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**Donations of goods and services make a difference for Weathervane Playhouse.
By donating items on our wish list you can help Weathervane
maintain its facility and enhance artistic programming.**

Below is a list of items currently needed at Weathervane.

- Landscape Beautification Project for Weathervane (\$1,500)
- Repainting outdoor lobby entrance and architectural signage (\$8,000)
- Upright Yamaha Piano (\$6,000)
- Additional power and outlets for the stage (\$3,500)
- New stage flooring (\$2,500)
- Internship for an Arts Administration/Education/Design student (\$1,000)
- iPads and iPhones (new or recently retired)
- Website re-design (\$5,000)

***For more information contact Melanie at 330.836.2626, mycp@weathervaneplayhouse.com.**

Weathervane Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are deductible as provided by law.

**Thanks to the amazing generosity of these donors, Weathervane has raised much of the money to
complete this season's wish list. There are still a few items left. Thank you, to all who donated.**

Lisa* Armstrong (Show Footwear, Laser Projectors)
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Ali* Whitley (Laser Projectors)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley ...

Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members—Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch—and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal was to present a wide spectrum of plays: classics, dramas, comedies, new works—even opera—with casting open to anyone who fit a part.

The women chose a carnival as their fundraiser to start paying the rent. Despite a drenching downpour, they raised \$60. They named their space "Weathervane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weathervane opened its first season. During that summer of 1935, the group presented seven fully costumed and staged plays. In 1936, Muriel MacLachlan, with the other founders, offered classes to children and adults, beginning a tradition that has become today's Education Department. In 1938, a Women's Board was formed to offer volunteer financial assistance. This group is now the Volunteer Guild.

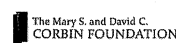
The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1474 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse was handled by the Operating Board, which reported to the Board of Trustees. Because directors were becoming scarce, the Board hired Bob Belfance as full-time Manager/Director. He held the position from 1961-1969 and from 1974-1992. During the Copley Road days, plays were presented six days a week. Because of their popularity, not everyone who wanted to see a show could be accommodated. A new home was planned.

During the 1960s, the membership's plans came together in June 1970 with the opening of *Dark of the Moon* here on Weathervane Lane. Longtime friend and founder Grace Hower Crawford died in 1971, remembering the Playhouse in her will. Her money enabled the Board to pare down the mortgage and set up an Endowment Fund. The last mortgage payment was made in 1974 through a contribution of the Women's Board. Three major additions followed: these included first-floor restrooms, classrooms, a costume shop, fly gallery and elevator. The former scene shop became the John L. Dietz Theater/Classroom in 2005 and the lobby project was completed in 2009 in time for the opening of the 75th season. Weathervane is proud to celebrate its 84th season.

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To enrich quality of life and engage the community through theatre and education.

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PLEASE:

- Turn OFF your cell phone because even silenced calls and text messages interfere with the sound system backstage, on stage, and throughout the theater.
- Be sure your cell phone is turned off again after intermission when appropriate.
- If you are using an Assistive Listening headset, please turn off your hearing aids to avoid feedback.
- NO PHOTOS or VIDEO inside the theater or recording of the show in any way.
- Food and drinks are permitted in the auditorium, but please consume them quietly out of respect to your fellow audience members and performers.

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In The Harris Family Gallery

Paintings by John Sokol

In our current production *And Then There Were None*, the fierce power of nature and the vagaries of the weather play key roles and might even be viewed as additional characters. John Sokol's paintings in this exhibit frequently feature various landscapes, seasons, and mythological references and so his work serves as very appropriate to accompany the action of this play.

John Sokol is a well-known and highly respected artist in our area. The Akron Art Museum has eight of his paintings in its permanent collection. "Man Eating Trees," part of The Museum Collection, hangs in the Sandra L. and Dennis B. Haslinger Family Foundation Gallery. It is one of the most popular paintings in that gallery.

Early in his career, John was acclaimed for his "Word Portraits." In these pieces, John rendered portraits of famous writers using complete sentences from each one's most well-known work, forming each face in exquisite detail. At the time of their creation, Nothing like these portraits had ever before been seen. Many are in private collections, both locally and internationally.

