



# Market House Theatre

## January 2012 Off Stage Noises

*We don't just entertain... We change lives!*

### Hunting Comedy's "Opening Day" January 12!

Do you refer to yourself as a \*Yoooper or a \*\*Troll? (Not sure to what either term refers? See below!) No matter your preference or your peninsular predilections, you're likely to get a kick out of Market House Theatre's upcoming production of actor/writer/director Jeff Daniels' deer-camp comedy *Escanaba in da Moonlight*.

The men of the Soady clan are gathered at their Michigan hunting cabin on the eve of deer season's opening day. And in harmony with the notion that "All good things come to those who shoot straight," the cast does ample and hilarious justice to Daniels' material, to say nothing of their way with Yoooper accents and turns of speech. The play is filled with fabulous characters and supernatural occurrences that just might thwart the latest attempt of 30-something son Reuben (**Steve Schwetman**; *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged*) to shed the mantle of being "a buckless Yoooper."

Albert Soady (**Tom Dolan**; *Annie*) anchors the play—as father, as narrator, as keeper of the flame. Whether he's exco-riating his sons or the audience (he suspects we're all a bunch of "brie-belchin' trolls"), or musing on his late wife's virtues ("lips like a sturgeon"), he is wry and real, delivering lines with wonderful wit and rapier-sharp timing. His sons don't fall far from the tree as they spar both verbally and physically, for Remnar (MHT newcomer **Dean Palmer**) can't stand it that Reuben may be jinxing them. His agitation plays out in words that tumble into each other and a lisp that grows with his anxiety.

Remnar's speech problem, though, is nothing compared to that of Jimmer Negamanee (**Mike Brewer**; *The Foreigner*). His alcohol- and alien-addled speech is like a foreign tongue, acquired during his week in space when a "hoovering" UFO picked him up. Ranger Tom (**Chip Bohle**; *The Wizard of Oz*), the delusional Department of Natural Resources man, is deadpan and delightful as he bursts into the cabin to the dismay of its other inhabitants. It's as fun to watch him strip down to his skivvies as it is to listen to him ramble. Completing the cast is Reuben's wife, Wolf Man Dance (**Emily Chapman Hensel**; *Anything Goes*), who creates concoctions to favor happy hunting.

You don't have to be a Yoooper, or even a Michigander, to enjoy the fun Daniels pokes at both north and south. It's all tempered with a sort of good humor and love for custom and legend that's extremely appealing. *Escanaba in da Moonlight* is directed by Ross Daniels, with Denise Bristol as Assistant Director/Stage Manager.

The play runs January 12-15 and 19-22, with shows at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday nights and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday afternoons. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students 21 and under. **There will be an additional matinee at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, January 21, with all seats \$15.** Tickets are available at the MHT box office (270-444-6828) at 132 Market House Square from noon to 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays or online at [www.mhtplay.com](http://www.mhtplay.com).

**NEW! An \$8 student walk-up ticket will be available 10 minutes before each show on a space-available basis. College students should bring I.D.**

\*Yoooper: an inhabitant of Michigan's Upper Peninsula

\*\*Troll: an inhabitant of the the Lower Peninsula; i.e., those who dwell "below" the Mackinac Bridge connecting the two peninsulas.



**Audience Advisory! The 5 hunters indulge in crude language and bodily function humor. Parental guidance is strongly suggested.**

#### Market House Theatre thanks Our Sponsors

##### Gold

Paducah Bank

##### Silver

Computer Services, Inc.  
Innovations Brandinghouse  
Lourdes Hospital  
McMurry & Livingston  
Western Baptist Hospital  
WKMS 91.3 FM

##### Bronze

Barbara & Jimmy Allen  
Denton & Keuler  
Eckelkamp Insurance Agency  
Edward Jones  
Paducah Power System  
Paducah Renaissance Alliance  
Peel & Holland, Inc.  
Saladino, Oakes & Schaaf  
Story Physical Therapy  
Taco John's  
Whitlow, Roberts,  
Houston & Straub

##### Theatre in Schools

Ashland, Inc.  
Ray Black & Son

##### Footlights

Ray Black & Son

##### Story Theatre

Backwoods BBQ  
Ronald McDonald House  
Charities  
WPSD Local 6



New trimester  
starts  
January 7th!

