

Ankeny Community Theatre

presents



**THE BEST  
CHRISTMAS  
PAGEANT  
EVER**

*by Barbara Robinson-in cooperation with Samuel French Inc*

at

Ankeny High School Auditorium

DEC. 6,.....7:30 P.M.

DEC. 7&8,...2:30 P.M.

NOTICE!  
Extra Performance  
DEC. 7...7:30 P.M.

# Ankeny Community Theatre

presents



# THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

*by Barbara Robinson-in cooperation with Samuel French Inc.*

DIRECTED BY

DUANE ANDERSON, CONNIE SANDERSON, AND KAREN SWIFT

A.C.T.  
Ankeny Community Theatre

The Ankeny Community Theatre is a non-profit community organization dedicated to enhance the field of theatre arts and to bring live theatre to the Ankeny area. We welcome persons who desire to combine their talents of acting, directing, design, construction, and publicity to make our productions possible.

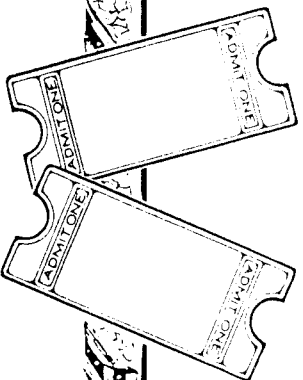
The first production of A.C.T. was "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU" in the Fall of 1981. Since that time, A.C.T. has produced six other shows including "THE FANTASTICKS", "HARVEY", "PLAZA SUITE", "GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE", "THE SOUND OF MUSIC", AND "OKLAHOMA". We are very thankful and appreciative of the community's support. We are especially grateful for those persons who have tried to attend each of our shows. It is with this base of support and loyalty that A.C.T. embarks on another season of shows.

The 1985-86 season opened in September with the critically reviewed "INHERIT THE WIND", A.C.T.'s first serious dramatic offering. Our current production of Barbara Robinson's "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER" is another "first" for A.C.T.-the inaugural presentation of this warm and charming work in central Iowa. Completing the series of "A.C.T. firsts" for the 85-86 season is the January production of an original script, "MINGLED YARN" by Ankeny's own Paul Shay.

A.C.T.'s season finale is "GUYS AND DOLLS", a delightful musical fable of Broadway based on a story and characters of Damon Runyon. The production schedule is as follows:

AUDITIONS:                   JANUARY 18, 19, 20  
REHEARSALS BEGIN:       FEBRUARY 18  
PERFORMANCE DATES:   APRIL 11-13, 18-20

Watch the Ankeny Press Citizen/Crier and Register's Datebook and Neighbors sections for the announcement. Better yet, why not take a few minutes to read the membership brochure and become an active member of the ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE.



**Your Tickets To Ankeny Community Theatre's  
 "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" Can Do  
 Lots More Than Get You Into A Great Family  
 Stage Production . . .**

**They  
 Can  
 Get  
 You  
 10% OFF**

**Purchase During The Holiday Season  
 at Participating Ankeny Merchants!**



After enjoying Ankeny Community Theatre's Production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever", you can use your ticket stubs to get 10% off purchases made at stores listed below. Some restrictions may apply and may vary from store to store. But what a great way to start the Holidays... with a Great Show and 10% off your purchases thru December 24, 1985.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is live and on stage Friday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2:30 and 7:30 and Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available at:

**PARTICIPATING "10% OFF" MERCHANTS**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>GODFATHER'S PIZZA</b><br>Not good with any other offer.<br>Alcoholic beverages excluded. | <b>CORY'S HARDWARE</b><br>Excludes sweed items.                             | <b>DOMINO'S PIZZA</b><br>10% off any pizza.                             |
| <b>BIKE COUNTRY</b><br>Accessories, parts & labor only                                      | <b>STRAWBERRY PATCH</b><br>Regular price and from store only                | <b>D &amp; D PROFESSIONAL CUT</b><br>10% off any haircut.               |
| <b>SITZMAN'S MENS STORE</b><br>Regular priced items only                                    | <b>GENE ANN'S</b><br>Excludes children's clothing                           | <b>PAULLINS JEWELRY</b><br>Excludes watch repairs.                      |
| <b>PIZZA HUT</b><br>Not good with any other offer.<br>Alcoholic beverages excluded          | <b>HALLMARK</b><br>Precious Birthdays excluded<br>One shipping fee per item | <b>SCHMITZ MEAT &amp; SEAFOOD</b><br>Aisle 100 only                     |
| <b>COAST TO COAST HOME CENTER</b><br>Excluding sale items                                   | <b>VIDEO EXCHANGE</b><br>On video at checkout                               | <b>ANKENY FLOWERS &amp; GIFTS</b><br>On any floral gift.                |
| <b>SGT. PEPPERS</b><br>Any menu item including Alcoholic Beverages                          | <b>DILLOW SUPER VALU</b><br>From Basket 10 & up                             | <b>SHER'S HAIR STUDIO</b><br>Refresh hair products only<br>No blowdries |
| <b>PEOPLES DRUG (BOTH STORES)</b><br>Any brand name medicine                                | <b>DRUGTOWN</b><br>Regular priced items                                     | <b>CAROUSEL FLORISTS</b><br>All items including wreaths                 |
| <b>ANKENY TRUE VALUE HARDWARE</b>   | <b>HY VEE FOOD STORE</b><br>Any brand name food                             |   |

Circle 14 on Reader Service Card

Circle 14 on Reader Service Card

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

By Barbara Robinson

In Cooperation With  
Samuel French, Inc.

Act I Scene 1: The Bradley House. A Month Before  
The Pageant.

Act I Scene 2: The Bradley House. Later The Same  
Day.

Act I Scene 3: Sunday School Class. The Following  
Sunday.

Act II Scene 1: Pageant Practice. The Following  
Wednesday.

Act II Scene 2: Pageant Practice. Later Wednesday.

Act II Scene 3: The Pageant. The Next Sunday.

CAST

In Order of Appearance

Father (Bob Bradley).....	Arlyn Weieneth
Mother (Grace Bradley).....	Debbie Hilder
Beth Bradley.....	Maja Twedt
Charlie Bradley.....	Brandon Lee
Ralph Herdman.....	Russ Henning
Imogene Herdman.....	Crissey Taylor
LeRoy Herdman.....	Joel Shaltanis
Claude Herdman.....	Nathan Culp
Ollie Herdman.....	Biff Campbell
Gladys Herdman.....	Katie Clarkson
Alice Wendleken.....	Amy Colvin
Mrs. Armstrong.....	Lois Campbell
Mrs. Stocum.....	Sally Sawhill
Mrs. Clark.....	Lois Henning
Mrs. Clausing.....	Leona Hadley
Mrs. McCarthy.....	Patty Loder
Maxine.....	Amy Stites
Elmer Hopkins.....	Heather and Mike Miller
Hobie.....	Nathan Eisenhauer
David.....	Corey Milner
Beverly.....	Rosalind Ballard
Shirley.....	Kirsten Greenough
Juanita.....	Kelly Wilkening
Doris.....	Emily Kessler
Rev. Hopkins.....	Erik Eriksen
Mrs. Henderson.....	Lynne Carlson



Retail Merchants  
Ankeny Chamber of Commerce

Parents of the children in the play for their assistance

#### CAST NOTES

Arlynn Weieneth(Father) This is Arlynn's first ACT performance and the first since high school. Arlynn is a psychologist for Veteran's Administration.

Debbie Hilder (Mother) Debbie's role as Grace Bradley is her first in an ACT play. Debbie keeps busy with four children, two (Lisa and Angela Carpenter) are in this show.

Maia Twedt (Beth) Maia has performed in numerous shows including ACT's Oklahoma, Kids Praise I and II, and How The Grinch Stole Christmas. Maia is also very involved in dancing.

Brandon Lee (Charlie) This is Brandon's first major play production. Brandon has been playing soccer for 11 seasons and as Charlie shows, collects baseball cards.

Russ Henning (Ralph) Russ has been in many ACT shows, three of which were Sound of Music, Inherit The Wind, and George Washington Slept Here.

Crissy Taylor (Imogene) Crissy should be a familiar face with ACT audiences. She has performed in Sound of Music, Inherit the Wind and Ratcatcher's Daughter.

Joel Shaltanis (Leroy) Joel enjoys singing in the Des Moines Children's Choir as well as his church choir. Joel has sung in two talent shows and also plays the piano.

Biff Campbell (Ollie) Biff joins our group of young debut actors. Biff is seven years old, plays soccer, and collects bears.

Nathan Culp (Claude) This is Nathans first ACT production. His interests are soccer and wrestling.

Katie Clarkson (Gladys) The spunky Gladys is portrayed by yet another newcomer to the ACT stage. Katie plays the trumpet in the fifth grade band and takes dancing lessons.

Amy Colvin (Alice) Amy debuts in her first ACT show as the prim and proper Alice. Amy enjoys the piano.

Lois Campbell (Mrs. Armstrong) Lois is our veteran ACT performer. Lois has played in George Washington Slept Here, Plaza Suite, Harvey, and You Can't Take It With You.

Sally Sawhill (Mrs. Stocum) Sally returns to our ACT stage from her role as Mrs. Krebs in Inherit the Wind. Sally works as a corporate secretary for Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Lois Henning (Mrs. Clark) Along with her three sons, Lois joins our ACT cast. Lois also performed in ACT's 1984 production of Sound of Music.

Leona Hadley (Mrs. Clausing) Leona was another Inherit the Wind cast member. Leona has been involved in many singing groups and works as a secretary.

Patty Loder (Mrs. McCarthy) Patty is a debut actor. Patty has three children and often substitutes in the food services of Ankeny schools.

Amy Stites (Maxine) Amy is a fourth grader who takes piano lessons and is involved in Girl Scouts.

Mike Miller (Elmer Hopkins) Mike is another of our experienced performers. In addition to playing trombone in the Ankeny High School Band, Mike also performed in the high school's last two shows Up The Down Staircase and Heaven Can Wait.

Heather Miller (Elmer Hopkins/Fri, Sat p.m.) Heather performed in jr. high plays and is presently busy with swimming, jazz band, swing choir, and playing the piano.

Nathan Eisenhauer (Hobie) A third grader at Terrace Elementary School, Nathan is interested in soccer, German, and collecting pennies.

Corey Milner (David) Corey is in second grade, plays the piano and collects football cards.

Rosalind Ballard (Beverly) Rosalind has been involved with baton twirling, piano, and singing in her church.

Kirsten Greenough (Shirley) This is Kirsten's debut to the ACT stage, however, she has made a video for Heartland Ed. Agency, sings in the church choir and enjoys soccer and football.



Kelly Wilkening (Juanita) Kelly's performance is her first. Her other interests are dancing and singing.

Andy Cummings (Fireman) Andy has been involved in Inherit the Wind, The Music Man, and The Man Who Came to Dinner. During the day, Andy is a truck driver.

Dick Wilson (Fireman) Dick is familiar with the ACT stage through productions of Oklahoma and Inherit the Wind. Dick was also in charge of props for this show.

Denny Rafdal (Fireman) Another deput actor, Denny, has not acted since high school. Denny is a barber in Ankeny, collects baseball cards and razors.

Emily Kessler (Doris) Emily sings in her church choir and has performed in church musicals.

Erik Erikson (Rev. Hopkins) Our most familiar ACT face and actor, Erik has appeared in ACT's Sound of Music, Oklahoma, and Inherit the Wind to name a few. Erik is also Acting President of ACT.

Rex Ratzlaff (Stage manager) This is his first time working behind the ACT Scenes. Rex has been involved previously with ACT shows by acting in Inherit the Wind. Rex is the Environmental Director for the Convalescent Home.

Duane Anderson (Director) Duane was last seen as the Judge in ACT's Inherit the Wind. He has directed six plays at the Ankeny United Church of Christ and has produced plays for ACT and the Drama Workshop. Duane is Chairperson for DMACC Commercial Horticulture Program. He likes to travel and garden.

Connie Sanderson (Director) This is Connie's first ACT performance, however, she has performed in high school and college productions including Cheaper By The Dozen and Kiss Me Kate. She has been involved in Ankeny United Church of Christ performances as performer and director. She is an instructor in Office Occupations at DMACC.

Karen Swift (Director) This is Karen's first role as a director. Karen has performed in various high school, college and community shows including The Rainmaker, You Can't Take It With You, and ACT's Oklahoma. Karen is a speech pathologist for Heartland Agency with husband Phil.