Born in Canton, John earned his degree in art from Kent State University and has had shows in the Lascaux Gallery of Pittsburgh, the Butler Institute of Art in Youngstown, and the Akron Art Museum. John Sokol paints and writes in Akron. His drawings and paintings are included in many public and private collections. John is also a writer, and he has had many short stories published in literary journals. His chapbook, "Kissing the Bees," was a winner in the 1999 Redgreene Press Chapbook competition. His poems have appeared in the Berkeley Poetry Review, The New York Quarterly and Quarterly West, among others. "In the Summer of Cancer," a full collection of his poetry, and "The Problem with Relativity" (short stories) are his latest books. Visit John's website at: facebook.com/johnsokol1.

All the paintings in this display are for sale. The artist has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds from all sales to Weathervane. If you want to make a purchase, please inquire at the Box Office. Thank you for supporting the arts!

Marci Paolucci

Gallery Curator

Many thanks to the dozens of volunteers who have recently contributed time and talents.

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Agatha Christie's

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A Mystery Thriller

Directed by **NANCY CATES**

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The Director is a member of the
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SETTING AND TIME

The living room of a house on Soldier Island, off the coast of Devon, England.

ACT 1

A summer evening in August.

ACT 2

Scene One: The following morning.
Scene Two: The same day. Afternoon.

ACT 3

Scene One: The same day. Evening.
Scene Two: The following morning.

THERE WILL BE TWO TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSIONS

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AGATHA CHRISTIE (1890–1976) is the author not only of *The Mousetrap*, the longest running stage production in history, but also *Witness for the Prosecution* and *And Then There Were None* to name but a few of her greatest stage successes. Her novels have sold more than 2 billion copies around the world, and she is only outsold by the Bible and Shakespeare. Born in 1890, in Torquay, Devon, England, to an American father and English mother, she wrote her first play *Black Coffee* (the only play in which she chose to feature Poirot) in 1930 having been disappointed by the way *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* had been adapted into *Alibi* in 1928. She adapted her bestselling novel *And Then There Were None* for stage in 1943,

giving it a different ending, followed by, in quick succession, *Appointment with Death* (1945), *Murder on the Nile* (1946) and *The Hollow* (1951). With *The Mousetrap* (1952), *Witness for the Prosecution* (1953), and *Spider's Web* (1954), she became the only female playwright to have three plays running in the West End at the same time. Later plays include *Towards Zero* (1956) co-adapted with Gerald Verner, *Verdict* (1958) possibly her most unusual play, *Go Back for Murder* (1960), and *Rule of Three* (1962) a series of three one-act plays. After a hugely successful career and a wonderful life, Ms. Christie died peacefully on 12 January 1976. You can read Agatha Christie's own account of her life in *An Autobiography*, which was published after her death in 1977.



JIM FIPPIN (Sir Lawrence Wargrave) has been on stage at Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Weathervane Playhouse, Western Reserve Playhouse, Coach House, Porthouse, Magical Theatre Company and The Players Guild. His resume includes roles in *Hamlet*, 1776,

Tartuffe, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Treasure Island*, *The Three Musketeers*, *The Wild Goose*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *The Mousetrap*, *Four Dogs and a Bone*, *Bus Stop*, *Uncle Vanya*, *August: Osage County*, *The Rainmaker*, *Custer*, *The Real Thing*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Noises Off*, *Twelfth Night*, *Another Antigone*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *King Lear*. At Weathervane Jim has directed *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Italian American Reconciliation*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*. Jim received a Chanticleer Award for his performance as Clarence Day, Sr. in *Life with Father* at Weathervane in 2014 and in 2005 he was recognized by the Akron Area Arts Alliance as the area's outstanding theatre artist. He holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from Otterbein, where he met his wife, Elaine, and where their daughter Emelie will graduate with the class of 2020.



ERIN MOORE (Vera Claythorne) is delighted to be returning to Weathervane Playhouse! Since graduating from Malone University in 2012, Erin has appeared in *A Christmas Carol*, *Hamlet*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Rubber

City Theatre, *Murder on the Nile* and *Blithe Spirit* at Coach House Theatre; as well as *Vanya* and *Sonia* and *Masha and Spike*, *Life With Father*, *Charley's Aunt*, and *August: Osage County* at Weathervane. Three summer seasons with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. Other past credits include *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Proof*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *God's Favorite*, and *A Toby Show*. Erin would like to thank her family and friends, her teachers and mentors, her co-workers, and everyone involved in this production for all of their love and support.



