

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre presents

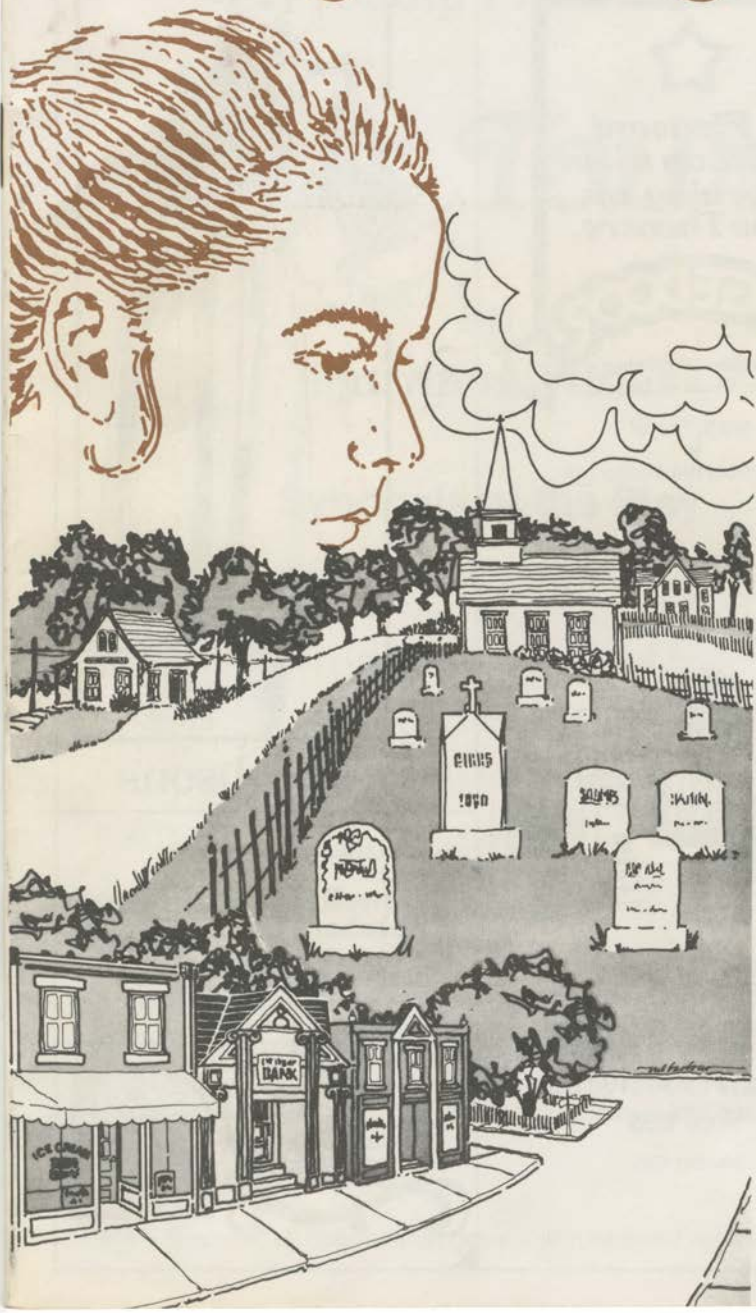
OUR TOWN

By
Thornton
Wilder

September
24-27
1980

Lydia
Mendelssohn
Theatre

8:00 p.m.





**A Pleasant
Addition to an
Evening of
Fine Theatre.**



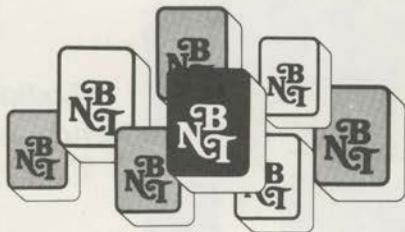
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Our Town

by
Thornton Wilder

Synopsis of the Play

ACT I 1901..... OUR TOWN

(10-Minute Intermission)

ACT II 1904..... MARRIAGE

(10-Minute Intermission)

ACT III 1913..... SUMMER

Artistic Director Ted Heusel
Producer Kathleen Foss-Harsen
Costume Designer Cheryl Berteel
Lighting Designer Deborah Seymour
Choir Director Barbara Hilbish
Properties Connie McCarthy

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Stagedoor
Allison E. Weeber

The Cast

(In Order of Appearance)

<i>Stage Manager</i>	John Stephens
<i>Dr. Gibbs</i>	Joe Medrano
<i>Joe Crowell</i>	Mark Heusel
<i>Howie Newsome</i>	Ed Leshner
<i>Mrs. Gibbs</i>	Cathe Wright
<i>Mrs. Webb</i>	Susan Morris
<i>George Gibbs</i>	(Thurs., Sat.)... David Kitto (Wed., Fri.)... Ken Norman
<i>Rebecca Gibbs</i>	Mary Beth Schrock
<i>Wally Webb</i>	Matt Sporzynski
<i>Emily Webb</i>	Patricia M. Garcia
<i>Professor Willard</i>	Barbara Hilbish
<i>Mr. Webb</i>	Leo McNamara
<i>Woman in Balcony</i>	Barbara Carron
<i>Lady in Auditorium</i>	Marie Gilson
<i>Artistic Lady</i>	Elizabeth McNair
<i>Organist</i>	Madelyn Rubinstein
<i>Simon Stimson</i>	Jeff Smith
<i>Mrs. Soames</i>	Margie Cohen
<i>Constable Bill Warren</i>	Gary Goodson
<i>Si Crowell</i>	William Navarre
<i>Baseball Players</i>	Chris Jensen Heather McKittrick James Newton
<i>Sam Craig</i>	Scott Davis
<i>Joe Stoddard</i>	David Gilbert
<i>1st Dead Woman</i>	Virginia Dudley Eveland
<i>1st Dead Man</i>	Warren C. Eveland

About the Cast

good

PATRICIA M. GARCIA (Emily Webb) comes to Civic with a wide variety of stage experiences. She appeared as Alice in EMU's *Alice in Wonderland* and did Jill in *Butterflies Are Free* for the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre. For Sister Lakes Playhouse she appeared in *Barefoot in the Park* as Carie and was a member of the Kalamazoo Dance Ensemble. Most recently she appeared in Civic's *Guys and Dolls* as one of the Hot Box girls and as part of the ensemble in *Kiss Me Kate*. Patricia has three daughters and enjoys dance, theatre, writing and Suzuki piano lessons with her oldest daughter, Jeana Marie.

KEN NORMAN (George Gibbs) is currently a senior at Pioneer High School. He has held lead and supporting roles in many school and community productions, including *The King and I* in Chelsea. He worked special effects for Civic's *You Can't Take It With You*. Ken is active in school this time of year with his academics, Theatre Guild, a capella choir and the Sha Bop Shoppe, a new show choir. He also loves to read and play guitar.

MARY BETH SCHROCK (Rebecca Gibbs) attends Greenhills School where she has played Elaine in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and Christine in *I Remember Mama*. Mary Beth also works with the Ann Arbor Junior Theatre and appeared as the Jester in the *Princess And The Pea*. This summer she attended the National High School Institute at Northwestern. Backstage, she's worked costumes and make-up, and besides acting, loves traveling, the French language and photography.

CATHE WRIGHT (Mrs. Gibbs) most recently appeared for Civic in two productions of Summer Stage 80, as Fanny Kemble in *Properties* and in *The Good Doctor*. Ann Arbor audiences have seen Cathe as Leonara Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music* and Penny Scycamore in *You Can't Take It With You*. She has also appeared in *Little Foxes* as Birdie and in the title role in *Anastasia*. Cathe is a homemaker and a drama teacher for Young People's Theatre.

JOE MEDRANO (Dr. Gibbs) brings the experiences of over 30 shows to *Our Town*. His on-stage roles have included bishops, prison guards, wealthy senators and dukes as well as a variety of nationalities from alcoholic southern gentlemen and New York gamblers, to Russian dance teachers. He also appeared on film in *El Triciclo*. Joe teaches math and Spanish and has directed and designed shows for his students. Joe's contributions backstage range from set crew to poster design, set design to make-up and props crews. Most recently he designed Civic's set for *The Crucible* and appeared as Titus Savage in *Curious Savage* and as Homer Van Fleet in *Night of January 16th*.

MATT SPORZYNSKI (Wally Webb) is a new face to Civic but not to theatre. He has appeared in productions by M M Productions, The Black Sheep Repertory Theatre and The Traveling Smiles Children's Theatre. His onstage experiences range from *Winnie the Pooh* to *Peter Pan* through *A Christmas Carol* and *Our Town*. Matt has worked lights for Comic Opera Guild's *La Perichole* and G & S's *Pirates of Penzance*. He enjoys traveling, his aquarium and stamps.

BARBARA HILBISH (Professor Willard & Choir Director) is no stranger to Civic audiences or *Our Town*. She appeared in AACT's *Carousel* as Aunt Nettie and made her theatre debut as Rebecca in the Canton Players Guild production of *Our Town*. In addition to her role, she organized and rehearsed the choir for AACT's production. Barbara is a voice teacher.

LEO McNAMARA (Mr. Webb) recently appeared in AACT's *Night of January 16th* and has, additionally, been seen in Civic's *Anastasia*, *Arms & The Man* and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. He also has considerable experience in the U of M Theatre program, including 1979 Summer Repertory. Leo is an associate professor of English at the University of Michigan and is teaching Irish history and literature.

MARK HEUSEL (Joe Crowell) appeared in the St. Andrew Players production of *A Man For All Seasons* and in Slauson Junior High's *The Mouse That Roared*. Mark has worked sound and stage crews and most recently helped head usher *Guys And Dolls*. A student at Slauson Middle School, Mark enjoys baseball and basketball.

ED LESHER (Howie Newsome) has been involved with AACT for ten years, having appeared as a body in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Bailey in *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*, Pycraft in *Spofford*, Heavenly Friend in *Carousel*, Paul in *You Can't Take It With You*, Grandfather in *The Good Person of Schezwan*, and the bicycle riding Doorman in *The Madwoman of Chailot*. Ed's profession as an Aerospace Engineer at U of M often pays off for AACT in his technical help backstage. He enjoys designing, building and flying airplanes.

SUSAN MORRIS (Mrs. Webb) is best known to Ann Arbor audiences as a director and actress. Susie was voted best actress for her performance as Martha in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She played Alma in *Summer and Smoke* and Ghislaine in *Waltz of the Toreadors*. Last year Susie directed *A Little Night Music* and in the 1977-78 season she was the President of the AACT Board of Directors. She works as an Administrative Assistant in the Romance Languages Department at the University of Michigan. Most recently she directed Summer Fare 80's *Night of January 16th* at Main Street.

excellent

JOHN STEPHENS (Stage Manager) was the recipient of the Best Actor Award for the role of Grandpa in *You Can't Take It With You*, and Spofford in *Spofford*, and the Best Supporting Actor Award for the role of Chief Sitting Bull in *Annie Get Your Gun*. Other major roles include Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Buddy Plummer in *Follies* and many other roles for AACT. He has served on the Board of Directors and has built and painted scenery for AACT. John is the President of West Devices Inc., a precision sheet metal company in Brighton, and enjoys sailing.

good **DAVID KITTO** (George Gibbs) appeared as Henrik Egerman in *A Little Night Music* and as Hank in *Little Mary Sunshine* for AACT. He has been with the U of M Gilbert & Sullivan Society for several years, appearing as Richard Dauntless in *Ruddigore*. His other credits include Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Matt in *The Fantastiks*, Charley in *Where's Charley?* and Don Baker in *Butterflies Are Free*. David is a graduate student in theatre management.

BARBARA CARRON (Woman in Balcony, Ensemble) is an active member of Civic. Most recently she served as membership chair and program editor for the 1979-1980 season. She acted as Producer for *Lady Lambert*, and assistant director for *Kiss Me Kate*. Barbara enjoys needlepoint and has already volunteered to AD Civic's production of *My Fair Lady* in January '81.

MARIE GILSON (Lady in Auditorium, Ensemble) is a retired RN who has been involved with Civic since 1948. She has appeared with the St. Andrews Players and most recently was seen as Emily in AACT's production of *Follies*. Currently, Marie is one of the volunteers staffing the AACT Main Street Office.

ELIZABETH McNAIR (Artistic Lady, Ensemble) most recently appeared for Ann Arbor audiences as Sarah Good in *The Crucible*, for AACT. No stranger to the stage, she has played in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Romanoff and Juliette* and *George Washington Slept Here* with little theatre groups on several Army posts. Elizabeth is a retired teacher.

MADelyn RUBINSTEIN (Organist) last worked with Civic as both rehearsal and performance pianist for *Guys and Dolls*. This marks Madelyn's debut with Civic. She has also served as pianist for U of M's *Pippin*, *On The Town* and was assistant musical director for *Godspell*. She also was musical director for a production of *Man of La Mancha* in Maine.

MARGIE COHEN (Mrs. Soames) has been a member of AACT for 9 years and is currently serving on the Board of Directors. She recently appeared as Miss Swanson in Summer Fare 80's production of *Night of January 16th* and as Rosa in *You Can't Take It With You* and Mrs. Paddy in *Curious Savage*. Margie has served as chairperson for props on *A Little Night Music*, *Waltz of the Toreadors* and *Carousel*. Currently, she is in charge of season publicity.

JEFF SMITH (Simon Stimson) This marks Jeff's debut with AACT. A member of Ann Arbor Pioneer Theatre Guild in '78-79, Jeff played Dr. Gibbs in their production of *Our Town*. Jeff is a student.

GARY GOODSON (Constable Bill Warren) is a newcomer to Civic. Most recently he appeared as Harold in *Is The Real You Really You?* for The Saline Area Players and as the 1st Priest in *Murder in The Cathedral* for the St. Mary Chapel Players.

WILLIAM NAVARRE (Si Crowell) is a student at Emerson School where he has appeared in various school productions. He enjoys playing Dungeons and Dragons and other adventure games.

CHRIS JENSEN (Baseball Player, Ensemble) has worked on lighting at Ypsilanti High School for the past three years on such productions as *Dracula*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *West Side Story*. This summer he worked sound crew for AACT's *Bus Stop* and appeared as Sweeney in *Night of January 16th*. He enjoys wargaming, pinball and sailing.

HEATHER McKITTRICK (Louise, Baseball Player, Ensemble) is currently a student at Pioneer. In addition to her onstage participation she helped with programs for *Our Town*.

JAMES NEWTON (Baseball Player, Ensemble) most recently appeared in Summer Fare's *Night of January 16th*, and as one of the Gambler/Dancers in *Guys and Dolls*.

SCOTT DAVIS (Sam Craig) is another newcomer to AACT and to the stage. He recently appeared in Summer Fare's *Still Life*. Scott is a poet.

DAVID GILBERT (Joe Stoddard) is currently serving AACT as Financial Vice President on the Board of Directors. Ann Arbor audiences saw him as the Broker in *Madwoman of Chaillot* and Dave has served as Treasurer and Ticket Agent for Civic. Dave works as an insurance underwriter and likes camping, travel and music.

VIRGINIA DUDLEY EVELAND (1st Dead Woman, Ensemble) appeared in *Madwoman of Chaillot* and recently produced *Absent Friends* for AACT at Main Street. Virginia is currently one of the volunteers staffing the Business Office on Main Street.

WARREN EVELAND (1st Dead Man, Ensemble) has played a variety of roles from an undertaker to a postman. One of his most recent efforts was as director for Summer Fare 80's *Absent Friends*. Warren is a retired U of M professor emeritus who enjoys the Bonsai Society and fishing.

The Ensemble - Choir and Townspeople

Gerry Briegel
Barbara Smart Daniel
Lesli Daniel
Robert C. Douglas
Angelika Fanslau
Susan Faulstick
Liz Foster
Jennifer Heusel
Jennifer Hilbish
Betsy Hill
Cathy Jenkins
Maggie King
Carolyn L. Leyh
Wayne Morrow
Edward C. Smith
Deborah Leshner Tolomen
Katherine Webb
Steven Webb

About the Ensemble

GERRY BRIEGEL This marks Gerry's first on-stage appearance for Civic. a 14-year member, she has been head box office for AACT several times in addition to her other volunteer efforts. Outside Civic, Gerry sings bass with the Sweet Adelines.

BARBARA DANIEL brings 13 years of church choir singing to this production. A graphic artist in real life, Barb has done posters and programs for Civic and served as audition coordinator the past two years.

LESLI DANIEL Leslie's special interest is music but she has been found among the ranks of the AACT ushers the past four years and has helped on stage crews.

ROBERT C. DOUGLAS raises horses and fancy bantam poultry in Dexter when he isn't teaching elementary school, singing in St. Andrews choir or working on roles in Comic Opera Guild productions. Robert has previously sung in the U of M Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

ANGELIKA FANSLAU has appeared in the U of M Gilbert & Sullivan Society productions of *HMS Pinafore* and *Patience*, and in *Kiss Me Kate* in Benton Harbor. Most recently, Angelika helped on costumes for Civic's *Guys and Dolls*.

SUSAN FAULSTICK is a newcomer to AACT. She has participated in classes given by Young People's Theatre and has been part of the Forsythe School Drama Club.

LIZ FOSTER has been an active member of the Huron Players for 2 years. Currently a member of the a capella choir, Liz is a senior at Huron High.

JENNIFER HEUSEL (Choir) is a student at U of M. She appeared in last summer's melodrama for Civic's Day in the Park and most recently, assumed some of the responsibilities of head usher for AACT's *Guys and Dolls*.

JENNIFER HILBISH (Choir) is a relative newcomer to Civic. She makes her Civic stage debut with this production.

BETSY HILL has been active backstage for Civic. A recent graduate from EMU in Special Education, Betsy's special interests are local history and historical buildings in Ann Arbor. She has served as a Board member for Comic Opera Guild and is a past member of the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers.

CATHY JENKINS makes her debut with Civic. In addition to singing, her special interests are photography, block printing and Hawaiian dancing.

MAGGIE KING recently appeared as Catherine Anger in *A Man for All Seasons* with St. Andrews Players. Maggie is an educational psychologist.

CAROLYN L. LEYH is a Health Records Analyst at the U of M Hospital. She has appeared with the Clark Lake Players as Luisa (*Fantastiks*) and with the Jackson Civic Theatre in various roles. She is a member of the Festival Chorus and Choral Union, enjoys travel, nature, hiking, and is a soloist at the First Presbyterian Church.

WAYNE MORROW has appeared in the School of Music's *Madame Butterfly* and in numerous Comic Opera Guild productions including *La Belle Helene*, *Merry Widow*, *La Pericole* and *Iolanthe*. He enjoys record collecting and fishing.

EDWARD C. SMITH enjoys reading and traveling and sings with the St. Thomas Choir. He is a past member of the Dow Male Chorus in which he sang first bass.

DEBORAH LESHER TOLOMEN recently appeared as the Jail Matron in Summer Season's *Night of January 16th*. She is a student at Michigan Technical Institute and tries to attend as many plays as possible.

KATHERINE WEBB is a past member of the Oak Park Civic Symphony Chorus and currently sings with the St. Andrews Episcopal Church Choir. Katherine is a speech pathologist.

STEVEN WEBB has appeared in Yale Dramatics Association productions of *Mr. Roberts* and *Shoemaker's Holiday* and has done tech work for various shows. A member of St. Andrews choir, Steven is also an economics professor.



Production Staff

<i>Assistant Director/ Stage Management</i>	Runelda Medrano
<i>Sound Engineer</i>	Hairy Beanball
<i>Make-Up Design</i>	Sophie Farah
<i>Publicity</i>	Margie Cohen
<i>Poster Design</i>	Marcia Barbour (J. W. Donnelly Agency)
<i>Running Crew</i>	Michael Romez Robert Sadowsky
<i>Costume Crew</i>	Susan Alford Marge Martinez Evelyne Genik Margie Cohen Barbara Carron Chris Stevens Cathe Wright
<i>Set Construction</i>	Ted Farah
<i>Light Crew</i>	Kathryn Maurdeff Mike Limner George Jordan L. J. Ulrich
<i>Make-Up Crew</i>	Linda Chuba Cindy Opal Roberta Rizzardi JoAnn Zeigenfuse
<i>Programs</i>	Heather McKittrick Connie McCarthy Marie Gilson Margie Cohen Bob Seeman Kathi Genik

Special thanks to all those who worked on the show but whose names are not included here.

About the Staff

KATHLEEN FOSS-HARSEN (Producer) debuts in *Our Town* as a producer for AACT. Most recently, she served as assistant director for last season's *Guys and Dolls* and was a rehearsal accompanist for *Kiss Me Kate*. A third grade teacher in the Detroit Public Schools, she currently serves as recording secretary for AACT's Board of Directors.

RUNELDA MEDRANO (AD/Stage Manager) marks the sixteenth time (many with director Ted Heusel) as assistant director and stage manager. On stage she has appeared in *Mame* and *Oklahoma*. Her contributions to Civic include serving as membership chair, recording secretary, board member, hospitality chair and most recently, as Treasurer. She works as a business manager and enjoys showing St. Bernard dogs and roller skating.

CONNIE McCARTHY (Properties) worked on make-up, ushering and set building for AACT, and did properties for the recent production of *The Crucible*. She is a part-time stockkeeper at Mott Children's Hospital, and part-time student at EMU, working towards an occupational therapy degree. Most recently, Connie headed props for *Lady Lambert* and served as assistant director.

SOPHIE FARAH (Make-up Design) once again joins Civic production lists. Sophie served as season make-up chair at Civic for 15 years and has worked extensively on make-up for U of M's School of Music operas.

CHERYL BERTEEL (Costume Designer) joined AACT during our production of *The Good Person of Schezwan* and has worked on every major play since, being the Wardrobe Mistress for *A Little Night Music* and helping backstage for *The Madwoman of Chaillot* and *Follies*. Cheryl has built costumes for close to 40 shows, including *Fiddler on the Roof*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Oklahoma*, *Imaginary Invalid*, and *Hello Dolly* for EMU Players and Grosse Pointe Theatre. She won an award for costumes from Grosse Pointe Theatre for her design of *Cabaret*. Cheryl works as a buyer of children's clothes at Goodyear's. She designed costumes for *Devil's Disciple*, *Bus Stop* and is a member of AACT Board of Directors.

DEBORAH SEYMOUR (Lighting Designer) joins *Our Town* with lighting design credits from Manchester's Black Sheep Theatre and Saugatuck's Red Barn Theatre. She received her BA from WMU and served a design internship at Lake Michigan College. She enjoys travel, cooking and dance.

HAIRY BEANBALL (Sound Engineer) is a new comer to Civic. He has done sound for numerous Pioneer Theatre Guild productions, and says he "digs sound . . . and the way of producing it."

Coming AACT 1980-81 Productions

- December 17-20 *The Water Engine* by David Mamet
The Apollo of Bellac by Jean Giraudoux
- January 7-10 *My Fair Lady* by Lerner & Lowe
- March 4-7 *East Lynne* by Mrs. Henry Wood
- April 4-7 *A Flea in Her Ear* by Georges Feydeau
- May 27-30 *Bedroom Farce* by Alan Ayckbourn

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