

# FRONT AND CENTRE

Volume 1

Newsletter of the Hanover Community Players

January 2024



**Roald Dahl's Matilda, the Musical.** It seemed like a cast of thousands at times but everyone from the Director on down did an amazing job with the show! We entertained our biggest audiences ever! Congratulations everyone! A big thank you to Marlene Dietz for organizing all those ushers and the Hanover Lions Club for the refreshments—Matilda Cookies and water. It's all of the volunteers, including parents, who help to make a show a success.

## Donation Presentation



We were honoured to have the Hanover Lions Club volunteer to handle our refreshments and we received a wonderful surprise—a donation of \$1400.00! Thank you so much ladies, especially Carol Becker who arranged our secret baker to

make the Matilda cookies, and the ladies who staffed the refreshment booth through 7 shows. It was an outstanding show of support from this important community service organization.

## Donation to Food Bank

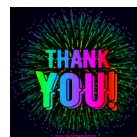
A total of \$1,152.00 will be donated to the Food Bank in a formal presentation as soon as we can arrange it. Thanks to our audiences for helping to support this important cause this year.

## Looking Forward

Our **Annual General Meeting** is fast approaching—**Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.** At this time we review the year and elect members to the Board. We are seeking volunteers who can work on committees—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 props/set etc. if people show 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!



**April 26, 27, 28, May 3, 4, 5, 2024**

**Drinking Habits by Tom Smith** - Accusations, mistaken identities, and romances run wild in this traditional, laugh-out-loud farce.

Two nuns at the Sisters of Perpetual Sewing have been secretly making wine to keep the convent's doors open, but Paul and Sally, reporters and former fiancées, are hot on their trail. They go undercover as a nun and priest, but their presence, combined with the addition of a new nun, spurs paranoia throughout the convent that spies have been sent from Rome to shut them down.

Wine and secrets are inevitably spilled as everyone tries to preserve the convent and reconnect with lost loves.



**Mix and Mingle** returns prior to the evening show. A ticket purchase for that show invites you to come early and enjoy fellowship, libation and goodies in the Community Hall before going up to watch the production. Cash bar.

**Auditions**


**Sun. May 26th or Mon. May 27th** at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church 6:30-8:00 for **A Seussified Christmas Carol** by Peter Bloedel.

A whimsical reinvention of Dickens' most beloved Christmas story in wacky rhymed couplets. With zoot fruited juices and binka bird geese, from Bed-Headed Fred to Timmy Loo Hoo, this tale of glorious holiday cheer is similar to something Dr. Seuss might have come up with -- if he ever had his way with the story...




20—30 cast required.—children, teens, adults, seniors.



(the play is not affiliated with any Dr. Seuss Enterprise)



**Pattern Drafting Workshop**  
February 12-14 and 19-21, 2024



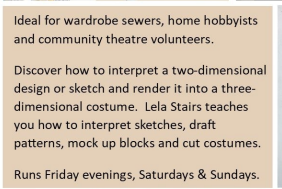






Lela Stairs, Cutter  
Stratford Festival

Ideal for wardrobe sewers, home hobbyists and community theatre volunteers.

Discover how to interpret a two-dimensional design or sketch and render it into a three-dimensional costume. Lela Stairs teaches you how to interpret sketches, draft patterns, mock up blocks and cut costumes.

Runs Friday evenings, Saturdays & Sundays.





**Register at [stratfordoffthewall.com](http://stratfordoffthewall.com)**

The above is just one of the things you can learn to do at Off the Wall courses. Anyone can take these courses, you don't have to be involved with theatre! They have summer courses as well as weekend courses.



**Memberships**

**Just a reminder that memberships ended on December 31st.** Don't forget to renew! You can do it online through the website: [www.hanovercommunityplayers.ca](http://www.hanovercommunityplayers.ca) by e-transfer: [treasurer@hanovercommunityplayers.ca](mailto:treasurer@hanovercommunityplayers.ca) or by cheque sent to Bricklin, our treasurer. Her address is on the membership page on the website. We appreciate your support.

**Positions To Be Filled**

A Seussified Christmas Carol is in need of a director and stage manager at this time. If you or anyone you know is interested in these positions, please contact us and let us know.

We mentor new people so they learn and don't get overwhelmed. Starting with smaller shows is an excellent way to get your feet wet!

**"Who can direct a play?** Anyone who has the heart of a coach can be a successful director. Directing is about looking for strengths and weaknesses in actors and techies and empowering them to push the limits of their abilities to create great art as a team. Sound complicated? It's not--theatre is meant to be fun and expressive, and I guarantee you'll learn a lot about yourself and your cast throughout the process."

**Who can be a stage manager?** People with: Strong organizational skills • Strong communication skills • Calm and helpful manner under pressure • Ability to multi-task • Sense of humour.

We've seen many people—parents, students, actors—who have shown these skills when they've been involved with our productions.

HCP needs them to 'bite the bullet' and volunteer to learn by doing so that it (HCP) can continue as a producer of theatre for the community.

**Books that are helpful:**

Directing Theater 101: 10 Steps to Successful Productions for New Directors and Regional Theater Companies by Wilma Marcus Chandler

Article: Tips for First Time Directors—Pioneer Press

Directing for Community Theatre  
By Daniel L. Patterson

Stage Management: The Essential Handbook  
By Gail Pallin

Stage Management (12th Edition) by Lawrence Stern and Jill Gold

All of the above give ideas for amateur directors and stage managers. Recommended by Marg Poste.