DIMITRI GEORGIADIS (Philip Lombard) last appeared at Weathervane in his Chanticleer—Award-winning turn as Garry Lejuene/ Roger Trampelman in *Noises Off*. Dimitri is a man of many voices—just ask. He is a former Speech & Debate

State Champion in the category of Humorous Interpretation. Dimitri is looking to align his personal talents with his passion for theatre and the arts. He is an enthusiastic learner with exceptional public speaking and leadership skills, and a deep desire to make a positive social impact. He lives by the motto, "No one will outwork me today."



JASEEN J. SMITH (Rogers) has appeared many times on stage at Weathervane Playhouse. These shows include *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Our Town*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, *Hamlet*, *Dracula*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *A Christmas*

Carol: The Musical.



MARCI PAOLUCCI (Mrs. Rogers) is delighted to return to the Weathervane stage and thrilled to be directed again by Nancy Cates. Since 1984, Marci has performed in over 100 productions in community and professional theatre venues in Northeast Ohio. Daisy in

Driving Miss Daisy, Eleanor in *The Lion in Winter*, and Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie* are her top three favorite roles. Marci was honored to be one of the eight people profiled in the September issue of *Akron Life Magazine*. She sends love and gratitude to her family and friends for their support during the last three difficult years. Marci is dedicating her performance in this play to her late husband, Roland Paolucci, the love of her life, whom she misses every day.



BOB MADDOX (General MacKenzie) recently returned to the area after spending the past 36 years in Houston, Texas. While in Houston, Bob worked as a high school theatre teacher, served as Artistic Director for Country Playhouse (Houston's largest non-

professional theatre) and was co-owner and Artistic Director of Inside/Out Productions. Bob has performed the job of actor, director and/or set designer for over 200 productions during the past 50 years. As an actor some of Bob's favorite roles have been George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Barney in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, Gallimard in *M. Butterfly* and Vanya in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (for which he was named a finalist for Best Performance by an Actor in Houston in 2016, as determined by the Houston press).



DAN REICHERT (Anthony Marston) Dan Reichert, in his very first Weathervane Playhouse production, returns to the stage after an eight-year hiatus. Previous shows include: *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Charlie Brown), *Waiting for Godot* (Pozzo),

Grease (Roger), among others. Twitter/Instagram: @DanReichert.



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JEANNIE CLARKSON (Winnifred Narracott) is delighted to be working with Nancy Cates and this cast and crew! *And Then There Were None* was a favorite book for her as a teen, and it is thrilling to be a part of this production. Past Weathervane credits include *Noises Off* (Stage Manager), *Almost, Maine* (Glory), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Judy), the 2018 and 2019 Weathervane 8 x 10 Festival, *Into the Woods* (Stage Manager), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Stage Manager) and *You Can't Take It With You* (Mrs. Kirby). Jeannie thanks her friends, family and especially her husband for their love and support!

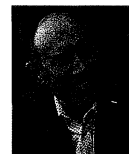


MARK STOFFER (William Blore) has been acting and designing in Northeast Ohio for decades. He is a staff member at The Ohio Shakespeare Festival, where in addition to acting, he is the resident lighting and sound designer, and for several years has been the mainstage Music Director and Composer for their summer performances on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall. He last appeared on Weathervane's stage as Sam Carmichael in the sold-out run of *Mamma Mia!* His previous Weathervane role was Brassett in *Charley's Aunt*, a production for which he also served as lighting designer. Among his many memorable roles are Cornelius Hackl in *Hello, Dolly!* at the North Canton Playhouse; Uncle John in *The Grapes of Wrath* and

Houdini in *Ragtime!* (both on our stage); Canon Ambrose Pennefather in *Murder on the Nile*; and Sherlock Holmes in *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* (both at Coach House Theatre); and John Hancock in *1776*; Tilney in *Shakespeare in Love*; Prince Arragon in *The Merchant of Venice*; Le Beau in *As You Like It*; Antigonius in *The Winter's Tale*; and Angelo the Goldsmith in *The Comedy of Errors* (all with The Ohio Shakespeare Festival).



KAREN L. WOOD (Emily Brent) is delighted to return to Weathervane Playhouse. Favorite roles here include Amalia (*She Loves Me*), Adelaide (*Guys and Dolls*), Abby (*Arsenic and Old Lace*), Berthe (*Pippin*), Rosie (*The Wedding Singer*), and Mrs. Tottendale (*The Drowsy Chaperone*). Karen was an intervention specialist in the Norwayne School District for 37 years. Since her retirement, Karen has been a volunteer for Lifecare Hospice, Creston Friends of the Library, and the Wayne County Retired Teachers.



