dazzling musical hit that recreates the gaudy glamour and excitement of a 1930s Harlem night spot. Songs include *Your Feet Too Big*, *The Joint is Jumpin'*, *Mean to Me*, *I'm Going to Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter*, *It's a Sin to Tell a Lie* and *Black and Blue*. **Martin Céspedes (My Way)** returns to direct with **Heidi Herczeg** as musical director. Watch for another "yummy" luncheon matinee on January 22. And this year, wear your fanciest hat!

Special Events in the Dietz Theater

At Last! The Songs of Harry Warren

Kate Loitz Cabaret
Sat., Oct. 23 at 10:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
Tickets \$10 (subscribers \$8)

Loitz is a graduate of Rootstown High School and Kent State University who now lives in NYC.

Harry Warren, songwriter, was employed between 1932-1957 by four major movie studios specializing in musicals. Together with better-known song writers like Johnny Mercer and Al Dubin, he composed 21 chart-topping songs including *Jeepers Creepers* and *That's Amore!*

Angels in America:

Millennium Approaches
Jan. 16 - Feb. 2, 2005
Sun. - Wed. at 7:30 p.m.
Tickets \$12

Angels in America is a courageous exploration of the universal themes of love, loss and the possibility of redemption in the face of hypocrisy and malice. Cast: **Jim Vront**, **Brian Hutchison**, **Emily Mitchell Straight**, **David Lemoyne**, **Scott Crim**, **Sean Derry**, **Dede Klein** and **Dana North**.

Sean McConaha directs.



Welcome from the Executive Director

Dear Patrons,
Welcome to WeatherVane!



Last season we stretched our resources to the limit with outreach programs and theatrical performances in every corner of northeast Ohio. Every day, it seems, one of our guest artists came to tell me another amazing story of his or her work out in the community. The company of *A Lesson Before Dying* brought the 500 attendees at the OCTA conference to their feet and was a fine representation of the work that we can accomplish here on our stage with our volunteers. A new Trustee class was inaugurated and with them we will begin a major strategic planning process.

With all of this activity, plus the wonderful performances that we were treated to last season, our little theater can indeed be pleased that we are holding up our end of the bargain to make our community a better place to live.

This fall we presented the hilarious comedy *Noises Off* and now we offer the "elegant puzzle" that is Richard Greenburg's *Three Days of Rain*. Both productions have excellent directors leading the way. I am pleased that **Scott Spence**, the Artistic Director of the Beck Center, was able to work a WeatherVane assignment (*Noises Off*) into his busy schedule. **Sean McConaha**, who directed the award-winning *A Lesson Before Dying*, returns to take on *Three Days of Rain*.

As we look forward there will certainly be challenges but we welcome those for it is by looking ahead that we will ensure our future.

There has been a rich history of leadership at WeatherVane. At the Annual Meeting of the Members on August 29 we recognized part of that important history by presenting a Lifetime Achievement award to **Cue Fleming**. Cue's involvement stretches back to the 1950s and our location on Copley Road. His tireless efforts include work on the backstage crews of 100+ productions and service as President of the Board of Trustees for two non-consecutive terms. He led the way for many building committees and made a significant contribution to the effort that obtained our theatrical facility here in the Valley. It is a pleasure and honor to know Cue and he is most deserving of this award.

Here's to a fabulous seventieth season!

Edmanie Kyle

WeatherVane Playhouse
Dynamic Productions, Strong Outreach, Continuing Education



WeatherVane

Community Playhouse

70th Season – 2004-2005 – Production # 510th
October 20 - November 7, 2004

THREE DAYS : OF RAIN

by
**Richard
Greenberg**

Directed by
Sean McConaha

Scenic Designer
Alan Scott Ferrall

Stage Manager
Amy Lee Myers

Properties Designer
Pauline Geraci

Costume Designer
Suzie Graham

Lighting Designer
Becca Carter

Sound Designer
Tom C. Barnes

Three Days of Rain is produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

WeatherVane productions are sponsored in part by



Ohio Arts Council

WeatherVane Community Playhouse, 1301 WeatherVane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186
Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 – Fax: 330-873-2150 – Email for all staff: please see website
www.weathervaneplayhouse.com



