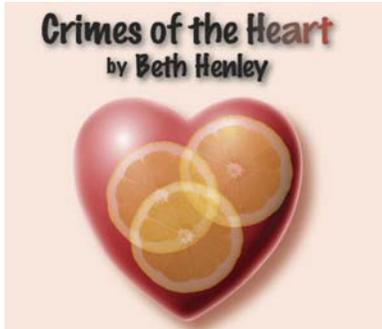


# BACKSTAGE

## *Chatham Community Players Newsletter*

### **86<sup>th</sup> SEASON BEGINS WITH "CRIMES OF THE HEART"**



Chatham Community Players will open the season with Beth Henley's "*Crimes of the Heart*." Performance dates are November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 at 8 p.m. and November 11 at 3 p.m. All performances are at the Chatham Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, in Chatham. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the dramatic comedy takes audiences to Hazlehurst, Mississippi, where the Magrath sisters are trying to make sense of their troubled lives and cope with their latest family disaster. "*Crimes of the Heart*" is enormously popular - a compassionate portrait of good country people whose lives have gone terribly, terribly wrong, with hilarious results.

**Bob Cline** directs the play and is elated to be back at Chatham Players after directing "*Come Back to the 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*" here last season. Past Chatham directing credits include "*Pippin*," "*Into the Woods*" and "*To Kill a Mockingbird*." Bob recently directed and choreographed "*Into the Woods*," and also won the Samuel French Festival with his production of "*Bright Apple Crush*" in New York City. Other favorite recent credits include: "*Assassins*" for 4th Wall Theatre, "*The Full Monty*" at Studio Players, "Showboat" and "Side Show" for the Montclair Operetta Club, "Company" at the Lucille Lortell, and "A New Brain" (PERRY Award Best Director and Production). The cast includes **Liz Royce** of Cedar Grove as Lenny Magrath, **Sarah Pharaon** of Maplewood as Meg Magrath, **Suzanne Houston** of Summit as Babe Magrath, **Janet Swaim** of Warren as Chick Boyle, **Bill Schineller** of Kinnelon as Doc Porter, and **Michael Rush** of Clifton as Barnette Lloyd.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for youth/senior. To access the theater's online ticketing service, simply connect to our TicketLeap service on our website, [www.chathamplayers.org](http://www.chathamplayers.org). The service is available 24 hours a day and tickets can be purchased online up until three hours prior to curtain on the day of a performance. The box office will begin accepting phone reservations on October 23 at (973) 635-7363. For information regarding box office hours, please call the box office number listed above.

### **AUDITIONS SET FOR FANTASY THEATER, "THE JUNGLE BOOK"**

Fantasy Theater, the children's entertainment arm of Chatham Community Players, will hold auditions for Rudyard Kipling's "*The Jungle Book*" on Tuesday, October 30, and Thursday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Library of The Chathams, 214 Main Street, Chatham. The show will be performed on January 5-6 and 12-13, 2008.

Parts are:

- **Mowgli** - Energetic, commanding presence - teenage boy.
- **Baloo** - Gregarious, outgoing with broad sense of comedy - adult/young adult male
- **Bagheera** - Panther, good sense of movement - teenage girl
- **Kaa** - Python, athletic or dance ability a plus - teenage girl.
- **Shere Khan** - Fierce and villainous tiger- teenage boy.
- Additional actors: teenage to young adult, male and female - King Monkey, Rikki-Tikki, the Mongoose, Tabaqui, the Jackal, Wolves, and other jungle creatures. Also needed are three children between the ages of 8 and 10 to play assorted jungle creatures.

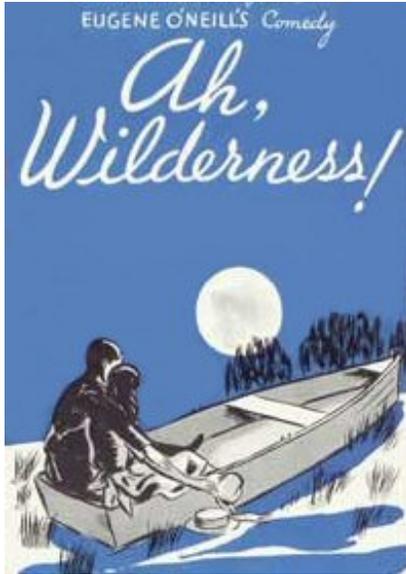
Readings will be from the script. Please call 973-635-8712 with any questions.



In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of our good friend, Kathy King, in Horseshoe, North Carolina. Kathy was a vital backstage worker for many years when her family resided in Chatham.

