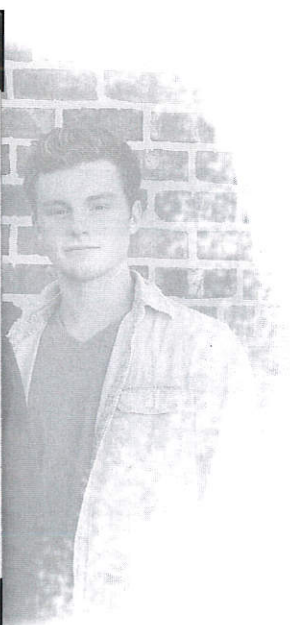


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Ordinary People



A Drama by Nancy Pahl Gilsenan
from the Novel by Judith Guest

November 4-6 & 11-13, 2016
Kathryn Randolph Theater

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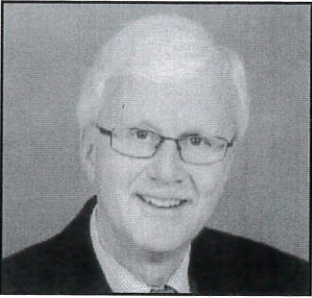

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Ordinary People

by Judith Guest

Dramatized by Nancy Gilsenan

Produced by Special Arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY
of Woodstock, Illinois

A PLAY IN TWO ACTS

Time:

The Present

The action takes place in the Jarrett living room, the locker and
choir rooms, and the office of Dr. Berger

Location:

Illinois

There will be a fifteen minute intermission
between the acts

CAST

Conrad Jarrett.....	Carter Mallady
Cal Jarrett.....	Dave Techtow
Beth Jarrett.....	Julia Reynolds
Joe Lazenby	Gabe Smith
Stillman.....	Noah Ferren
Jeannine Pratt.....	Isabelle Peters
Karen Aldrich.....	Natalie Mills-Hester
Dr. Berger.....	William L. Kephart
Salan.....	Joel Ferren



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT...

We are so glad you have joined us for the first show of our 80th season! There is quite the history at Red Mask – much of it is documented downstairs on the posters and in the scrapbooks that have been maintained by our historians. Take a moment to look at them during intermission; they certainly invoke many wonderful memories.

Ordinary People...an award-winning novel; an award-winning film. Director Mike Boedicker has worked to find the perfect cast of ordinary people to bring this story to life for us. We all fight our own personal battles, and we all have good intentions. How we work through these struggles can be quite different from the person sitting next to you. Our common wish is to find that light at the end of the tunnel.

The cast will share with you how the Jarrett family deals with their struggles – some better than others. The actors hope you will feel deeply for each character, and to cheer them on.

After all, that is always how it should be, isn't it?

Donna Sant, President
Red Mask Players, Inc.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

The late, great film critic (and Urbana native) Roger Ebert once said of movies:

"[They are] the most powerful empathy machine in all the arts...I can live somebody else's life for a while. I can walk in somebody else's shoes. I can see what it feels like to be a member of a different gender, a different race, a different economic class, to live in a different time, to have a different belief."

The same could be said of theatre. The script for *Ordinary People* elicits our empathy by focusing on the struggles of regular folks with whom we can identify. In fact, these characters may hit too close to home for some of us. Then again, audience identification -- even if it's uncomfortable -- is one of the most powerful functions of theatre.

To me, the conflicts which resonate most in drama are always "the good guys vs. the good guys." *Ordinary People* is an unflinching story about decent people coming to terms with a loss they don't completely understand, each character doing his or her best to cope. At a time in popular culture when "reality TV" celebrates those who are anything but real, *Ordinary People* is a quiet look inward at the genuine everyday people who make up most of our society. Their ordinary story is as worth telling as the extraordinary one.

During rehearsals, I enjoyed watching the "empathy machine" evolve as the actors came to know their characters. I empathize with all of them and think you will too.

Mike Boedicker

Director

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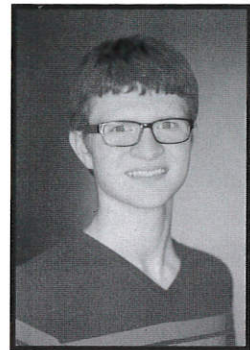
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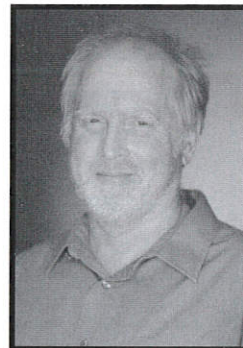
BIOGRAPHIES

Joel Ferren (Salan) Joel is glad to be back on the Red Mask stage this season. He has enjoyed discovering theater in the past few years, and has been in several Red Mask and Lincoln Park Theater Co. shows. What makes this show even more special to him is being able to share it with his son. Joel also serves on the Red Mask Board and is active in the American Legion Post 210.



Noah Ferren (Stillman) Noah is a sophomore at Danville High School. He is no stranger to the stage, having performed in many Red Mask plays and DLO musicals. He played Michael Banks in Lincoln Park Theater's production of *Mary Poppins* last summer, but his favorite role thus far has been Mud the Minion in Red Mask's *Chasing Charming*. Bringing Stillman to life in this show has been a great experience. Enjoy the show!!

William L. Kephart (Dr. Berger) This is Bill's first performance with the Red Mask Players. Most recently he appeared in the Station Theatre's production of *American Wee-Pie* playing the 3-character role of Malcolm/Pete/Phil. Bill has been actively involved in the local independent film scene over the past several years, primarily as an actor, but also as a creator/producer. He has worked regularly with director Mike Boedicker, most notably on their feature film *House of Thaddeus* (free on YouTube!), and most recently in Mike's soon-to-be released short *The Sheriff's Children*. A clerk at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Bill thanks his mother for all her support and understanding while he missed their TV nights to work with this excellent cast.



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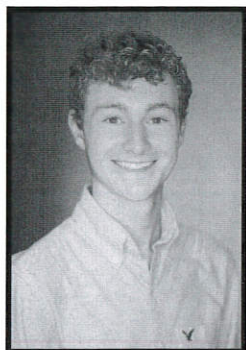
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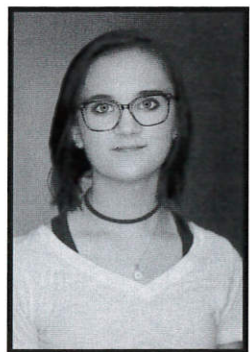
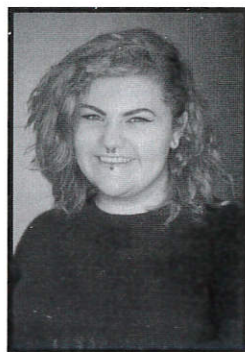


BIOGRAPHIES



Carter Mallady (Conrad) Carter is a 15 year-old sophomore at Danville High School. He has performed in numerous local productions including North Ridge Middle School's *Xanadu Jr.* (Sonny Malone), *Hairspray Jr.* (Link Larkin), and the Beef House Christmas Show. He was also seen in the DLO production of *Big Fish* (Zacky Price) and the BHDT's *Boys in Autumn*. Carter has spent the last two summers at Interlochen Center for the Arts' Musical Theatre Production camp where he was seen in *Oliver!* and a new musical, *Orphie and the Book of Heroes*. He made his theatre debut at Red Mask when he was in 3rd grade as the role of Grumpy in the Children Theater's production of *Sleeping Beauty*. He is very excited to return to the stage as he takes on his hardest role to date.

Natalie Mills-Hester (Karen) Natalie is elated to be returning to the Red Mask stage in *Ordinary People* for her first adult show. The last time she walked these boards was in the children's show *The Ghost of Canterville Hall*. In addition to her onstage work she has also served in various roles behind the scenes for several productions in the area. Always eager to expand her horizons, she recently became active in the local film scene as well, providing both on- screen work and film makeup. She's honored to be a part of this show, and getting to work with her Aunt Julia is certainly a nice perk. Natalie would like to thank her family and friends for their unending support and, of course, her best friend "Buddy" for his unconditional love, doggy cuddles and willingness to always accept lots of tummy rubs.



Isabelle Peters (Jeannine) Isabelle is very glad to be back on the Red Mask stage this season! She was most recently seen as Cha-Cha in DLO's *Grease* this summer. Some past Red Mask roles include Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*, and Scout in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. She is very thankful to be able to work with such a great cast and director. She wants to thank her family for their love and support.

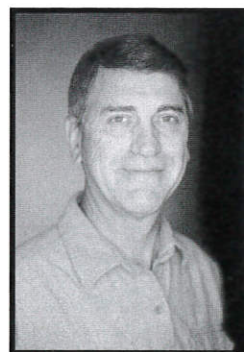
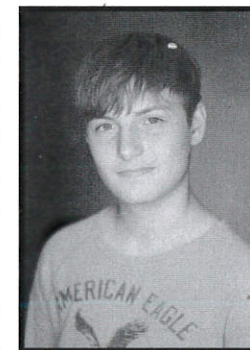


BIOGRAPHIES



Julia Reynolds (Beth) Back on stage for her 6th Red Mask show, Julia is very excited to have the opportunity to work with such a great cast and crew and is especially delighted to be sharing the stage for the first time with her very talented niece, Natalie! Julia has been acting for as long as she can remember, even acting out plays as a child in her bedroom by playing all of the characters herself! Her most recent performance was as a pregnant nun in *The Dixie Swim Club*. Julia is still madly in love with her high school sweetheart, who is, thankfully, also her husband of 26 years, Todd! Julia sends love and gratitude to her family and friends who support her passion for being on stage! Also, a special shout-out to brother-in-law Matt Hester whose audition workshop helped give her the confidence she needed to audition for this part!

Gabe Smith (Lazenby) Gabe is a 15 year-old sophomore at Bismarck Henning High School. He is very happy to be back performing on The Red Mask stage! He most recently was Teen Director for Red Mask Children's Theater production of *The Storybook Reunion Murders*. Gabe has been in several Red Mask productions over the years but his favorite role to play was Gollum in *The Hobbit*. Gabe has also performed in two short films for Pens to Lens (*The Search for Pizza* and *Farmball*). He is very thankful to have been given the opportunity to work with this very talented cast and crew. He also would like to thank his family for their support!



David Techtow (Cal) David has always enjoyed the theater, but after getting the part of Reverend Brown in *Inherit the Wind*, he really found another true love, acting. Since then he has appeared in six other Red Mask productions (most recently *A Shot in the Dark* and *Sly Fox*) and shows for other groups as well. He still loves acting and is very grateful that his first love, June, supports his efforts.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All on a Cold Winter's Night
Vermilion Festival Chorus
November 20, 2016

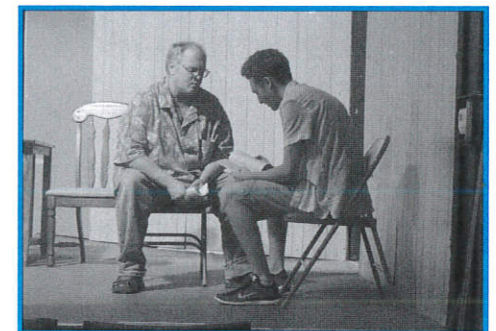
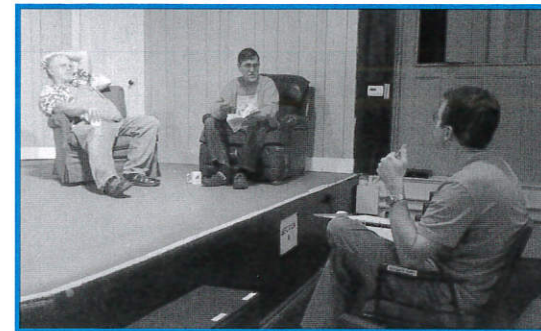
Doubt: A Parable
Darkhorse Theatre Company
December 1, 2, 3 and 9, 2016

Christmas Concert
Danville Municipal Band
December 3, 2016

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940
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Danville Symphony Orchestra
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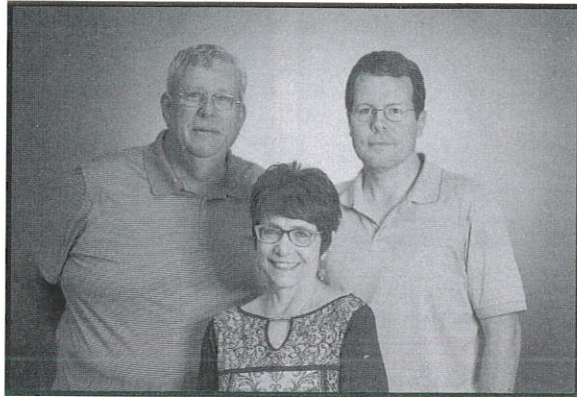
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BACK STAGE



Gail Garner (Stage Manager) Gail began his journey with Red Mask in 1992 with *Reckless*. He was an alcoholic, cigar-chewing furniture mover (Hmm). Since then he has been involved with numerous Red Mask productions. Gail spends most of his time behind the scenes doing set construction, running lights or sound, being stage manager or producer. He did appear on stage as Bullard in *Early One Evening*, at *the Rainbow Bar & Grille* as an alcoholic, womanizing, aluminum siding salesman (a trend is forming). Gail also directed *Over the River and Through the Woods*. He would like to thank Mike for giving him the opportunity to be involved with this classic play and his wife Barb for her continual support.

Donna Sant (Producer) In 1982, a dear friend of mine asked me to help backstage during a play. I jumped at the chance, as long as I could only work on props. Well, never say never! Since then, I have been involved in almost all aspects of our theater, and have been honored to do so. Once I got my courage, I went to auditions, and have enjoyed roles in *Lost in Yonkers*, *Crimes of the Heart*, and *Barefoot in the Park*, to name a few. One of the high points was being stage manager for last year's *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This year, I am intrigued with all aspects of *Ordinary People*, as I watch the cast work through all the dark and light corners of this touching play. Thank you for the opportunity, Monsieur Auteur!

Mike Boedicker (Director) Mike hasn't directed here since *Dr. Cook's Garden* in 2005, and he's glad to be back. Other Red Mask work includes roles in *Romantic Fever* and *Meet My Husbands*, producing, set building, serving on the board, and running the website. Mike has made three feature films in the last 10 years (*Show, Revolving*, *House of Thaddeus*) and is finishing up a new short, *The Sheriff's Children*. Future projects include sleeping. He thanks the cast and crew for their hard work and for reminding him how much he missed this!



BEHIND THE SCENES

Director	Mike Boedicker
Stage Manager.....	Gail Garner
Producer.....	Donna Sant
Set Design.....	Mike Boedicker and Gail Garner
Set Construction.....	Gail Garner and Dave Techtow
Set Painting.....	Gail and Barb Garner
Lighting Design	Leslie Boedicker
Lighting and Sound Technicians.....	June Techtow and Barb Garner
Props.....	Bev Nees
Fight Choreographer	Julia Megan Sullivan
Make up/Hair/Costumes	Cast
House Managers.....	Eleanor Peters and Jamey Coutant
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