About the Play & Playwright

Two generations collide in a time-shifting account that reveals a devastating secret from the past in *Three Days of Rain*. The setting is a downtown loft in 1995 where Walker, a world-weary man bedeviled by a past he can't accept, and his married sister, Nan, and their best friend, Pip, a soap opera actor, meet for the reading of Nan's and Walker's father's will. All three are the progeny of two famous architects who, early in their careers, designed a glass house in the Hamptons that created their legacy. Nan and Pip have built successful lives for themselves. Walker's life is a mess, in part, because he loathed his father and wasn't fond of his mother. He has also found a diary of his father's stuffed in a mattress in the loft where they are meeting. The first entry: "April 3-5—three days of rain," infuriates him by its lack of detail. In the first act, the children put together a story about their parents based on memories, solving to their satisfaction the questions about their parents' marriage and their father's greatest building.

In the second act, the time is 1960, the loft is the same, and the characters we meety are the parents themselves. Walker's suppositions about the parents turn out to be wrong and those three days of rain become extremely significant—changing everything as the secrets gradually unfold. The **New York Times** declared *Three Days of Rain* "an elegant puzzle."

Three Days of Rain was produced by Manhattan Theatre Club (Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director; Barry Grove, Executive Director) in New York City in November 1997. The play was directed by Evan Yionoulis, with set design by Chris Barreca, costume design by Candace Cain, lighting design by Donald Holder, sound design by Red Ramona, original music by Mike Yionoulis, special effects by Gregory Meeh, and production stage management by Roy Harris. The cast was as follows: Walker/Ned: John Slattery; Nan/Lina: Patricia Clarkson; Pip/Theo: Bradley Whitford.

About the Playwright

Richard Greenberg grew up on Long Island, graduated from Princeton University and was accepted in 1982 in the playwriting program at the Yale School of Drama. His first two plays, *The Bloodletters* and *Life Under Water*, had professional New York productions before he graduated from Yale in 1985. He received the Oppenheimer Award for best new playwright for *The Bloodletters*. In January 1989, following graduation from Yale, his comedy *Eastern Standard* opened at the Golden Theatre to rave reviews. He saw several more plays produced and began to write for film and television which he enjoys "because they pay me money." In 1993 his *Jenny Keeps Talking* was produced at the Manhattan Theatre Club. This was followed in 1994 by *Night and Her Stars* which premiered at the South Coast Repertory Theatre with a production by the Manhattan Theatre Club in 1995. *Three Days of Rain* was produced by the Manhattan Theatre Club in 1997. In 2001 Greenberg brought out his version of *Dance of Death* by August Strindberg on Broadway with Ian McKellen, Helen Mirren and David Strathairn. *Take Me Out*, about baseball, opened in 2002 at the Donmar Warehouse in London, moved to the Joseph Papp Public Theatre, and transferred to Broadway where it closed in 2004. In spite of Greenberg's success, he seems unimpressed and a little bemused by it all and has kept his priorities and his ideals intact. He's grateful that people like his plays and he just wants to keep writing more of them.



Three Days of Rain

Walker/Ned Ryan McMullen
Nan/Lina Michelle Michael
Pip/Theo Scott Shriner

Character Descriptions

Walker Janeway—thirties. Febrile, sweet, compulsively verbal, angry, a self-described "impossible person."

Ned Janeway—his father at the same age. Watchful, self-doubting. Smart, tentative, surprising.

Nan Janeway—a year or so older than Walker. Committedly normal. Someone who has coped forever and is determined to keep doing so under very trying circumstances.

Lina—her mother at the same age. The antithesis of Nan. Mordant, southern, labile. Delightful but at a cost. (The "i" in Lina is long, as in Carolina.)

Pip Wexler—thirties. Sunny, good looking, almost helplessly happy. Embroiled in the complexities of his friends, but not wrecked by them.

Theo Wexler—his father at the same age. Golden boy-arriviste. Insecure about his "genius," struggling to maintain ease. Genuinely charming, but a degree of violence added to the mix.

