

The Cadillac Footlites
presents



CADILLAC
FOOTLITERS
THEATRE



March 8-16, 2024



Mackinaw Trail Pediatrics

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Megan Santangelo MD • Chelsea Kirby MD • Mary Blackmer FNP
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Season 60

2023-24



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Cadillac Footliters Proudly Presents:



Written by Thornton Wilder

Graciously Underwritten by:

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Directed by:

Sally Goggin & Meg Santangelo

Stage Manager: Barb Sicoli

Set Design: Sally Goggin & Meg Santangelo

Sound & Sound Effects: Dan Wilson & Katie Maynard

Costumes: Jenni Kirt

Posters/Marketing Lead: Gabrielle Haiderer

Projections: Emma Johnson, Leah Johnson, &
Dave Johnson

Bookholder: Kelly Johnson

March 8-16, 2024

Cadillac Community Auditorium

Cadillac High School

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"Our Town"

is produced in cooperation with Concord Theatricals
(www.concordtheatricals.com)

CAST

Stage Manager: **Joseph Baumann**
Dr. Gibbs: **Jon Berry**
Joe Crowell: **Evan Johnson**
Howie Newsome: **Remus Throop**
Mrs. Gibbs: **Julie VanHaitsma**
Mrs. Webb: **Heather Brannam**
George Gibbs: **Jacob Johnson**
Rebecca Gibbs: **Alexis Alto**
Wally Webb: **Charlie Kendell**
Emily Webb: **Annabelle Tharnish**
Professor Willard: **Leslie Benson**
Mr. Webb: **Jay Simon**
Simon Stimson: **Kraig Schutter**
Mrs. Soames: **Rose Clark**
Constable Warren: **Dave Minor**
Si Crowell: **Max McKinley**
Baseball Players: **Max McKinley & Arrow Whetstone**
Sam Craig: **Elizabeth Pechota**
Joe Stoddard: **Dave Maynard**
Assistant Stage Managers: **Evan Johnson & Remus Throop**

People of the Town/Ensemble:

Ann Clous
Richard Clous
Joan Elenbaas
Fiore Fowler
Kristen Kuhn
Victoria Martin
Andy Ulrich

A Note from the Directors

In a world that seems increasingly stressful and divisive, there is one thing we can all agree on: Our Town is a play for the ages. It's universal themes of Love, Family, Friendship and Loss speak to ALL of us. Art speaks to everyone.

The Cast and Crew have worked very hard in a short period of time to create this beautiful story. They have done it without a fancy set or a myriad of props. There are no gimmicks or flashy dance numbers. It's just the actors and the relationships they have created with each other that frame the story of Our Town. We are so proud of their dedication, the characters they have developed and the touching moments they have brought to life on stage.

We of course couldn't do this without the support of many! Thanks to Dan Wilson for his help with the new light/sound board at the auditorium. Special thanks to our Community Partners who made our set and costumes possible: Ben Bigelow of Bigelow Supply, Sue Jensen of Absolutely Fabulous Resale and the Wexford County Historical Society. Our Community is stronger because of the connections we create.

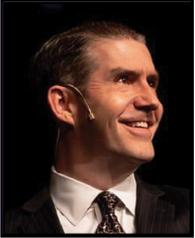
We hope you enjoy the show we have created. We hope it moves you to look at the little things in life with new wonder. We hope you realize what a gift it is to be doing just this, right now, right here. Oh, Our Town, you're too wonderful for anybody to realize you.

Sally Goggin and Meg Santangelo

CAST BIOS



Alexis Alto (Rebecca Gibbs): You see that short little girl up there? Well, that's Alexis. A fifth-grader at Franklin Elementary School just prancing around on stage. Alexis enjoys looking at pictures of pigs and herself. As said in the show Alexis actually does have a large interest and collection (if you ask Alexis) in money. She loves reading and playing with monkeys. She does not actually have access to monkeys but she likes to pretend. She likes making her sister annoyed and this is her seventh production. She would like to thank Footliters. Enjoy the show!



