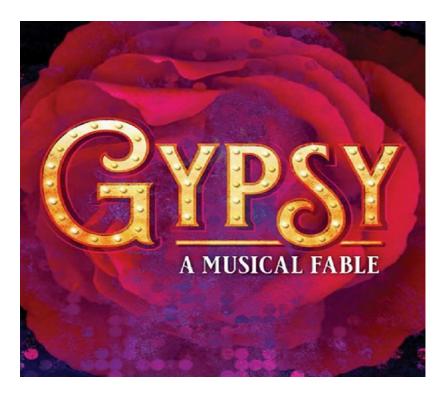


## **Presents**



## October 14-16, 2025 SAVANNAH CENTER THE VILLAGES, FLORIDA

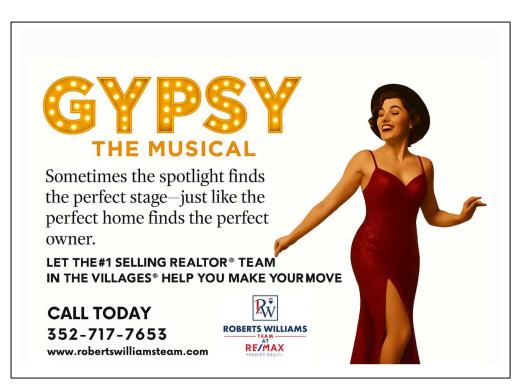
A Portion of the Proceeds Benefits:





The Villages Shrine Club









The Villages Musical Theater Presents
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S



Coming to the Savannah Center March 17-19, 2026



**Presents** 

# **GYPSY**

Music by

Arthur Laurents

Book by

Jule Styne

Lyrics by

Stephen Sondheim

A Musical Fable. Suggested by the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee

Original Production by David Merrick & Leland Hayward Entire production originally directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins

## **Starring**

## **Deborah Gibbons**

as "Mama Rose"

## **Featuring**

Pinky Bigley Garry Gibbons

Dawn DiNome Wetzel Mark Kirschenbaum

Producer

**<u>Director</u>** Bob Stehman

Susan Feinberg

Musical Director

Choreographer
Barbara Byers

Mary Ann Rockenbach

### From the Producer



Welcome to SMASH Productions *Gypsy!* "Let Us Entertain You!" Our dedicated Cast of Students and Adults have blended into an energetic team to bring this show to life. Thanks for supporting us.

SMASH Productions will celebrate our 10th Anniversary in 2026! Our dream of creating a kinder theatre company to bring quality entertainment to the Villages Stage and contributing to charity has become a reality. We hope to

enchant you when we bring *Cinderella* to the Savannah Stage April 10-12, 2026. *1776* will be presented June 29-30, 2026 celebrating the 250th Birthday of the United States.

Thanks to Bob Stehman, our talented Director, who has worked tirelessly to create a spectacular show with our dedicated Cast and Production Team including Mary Ann Rockenbach, Musical Director, who conducts our live Band, Barbara Byers, our creative Choreographer and Alex Rae, Stage Manager and Assistant Director. Our Production Team has been working together for many years to bring you high quality shows, The custom set design and build was led by Bill Tanner, Master Builder and his talented team.

A portion of profits from *Gypsy* will be donated to the Shriners Children Hospital with The Villages Shrine Club and the Humane Society of Sumter County. SMASH has supported them at several of our shows. For more information, please go to <a href="mailto:smashproductionsfl.com">smashproductionsfl.com</a>.

#### Susan Feinberg, Producer

## SPECIAL THANKS

- Brian Russo and the Staff of Villages Entertainment Department
- John Rohan, Pam Henry and Villages Recreation Department
- Josh Carlson and Villages Technical Staff
- Michele O'Donnell, Patrick Wetzel and Savannah Center Staff
- Rosemarie Peppe and Nancy Gibson of Eisenhower Recreation
- The Recreation Staff at Manatee and Big Cypress Recreation
- The Villages Media Group at the Daily Sun and WVLG
- Villages-News Group and Villages Neighbors
- Music in Motion for Specialty Costumes
- Bill Krone and Villages Musical Theatre Group and Joan Knapton of KC Productions for their ongoing support and collaboration.
- Judy Prior and Villages Theatre Group for their partnership

## From the Artistic Director



Gypsy is a musical fable loosely based on the memoirs of the real life Gypsy Rose Lee. The central figure in the story is Gypsy's mother, Mama Rose Hovick, Gypsy's sister June, who in real life became a Broadway and movie star, June Hovic and Louise Hovick who becomes the Queen of Burlesque, Miss Gypsy Rose Lee!

Gypsy is often cited by musical critics as the "Greatest American Musical" because of the iconic songs, the humor, the drama, the

conversational monologues and the slow teasing reveal all wrapped up into one musical show.