Setting

Act One: An unoccupied loft space in downtown Manhattan, 1995

Act Two: The same space, only tenanted and happier, 1960

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

***For your safety, we request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.**

***The use of cameras, recording equipment and laser pointers is forbidden during this performance.**

***As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones and pagers are turned off during the performance.**

***Please do not bring food or drink in the auditorium.**

***NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.**



Three Days of Rain - Director

Sean McConaha is Weathervane's Director of Education and Producer of Youth/Family Productions. He has a dual Bachelor's degree in Theater Performance and Pre-Law from West Virginia Wesleyan College and a Master of Arts degree in Acting and Directing from The University of Akron. He is co-founder of the Prodigal Theater Company, a floating company of graduate school friends which surfaces whenever there is extra time to "put on a play." Their most successful production was David Ives' *All in the Timing* at Cleveland's Cabaret Dada. Sean was seen on the Weathervane stage in *The Chosen* and *The Laramie Project*.

For Weathervane he directed *The Glass Menagerie* and the Ohio Community Theater Association award-winning production of *Romeo and Juliet*. He received an Excellence in Directing Award for last season's *A Lesson Before Dying* from OCTA. The play also received an Outstanding Award for ensemble presentation. Weathervane acknowledged the play as its best production of the 2003-2004 season. He was also director for the best production of the 1999-2000 season's *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. He directed *The Chosen*, *Hamlet* and *Our Town* for the playhouse.

Sean will also direct Weathervane's special production of *Angels in America*, which will be seen in the Dietz Theatre from January 16 - February 2, 2005. He and his wife Beth, daughters Leda and Delaney and twins Griffin and Zoe, live in Bolivar.

Director's Note

In Paul Thomas Anderson's *Magnolia*, the character of Quiz Kid Donnie Smith says, "We may be through with the past, but the past is not through with us."

In my years of avid movie watching, those words have stuck with me. One of the main threads of my artistic life has been examining all the wrong turns I've taken on my life's journey: the friends I've lost, the enemies I've made, the quarrels I've had, the artistic mistakes I've made and the family and loved ones I have often wounded while dealing with my own personal demons. I try to reconcile these issues in my work through the plays that I choose to direct or act in.

It seems only natural to me that *Three Days of Rain* would eventually cross my path. I had discovered the script in our play reading committee process and realized that Richard Greenberg had written some of the most beautifully wounded creatures I had ever encountered.

Rain is a complex tangle of old traditions versus new ideologies fighting at the boundary of a new generation. We see destruction and ruined dreams as the result of people staying in bad relationships. The results of this tragic mistake are lies, wasted talent, depression, unrequited love, stifled passion, unhappiness and the distance built between parents and children in an attempt to swallow a scandalous truth. We watch as regret prowls in the shadows, the past lives again and only the truth can set things free but not necessarily right. Greenberg never promises us happy endings, but he does give us all a little lamp in the darkness to examine the grimy corners of our souls where we may not know what lies for us in wait.

Sean McConaha



Cast Callboard

RYAN MCMULLEN (Walker/Ned) has just walked off the stage of *Noises Off* to begin again in *Three Days of Rain*. He's making up for a six-year absence since he appeared in the Youth Production of *James and the Giant Peach*. For the past three years Ryan has been touring nationally with Cleveland Signstage in productions of *Aladdin*, *Snow White*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and, most recently, as Miss Trunchbull in *Matilda*. He appeared as Puck in The University of Akron production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and as Estragon in *Waiting for Godot* produced by Newfangled Productions of which he is a founding member. Ryan adds, "I love you, Colleen; never give up."

MICHELLE MICHAEL (Nan/Lina) is making her stage debut at Weathervane. She recently moved to Ohio from Dallas, Texas and is thrilled to return to her home state. She has performed many roles including Abby in *The Mercy Seat* for Kitchen Dog Theater, Kari in *The Pavilion* for Circle Theater, Leah in *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* for Rover Dramawerks, Karen in *The Burnt Piano* for The Dallas Theater Center, Penelope in *The Odyssey* for Plano Repertory Theater, Rosalind in *Moon Over Buffalo* for the Runway Theater and Kess in *Independence* for The

Red Herring Theater Company, among others. She has appeared in numerous independent films and television commercials. Michelle has worked as a film producer (creating television commercials, fashion films, and documentaries) for over 15 years and is preparing to produce her first independent feature film. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication/film from The Ohio State University. Michelle now lives in Avon Lake with her husband and their beloved four-legged "kids."

