Cast Announced for Leading Ladies

Opens July 21

In this hilarious comedy by Ken Ludwig (author of Lend Me A Tenor and Moon Over Buffalo), two English Shakespearian actors, Jack and Leo (Pete Rose and Kyle Slagley), find themselves so down on their luck that they are performing "Scenes from Shakespeare" on the Moose Lodge circuit in the Amish country of Pennsylvania. When they hear that an old lady (Barb Pace) in York, Pennsylvania, is about to die and leave her fortune to her two long lost English nephews, they resolve to pass themselves off as her beloved relatives and get the cash. The trouble is, when they get to York, they find out that the relatives aren't nephews, but nieces!

Romantic entanglements abound, especially when Leo falls head-over-petticoat in love with the old lady's vivacious niece, Meg (Samantha Henry), who's engaged to the local minister (Patrick Davis). Also involved in the shenanigans are the local...

(Continued on page 2)

I Hate Hamlet Auditions

By Samantha Henry

The Fort Findlay Playhouse will be presenting a production of I Hate Hamlet by Paul Rudnick September 15-18 and 22-24. In I Hate Hamlet, a young and successful television actor relocates to New York, where he rents a marvelous, gothic apartment. With his television career in limbo, the actor is offered the opportunity to play Hamlet onstage, but there's one problem: He hates Hamlet. His dilemma deepens with the entrance of John Barrymore's ghost, who arrives intoxicated and in full costume to the apartment that once was his. The contrast between the two actors, the towering, dissipated Barrymore whose Hamlet was the greatest of his time, and Andrew Rally, hot young television star, leads to a wildly funny duel over women, art, success, duty, television, and yes, the apartment.

Director Samantha Henry and producer Katie Blocksidge will be looking to cast the following characters (ages listed are the approximate ages of the characters):

- Andrew Rally (late 20's/early 30's): A popular TV star whose series has just been cancelled. He has reluctantly moved into John Barrymore's apartment and agreed to take on the role of Hamlet for a Shakespeare in the Park production, even though he has no interest.
- John Barrymore (30-50): The ghost of the famous larger-than-life actor whose mission is to convince Andrew to play Hamlet.

(Continued on page 2)
Congratulations to the cast and crew of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

L-R (front row): Ed Griswold, Julie Lane, Lindsay Taylor, Alan Lortz, Sam Henry; (middle row): Marty Williams, Tara Laciano, Laurie Dye, Wes Taylor, Dan Basinger; (back row): Katie Bloksidge, Aeryn Williams, Seth Sprang, Brent Beggs

(Continued from page 1)

doc
tor (Jim Toth), his son (John Garner), an airheaded waitress (Lori Foster) and Moose Lodge member Francine (Alicia Creger).

Show dates are July 21-24 and 28-30. Thursday through Saturday shows are at 8:00 PM. The Sunday show is at 5:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased through the Arts Partnership, located at 618 S. Main St. in downtown Findlay, or by calling the Arts Partnership Box Office at (419) 422-4624. Please note, the Box Office hours are now 9 to 5 Monday through Friday.

The show is produced by Georgia Durain and directed by Patrick Davis with assistance from Elizabeth Orley. Leading Ladies is produced in association with Samuel French Inc.

(Continued from page 1)

Musicians Needed to Board the Titanic

Do you want to be a part of the production for FFP’s presentation of Titanic – but don’t want to be in the cast and have to memorize lines or learn dance routines? Well here’s your chance. The production committee is putting together a list of musicians interested in being part of the pit for the show.

Titanic’s amazing music, modeled after the music of composers such as Ralph Vaughn Williams has a similar feel to turn of the century music. The pit is just as featured as the ensemble. This promises to be a great show. If you are interested or have questions, please talk to Aeryn Williams, or drop her a note at aerynw@bgsu.edu.

Auditions are open to the public and will be held at the Playhouse on July 31 and August 1 at 7:30 pm. For more information on auditions or for a copy of the script please contact Samantha Henry at samanthalynn882003@yahoo.com.
Publicity Round Table
Join us for another unique way to leverage the expertise and experience of your fellow OCTA members. Each theater is invited to attend this workshop and send representatives who lead or participate in their theater’s publicity efforts. Participants in the round table will learn from one another, share examples of past publicity efforts and take home concrete ideas to help in promoting your season and your theater. During the first half of the session, we will discuss general questions and share publicity ideas and efforts that have worked for each theater in the past. During the second half of our session, we will discuss shows that are upcoming for each participating theater and brainstorm as a group as to how to address specific issues each show may present overall and those that are specific to the actual theater’s performance space. Participants should bring needs and examples of any past publicity efforts and resources they wish to share, an idea of their theater’s upcoming season and any questions they wish to have answered, or just simply themselves and a desire to share, learn and participate. Each attendee should leave with concrete ideas and resources to help in upcoming promotional efforts.