Joseph Baumann (Stage Manager): A relatively recent transplant to Cadillac, Joe started acting at age 10 and is a veteran of mid-Michigan, Cadillac, and Traverse City area stages. Some of his favorite credits include: Billy Flynn in *Chicago* (Old Town Playhouse), Harry Wormwood in *Matilda the Musical* (Footliters), Dr. Frederick Frankenstein in *Young Frankenstein* (Old Town Playhouse), and Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family* (Footliters).



Leslie Benson (Professor Willard): This is Leslie's second Footliters play. She has loved theater since her high school days where she first experienced the excitement and thrill of bring part of productions. She has long loved this play, *Our Town*, and is especially grateful for the opportunity to be part of this show.



Jon Berry (Dr. Gibbs): Jon is excited to be joining Footliters for his second season! Balancing kids, work, and theater is always worth it when the curtain finally opens. From running around as a clown in *39 Steps*, or singing and dancing in *Matilda*, Jon has always enjoyed his time with the Footliters community.



Heather Brannam (Mrs. Webb): Heather has been involved with Footliters for over 10 years. She first decided to share the stage with her daughter Emily in *Music Man*, and this is her 8th time on stage. Being on stage is not her only involvement with productions. She has been stage manager numerous times as well as prop master, producer and assistant director. She looks forward to sharing the stage with her daughter again some day.



Rose Clark (Mrs. Soames): Rose is a woman that eats dark chocolate every day. She loves travel, acting, kindness, the color mauve, yoga and her husband and children. Sometimes she is in shape and oftentimes she isn't. Sometimes it's Rose, sometimes it's mom, sometimes it's Ms. Clark and lately it's Mrs. Soames – a gossipy, excitable woman in love with happiness. As a person that hates gossip the role of Mrs. Soames has been challenging, interesting and fun. When Rose was a kid she spent a lot of time in LaLa Land and wanted to be a flavor scientist or airline stewardess until she went on her first flight.



Ann Clous (Woman in the Auditorium/Ensemble): Ann is excited to once again be joining the Footliters troupe, and has finally found a role that's a natural to her: being belligerent! Just kidding but she is glad to be a part of this great cast and continues to be amazed at the great talent in the Cadillac area. She hopes you'll enjoy this great production of a classic!



Richard Clous (Farmer McCarty/Ensemble): Richard begrudgingly agreed to be part of the cast, on the condition he would have no lines (other than being in the choir, the wedding ensemble and one of the people among the dead). Somewhere along the way, thru no fault of his own, he ended up with one line (two words), and then, was assigned as Farmer McCarty – but still among the dead. (Isn't That Funny?). Seriously, he joined Footliters in the music ensemble in *Mamma Mia* and is happy to be a part of this great project too!



Joan Elenbaas (Woman in the Balcony/Ensemble): Although Joan has had a passion for theatre since playing the part of Granny Perkins in her senior play entitled *He Ain't Done Right by Nell*, this is her first time performing with the Footliters. Her husband encouraged her to try out for a part in this production of *Our Town* after watching her play the part of a demented wife, in a murder mystery that her sister-in-law hosted this year at their family Christmas party. Joan recently retired from her position as the Title 1 Reading teacher at McBain Elementary, which has freed her up to explore these other interests.



Fiore Fowler (Ensemble): Fiore has enjoyed being on stage since the age of 5 when she joined the Landing Dance Academy learning ballet and tap dancing. She has always loved singing and has been a member of several choirs over the years. From her debut performance as Tinkerbell in *Ever After the Musical* in Jr. High to her current performance in *Our Town* she has enjoyed other times in the spotlight as a dancer in *Rock of Ages* at Cadillac High School to Teen Karaoke with the Footliters this past Spring. Fiore hopes you will celebrate World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st by taking her out to lunch or dinner.