SCOTT SHRINER (Pip/Theo) has not been away from Weathervane very long as he appeared in this season's first production, *Noises Off*. He has appeared on our stage in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged*, and as Mortimer Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, both in 2003. Other happy memories here include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (2001) and *Loot* (1996). This past summer he appeared at Stan Hywet as Antonio in Ohio Shakespeare Festival's *Twelfth Night* and in February at Coach House Theatre in the Akron premiere of *Art*. Scott is associate editor of Record Publishing Company's weekly newspapers. He sends his love to his beautiful wife, Kelly.



AMY LEE MYERS (Stage Manager) teaches high school science to students at East Canton High School in the Osnaburg School District, but she expects to finish her thesis for a Master of Arts degree in theater from The University of Akron in December. Amy is a member of the state board of the Ohio Educational Theatre Association. From 1998-2004 she was theatre director at New Richmond High School in New Richmond, Ohio. During this period she was sound technician for the Covington, KY Footlighters, working on *Into the Woods*, *Nunsense* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She has performed in and directed *Guardian Angels Follies* and appeared as Joan in *Dames at Sea* for Mariemont Players, a role for which she was awarded an "orchid" by the Cincinnati-area ACT region. Amy now resides in Cuyahoga Falls.

PAULINE GERACI (Properties Design) has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Point Park College in Pittsburgh and has been employed in the financial industry since 1984. She lives in Akron.

BECCA CARTER (Lighting Design) has worked as assistant lighting designer on *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Gypsy*. She was also lighting designer for last year's youth production of *The Crucible*. She has won the Weathervane Youth Volunteer Award for the past two years. Becca is a visual performing arts senior at Firestone High School where she has worked on many shows including her current role as student technical

director for *I Hate Hamlet*. She is thrilled to have a part in *Three Days of Rain* and thanks her crew for all their hard work.

TOM C. BARNES (Sound Design) played Crooks in *Of Mice and Men*, for which he received an OCTA Merit in Acting Award. He has also been seen or heard in *The King of the Kosher Grocers*, *God's Favorite*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The African Company Presents Richard III* and *The Piano Lesson*. He won Chanticleers for his work on *Dracula*, *Communicating Doors* and *The Chosen*. Tom took home Excellence in Acting Awards from OCTA's state and regional competitions for his role of Grant Wiggins in *A Lesson Before Dying*. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in mass media communications from The University of Akron and is a Senior Structural Estimator for State Farm Insurance Company.

SUZIE GRAHAM (Costume Design) is the director of the Ingenue Youth Drama Ensemble and the Lock 3 Summer Arts Experience for the City of Akron. She designed costumes for Weathervane's Youth/Family Production of *Hamlet* and was seen on stage in the OCTA award-winning production of *Romeo and Juliet* as the cantankerous Nurse. She and her husband Aaron are the proud parents of two children, Maddox and Zoe. Suzie is ever thankful for the opportunity to work with such a wonderfully creative group of people.



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Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

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In the Bank One Visual Arts Gallery

For those of you who did not see the current exhibit during *Noises Off*, or who wish to spend more time studying it, you are in luck. The collection of memorabilia from plays-within-plays performed by Weathervane since its inception in 1935 make fascinating viewing. **Marci Paolucci**, gallery director, and **Scott Ferrall**, scenic designer/technical director, searched the playhouse archives to bring you this splendid selection. And, for *Three Days of Rain*, there are more plays which have been added to the exhibit. You will recognize *I Hate Hamlet*, *Breakfast with Les and Bes*, *Light Up the Sky*, *The Torchbearers*, *The Dresser*, *Berlin to Broadway*, *The Royal Family*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and the additions. Do look for them. The gallery show honors Weathervane's 70th season of continuous performances.

Weathervane Playhouse is handicapped accessible. Ramps are available to the front doors, auditorium and seating.

Assistive-listening devices for the hearing impaired are available at the Ticket Office.

Large-Type program inserts are available at the Ticket Office. These copies are not full playbills but contain information unique to this production. These inserts are photocopied and are available in limited quantity.

American Sign Language interpretations are scheduled for selected Sunday performances.

Ohio Relay System 1-800-750-0750 TDD. Call to have your ticket order placed.