Fund Raising Round Table
Leverage the expertise and experience of your fellow OCTA members to strengthen your theaters fund raising efforts. Each theater is invited to attend this workshop and send representatives who lead or participate in their theater’s fund raising efforts. Participants in the round table will learn from one another, share examples of successful fund raising efforts and take home concrete ideas to help secure sponsors, patrons, donors or grants. Participants are encouraged to bring examples and details about any of their theater’s successful fund raising efforts to share with others. We will discuss general questions and share resources, ideas and efforts that have worked for each theater in the past. Participants should bring an idea of specific questions they would like answered and a desire to share, learn and participate. Each attendee should leave with concrete ideas and resources to help in upcoming fund raising efforts.

Set Building Round Table
Come join us for this unique way to leverage the expertise and experience of your fellow OCTA members. Each theater is invited to attend this workshop and send representatives who lead or participate in their theater’s set building efforts. Participants in the round table will learn from one another and take home concrete ideas to help in your upcoming season. During the first half of the session we will discuss general questions and share common set building practices, resources, hint, tips and ways that each theater has overcome specific challenges. During the second half we will ask theaters to submit shows they are doing during their upcoming season and brainstorm as a group as to how to address specific issues each show may present overall and those that are specific to the actual theater’s performance space. Participants should bring names and samples of any resources they wish to share, the name of a challenging show their theater is doing next season (if available), questions they wish to have answered or just simply themselves and a desire to share learn and participate.

A Findlay Original: Back Street
By Betty Hipp

What is Back Street?

a. an actual street
b. a Findlay Festival
c. an original play
answer: All the above!

Back Street was the name of Sandusky Street when Findlay was first founded. Back Street is also the name of an annual festival presented by The Hancock Historical Museum. Back Street is also the title of a historic drama written by Findlay “transplant” and enthusiast Peggy Brannigan.

For several years the Museum has held a Back Street Festival featuring antique cars, lots of good food, music and historic attractions. This year FFP and the Museum have partnered to present Back Street as part of the Festival.

Back Street opens on Thursday, August 18 and a gala cocktail party at the Museum will precede the Friday evening curtain at The Playhouse. Guests can meet, greet, sip, graze and then walk the short block to our beautiful theater for the show.

The cast of Tim Bechtol, Alaina Counts, Aeryn Williams and Angie Allen will bring this Civil War era drama to life. Betty Hipp is the producer/director with assistance from Julie Lane. Cathy Williams has designed and constructed lovely 1860s costumes and Lindsay Taylor is serving as stage manager. Marty Williams has designed a set that will serve both I Hate Hamlet and Back Street. Be sure to attend both shows to see how Marty and the set decorators can transform a Civil War parlor into a Gothic NYC apartment interior!

Back Street will run Thursday, August 18 at 7:30 pm ($12) and Friday, August 19 beginning with a cocktail party at 6 pm at the Museum, then the show at FFP at 7:30 pm ($20). Tickets can only be purchased from the Hancock Historical Museum by calling 419-423-4433 (please do not call The Arts Partnership). If you have any questions, please call the director at 419-348-1355.
What to see in the Northwest Region and other local theatres

**Copacabana, A New Musical**  
7/15 - 7/24  
Amil Tellers of Dramatics - Lima  
www.amitellers.org  
800-944-1441

**Les Miserables, School Edition**  
7/22 - 7/24  
3B Productions – Holland  
www.3bproductions.org  
419-865-5533

**The Wizard of Oz**  
7/28 - 7/31  
Fountain City Festival - Bryan  
www.fcflive.com  
419-636-2247

**Annie Get Your Gun**  
7/29 - 8/7  
Star Players - Upper Sandusky  
www.starplayers.net  
419-294-1410

**Alice in Wonderland Jr.**  
8/18 - 8/21  
Toledo Repertoire Theatre - Toledo  
www.toledorep.org  
419-243-9277

**Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure**  
9/16 - 10/2  
Toledo Repertoire Theatre - Toledo  
www.toledorep.org  
419-243-9277

**Jane Eyre**  
9/16 - 9/24  
Black Swamp Players - Bowling Green  
www.blackswampplayers.org  
bsplayer@wcnet.org - subject line "tickets"

**To Kill a Mockingbird**  
9/16 - 9/25  
Amil Tellers of Dramatics - Lima  
www.amitellers.org  
800-944-1441

**The Love List**  
9/9 - 9/24  
Village Players - Toledo  
www.thevillageplayers.org  
419-472-6817

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**Congratulations to the 2010 – 2011 Golden Gizmo recipients**

