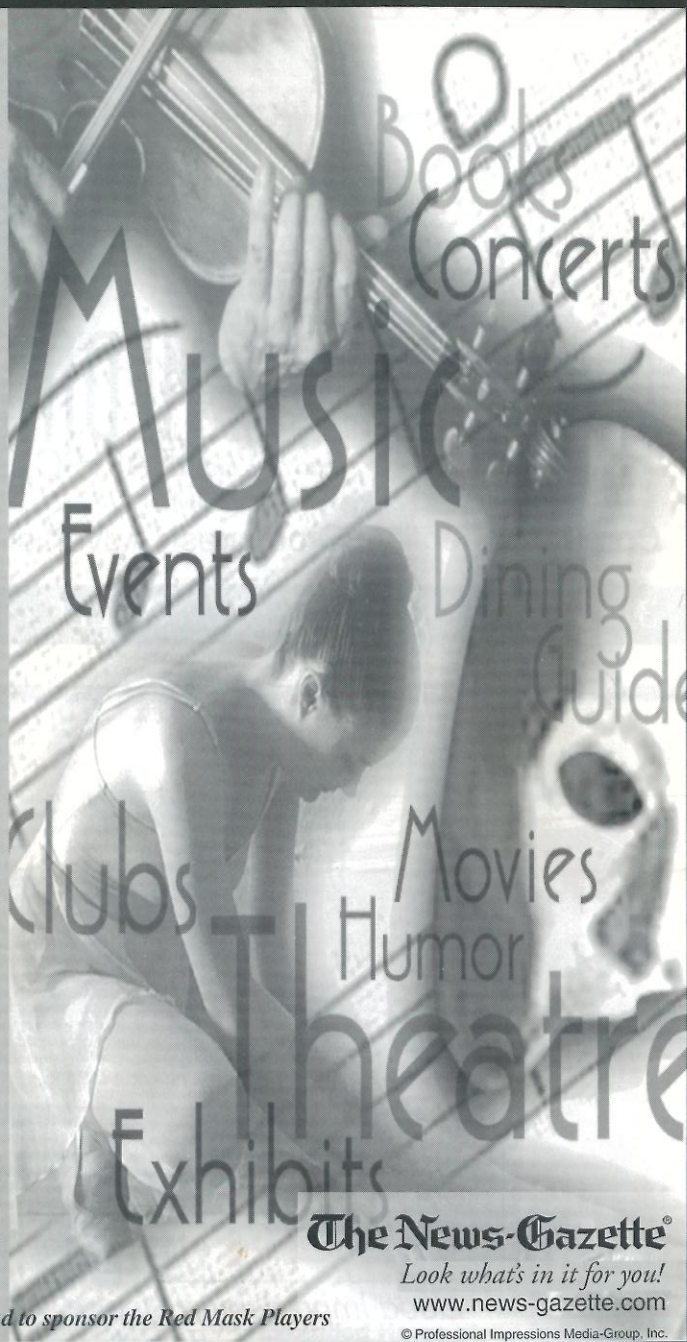


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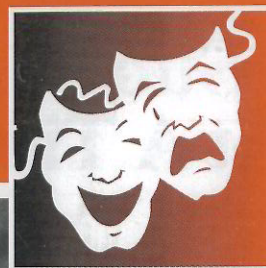
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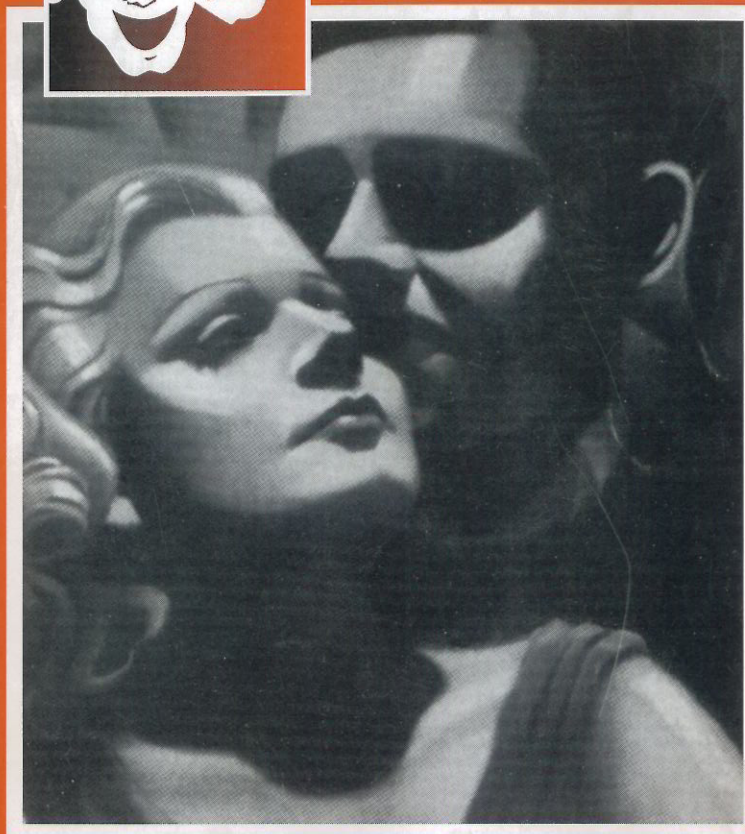
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The Last Night of
BALLYHOO