Sundays at Seven: Salon Reading Series

Plays by local playwrights with local themes are featured during this year's series. Most readings occur Sunday nights at 7 p.m. (check schedule) at the Playhouse, are free and open to the public. Refreshments and discussion follow the readings.

Tentative schedule:

Nov. 21 -- *The Unexpected Return of Sherlock Holmes* by Jack Herman, Directed by Scott Ferrall

Dec. 12 -- *Christmas Carol* adapted by Sheldon Senek, Directed by Penny Frese

Jan. 23 -- at 5 p.m. (note time change) *VE Day* by Cleveland's Faye Sholiton, Directed by Jacqi Loewy
VE Day, Sholiton's tribute to the Greatest Generation, was given a critically acclaimed four-week run at Dobama Theatre in Cleveland Heights. It won the 2003 Arlene and William Lewis New Play Contest at Brigham Young University and a 2004 Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Grant.

Feb. 27 -- *All Things Being Equal* by Faye Sholiton, Director TBA



Dramaturgical Notes

Frozen music: The idea of architecture as frozen music came from German writers—Goethe and Schelling because it was in Germany that architects strove to create monuments of stillness.

Pericles, Prince of Tyre: statesman and leader of Greek assembly during the Golden Age and great patron of the arts; responsible for building the Parthenon.

Hegel: system of logic based on a process of change and progress (Hegelian dialectic). Basically, one concept (thesis) inevitably generates its opposite (antithesis); their interaction leads to a new concept (synthesis), which becomes the thesis of a new triad.

Boolean algebra: abstract mathematical system; permits algebraic manipulation of logical statements. Can demonstrate the relationship between groups, indicating what is in each set alone, what is jointly contained in both, and what is contained in neither.

Umberto Eco: novelist and more importantly a professor of Semiotics, a philosophical theory, which now means a study of any cultural product (text) as a formal system of linguistic signs.

Palimpsest: old writing material (parchment or tablets) that, after scraping or erasure, has been used again.

Pentimento: presence or emergence of earlier painting, images, strokes, or forms that have been painted over (repent or regret).

Hedda Gabler: Ibsen heroine who is selfish and willful, whose unbridled desire to dominate and destroy others brings death to herself. Lovborg writes a manuscript with another woman's help, which Hedda ultimately burns. "I am burning your child."

Joycean riff: James Joyce was famous for his mastery of language and moments of spiritual insight (epiphanies).

Martin Heidegger: Twentieth century German philosopher. Major work: *Being and Time* (1927) about concepts of care, mood and the individual's relationship to death. Considered a founder of existentialism.

Roche foucauld: *Les Maximes* were first published in 1664 and represented an embittered pessimistic interpretation of human nature. Roche foucauld considered love of self (egoism) the basis of men's actions.

Nietzsche: Nineteenth-century German philosopher, who had contempt for Christianity, morality, conscience, and altruism.

Emerson on the IRT: Transcendentalism, a belief in God's immanence in man and nature, and in individual intuition as the highest source of knowledge.

Sir Joshua Reynolds: Considered the most important English painter, he raised the artist to a position of respect in England. His annual discourses were a significant exposition of academic style, propounding eclectic generalization over direct observation and allusion to the classical past over the present.

Reinhold Niebuhr: Twentieth-century American religious and social thinker who became a socialist in 1930s. He was an advocate of the church's moral rule of society.

Trimalchian: The word is Trimalcìdionico, it comes from Trimalcione, the character in *Satyricon* by Petronio. Trimalcione gives a huge banquet: grandiose, sumptuous, spectacular. The word is associated with banquets.



Please Mark Your Calendar

Weathervane's Annual Holiday Drop-In

Wednesday, December 15
from 6-9:30 p.m.

Come by, bring greetings,
partake of goodies, visit with friends
and spread good cheer.