FOOTLIGHTS, Market House Theatre's youth acting troupes for grades 1-12, is accepting registrations for its new trimester of classes, which begins January 7 and meets every Saturday through March 24. The Early Elementary troupe (grades 1-3) meets from 8 - 9 a.m., Upper Elementary (grades 4 & 5) from 9 - 10 a.m., Middle school (grades 6-8) from 10 - 11 a.m., and High school from 11:00 a.m. to noon. All classes meet in MHT's Studio Theatre classroom located at 120 S. 2nd Street.



**Elementary and Middle School  
Performance Trimester!!  
Everyone gets a role!**

The Elementary school troupes and the Middle School troupe will produce plays this trimester. The Early Elementary troupe will rehearse **Once Upon a Shoe** - a hilarious fractured fairytale send-up of some of Mother Goose's most beloved rhymes. The Upper Elementary troupe will produce **The Princess and the Princess** - a comedy about a kingdom which comes to a standstill during a comedic battle of wills. **The Elementary troupes will perform March 24 and 25 in MHT's mainstage theatre.**

The Middle school troupe will rehearse the teen comedy **Note to Self**, a series of inner monologue vignettes ranging from the antics of a cyber-stalking mom, a turbocharged caffeine buzz in band class and a run-in with Elvis! **This troupe will perform March 25 in the mainstage theatre.** The elementary and middle school troupes are lead by April Cochran, MHT's Education Director.



**High School Troupe:  
Commedia dell'Arte!!!**

The High school troupe will focus on Commedia classes this trimester!! **Commedia dell'Arte** is an Italian form of theatre that centers around improvisation, acrobatics, and comedic bits known as *Lazzi*. In this class participants will focus on the characters specific to Commedia and will learn how they think, move, and interact with their fellow characters in the Commedia world, as well as develop their funny bones through improvisation and play. Guest instructor Katie Hamilton will lead this class.

No previous classes or performing experience is needed to participate in FOOTLIGHTS. The FOOTLIGHTS fee is \$50 per trimester. Financial need partial scholarships are also available.

FOOTLIGHTS programming is sponsored through the generosity of **Ray Black and Son General Contractors**.

**To register, call the MHT Box Office at (270) 444-6828, Tuesday through Friday between noon and 5 p.m.**



**NEW Classes  
for Adults!!**

Ready to add a little drama to your life, but not quite ready for the stage? Want to get on stage, but don't quite know what to expect or how to go about it? Perhaps the limelight is not your thing, but you want something new and interesting to do! **Join us for some fun and low-stress classes that will fit the bill, all taught by Michael Cochran, MHT's Executive Director.**

**Acting 101** – a basic beginner class for **adults ages 40** and up interested in acquiring acting skills. Whether you have never acted before or have been away from the stage for a long time, this class will help you step into acting in a safe, friendly environment. **Mondays, January 16, 23, 30, & February 13, 5:30 – 6:20 p.m. \$40**

**Acting 102** – A basic beginner class for **adults ages 18-40** interested in acquiring acting skills. Whether you have never acted before or have been away from the stage for a long time, this class will help you step into acting in a safe, friendly environment. **Mondays, January 16, 23, 30, & February 13, 6:30 – 7:20 p.m. \$40**

**Technical Theatre 101: Lights, Sets, and Sound**  
An introduction to basic lighting, scene construction, sound design, and special effects for a show. **January 17-18 & 24-25, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. \$60**



**FREE Audition  
Workshops!!**

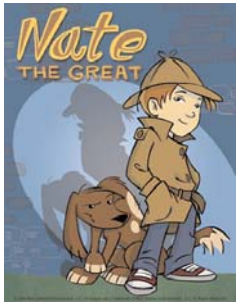
**How to audition for *Getting Sara Married*. Monday, January 16, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. \*FREE\***

**How to audition for *Hairspray*. Wednesday, February 1, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. \*FREE\***

To register for any of these classes, call the MHT Box Office (270) 444-6828 between noon and 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

# Auditions

Market House Theatre auditions are open to all, and newcomers are welcome!! Perusal scripts for all plays are available in the MHT box office at 132 Market House Square for a refundable deposit of \$10. For additional information, contact MHT at 270-444-6828, Tuesday through Friday between noon and 5 p.m.



**Get a clue with Nate, the famed pint-sized private eye in Market House Theatre's next youth production: *The Adventures of Nate the Great!***

MHT will hold open auditions for the whimsical play *Nate the Great* on **January 9 and 10 at 5:00 in MHT's Studio Theatre classroom.**

Adapted by Pamela Sterling from the books by Marjorie Sharmat, Nate the Great, along with his friends and his faithful dog, Sludge, make the greatest kids' detective team ever, solving important cases and always remembering to leave a note for Mom! This spoof on "B" movies has a delightful child's perspective on life's little mysteries, produced by--and for--kids.

The characters include the intrepid detective Nate, his best friend and chief organizer Kate, and his loyal dog Sludge. His friends (and clients) include Annie, Annie's dog Fang, Rosamond, Claudia and Esmeralda, plus Oliver, Pip, Harry and Finley. All of the characters are elementary school age. *There is also an optional saxophone player who plays jazz throughout the production. This character can be played by anyone middle school through adult.*

The play will be directed by MHT's Education Director April Cochran. Those auditioning will be asked to read from the play and participate in some theatre games. If auditioning for the jazz saxophone player, you should bring your saxophone and music. No advance preparation or previous theatre experience is needed. **Performances are February 23-26, with 3 morning school matinees.**



**Auditions for the romantic comedy *Getting Sara Married* will be Monday and Tuesday, January 23 & 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the main theatre.**

Sara Hastings is an unmarried lawyer who is much too busy to get involved in any romance. Her Aunt Martha has decided to take matters into her own hands by kidnapping a prospective groom and dumping him on Sara's doorstep. **The play will run April 19-22 and 26-29, 2012.** Diane Byrd will direct.

**Needed are 3 women and 3 men. Characters are:**

- Sara Hastings - an unmarried woman in her 30's
- Aunt Martha - Sara's unpredictable aunt in her 50's/60's
- Noogie Malloy- A very special delivery man in his 30's-50's
- Brandon Cates- a potential husband in his 30's that Aunt Martha has picked out for Sara
- Heather Boyd- Brandon's fiancée in her 20's/30's
- A chiropractor in his/her 30's/40's (non-speaking role)



**Auditions for *Hairspray* will be Monday and Tuesday, February 6 & 7 at 7:00 p.m. in MHT's Studio Theatre classroom, located at 120 South 2nd Street on the second floor.**

It's Baltimore in the 1960's, where the 50's are out and change is in the air. Tracy Turnblad, a loveable plus-size teen with a passion for dancing, wins a spot on the local TV dance program. Overnight, she finds herself transformed from outsider to teen celebrity who seeks to integrate the television show and find true love. **The play will run May 31-June 3, 7-10, & 14-17, 2012.** Michael Cochran will direct, with Patt Lynch as music director.

Those auditioning will be asked to read from the script and sing a short selection from the musical. Auditionees may prepare a song from the show to sing, or they may learn a short selection that will be taught at the audition. A short dance sequence will be taught to those seeking dancing roles.

**Needed is a large cast of teens and adults, both African-American and Caucasian, male and female.**

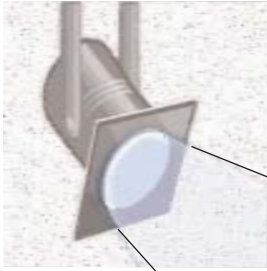
# the masquerade ball

A Market House Theatre Celebration

Market House Theatre's inaugural Masquerade Ball was a huge success, raising over \$25,000 for our youth programming! The creative costumes, fabulous food, and marvelous music made a GREAT evening that had all of Paducah buzzing!

*Save the Date for next year's Ball!*  
*October 20, 2012*





## Spotlight on...

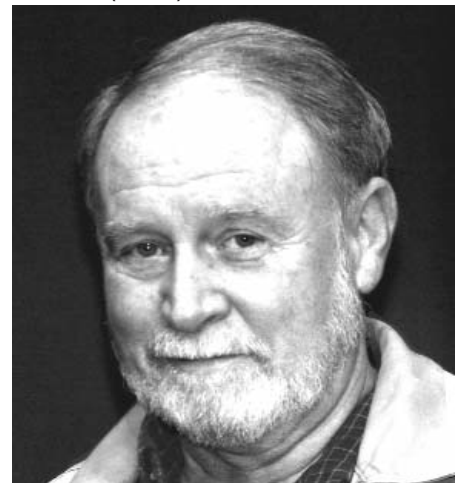
# Ross Daniels

We are happy to welcome returning guest director Ross Daniels. Ross previously directed several productions for Market House Theatre including award-winning festival productions of *Proof* and *The Guys*. Last year Ross directed the MHT production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare – Abridged*. When asked how he first heard of Market House, Ross said, “Being a community theatre director at Fort Knox we heard of MHT back in the mid 1980’s. It is one of the best community theatres in Kentucky and the region!”

Ross Daniels recently retired from the Federal Government after 25 years as Director of U.S. Army Entertainment Programs at Fort Knox, Kentucky and Vicenza, Italy. In 2001, the U.S. Army presented Ross with the James T. Martin Award for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement.

While at Fort Knox, Ross and his wife Bonnie established Army Community Theatre (ACT) and built one of the Army’s most decorated programs. He produced and directed plays that took top awards at state and regional AACT festivals and were honored at International Theatre Festivals in Aruba, England and Germany. Ross served as Kentucky Community Theatre Chair from 1995-97 and hosted the state theatre festival at Fort Knox in 1996.

Ross was an advocate for establishing AACT Region 10 which in 1998 recognized American overseas community theatre programs. In Vicenza, Italy, he produced *Do Not Go Gentle*, which won the AACT Region 10 Best Play Award. Soldiers’ Theatre of Vicenza became the first military theatre to qualify competitively and was an award recipient at the AACT National Theatre Festival in 1999 at Memphis, TN. In 2006, Ross produced the award-winning production of *The Tolstoy Story Play* which represented the US at the AACT International Theatre Festival in Midland, Texas.



Guest Director Ross Daniels

I asked Ross how he first became interested in theatre. His response was, “An elementary school play about a boy and girl meeting someone from space. I played the boy, never realizing this would someday prepare me to direct the extraterrestrial elements within *Escanaba In Da Moonlight*.”

Ross has produced, directed, and performed over 100 plays, musicals, and workshops. He has adapted many scripts from their literary sources including *A Christmas Carol*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and *Hamlet*. His original compiled scripts include material centered on Shakespeare: *Billy Ball*, African American Literature: *Umbhiozo*, and the golden entertainment age: *The Day of Vaudeville/A Night In Burlesque*.

Since retiring, Ross has been active with US Army Theatre programs, adjudicating festivals and conducting workshops. When asked whether he had any interest in future festivals, Ross said, “Always, our bags are packed.”

Ross’s other interests include “Gardening, hiking, foraging, mushroom hunting, cooking, baseball, a little fishing, travelling of course...did I mention our bags are packed?”

I asked Ross if there was anything he wanted to add that I hadn’t asked. “I am glad you asked, eh. Come see *Escanaba In Da Moonlight* written by my kin, Jeff. Prepare to be amazed!!!”

---Denise Bristol



# Market House Theatre Ends Second Consecutive Fiscal Year in the Black



MHT Executive Director  
Michael Cochran

“For the second year in a row, thanks to great productions by community performers and increased contributions from local and regional donors who support the mission of the theatre, we ended our fiscal year in the black,” says MHT Executive Director Michael Cochran. “A great deal of the success goes to the Board of Directors, who worked diligently to build relationships with individuals and businesses. In addition, the MHT Staff worked incredibly hard to produce over fifteen productions and to keep expenses in check.” Cochran also credits the support of the City of Paducah, the Kentucky Arts Council, and its largest corporate sponsors: Paducah Bank for underwriting its Main Season, the Law Firm of Kitchen and Thornton-Green for underwriting the Youth Season, and Ray Black and Son General Contractors and Ashland Corporation (formerly International Specialty Products) for underwriting the Educational programming over the past two years. He also credits at least a dozen other corporate sponsors.

Market House Theatre served over 23,000 youth last year with 11,000 of those students receiving classes taught at their schools by MHT Education Director April Cochran. April Cochran was awarded the National Distinguished Merit Award recently by the American Association of Community Theatres for her work. The educational programming provided by MHT teaches communications skills and develops personal confidence, using theatre to teach core content for language, social studies, history, and science. In addition to MHT’s youth programming, over 12,000 adults participated in MHT Main Season programming at the historic theatre located in downtown Paducah.

“Market House Theatre continues to see the demand increase for educational classes and opportunities for more local performers to act in productions produced by the theatre. We strive for professional quality productions, and we continue to cast as many new people as possible” says Cochran. The theatre has a long history of awards and recognition on a state and national level.

The theatre’s unrestricted operations and contributed revenue for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2011 was \$672,186. The theatre’s operational expenses were \$638,087, leaving a surplus of just over \$34,000.

“We are using that surplus to invest in a strong, stable, and sustainable financial foundation for the future,” says Cochran. The theatre has paid for the second phase of an analysis of MHT programming and facility needs in order to meet continued growth and demand. In addition, the theatre has reinvested in facilities and equipment. “The biggest challenge,” explains Cochran, “is maintenance on the 4 historic buildings the theatre owns that are listed on the National Historic Register. We also pay for work on the main Market House building which is leased from the City of Paducah.\* We’ve had significant roofing, masonry, and HVAC costs both last year and this year. We are thankful to be in a position to cover these expenses without having to access our line of credit with Paducah Bank.”

\*Market House Theatre received \$9,000 in operational support from the City of Paducah for fiscal year 2010-11. This grant money offsets some of the maintenance costs associated with the Market House building.

## J.C. Dudley

Market House Theatre lost a precious friend last month. J.C. Dudley was one of the original founders of Market House Theatre in 1963, and he remained a loyal supporter for 48 seasons. J.C. attended almost every Market House Theatre production, sitting on Row A, Seat 1 the first Sunday of every run. After his wife Wilhelmina passed away, J.C. came to the theatre with his brother-in-law George, and he always bought a raffle ticket supporting youth and educational programming. J.C. made it a point after every performance to shake hands with those he knew and to tell them what a great job they did. He supported Market House Theatre by coming to all the fundraisers and special events as well. He especially loved the Derby Party! He was always such a positive presence at the theatre and will be terribly missed by the Market House Theatre family.



Wilhelmina and J.C. Dudley, two of Market House Theatre's founders, with MHT Executive Director Michael Cochran in 1999.

## Coming Events at Market House Theatre

FOOTLIGHTS 2nd trimester begins	January 7
<i>Nate the Great</i> auditions	January 9-10
<b><i>Escanaba in da Moonlight</i></b>	Jan. 12-15 & 19-22
<i>Getting Sara Married</i> auditions	January 23-24
<i>Hairspray</i> auditions	February 6-7
<b><i>Nate the Great</i></b>	February 23-27
<b>Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre</b>	March 8-11
FOOTLIGHTS shows	March 24-25
<b><i>Getting Sara Married</i></b>	April 19-22 & 26-29
FOOTLIGHTS 3rd trimester begins	April 7
FOOTLIGHTS mini-musical	May 26
<b><i>Hairspray</i></b>	May 31-June 3, 7-10, 14-17
<b><i>Hairspray Curtain Call</i></b>	June 16
MHT Annual Members' Picnic	June 18

## RENTALS

Looking for meeting space or a great place for a birthday party? With ample parking nearby and close proximity to our fabulous downtown restaurants, Market House Theatre's main stage, studio theatre, or classroom can be rented for your special event. The basic rental fees are as follows:

**Main Theatre** – \$500 for evening rental; \$125 per hour for morning or afternoon rental. Seats 234. Large projection screen available. (Additional fee for technical setup and operation.)

**Studio Theatre**(120 Market House Square) – \$75 per hour (\$225 all day). Great for small meetings, birthday parties or dance parties. We have the party lights to make your dance party a hit! Seats for 80, small screen, dance floor, and room for tables.

**Classroom** (120 Market House Square) – \$75 per hour (\$225 all day). Great for birthdays and meetings, this upstairs room has a skylight and lots of cool set decorations on the walls. Tables and chairs can be set up in this fun educational space. Maximum capacity: 75



Jamie Black (center) recently celebrated her birthday in MHT's Studio Theatre. Music, dancing, bubbles, and fun!



**MARKET HOUSE THEATRE**  
 132 Market House Square  
 Paducah, KY 42001  
 (270) 444-6828 1-888-MHT-PLAY  
[www.mhtplay.com](http://www.mhtplay.com)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Paducah KY Permit No. 146
--

**KENTUCKY Arts Council** The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency, provides operational support funding for Market House Theatre with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Market House Theatre's Story Theatre Troupe recently presented their Fall tour of *The Elves and the Shoemaker* to 15 elementary schools in the region, bringing live theatre to over 4,000 children.

Troupe members **Michael Cochran, Julie Price, and Kim Yocum** pose with students from McNabb Elementary. Story Theatre sponsor **Ronald McDonald House Charities** chose McNabb as its school to receive a free performance. Students from Ballard Elementary enjoyed a performance

sponsored by **Backwoods BBQ**, and Clark Elementary was sponsored by **WPSD Local 6**. Taking the photo was troupe member and director, **April Cochran, MHT's Education Director**.