**Excellence in Acting - Leading Role:**  
- Coy Schlumbohm as Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*  
- Pat Courtney as Veta Louise Simmons in *Harvey*  
- Marty Williams as Willie in *The Sunshine Boys*  
- Mandy Bour as Princess Winnifred in *Once Upon a Mattress*

**Excellence in Acting - Supporting Role:**  
- Julie Lane as Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress*  
- Wes Taylor as Ben in *The Sunshine Boys*

**Excellence in Musical Performance:**  
- The Orphans in *Annie* - Claire Warnecke as Annie, Devony Miller as Pepper, Emily Gilbert as Frannie, Emma Linthicum as Lizzy, Katelyn Rose as Rosie, Kennedy Garmong as Nikki, Lily Rutledge as Molly, Lydia Mattingly as July, Madelin Kreinbrink as Janie, Mara Sansalone as Duffy, Sarah Pucheon as Kate and Tess Marshall as Tessie

**Excellence in Ensemble:**  
The cast of *Escanaba in Da Moonlight* - Patrick Davis as Reuben Soady, Pete Rose as Remnar Soady, Kyle Slagley as Ranger Tom T Treado, Wes Taylor as Jimmer Negamanee, Jim Toth as Albert Soady and Shelly Umatham as Wolf Moon Dance Soady

**Excellence in Technical Areas**  
- Cathy Williams for Costumes, *Once Upon a Mattress*  
- Marty Williams for Set Design, *Once Upon a Mattress*  
- Dawn Rose for Props, *The Sunshine Boys*  
- Daphne Bower, Donnita Krauss, J. Ladd for Hair, *Annie*  
- Patrick Davis for Set Dressing, *Escanaba in Da Moonlight*

**Special Merit Awards**  
- Sam Gupta, Pete Rose, Katie Blocksidge, Kyle Slagley, Bob Huber, Alicia Creger and Tom Miller - *Set Crew of Harvey*  
- Lindsay Taylor as Lady Larkin #2 in *Once Upon a Mattress*

**Excellence in Direction**  
Georgia Durain for *Escanaba in Da Moonlight*

**Best Production for 2010-2011 Season**  
*Escanaba in Da Moonlight*, Georgia Durain, Director, Boyd Durain, Producer

**Guest presenters for the evening were:**  
- Eric Hertenstein and Mandy Bour, representing *Once Upon a Mattress*  
- Marty Williams and Ron Dutton, representing *The Sunshine Boys*  
- Patrick Davis, representing *Escanaba in Da Moonlight*  
- Aeryn Williams and Cathy Williams, representing *Annie*  
- Pat Courtney and Samantha Henry, representing *Harvey*  
- Katie Blocksidge and Mark Thomas, representing the techies of all shows
OCTA Needs You!!!
Reprinted from Cuelines,
June 2011
By Ginny Morrison, OCTA President

NEW BOARD MEMBERS…. OCTA NEEDS YOU!!!!!!!!!
At this year’s conference, as always, we will hold an
election for the OCTA Board. With an 18 member board we
always have six 3-year terms available. This year, we also
have two 1-year terms to fill. If you are willing to give seven
Saturdays a year to serve and attend a meeting, meet new
people, serve on a division, and help OCTA grow and
become stronger, please contact Millie Butts, nominations
chair at Millieb62@roadrunner.com or give her a call (419-
307-3035). She will help you with understanding the
requirements and send you all the information necessary.
Believe me when I say it is one of the most rewarding
experiences you will have in theatre.

I have listed all the meeting dates that are permanently set
so you may plan around them. Attendance is required.
Each member is allowed three absences during the year
and the OCTA Bd Retreat is counted as two meetings.
For more information and answers to questions, please contact
Millie Butts or any officer. Feel free to call me any time with
any concerns about anything. Please give running for the
board serious consideration; it is a learning experience, you
can make a difference, and you will have fun.

Meeting Dates
September 3-4 Annual Meeting/Elections (time & day TBA)
October 14-15-16 Annual Board Retreat in Columbus
December 3 Meeting held in Columbus
January 21 Meeting held in Columbus
March 17 Meeting held in Columbus
May 19 Meeting place TBA
July 21 Meeting held in Columbus

Special Thanks to the FFP
Annual Banquet Prize Donors

Thank you to the following businesses for donating prizes
for our Annual Banquet winners. Please be sure to
patronize these businesses.