*Give us a call at 330-836-2626 X16 if you are willing
to help with the preparations*



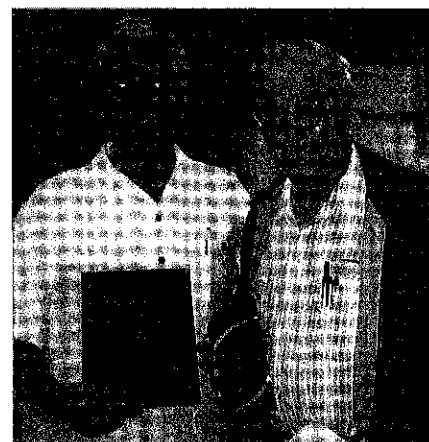
Acme Community Cash Back Program September 5, 2004 through May 25, 2005

John Cotter, Business and Public Relations Assistant and dedicated volunteer, will accept your tapes in person, at the Box Office or through the mail. John started volunteering at Weathervane in 1984, becoming a part-time employee four years ago. He started collecting Acme tapes on behalf of Weathervane two years ago, gaining \$350 the first year and \$700 last year. Acme pays 1% on the amount of the tape, excluding tobacco and alcohol. John's goal for this next year is \$800. He says it's most gratifying to have a ticket holder come to the box office with an envelope filled with Acme tapes! John coordinates the tapes, sends them to Acme, and receives a check in return. This really is a gift from Acme and painless for Weathervaners and friends. So save those tapes and turn them in. We all thank you!



Volunteer

Awards



Two of Weathervane's most stalwart supporters were honored by the Board of Trustees at the Aug. 29 annual meeting. **Steven Schmidt**, (left) past president (2000-2002) received the annual Trustees Award for his continuing service to the playhouse as president, gala co-chair and as cheerleader-in-chief for Weathervane. **Chisna H. (Cue) Fleming** received the theater's very first Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the theater since 1955, when he and wife Helen first arrived in Akron. He served as board president twice: 1971-1973 and again from 1976-1977. He was the play-

house engineer on site during the construction of 1301 Weathervane Lane and honchoed construction of the first floor handicapped accessible restrooms in 1984-1985. He's been on stage and back stage, where he considers some of his major triumphs to have occurred. In his capacity as archivist, he has developed a computerized listing of every show Weathervane has done and of everyone who has worked on stage or back stage in the 70 years of activity. Not to mention years of repairing things, house managing and hosting when asked. His record will be a hard one to surpass.

A Memorial Contribution was made to Weathervane Playhouse
in memory of **Paul Eisenzimmer**
by Mary & Mel Wolfman

A Memorial Contribution was made to Weathervane Playhouse
in memory of **Joanne Sullivan Reed**
by Betty Watterson

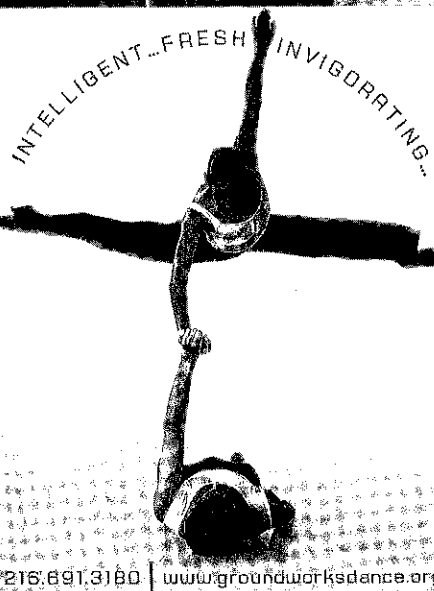
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the real thing

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all titles and dates subject to change

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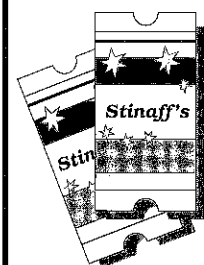
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Volunteering at Weathervane

Weathervane began as a volunteer organization and continues its growth thanks to the time and talent that members of our community invest in it. Our on-stage performers have worked long and hard to earn your applause. But their work is supported by many other unseen men and women who've helped build and paint sets, run the lights and sound, make sure that properties and set dressing items are in their proper places and do other backstage labor from stage managing to costuming and make-up. Supporting those who are actively involved in putting on each show are still more volunteers who usher, house manage, sell tickets, keep our office running and serve on our Board of Trustees, Board committees, Production Board and Women's Board.

Their spirit is the backbone of our continuing operations, a valued support on which our professional staff relies.

Each month, we acknowledge the outstanding Volunteers of the Month in our lobby, but those volunteers represent all who commit their time and interest to create a great theater experience for everyone who's come to see this show.