By Alfred Uhry

**November 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 2000
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- In memory of Clarence "Red" Priest for the artistic talent applied to our front sign.
- George Pastreikos and Dave Downing for supplying us with a beautiful podium to display our historic books.
- Ed Devore, Sue Harden and Ricky Ricardo for beautifying the front entrance with their hard work and dedication.



The Last Night of BALLYHOO

By Alfred Uhry

THE CAST

(In order of speaking)

Lala Levy.....	Leslie Boedicker
Reba Freitag.....	Mary Ann Laker
Boo Levy.....	Sharon Tipsword
Adolph Freitag.....	Greg Williams
Joe Farkas.....	Jon Scott
Sunny Freitag.....	Trish Ceader
Peachy Weil.....	Jason Asaad

THE SETTING

Atlanta, Georgia — December 1939

The action takes place mostly in the Freitag house on Habersham Road, except for two scenes set in train stations and one at the Standard Club.

There will be one intermission.

Produced by Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

*Wishing Red Mask Players
Another Wonderful Season.*



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the great pleasures I have had in my long association with Red Mask is the friendships I have made. All of these friendships started with the common bond of theater but quickly formed into much more. Long after the theater doors closed at the end of the show, friendship remained.

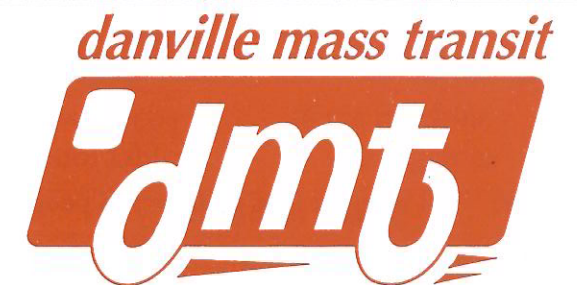
Lisa Lovelace, the director of this delightful warm-hearted show, is a good friend of mine. This comes as a surprise to some people since Lisa and I have been known to spend time arguing like brother and sister. I wish her nothing but the best and it is the best that Lisa has to display for you with this show. I knew this would be the case when Lisa introduced “Ballyhoo” to the Board almost two years ago. Her desire and passion to see this play on the Red Mask stage drove “Ballyhoo” to the forefront of last year’s play reading committee, and I feel that it was friendship that made this production possible.

While “Ballyhoo” was in rehearsal, I watched friendships take this play from the printed page and transform Lisa’s love for the show into reality. Tanya and Gaye have worked hard to back up their director. Experienced actors like Greg, Trish, Mary Ann, and Jason auditioned not only for the opportunity to appear in a fine show, but also for the opportunity to work with Lisa. For Leslie, Sharon, and Jon, I hope the friendships made during this show will continue to bring them back to our stage. I congratulate all of them for a fine job.

I would like to think that it is the friendships we have established with our audience in seasons past, as well as the strong tradition of theater that Red Mask has established that bring you back each season. May they continue for seasons to come.

Enjoy,
David E. Laker

*“climb on
to the
wheels of
a good
thing...”*



For Information: 431-0653



FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 1939, *Gone With The Wind*, the Civil War epic, made its film premiere at Atlanta's Loews Grand Theatre. The city proclaimed a holiday and the film's stars paraded down the boulevards among screaming fans. In Europe, a war of another kind began when Hitler invaded Poland. World War II brought Germany to battle not only with other countries but also to battle with the "Jewish question".