Alpine Florist
Archie’s
Cedar Valley Café
City Laundry
Clyde-Findlay Area Credit Union
Cracker Barrel
Denny’s Classic Diner
Flag City Auto Wash
Hancock Federal Credit Union
Journey Salon and Day Spa
LaRiche Chevrolet Cadillac
Millstream Area Credit Union
Wal-Mart

If you won one of the door prizes, but all you have is the
piece of paper in the envelope that says what the prize is:
That is not what you need to redeem the merchandise from
the merchant. You needed to come up at the banquet and
turn that in for the actual gift card, gift certificate, etc. We
announced this a couple of times at the banquet, but at the
end of the night there were still some people who had not
turned in the paper to receive the prize. If you try to redeem
at the merchant with just that slip of paper, it won’t work.

So, if you won a prize at the banquet but did not turn in the
paper to receive the actual card or gift certificate, please
email jaysmith@fortfindlay.com and we will send your item
to you.

Theaters Presenting Excerpts at
State Conference

Showtune - Footlighters, Inc - Newport, KY (SW)
Precious Heart - Dayton Theatre Guild - Dayton, OH (W)
Deathtrap - Alcove Theatre - Mt. Vernon, OH (C)
Look Away - Mid Ohio Valley Players - Marietta, OH (SE)
Moonlight and Magnolias - Amil Tellers of Dramatics - Lima, OH (NW)
The Drowsy Chaperone - Hudson Players Guild - Hudson, OH (NE)
The Judicial Murder of Mrs. Surratt - Dayton Playhouse - Dayton, OH (W)
The Full Monty - Van Wert Civic Theatre - Van Wert, OH (NW)
Nietzache Ate Here - MTV Arts - Mt. Vernon, OH (C)
Leaving Iowa - Fremont Community Theatre - Fremont, OH (NW)
Tick, Tick... Boom - Sunset Players - Cincinnati, OH (SW)
Dinner With Friends - Curtain Players, Inc - Westerville, OH (C)
A Few Good Men - Mason Community Players - Mason, OH (SW)
Enchanted April - The Drama Workshop - Cincinnati, OH (SW)
The Rocky Horror Show Live! - Theatre 8:15 - Green, OH (NE)

OCTA State Conference
Dates to Note

Early bird registration is due prior to Friday,
August 5 for the $108 rate. This includes two
meals, excerpts, regular workshops and
entertainment. After August 5 but before August
12 this amount increases to $128.

The deadline to receive the special rate of $89
(+tax) at the Holiday Inn Independence (6001
Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131) is
August 12, 2011. For reservations call: 216-524
-8050 or 800-315-2621.

For more information, visit the OCTA website
(The Call to Conference issue of Cuelines has
been posted! www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org/
cuelines.shtml) or check out OCTA on Facebook.
Northwest Regional Festival

FFP may not have sent an excerpt, but it was well represented at the 2011 Northwest Regional held in Maumee Ohio on June 10-12. Attendees for the weekend were able to see what the rest of the regions are doing at their respective theatres. Those attending from FFP were Laurie Dye, Julie Lane, Shirley Nebergall, J.R. Smith, Lindsay and Wes Taylor, Linda and Jim Toth, and Marty and Cathy Williams.

The excerpts presented over the weekend represented some of the best in the region. They were (in order of appearance):

- Jesters Roving Players - Bubba’s Revenge
- Oregon Community Theatre - Of Mice & Men
- Van Wert Civic Theatre - The Full Monty
- 3 B Productions - Seussical, the Musical
- Ritz Players - Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean
- Amil Tellers of Dramatics - Moonlight & Magnolias
- Toledo Repertoire Theatre - Inventing Van Gogh
- Fremont Community Theatre – Leaving Iowa
- Black Swamp Players – Lend me a Tenor
- Village Players – The Rainmaker
- Harlequins, Inc – Out of Sight, Out of Murder

Chosen to represent the NW Region at the OCTA State Conference were Van Wert Civic Theatre (The Full Monty), Amil Tellers of Dramatics (Moonlight & Magnolias) and Fremont Community Theatre (Leaving Iowa). 3B Productions’ presentation of Seussical, the Musical was chosen as alternate.

Adjudicators for the weekend, Debra Nuhfer (left below), Elynmarie Kazle (center below), and Patricia Potter (right below) offered their expert opinions, criticisms and kudos for each of the productions.

A special award was given in each of the regions this year. The Spirit of Community Theatre Award was presented to Donna Wollenslegel of Genoa Civic Theatre at the Saturday night banquet.

Congratulations Donna and thank you for all you do!
Congratulations to Lori Foster
2010-2011 Annual Recognition Award Recipient

Lori’s first show at the playhouse was Once Upon a Mattress in May of 1999. Since then she has appeared in four shows and worked on a technical crew for 29 productions. She did double duty by appearing on stage and working tech for eight shows.

Lori has served as a member of the Board of Trustees for three years (‘01-’02, ’06-’07, ’07-’08) having served as Vice President (’06-’07) and President (’07-’08).

Here are Lori’s FFP accomplishments:

ONSTAGE
Guys and Dolls (waitress, hot box girl)
Not Now Darling (Sue Lawson)
Funny Money (Billie)
Scrooge (Miss Dilbert, party guest)

TECH CREW
Once Upon a Mattress - props
Arsenic and Old Lace - stage crew
1776 - stage manager
The Taffetas - publicity
Twelve Angry Men - publicity
You Can’t Take it With You – publicity, house
The Foreigner - board advisor, publicity
Dancing At Lughnasa - set painter, publicity
The Man Who Came to Dinner - board advisor, publicity house
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum - publicity
Five Tellers Dancing in the Rain - light operator, publicity
Lend me a Tenor – publicity, board advisor
One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest - publicity
Bye Bye Birdie - set dressing, sound crew, advertising
Boy Meets Girl - publicity

Dial M for Murder - publicity
Over the River and through the Woods - rehearsal assistant, stage manager, set construction, props crew
Lost in Yonkers - light operator, sound operator
The Christmas Story - producer, rehearsal assistant, set crew, set construction, set dresser
A Night of Old Time Radio - House
The Little Shop of Horrors - set construction, set dressing
Death and the Maiden – props
The Queen of Bingo – props
A Dickens Christmas Carol: A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts – house
Pump Boys and Dinettes – props crew, house/intermission
The Wizard of Oz - house/intermission
The Odd Couple – props, stage manager, stage crew
Escanaba in Da Moonlight – props
Harvey – props

ONSTAGE AND TECH CREW
Cash on Delivery (Sally Chessington) - set painter
Hello, Dolly! (chorus) - publicity
Whose Wives Are They Anyway? (Karly McGachen) - props publicity
Damn Yankees (Miss Weston) - set dressing
Honk! (Henrietta / Maggie Pie / Fish) - board advisor
Dearly Beloved (Frankie Futrelle Dubberly) - set dressing
Urinetown, The Musical (another poor person / U.G.C. Executive) - set dressing
The House of Frankenstein (Isabel Channing) - set dressing
Thank you those who provided the entertainment for the annual banquet this year. Our Mardi Gras ‘street’ entertainers were Mikayla Brown playing a lead pan (aka steel drum), Trenton McBeath and Issac Steinhour with their magic act and J.R. Smith with a couple of entertaining songs.

Above L-R: Trenton McBeath, Mikayla Brown and Isaac Steinhour
Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make this year’s banquet a success.

Thank you to Samantha Henry for all of her help preparing for the banquet.

Thank you to all the award presenters; Mandy Bour, Eric Hertenstein, Ron Dutton, Marty Williams, Patrick Davis, Cathy Williams, Aeryn Williams, Pat Courtney, Samantha Henry, Katie Blockside and Mark Thomas

Thank you to the Board Members and Committee Chairs for all their help: Deb Finley, Wes Taylor, Bill Rayle, Patrick Davis, and Georgia Durain.

Good luck to Samantha Henry and Elizabeth Orley who will be planning the 2012 Annual Banquet.
## UPCOMING EVENTS
(all events take place at FFP unless otherwise noted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leading Ladies</strong></td>
<td>Thur.- Sat., July 21-23, 28-30</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sun., July 24</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Membership Meeting</td>
<td>Wed., July 27</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>I Hate Hamlet Auditions</strong></td>
<td>Sun.- Mon., July 31 - August 1</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Wed., July 3</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Back Street</strong></td>
<td>Thur., August 18</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Gala at Hancock Historic Museum @ 6 pm)</td>
<td>Fri., August 19</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Membership Meeting</td>
<td>Wed., July 24</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tickets on Sale for I Hate Hamlet</strong></td>
<td>Mon., August 29</td>
<td>Arts Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefactors</td>
<td>Tues., August 30</td>
<td>419 - 422 - 4624</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angels</td>
<td>Wed., August 31</td>
<td>Mon - Fri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrons</td>
<td>Tues., September 6</td>
<td>9 am - 5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Public</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OCTA State Conference (see articles on page 3 &amp; 5)</strong></td>
<td>Fri.- Mon., September 2-5</td>
<td>Independence, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Wed., September 7</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fortell Deadline</strong></td>
<td>Thur., September 15</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
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**Proper Postage Required**

300 W Sandusky St
Findlay OH 45840