If you have friends or relatives who volunteer generously at Weathervane, we hope you'll take a moment to thank them for their help and their support of the cultural enrichment of our community. Better yet, join them! Call us and we'll help you win your own share of the applause for a "jolly good show," an experience that offers unique challenges with every performance.

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Shortly after the final production of each season, Weathervane volunteers and friends share an exciting party to acknowledge outstanding performances by performers and technical volunteers. The top performers are awarded rooster statuettes—Chanticleers—in recognition of their work, as voted by Chanticleer "judges." It's a great night to get together, share hopes, fun and festivities and is open to all.

Awards are presented for outstanding lead performances by a male or female

in a drama or comedy, outstanding support performances, and outstanding lead and support in a musical as well as choices in technical achievement. Chanticleers are also awarded for Properties, Lights, Costumes and Sound Design, plus Best Production of the season. In addition to performance and production awards, the event also recognizes the Top 25 outstanding volunteers of the season. We welcome you to take part in the biggest nail-biting party of the year.



Volunteer Responsibilities

Here's a quick introduction to the responsibilities volunteers undertake to make our shows work. If you'd like to try your hand at any of these jobs, please call us. We'll help you learn! Volunteers with 100 hours or more of service are eligible for a special Weathervane membership!

*** Stage Management** - Duties include assisting the director throughout the rehearsal period, calling cues, keeping backstage safe and orderly, and coordinating the technical needs of the show with the actors. A great opportunity for those who enjoy planning, communicating and taking charge. Once the director's work is done, it's the Stage Manager who runs each performance.

*** Set Construction** Use your building skills, carpentry or painting techniques to help make illusion come to life. Help is needed days and evenings.

*** Costumes** Designers and workers are vital. We invite skilled and unskilled seamstresses to make or alter costumes, create patterns, care for costumes during a show and keep our wardrobe department organized.

*** Lighting** Experience is a plus, but you can learn by assisting others who know computers and electrical requirements. We'll train eager volunteers to help hang, focus, and add color to lighting instruments. We'll also teach you how to run the light board and follow spots. *Nobody can see the show without you.*

*** Sound** Create the music and sound effects tapes that enrich the aural envi-

ronment for each show or add "live" backstage sound. Run the sound system for technical rehearsals and productions.

*** Properties** All the items that help "dress" a set and all those used by actors in rehearsal and performance (from tea sandwiches to "deadly" weapons and "shattering" windowpanes) must be borrowed, built or cooked. Many volunteers are needed to work on each performance.

*** Office Volunteer** If you enjoy dealing with the public, we can use your help during office hours and on show nights to assist in taking money and answering the phone to take reservations. You may also help with mailings, work with staff, and greet customers and visitors.

*** Ushering** Welcome audience members with your smile, show them to their seats, pass out programs, and serve refreshments at intermission. Your help is always welcome.

*** House Manager** This representative greets the audience, tears tickets and guides theater-goers to ushers for seating. You'll work with the stage manager to coordinate the timing of intermissions and remain in the lobby throughout the show to handle any emergency.

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Who Gets On Stage?

Our volunteer performers come from throughout greater Akron and North-eastern Ohio. They've committed themselves to four or more weeks of rehearsals plus performances. Their greatest reward is your applause.

Many performers come with substantial theatrical experience. Others are new to the stage. Auditions are open to all and our non-traditional casting policy opens the way for many performance opportunities. Except in cases where race, gender, age or disability is essential to the play, all roles are cast on the basis of talent.

Local newspapers carry audition dates and times or call Weathervane at 330-836-2626 to be added to the audition mailing list. Some directors prefer to set appointments for audition times and may ask that you come prepared with a brief

monologue, improvisational subject or musical number. Copies of plays scheduled or audition scenes are often available for a nominal deposit.

When you arrive at the theater on audition nights, you'll learn about the rehearsal and performance schedule. You may also register as a production volunteer if you're interested in learning about the technical opportunities in the show.

You may be asked to return for callbacks and will be notified of the director's cast selection as soon as possible. Please note that if you don't win the role you've wanted so badly, it may not necessarily reflect on your talent. The director's choice of cast members must take many factors into account to develop the proper "relationships," style and reality of the ensemble. Don't be discouraged.

Beware of the Dreaded No-Show

Have you ever seen empty seats at a sold out sporting event or concert? Weathervane has the same problem. Single-ticket buyers and subscribers who may have exchanged from another performance wonder why they weren't given those prime empty seats for the evening.

When you buy a subscription, you are promising to come to the theater for that ticketed performance and we hold your seat(s). These subscription seats are held until intermission. This, additionally, makes it impossible to tell if a performance is ever really sold out and annoys ticket buyers who see that they could have been seated in a better spot.

Subscribers: Please call the Ticket Office at 836-2626 if you will not make your ticketed performance. Thank you.

Weathervane Traditions

Meet the cast Many cast members spend a few minutes in the lobby area to meet and greet friends after performances. It's your chance to thank them for their performance.

Intermission Tea is served with our compliments by our volunteers. Soft drinks are available at a nominal cost.

Opening Night Receptions welcome audiences on first Friday performances. We provide light snacks and refreshments after the show so you can share in the celebration.

For your sweet tooth snacks are available for purchase before the show and during intermission. Refreshments (other than water) are not permitted in the auditorium.



Theater Education

Youth Education

Weathervane offers professionally taught classes in acting, stagecraft, musical theatre and improvisation for children up to age 18. Fall and spring classes are held on Saturdays and two-week **Hands on Theater (H.O.T.)** workshops are planned throughout the summer. The cost is minimal with a limited number of scholarships available and discounted fees for Weathervane members.

Children may also audition for roles in many productions. Casting is not dependent upon class enrollment. Participation is an extension of valuable training in every facet of production from the audition process to technical and performance experience. Family members may also have learning opportunities by participating in such productions.

Weathervane works with area schools by providing outreach information and study guides as part of our **Project STAGE** program, which brings public and private school students to see as many as five productions each season. This season, *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Little Women* will be

featured in the **Project STAGE** events. Tickets are only \$8.

For information about classes or audition schedules for Youth Productions, please call our Education Coordinator at 330-836-2323.

Adult Classes

Professionally taught Adult Theatre classes include Classical Drama, Improvisation, Scenic Design, Stage Lighting and Directing. These classes help actors expand their performance and public speaking skills. Look for classes in the spring.

Learning On the Job

Every production participant becomes part of Weathervane's continuing education process. You'll learn from more experienced volunteers who share the creation of production and performance. If you don't have time for structured classes, sign on to become a crew member or performer. We'll help you expand your knowledge of backstage and onstage responsibilities.



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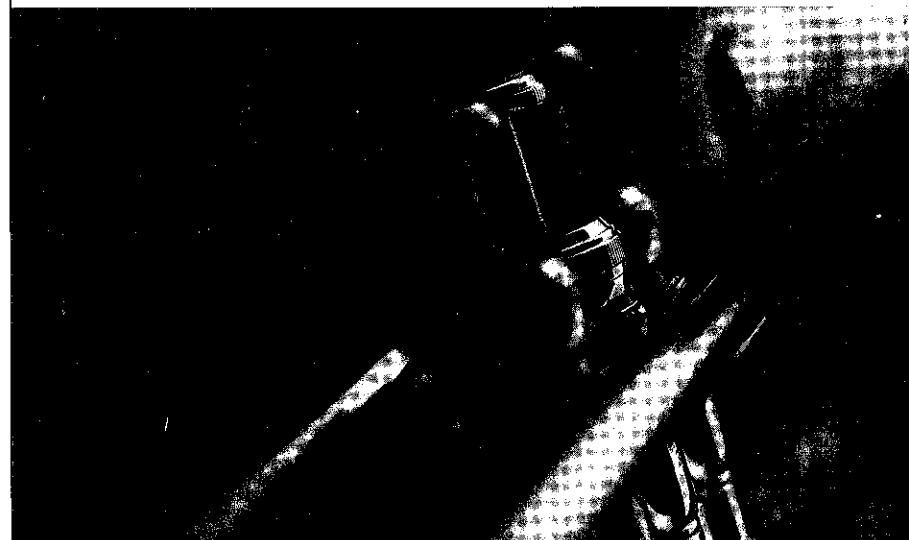
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6:37 p.m. Discussion of human cloning ban as heard from the garage.



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