The story takes place in the 1920's and early 1930's where vaudeville is dying, burlesque is blooming, and the Great Depression descends upon the nation. During this time period, there were limited career opportunities available to women. Mama Rose was trapped by ambition, a life of purpose and big dreams for her daughters. Rose is a complex character who is the ultimate stage mother propelled by love for her two daughters, masked with self-servicing needs in search of acceptance, fame and the spotlight.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Director with a fun, creative, professional, dedicated and talented cast and production team. What a joy it has been to work with each and every one of you! My deepest thanks to all! And a special thanks to my wife who unselfishly supports all my theatrical endeavors. And now, to you the audience! Thank you for attending our presentation of Gypsy, A Musical Fable. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

#### **Bob Stehman, Artistic Director**



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## **GYPSY CAST**

Mama Rose	DEBORAH GIBBONS	
Louise / Gypsy Rose Lee	PINKY BIGLEY	
Herbie	GARRY GIBBONS	
Dainty June		
Baby June		
Young Louise	SOFIA SALLEE	
Tulsa	MARK KIRSCHENBAUM	
Tessie Tura	SHERRY MISTLER	
Mazeppa	JANE MALONEY	
Electra	MARLENE CAPLIS	
Uncle Jocko / Cigar	TONY OTERI	
Georgie / Mr. Goldstone / Phil		
Pop		
Weber	VIC MARSICH	
Miss Crachitt	SHERRY LEVIN	
Balloon Girl	JO JO SALLEE	
Newsboy / Kid in Kiddie Show	MACI NATALINO	
Understudy Young Louise		
Newsboy / Kid in Kiddie Show	ARIANNA OGERIO	
Understudy Baby June		
Newsboy / Kid in Kiddie Show / Clarinet Girl	ZADA WOOD	
Understudy Young Louise		
LA (Adult Newsboy) / Bourgeron - Cochon	BEN KEEFE	
Angie (Adult Newsboy)	CARTER DAVENPORT	
Yonkers (Adult Newsboy) / Pastey / Cow	LOUIE VASSMER	
Waitress / Renee / Cow / Dancer		
Toreadorable – Agnes / Stage Mother / Dancer		
Toreadorable – Marjorie May / Stage Mother		
Toreadorable – Dolores / Stage Mother / Dancer		
Toreadorable / Stage Mother / Dancer		
Chauffer		
Off Stage Announcer		
č		
ORCHESTRA		
Pianist / Conductor	MARV ANN ROCKENBACH	
Trumpet		
Drums		
Clarinet & Saxophone		
Bass		
Trombone		
Flute & Piccolo		
Truce & Trucoro	LINDA STRUMSKI	

## **PRODUCTION STAFF**

Producer	SUSAN FEINBERG
Director	
Musical Director	
Choreographer	BARBARA BYERS
Assistant Director, Stage Manager	
Producer Assistant	
Master Builder	BILL TANNER
Sound Effects, Video	
Props Mistress	SAMMIE BRASSETTE
PropsKA7	
Specialty Costumes	PAT CARMIGNANI
CostumesPAT CARMIGNAL	NI, JAN BEDDIA, BARB BYERS,
SUSAN FEINBER	G, ALEX RAE, JUDY ROBERTS,
BOB S'	TEHMAN, JAN WAGNER, CAST
DressersBOBBY STEELE MAI	ROTTA, CASEY HARGREAVES,
DEBBIE LYNAM, DEBR.	A LIVERNOIS, JEANNE KREBS,
LINDA PISTOLL, LOIS SCI	HWARTZ, MICHELLE SPRADA,
SUE BURTON, SU	
Wigs / Hair	DARLENE LANSING
Make Up	BRIAN LA PALME
Build CrewLY	
HARR	Y PARTRIDGE, STUART SACKS
	DICK STEELE
Marketing	
Technical Director	
ProgramPAUL CA	
Graphic Design	
Special Effects	
Treasurer, Transportation, Green Room	
Videographer	GERRY SHERMAN

RUNNING TIME – 2 HOURS & 40 MINUTES WITH ONE INTERMISSION.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHYAND VIDEO IS NOT PERMITTED.

### **SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS**

#### ACT 1

Overture		The Orchestra
Scene 1:	Vaudeville Theater Stage, Seattle	
	Let Me Entertain You	Baby June and Baby Louise
Scene 2:	Kitchen, Seattle	
	Some People	
Scene 3:	Road between Seattle and Los Angeles	
	Reprise: Some People	
Scene 4:	Backstage of Vaudeville Theater, Los Angeles	
	Small World	Rose and Herbie
Scene 5:	Stage of Vaudeville Theater, Los Angeles	
	Baby June and her Newsboys	Baby June, Young Louise and Newsboys
	Let Me Entertain You	Baby June
Scene 6:	Hotel Room, Akron	
	Mr. Goldstone	Rose, Herbie, June, Mr. Goldstone, and Boys
	Little Lamb	Louise
Scene 7:	Chinese Restaurant, New York	
	You'll Never Get Away From Me	Rose and Herbie
Scene 8:	Stage of Grantziger's Palace Theater, New York	
	Farm Sequence – Broadway	Dainty June and Farmboys
Scene 9:	Mr. Grantziger's Office	
	If Momma Was Married	Louise and June
Scene 10:	Theater Alley, Buffalo	
	All I Need is the Girl	Tulsa and Louise
Scene 11:	Railway Station, Omaha	
	Everything's Coming Up Roses	
	Intermission (15 M	inutes)
	ACT II	
Entr'acte		The Orchestra
Scene 1:	Desert, Texas	
	Toreadorables	Louise and Madam Rose's Toreadorables
	Together Wherever We Go	Rose, Herbie, and Louise
Scene 2:	Backstage of a Burlesque House, Wichita	
	You Gotta Get a Gimmick	Mazeppa, Electra, and Tessie Tura
Scene 3:	Backstage, