



P. O. Box 1416
Highlands, NC 28741

HIGHLANDS/CASHIERS PLAYERS 2019-2020 SEASON OUR SILVER 25th SEASON

Highlands-Cashiers Players 24th Season ended with eight performances of Tom Firth's *Calendar Girls* directed by Ricky Siegel. Over 700 theatergoers saw the play, and the calendar sold in conjunction with it raised more than \$2,700.00 for Reach of Macon County.

DEARLY DEPARTED



Jim Gordon, Faye Siegel, Mandy Houston, David Spivey, Laretta Payne, Ron Leslie

Written By: David Bottrell and Jessie Jones

Directed by: Dr. Ronnie Spilton

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 22-25
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 30-September 1

HCP celebrates the beginning of its 25th season with a revival of one of its most popular shows, *Dearly Departed*. In addition to being part of HCP's inaugural season at the Highlands Conference Center, the show was performed again in 2005 (Conference Center) & 2010 (PAC).

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2019

Editor: Paula Gordon

Penned by David Bottrell and Jessie Jones, *Dearly Departed* is considered to be the quintessential Southern comedy. Set in towns deep below the Mason-Dixon Line circa 1990, the play centers around the dysfunctional Turpin family. When the "mean and surly" patriarch Bud Turpin keels over at the breakfast table, his family and eccentric friends gather for the wake and the funeral. As they struggle to find something nice to say about Bud, they face the challenge of sorting out their relationships with the living.

Conceived and staged by long time HCP director and actor Dr. Ronnie Spilton, *Dearly Departed* will be played on a thrust stage using the audience area for entrances and exits. Southern gospel music highlights the scene changes; minimal props and scenery combined with pantomime support her theatrical vision that "less is more." HCP president Courtney Scarborough serves as the show's production coordinator.

This will be performed at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center Thursday through Sunday, August 22-25 and Friday through Sunday, August 30-September 1. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, doors will open at 7:00 and the play begins at 7:30. On Saturday, August 31, there will be a matinee offering at 2:30 p.m. On Sunday, the doors will open at 2:00 and the play begins at 2:30. Beginning August 15, tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 828-526-8084 or online at highlandscashiersplayers.org. **at 828-526-8084 or order on-line at highlandscashiersplayers.org.**

HCP accepts VISA, MASTERCARD and AMERICAN EXPRESS. Reservations made by phone or online (**828-526-8084**) must be secured by credit card.

ALL TICKETS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

RESERVATIONS FOR SEASON SUBSCRIBERS

The box office opens for season subscribers **ONLY** on Thursday and Friday, August 15 and 16, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center (PAC), Highlands. Be sure to make your reservations during this time, by phone or in person, to be given preferred seating as a season subscriber.

The box office is open to season subscribers and general public beginning Saturday, August 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., continuing Monday, August 19 through Saturday, August 24 and Monday, August 26 through Saturday, August 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The box office will be open Sunday, August 25 and Sunday, September 1, one hour prior to the play.

Remember Subscribers!
You must make reservations for each play! No seats are "saved" for you all season.

SILVER 25TH SEASON - 2019-2020

HCP has selected an ambitious group of dramatic offerings for their 25th silver season:

Opening the season will be *Dearly Departed* by David Bottrell and Jessie Jones, a revival by Dr. Ronnie Spilton.

The season's second play will *On Golden Pond* by Ernest Thompson and directed by Lance Trudel. *On Golden Pond* is the story of Norman and Ethel Thayer's relationship and their interaction with their "somewhat estranged daughter," her boyfriend and his 13 year old son. The play takes place at the New England cottage where the Thayers have summered for 48 years. Ultimately Norman and Billy form an interesting relationship built around fishing and their quirky sense of humor.

There are parts for 2 older adults (male and female), 2 middle aged adults (male and female) and a teenage boy.

Auditions will be held at the Performing Arts Center at 547 Chestnut Street on Sunday, August 25 and Monday, August 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Performance dates will be October 17-20 and 24-27.

There will be a Holiday Reading co-sponsored by HCP and PAC scheduled for Thursday Dec 12. This program is free and is HCP and PAC's gift to the community.

Once again the dinner theater will be produced by Courtney Scarborough. It will consist of 4 one act plays interspersed with the courses of a delicious dinner. Performance dates are March 19-21 and March 26-28, 2020.

To "finish off" the 25th season HCP has scheduled Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest*, directed by Donna Cochran. It will be performed at PAC May 21-24 and May 28-31, 2020. One of the last plays Christie has written (1958), *The Unexpected Guest* keeps audiences guessing until the very last. There are parts for 4 men, 4 women, and a teenage boy. Auditions will be held early in 2020. Watch HCP's website and the Highlands newspapers for time and place.

BOARD MEMBERS

As HCP begins its year July 1, a new slate of officers was elected to guide the organization through the next theater season:

Courtney Scarborough, President
Lynleigh McLain, Vice President
Jamie Thomas, Secretary
Paula Gordon, Treasurer

Donna Cochran, Craig Eister, Elizabeth Gordon (new this year), Faye Siegel, Ricky Siegel

If you are interested in helping behind the scenes for any HCP production, please contact Sarah Knight at 828-526-9187 to volunteer as a box office worker, or Lynleigh McLain at 843-812-9395 for any other volunteer position. Highlands-Cashiers Players is a volunteer organization and, as a volunteer organization, we need help in the box office and ushers as well. It can be a learning experience and lots of fun.