JOHN SCAVELLI (Dr. Armstrong) is happy to be making his Weathervane debut in this production. When John is not on stage, he serves as the Law Director for the City of Wooster. Favorite past roles include Annas in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Sam Weinberg in *A Few Good Men*, Sid in *The Pajama Game*, and Father in *Ragtime*. John hopes you enjoy the show.



NANCY CATES (Director) has directed twenty shows for Weathervane Playhouse, including *Lend Me a Tenor*, and *Mamma Mia!* Other favorites over the years include *Blithe Spirit*, *All My Sons*, and *Shakespeare in Hollywood*. Nancy is one of the two founding Artistic Directors of Ohio Shakespeare Festival, currently performing at Greystone Hall in downtown Akron, and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens in the summers. Nancy spent nine years as Artistic Director at Coach House Theatre, where she had the pleasure of directing *And Then There Were None* in 2012, with a cast that included two of tonight's actors. She dedicates this production to a third who is no longer with us, the regal and elegant Alfred Anderson, who is greatly missed. Nancy is a member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers.



TIFFANY BIRD (Stage Manager) has made Weathervane Playhouse her second home lately and is thrilled to return to the production booth for her seventh stint as stage manager, having previously managed productions of *Mamma Mia!*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *A Christmas Carol: the Musical* and *It's Only A Play*. Tiffany has also provided her talents to Western Reserve Playhouse for *The Bridges of Madison County*. She is an attorney and avid theater goer who has been active both on and behind stage. Tiffany has also directed two different plays as part of the 8x10 Theatrefest and she has directed productions of *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Orrville Community Theater. Tiffany's children are also active both on and off the stage, and every once in a while she drags her husband along too! She would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse both for the wonderful volunteer opportunities they offer to this community and for the chance to live her passions. She would like to thank her family for supporting her in all her crazy endeavors!



MAKENNA BIRD (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be assisting this production and her mom as the Assistant Stage Manager. Makenna has appeared at Weathervane in the recent 8x10 Theatrefest in *Listening*, as Margot in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and in the ensembles of *School of Rock*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Holes* and *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. She is a junior at Highland High School and the Medina County Career Center. Makenna enjoys volunteering both on stage and backstage at Weathervane and she would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse for the opportunities she has

been given. Makenna wants to thank her Weathervane friends and her loving family for their unending support and encouragement.



KELLI PERK (Properties Designer) is an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Cuyahoga County and an artist. This is her second show designing properties; her first was last season's *Mamma Mia!* and she is thrilled to again be using her creative skills for *And Then There Were None*.



HAZEN TOBAR (Sound Designer) is excited to be designing sound again for Weathervane! Throughout the 2019-20 season, you can also find him designing sound at Rubber City Theatre, The Brecksville Theatre, and Western Reserve Playhouse. His more recent designs for Weathervane are *Almost, Maine*, *Noises Off*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. Past designs include *Pippin*, *The Flick*, and *Julius Caesar*.



ALAN COSTA (Scenic Designer) is excited to be designing the set for *And Then There Were None*, having most recently designed the sets for *Almost, Maine*, and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. Before that, he served as the stage manager for *Doubt: A Parable*, *Red* and the assistant stage manager for *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Alan was last seen on our stage as President Roosevelt in *Annie*. He also served as properties co-designer on our productions of *Young Frankenstein* and *Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes*. Outside of his theatrical pursuits, he enjoys baseball and its storied history. Retired after 40-plus years of service with FirstEnergy, he and his wife, Pamela Parks Costa, live in Akron. They are proud parents to two children and grandparents to four.



JASEN J. SMITH (Costume Designer) joined the professional staff of Weathervane Playhouse in 2008. Our recent production of *Mamma Mia!* marked his 100th show here at the playhouse. In past seasons, he has designed *Children of Eden*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Hair*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Life with Father*, *Into the Woods*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Dreamgirls* and many, many more. Regionally, Jasen has designed *The White Devil* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *The Merry Widow*, and *Robin Hood* (Ohio Light Opera), *The Philadelphia Story*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Tartuffe*, *The Firebugs*, *Medea*, and *Stage Door* (Case Western Reserve University),

The Odd Couple (Porthouse Theater), and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* starring Richard Kind for the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts. Beyond all the costumes he has designed here, Jasen has found an extended family. He cannot do what he does without the support of John, Melanie Hauer, Jen Desberg and Dawn Sniadak Yamokoski. Thank you, Millie Keyser, Robin Van der Grift, Joanna Mack, Jenny Banker, Phyllis Bernel, Carol Smith, Carol Armstrong, and Nancy Ross for all of the hours of hard work and friendship you generously give. Jasen is excited to see what the next 100 shows here at Weathervane have in store for him.



RICHARD MORRIS, JR. (Technical Director/Lighting Designer) Most recently directed *Dreamgirls*, *Holes* and *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* here at Weathervane Playhouse. Some of his other directorial credits include *Leap of Faith*, *Black Nativity*, *Christmas is*

Commin Uptown, *The Government Inspector*, *Raisin*, *Dracula*, *It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's Superman*, *Purlie Victorious*, *The Jungle Book*, *Seussical*, *Willie Wonka*, *Birds of a Feather*, *101 Dalmatians*, *Into the Woods*, *The Aristocats Jr*, *Goldilocks on Trial*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Xanadu*, *The Trials and Tribulations of Staggerlee Booker T Brown*, and *The Submarine Steetcar*. For 10 years, he was Production Director for the Karamu Arts Summer Camp, where he introduced many teens and young adults to the art of theatrical performance. For 19 years he also served as Technical Director/Resident Scenic and Lighting Designer for Karamu Performing Arts Theatre. He has designed over 149 Productions. In 2011 he was the recipient of the National Award for Outstanding Achievements in Scenic Design (National Black Theatre Festival) and was keynote speaker at Alabama State University on "African Americans in Scenic Design." Mr. Morris has also received the 2001 Actors Guild Award for his Scenic/Lighting design for *Riff Raff* and *Treemonisha*. In 2008 he also won *Scene Magazine's* "Best Scenic Design" for *Caroline, or Change*. He has designed for many theaters in the Northeast Ohio area, such as Ensemble Theatre, Dobama, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cuyahoga Community College, Oberlin College Theatre, Firestone Theatre and Jubar Productions, just to name a few. He is a graduate of Kent State University. In December 2016, he joined Weathervane's professional staff as Technical Director/Resident Scenic Designer. Richard is currently working on a new musical production, *Two Boys from Glenville*, the story of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, the creators of Superman.



KATHY KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in elementary education from Bowling Green State University and a master's degree in business management from Aurora University. She began her theater career at Weathervane as a volunteer on many lighting, set construction, and props crews, joining the professional staff in 2002. She also served for seven years as master carpenter and master painter for the theater department at Firestone High School. Most recently, she was the scenic designer for our productions of *It's Only a Play*, *The Flick*, and the co-designer of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and *Monty Python's Spamalot*. In 2017, she received the Producer's Award, and in 2015, she was a recipient of The Trustees Award. She holds three Chanticleer awards for her properties designs for *Enchanted April*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, and *The Philadelphia Story*. She lives with her husband Doug, in West Akron where they raised three children. When not at Weathervane, she very much enjoys being "Ommie" to Parker, Fiona, Beckett, Maise, and Greyson.



JOHN COYNE (House Sound Technician) has been around the Akron/Canton theatre scene for five years and is currently pursuing a BA in Theatrical Production at Kent State University. He has served as the lead sound designer for six other productions at Weathervane Playhouse (*Peter Pan*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Hairspray*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *Mamma Mia!*) and for the recent student-directed and-designed production of *Of Mice and Men* at Kent State University at Stark. In addition, he has served as an assistant sound designer for five other productions at Kent State University at Stark (*Consider the Oyster*, *Virtual Devotion*, *26 Pebbles*, *Unnecessary Farce*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*). and he hopes you enjoy the show! Outside of theatre, John works with Akron-based company Clear Gold Audio and Lighting, providing professional live sound and lighting services all over Northeast Ohio and beyond.

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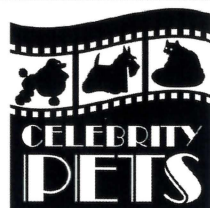
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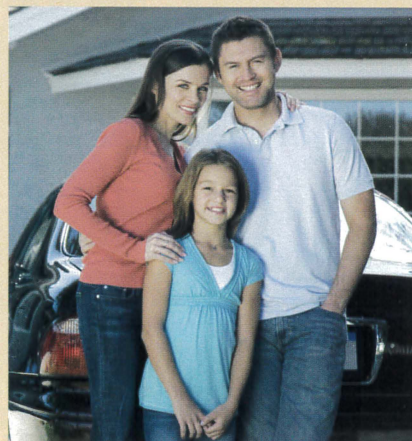
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