



# FRONT AND CENTRE



Volume 1

Newsletter of the Hanover Community Players

January 2026



## The School of Rock

What can we say? The show was a success and despite the weather cancelling one show, audiences grew over the production! This is a tribute to everyone associated with the production—from 50-50 draw ticket sellers, people who created the program, to the volunteers doing hair and makeup and those behind the scenes making that turntable work!.

A foregone conclusion, of course, was the excellent cast, director, band and stage managers who made sure everything flowed for the audiences.

The Hanover Lions Club, arranged through Carol Becker once again provided our wonderful show cookies.

Marlene Dietz gathered ushers for every show and made sure everyone was up to speed.

Linda Manchester worked tirelessly behind the scenes to re-jig tickets for those who needed to re-schedule due to weather.

And a big thank you to our sponsors and advertisers who once again supported HCP for this show as well as the upcoming spring show!, *Unnecessary Farce!*

You are all wonderful and we can't thank you enough!

## Donation to Bruce Grey Mentorship

Thanks to our audiences for helping to support this important cause. \$705.00 will be donated to the group from this show. We hope much more will come from our spring show.

## Looking Forward

Our **Annual General Meeting** is fast approaching—Tuesday, February 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the P&H Centre. At this time we review the year and elect members to the Board. We are seeking volunteers who can work on committees—publicity, social, props, costumes, set construction, set painting etc. **and/or** become members of the board—only 8 or 9 meetings a year. New people and ideas keep a board and organization strong. Please consider volunteering to keep HCP going. We can arrange teaching sessions for people who show an interest.

Committee work, depending on the task, starts at various times throughout a production cycle.

Committee people would really help us out, knowing that they could be called upon; they wouldn't have to attend board meetings unless they want to!

## February 28th Winterlude!

Because of our commitment to host WODL Festival in May, the board decided to host a one night evening of entertainment for our winter show. This will help to keep us all sane!

**Winterlude** is a night of music and comedy skits with music by 'Smoke and Honey', 'He Said, She Said' and 'Boiler Beach', all area bands. It will also feature Blake Wilson on guitar.

Tickets are \$35.00 per person, students under 18, \$20.00. Adult group rate for 10 or more.

This event is licensed featuring Neustadt Springs Brewery. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Non-alcoholic beverage also available.

Tickets go on sale January 12th through the website.

Shake off those February blahs and bring March in with a ROAR!

## Unnecessary Farce by Paul Slade Smith

**Unnecessary Farce** is an award-winning stage comedy that combines all the elements of classic farce with a contemporary American plot.

In an economy motel room, an embezzling mayor is supposed to meet with his female accountant.

In the room next door, two undercover cops are supposed to catch the meeting on videotape. But there's some confusion as to who's in which room, who's watching the video, who's taken the money, who's hired a hit man, and why the accountant keeps taking off her clothes.

Two cops, three crooks, eight doors, GO!

Cont'd

## Unnecessary Farce cont'd

A laugh-out-loud cocktail of misunderstandings, revelations and unexpected arrivals, *Unnecessary Farce* creates a crime caper where the long arm of the law will have you rolling in the aisles—if it ever figures out which direction to point, that is!

We have our cast! Rehearsals began January 12th. In their roles are:

Two cops \*Eric-Rob Josephson  
\*Billie-Emily Mader;  
\*Accountant Karen-Chelsey Tam;  
\*Mayor Meekly-Christopher Neudorf;  
\*Agent Frank-Brady Alisaukskas;  
\*Todd-Peter Thompson;  
\*Mary-Debbie Morris.

The play is co-directed by Randy Corfield and Marg Poste. It will hit the stage running on **Friday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m.** with, hopefully, a Mix and Mingle to celebrate prior to the show.

Other evening shows will be on Thursday, May 1st, and Friday, May 2nd. Matiness at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 25th, Sunday, April 26th, Saturday, May 2nd and closing on Sunday, May 3rd.

"Nonstop hilarity. Gets us laughing in the show's first minute." Lansing State Journal.

## Mix and Mingle

A ticket purchase for the **April 24th show** invites you to come early at 6:30 p.m. and enjoy fellowship, libation and goodies downstairs in the Community Hall, hosted by our own Hanover Lions Club, before going up to watch the production. This is an age of majority event with a **CASH** bar.

We would like to continue this tradition but attendance has been low over the last few events. Please show us if you would like this to continue for other spring shows by attending. More to follow.

## 50/50 Draw

Remember to bring some hard, cold cash (Canadian plastic folding money preferred) for our 50/50 draws. In these draws, we are all winners: a lucky patron gets half the proceeds and HCP gets the other half to further our activities.

## Membership in HCP

For those 18 and over in Production roles, membership will be **\$10.00** and will include one vote at the AGM in February.

Production roles are defined as those that are directly involved in a production and have sway in the direction of the production. This includes board members, directors, stage managers, assistant stage managers and cast members.

All those under 18 are free.

## Why Do We Need Memberships?

We are all volunteers on the board, directing shows, doing choreography, teaching music and covering a myriad of duties in order to put on each production. Membership means you are covered by our insurance and are part of the team.

## Why Do We Ask For Parent Volunteers?

With major shows, such as musicals, we rely on

parent volunteers to help out with set construction, set moving, hair, make-up, behind the scenes crews, supervising youth.

We ask for the \$100 deposit CHEQUE to encourage compliance (we hate the idea that we have to do this) but rarely have we ever cashed it!

We salute the volunteers who helped us so much with *School of Rock!* You were wonderful!

HCP offers theatre to the area community as a whole but our core group is small and growing older. Without new volunteers the organization will fail. Our youth will no longer get an opportunity to experience live theatre, grow in confidence and learn team work. Parent volunteers and others help to make the experience happen. 2027 will be HCP's 20th year in existence, Let's keep the group growing!

## Ontario Trillium Grant



All of our work for the Trillium Grant has been finished. Here, MPP Paul Vickers presents Chair Randy Corfield with our Certificate of Recognition. Also pictured:

Mayor Sue Paterson, Linda Manchester, Marg Poste and April Marshal, Economic Development for the town.

## Western Ontario Drama League Festival

HCP is hosting this year's festival—a first for us! May 14th–17th, 2026 at the Hanover Civic Theatre & Best Western Walkerton.

The Western Ontario Drama League's Festival 2026 promises to be a dazzling celebration of live theatre with a "Fabulous Fifties" flair!

The top three of Ontario's finest community drama groups will come to our area to compete by showcasing their performances for our patrons.

Drama workshops, and a fabulous Gala top off the event with vintage décor setting the stage for an electrifying celebration of performance.

<https://hanovercommunityplayers.ca/WODL2026> to buy tickets, become a sponsor, buy an ad and more.

## HCP Drama Camp

HCP's one week Drama Camp for 2026 will run from **August 10th to 14th** in the theatre and community hall. Information will come through the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. Register through them for this fantastic week!

See you at camp!