Evan Johnson (Joe Crowell, Jr): Evan Johnson is a bright-eyed example of “Hey, this looks fun!” and jumping into whatever project solely because it’s with the Footliters. He’s been in many other performances with the guild in the past and is excited for the many more still to come.



Jacob Johnson (George Gibbs): Jacob has been part of Footliters since 2021, with his first performance, *The Addams Family*, playing the role of Lucas Beineke. He has been in other performances including *Mamma Mia*, *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, *Tony 'n Tina's Wedding*, and more. Jacob is funny, creative, and amazing dancer. And lastly, he hopes you enjoy this wonderful production!!



Charlie Kendell Koszewski (Wally Webb): Charlie loves being onstage and *Our Town* is his 7th production. He has acted in Junior Footliters, as well as NLDA, Old Town Playhouse, and Interlochen Arts Academy drama camps. Charlie has also worked backstage in the Cadillac High School Vikings Theatre productions of *Rock of Ages* and *Footloose*. He is also a student at The Landing Dance Academy, taking Dance for Musical Theatre. Favorite roles have included Mike Teevee from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and Christopher Robin in *Winnie the Pooh*. Charlie's love of acting was inspired by his sister Mia. He hopes you enjoy the show.



Kristen Kuhn (Lady in the Box/Ensemble): Kristen is new to the stage excluding hosting an improv class in High School. She enjoys dressing for Renfairs and the aspect of play, so she thought she'd give this a try and she is having a lot of fun learning about theatre through this experience. She wants to thank everyone for attending. Do no harm and question authority.



Victoria Martin (Woman Among the Dead/Ensemble): Introducing Victoria, a fresh addition to the Footliters stage! Originally from the Chicago Land Area, Victoria has been honing her craft on stage since her high school days. While her journey led her away from the spotlight after moving to Cadillac six years ago, she's now bursting with excitement to make her triumphant return to the stage with her debut Footliters production.



Dave Maynard (Joe Stoddard): Dave has been involved in a handful of small parts in Footliters productions. These range from *Willy Wonka* to *Our Town*. Dave is an Environmental Analyst with the State of Michigan. Daves other hobby is volunteer crew member on the tall ship Inland Seas.



Max McKinley (Si Crowell/Baseball Player): Max is an 8th grader at Mackinaw Trail Middle School and is the first chair flute for the MTMS band. This is Max's 2nd Footliters show, his first was in *Junie B Jones Jr The Musical*; he played the role of "Daddy." Max is very excited to take on his roles in *Our Town* and even more excited to expand his experience with Footliters productions.



David Minor (Constable Warren): Dave Minor was in his first Footliters show for *Noises Off* recently. He enjoyed the challenge and the fun but professional cast and crew. Growing up in Grand Marais, he started doing plays for his father there, and has been in community theatre off and on since then. He lives in Harrison with his wife, Tammy, and their kids. Dave and all involved in *Our Town* thank you audience members for supporting community theatre.



Elizabeth Pechota (Samantha Craig): After finishing her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Theatre, Elizabeth found her way back home to Cadillac. She is amazed how theatre has grown in this area and the talent she has seen from all ages and stages. *Our Town* is a show that recognizes how sacred every moment in life is. It's reminiscent of a phrase her grandmother would always say: "This too shall pass." Good times, bad times, and mundane times will eventually pass, so it's important to appreciate every moment because it will one day be gone. Thank you for supporting your community theatre. Enjoy the show!



Kraig Schutter (Simon Stimson): Kraig first joined the Footliters for *Clue* as Professor Plum, and also crawled along benches in a fabulous dance number as Bill Austin in *Mamma Mia*. He'd like to thank his much, MUCH better half Lynn for her support.



Jay Simon (Mr. Webb): A 20-year Cadillac transplant, Jay took far too long to discover theater and the Footliters, and now considers them 2B on his list of obsessions (pickleball remains 2A). He's grateful to have been a part of this beautiful show, and thanks the cast and crew for their passion and effort, you for supporting the arts, and Deb -- his number 1 -- for everything every day.