The Last Night of Ballyhoo is, on one level, great fun. It is the comfortable, familiar family comedy. On a deeper level, Alfred Uhry introduces us to differences within the Jewish culture itself. Many German-Jews like the Freitags believed success was determined by how well they assimilated into American society. Christmas trees, Easter eggs, and country clubs became part of their identity. East European Jews like Joe Farkas honored Jewish traditions. This "other kind" caused the German-Jews who had worked so hard at assimilation to fear they would lose their place in American society at the fault of "the other kind". As Alfred Uhry states, "The boy from Brooklyn in my play is consciously a Jewish person. All these other people are just Southern people." Through the Brooklyn boy, the Southern Freitags rediscover themselves, and the rituals they lost and found again. The lighting of the Sabbath candles is a gift, a gift of finding who the Freitags are, finding who we are and finding what our own unique heritage means to each of us.

Antisemitism was real. The expression "the other kind" was real. Ballyhoo was real. The Standard Club really existed as a club exclusively for German-Jewish society. The Venetian Club pool was real. The house on Habersham Road was a real house, and Alfred Uhry really did have a bachelor uncle who lived there with two married sisters with children. Welcome to 1939 Atlanta. Welcome to Ballyhoo.

Shabat Shalom.

Lisa Lovelace

"THE OTHER KIND"

PEACHY: I thought that's where you people went.

JOE: Us People?

PEACHY: The Other kind. You know—Russian, Orthodox.



THE COMPANY



Jason Asaad (*Peachy Weil*)

Jason has had a "peachy" time at Red Mask. He appeared in **Never Too Late** and **I Bet Your Life** during 1999-2000 season. Jason works as a substitute teacher to pay off those high-interest student loans which are draining the poor guy in every way possible! He thanks his family and friends for their support.



Leslie Boedicker (*Lala Levy*)

Leslie last appeared in the Beef House Dinner Theater's production of **Gypsy**. A recent arrival from Binghamton, New York, she has appeared in such favorites as **Man of La Mancha**, **Pajama Game**, and **Company**. She earned her Master's Degree in Theater from SUNY-Binghamton. Special thanks to Mike, Leslie St., and Nikki.

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Trish Ceader (*Sunny Freitag*)

Trish was last seen on the Red Mask stage in **The Curious Savage**. She has also appeared in other local theater productions. Trish is a pre-school teacher for Danville Lutheran Schools. Thanks to Tory and Taylor.



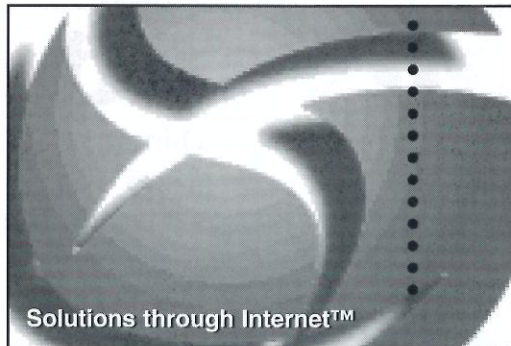
Gaye Garner (*Producer*)

Gaye is working on her 18th season at Red Mask. She has done everything from directing to stage managing to acting. Gaye is currently a board member and serves as treasurer. She is now an Assistant State's Attorney after putting in a lot of years on the other side.



Mary Ann Laker (*Reba Freitag*)

For the last seven seasons, Mary Ann has been active with Red Mask both onstage and off. She spent last season behind the scenes directing a summer one-act and stage managing **Never Too Late**. Her most recent acting roles were in **The Diviners** and **The Odd Couple**. As always, she wishes to thank her husband, Dave, for, well, everything!



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Lisa Lovelace (*Director*)

Lisa returns to the director's chair after previously serving as director of **The Curious Savage**, **Talking With**, and **Crimes of the Heart**. A three-time KATY winner, she last appeared onstage as Marlene in **Daddy's Dyin'...Who's Got the Will?** Lisa maintains her own law practice, specializing in criminal law. She sends special thanks to GW for leading her to Ballyhoo.



Tanya Overshiner (*Stage Manager*)

Tanya caught the theatre bug with the Red Mask crew during **Daddy's Dyin'...Who's Got the Will?** The enjoyment of working with thespians and the roar of the audience has kept her involved with several local theatre productions both onstage and off. During the week, she keeps busy in the advertising department of The News-Gazette. Tanya sends her love to Curt, Kristie, Evan, and Daniel.

Congratulations to Red Mask for Another Successful Season.

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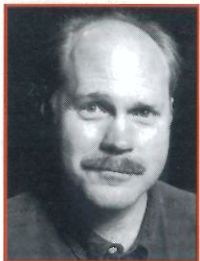
Jon Scott (*Joe Farkas*)

Jon appears for the first time in a Red Mask Players' production. He began theatrical performances in high school and then went on to appear at Cissna Park's Country Theatre Workshop in **Don't Drink the Water**, **The Sound of Music**, and **Hello Dolly**. Jon attended DACC and SIU, majoring in theater.



Sharon Tipsword (*Boo Levy*)

Sharon returns to the area after a 30 year absence. Last summer she performed at the Virginia Shakespeare Festival in Williamsburg as Tamora in **Titus Andronicus**. Sharon has taught theater at several colleges and universities and is a produced playwright. Presently she is working on a new play which she describes as subtle satire, slightly profound, and shamelessly goofy. Because Kathryn Randolph gave Sharon one of her first speech lessons when she was a shy child from Georgetown, it is with a special pleasure that she now joins the Red Mask Players.



Greg Williams (*Adolph Freitag*)

Greg, an English teacher at DHS, was last seen as Herbie in **Gypsy** for the Beef House Dinner Theatre. He has also appeared on stage as Big Daddy in **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**, Che Guevara in **Evita**, and Jamie Tyrone in **Long Day's Journey into Night**. He has directed productions of **Fifth of July**, **The Rainmaker**, **Painting Churches**, **The Glass Menagerie**, and **Bus Stop**. Greg enjoys hiking, movies, and Britcoms. He is supported at home by his wife, Marsha, and their children, Blythe, Ian, Mallory, Flynn, and Bailey.

We Salute Red Mask on Another Great Year.

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PROGRAM

<p>SMOKER Saturday Afternoon 2:00—4:00 PM CLUB 26</p>	<p>FASHION SHOW Saturday Afternoon 2:00—4:00 PM RICH'S TEA ROOM</p>	<p>TEA DANCE Sunday Evening 3:00—6:00 PM STANDARD CLUB featuring BOB CHESTER & ORCHESTRA</p>
<p>FORMAL DANCE Saturday Evening 9:30—1:30 AM STANDARD CLUB music by CHARLIE SORRELLS Sponsored by TOP HAT CLUB</p>	<p>COSTUME BALL Sunday Evening 9:00—12:30 AM MAYFAIR CLUB dancing to music of BOB CHESTER</p>	<p>CROWNING QUEEN OF BALLYHOO Sunday MIDNIGHT MAYFAIR CLUB</p>

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Legend of Sleepy Hollow

Another successful Fall Show is behind us, but the theater still echoes with the sounds of the wicked Headless Horseman in his hair-raising pursuit of Ichabod Crane. Phantoms, ghosts and all sorts of creatures gave credibility to the stories told about far off Sleepy Hollow. The cast included 28 children from all over Vermilion County and from across the state line in Indiana. After 5 weeks of rehearsals, and more rehearsals, Directors Ron and Ann Soderstrom declared the cast 110% ready and were very pleased to play to a full house for nearly all performances.

Future performances include: Festival of Trees, Springs Show and Arts in the Park. Don't miss out on the fun!

Special thanks for grants from the Illinois Arts Council that help finance Children's' Theater. We could not do this without them.

Congratulations on another excellent season!

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Red Mask's Board of Directors is happy to announce that once again, Red Mask will be awarded the Jean Lewis Scholarship, in the amount of \$500, to an area high school senior, community college, or college student planning to, or already pursuing a major in theater or a directly-related field, such as speech, oral interpretation or radio-television. Please watch upcoming publications for more information or contact: **Donna Sant, Scholarship Chairman**, c/o Red Mask Players, P.O. Box 814, Danville, Illinois 61832.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 10, 11 & 12: Danville Light Opera Presents *State Fair*

November 19 & 20: Red Mask Players - Auditions for *Sylvia*

December 9: Danville Symphony Orchestra Presents *The Nutcracker* - Featuring the Butler Ballet

January 12-14, 19-21, 26 & 27: Red Mask Players Present *Sylvia*

January 28 & 29: Red Mask Players - Auditions for *Communicating Doors*

February 16, 17 & 18: Danville Light Opera Presents *Forever Plaid*

March 23-25, 30 & 31, April 1, 6 & 7: Red Mask Players Present *Communicating Doors*

March 24: Danville Symphony Orchestra Presents *Once Upon A Time* - Featuring Ian Hobson, pianist

May 4, 5 & 6: Danville Light Opera Presents *School House Rock*

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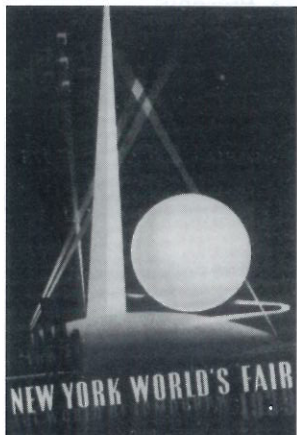


1939-THE YEAR IN REVIEW

German foreign minister under Hitler, Joachim von Ribbentrop, sends out a circular entitled "The Jewish Question, a Factor in Our Foreign Policy." In it he makes this statement: "...The spread of Jewish influence and its corruption of our political, economic, and cultural life has perhaps done more to undermine the German people's will to prevail than all the hostility shown us by the Allied powers..."



World War II begins on September 1 with the German invasion of Poland. Shortly after, the United States supplies the Allies with arms (despite a proclamation of neutrality). As a result of war production, the U.S. economy begins to recover from the Great Depression.



President Roosevelt tries to organize facilities for Jewish immigration. The United Jewish Appeal (UJA) is founded in New York to raise funds for Jewish relief.

Thanksgiving Day in the U.S. is changed from the last Thursday of November to the fourth Thursday of November in an effort to extend the Christmas shopping season and boost the economy.

The World's Fair opens in Queens, New York, with the theme, "Building the World of Tomorrow". Germany is absent.

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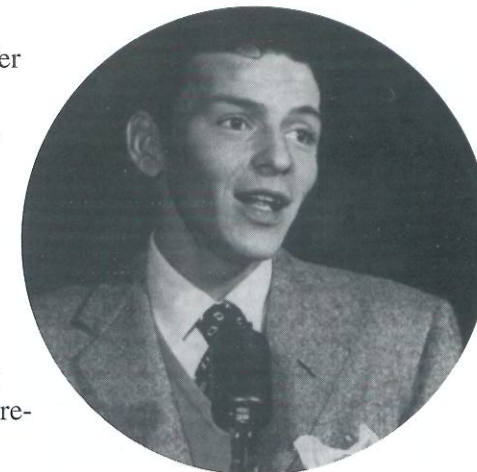
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Home or Business



23-year old Frank Sinatra joins bandleader Harry James. Within a year he will join another group, the Tommy Dorsey Band, only to break his contract in 1942 to launch a solo career which will last until his death in 1998.



The United States' Advisory Committee on Uranium urges secrecy among American nuclear physicists so that their discoveries will not aid Germans in the creation of the atomic bomb.



Gangster Al Capone is released from Alcatraz and moves to Miami Beach. He will live there until his death in 1947.

Gone With The Wind, Margaret Mitchell's story of the Civil War, makes its film premiere at Atlanta's Loews Grand Theatre. The city proclaims a holiday, and the film's stars parade down the boulevards among screaming fans.

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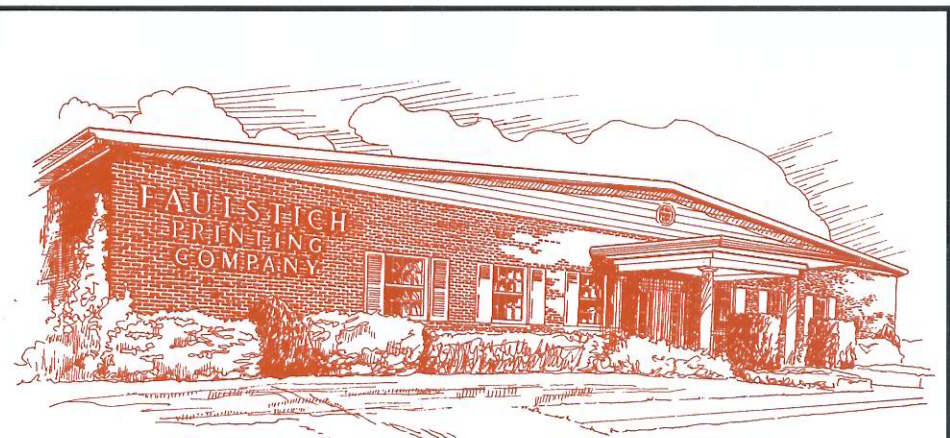
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