## AUDITION NOTICE FOR UPCOMING “AH WILDERNESS!”



The Chatham Community Players is pleased to announce auditions for “*Ah, Wilderness!*” by Eugene O’Neil. The show opens February 29 and runs through March 15, 2008. Director John Stringer asks that actors come prepared to read from the script. Auditions will be held on Wednesday, November 28, and Thursday, November 29, at 7 p.m. at The Chatham Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham. The Chatham Community Players has an open casting policy. All roles are open; none are pre-cast. For more details, please email [casting@chathamplayers.org](mailto:casting@chathamplayers.org) for further information, visit [www.chathamplayers.org/auditions.htm](http://www.chathamplayers.org/auditions.htm), or contact Kristin Barber at (732) 208-4184.

O’Neill called his only comedy, “*Ah, Wilderness!*” “a comedy of recollection.” However, the family life that is portrayed by the Millers was in actuality the ideal life that O’Neill wished he had had. In this small town in Connecticut in the year 1906, we watch an all-American family deal with an adolescent son’s misbehavior and growing pains. At the same time, we learn more about the rest of the Miller family and see how the entire family dynamic impacts on the son’s evolution. O’Neill tells this story with great tenderness and affection. Though set in a simpler time, there’s much to take away from this heart-warming tale that we can apply to our present day lives.

### Parts to be cast:

**Nat Miller:** 40-50 years old, even-tempered owner of the local paper. As a father, he prefers to guide his children to choices rather than force his own on them.

**Essie Miller:** 40-50 years old, mother and wife and heart of the Miller household. She is in the midst of the painful process of watching her children mature.

**Arthur Miller:** 19 years old, a solemn collegian from Yale; takes himself and his image very seriously.

**Richard Miller:** 16 years old, in his mind, the only rational person in the family. He is at once losing and finding himself.

**Mildred Miller:** 15 years old, the Millers’ only daughter. Vivacious with a fetching smile. Her favorite pastime is testing her brothers about their girlfriends.

**Tommy Miller:** 11 years old, the youngest in the family. He is full of energy and curiosity.

**Lily Miller:** 42 years old, Essie’s unassuming sister-in-

law. She has the misfortune of wanting something in life that she will never allow herself to have – Sid.

**Sid Davis:** 40-50 years old, Essie’s older brother. He has never quite made the transition to adulthood and substitutes charm for responsibility only to find himself empty-handed.

**Muriel McComber:** 15 years old, the love of Richard’s life.

**David McComber:** Muriel’s father, a dry goods merchant. Narrow-minded and overly protective.

**Norah:** A young Irish woman serving in Miller household. Good-intentioned but not particularly skilled.

**Wint Selby:** 19 years old, a classmate of Arthur’s at Yale. Adventure loving and wild-living.

**Belle:** 20 years old, a recent recruit to the oldest profession in the world.

**Bartender:** A stocky young Irishman. **Salesman:** Late 30s.

Funding for Chatham Community Players has been made possible in part by funds from the Arts Council of the Morris Area through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

## ***HERE AND THERE...***

When watching TV, check out the Cablevision ad about football featuring a dark-haired young man; take a closer look - it's our very own **Michael McGuirk** (A Christmas Carol, Sweeney Todd)....Also, on FOX's sitcom, "Til Death", the waiter in the restaurant scene was played by **Tom Wardach** ("Jersey Voices").....Numerous Chatham Players veterans, which include **Matt Burns** ("City of Angles," "A Christmas Carol," "Into The Woods" and "To Kill a Mockingbird"), **David Simon** ("City of Angles," "Joseph..Dreamcoat," "West Side Story," "Pippin"), **Barbi McGuire** ("...Woods," "Jimmy Dean"), **Desiree Caro** ("... Woods"),

**Phil Levesque** ("...Woods," "A Chorus Line") and **Stacey Simon** ("Pippin," "Jersey Voices"), performed in Studio Players' "*Urinetown*"...**Michael King** ("Fiddler...," "A Christmas Carol", ",,,Woods", "Jersey Voices"), **Art Seif** ("Cuckoo's Nest," "Jersey Voices"), **Chaz Turner** ("Rumors," "Jersey Voices"), **Liz Dawson** (numerous) and **Marguerite Wurtz** ("Master Class," "Jersey Voices") are all performing in Summit Playhouse's "*You Can't Take It With You*"....Brundage Park Playhouse's production of "Frankenstein" stars **Keith Beechey** ("Cuckoo's Nest," "Side Man," "Desperate Hours" and "Jersey Voices") as the Creature.

## ***SAVE THE DATES***

Keen Company fundraiser, "**Broadway in the Borough,**" is being held at The Playhouse on Monday, November 5; call 973-635-4705 for information.

A special **Holiday Musical Event** is being planned for Friday and Saturday, December 7 and 8! You'll want to be there!

**CCP's annual Holiday Cocktail Party** is scheduled for 6 p.m., Sunday, December 9! Start thinking about a super snack to bring!