Annabelle Tharnish (Emily Webb): Annabelle is 14, new to Footliters and overjoyed to be in this production. She has been in three musicals including *Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; *The Wizard of Oz*; and *Into the Woods*. In *Narnia* she played a na-
iad in Aslans army, in *The Wizard of Oz* she played a munchkin, Ozian, and Tinman's understudy, and in *Into the Woods* she was Little Red Riding Hood. Community theater has always been a big part of her life and building friendships with fellow cast members is one of her top priorities. She hopes you have a great time in Grover's Corners and enjoy the show! 1 Cor. 10:31



Remus Throop (Howie Newsome): Remus is making his 4th appearance with Footliters, having been on-stage in *Clue*, *Mamma Mia*, and *Matilda*. He enjoys being onstage and dives into each role that he portrays. Remus brings laughter to his cast mates and works to connect with each one. Remus has enjoyed each of his times on stage and is excited to be a part of this show. He hopes the audience will love "Howie" as much as he does.



Andy Ulrich (Ensemble): Andy has a lifelong love of theater. He's also been known to sing in the shower from time to time.



Julie VanHaitsma (Mrs. Gibbs): Julie is excited to be on stage for this classic play and thanks Meg and Sally for trusting her with this role. Previously she has been on stage in *Love, Loss and What I Wore* and as the wicked stepmother in *Into the Woods*. More often you will find her in the director's chair. She is grateful to her husband and family for their unwavering support and encouragement and her granddaughter Davey for brightening her life.



Arrow Whetstone (Baseball Player): Arrow is new to Footliters and is super excited to be a part of this cast. They enjoy artistic expression in things like painting, crocheting, writing, graphic design, and now acting. They hope to continue their journey with Footliters in the near future.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS



Sally Goggin (Co-Director): For 11 years, Sally directed United Way Murder Mysteries, and most recently *Tony 'n Tina's Wedding* for Footliters. She has a theatre degree from Alma College, and performed in Midland, including as Eliza in *My Fair Lady*, Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl*, and Kate in *Taming of the Shrew*. Since moving to Cadillac her favorite performances have included Joanne in *Company* and Eulalie McKecknie Shinn in *Music Man* with Footliters, and with the Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City as the title role in *Mame*. What an incredible opportunity it has been to bring the classic *Our Town* to life with this delightful cast!



Meg Santangelo (Co-Director): Meg has been with Footliters since 2018. She loves her roles both on stage and behind the scenes. This is her second go at directing and she appreciates all those who have helped her learn the art of steering a show! She couldn't have done it without her fabulous co-director Sally Goggin whose expertise and experience is priceless! Meg thanks her family for picking up the slack at home so she can play on stage.

A Message From Our President, Joseph Baumann

Who would have thought? In 1964, when a group of community members wanted to get together to do some theatre, who would have thought that group would be alive and thriving SIXTY years later? Well, here we are. Honoring their legacy. Building our future.

And so it continues. Our fourth show of Season 60. 60 years engaging, enriching, and entertaining the Cadillac area. It hardly seems possible that we're still here doing what we love most after this many years.

And if a 60-year celebration wasn't enough, our Board of Directors recently bought a building for rehearsal, storage, and building, renewed our strategic vision, rebranded our visual and graphical identity, and scheduled a special season of shows that will knock your socks off. We hope you like it, because we can't do it without YOU.

As you will see in our special pre-show video this season, Footliters must honor where we came from in order to chart a path to our NEXT 60 years. And YOU are a key part of it. Join us. Audition for a show, share a talent, learn a new skill, find a new tribe.

Footliters' responsibility is simple - #engage new people in the arts, #enrich our community through balanced show offerings and charitable partnerships, and #entertain by producing quality that YOU want to see. Succeeding here is our only path to another 60 years.

Our first 60 years are worthy of celebration. Join us and be part of our NEXT 60 years.



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How Does Your Support Make An Impact?

Production costs for one show can average anywhere from \$2,000 up to \$6,000 depending on if the production is a musical or non-musical. Ticket sales are only able to partially cover the cost of a production. Memberships, sponsorships, and additional contributions are necessary to fill that gap and help Cadillac's Footlitters continue making great shows possible!

Become a member! Sponsor a show! Volunteer! Pick up some swag! Support and become part of our growing fine arts community, nourishing the talent of our community actors, musicians, and dancers. As a member, you can be part of our great community theatre—on stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience.

If you would like to support your community theatre but prefer not to take an active role, please consider making a financial donation.

Sponsorships help pay for:

- Show production rights—production rights and rental fees cost between \$1,000 and \$5,000 per show
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- Costumes
- Technology—special lighting, sound effects, wireless microphones, mechanical animated prop maintenance
- Props—furniture and other items
- Equipment rental, special costumes, tools, and specialty orchestral instruments that help complete a show

Whether it's through membership, sponsorships, or volunteering—you can be part of our mission!

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- Jeanne Hewitt-Fleck
- Angie Floriano

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- Evan Heuker
- Kelly Johnson
- Mia Kadwell
- Kristen Kuhn
- David Minor
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- Glen Ruczynski
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Enjoy the show!

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wherever you go...

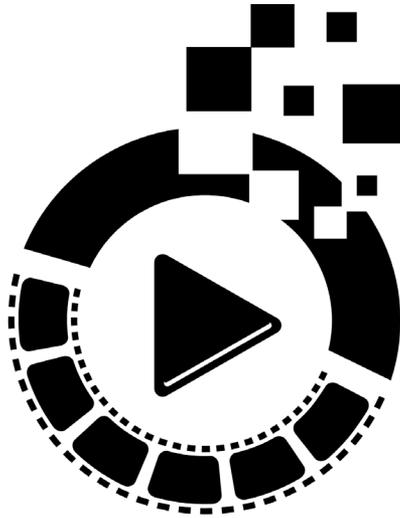
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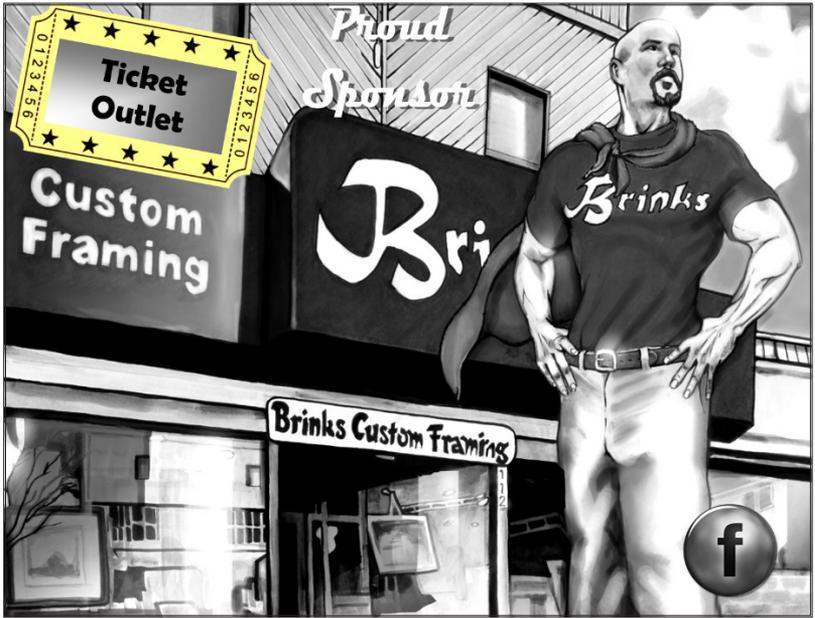
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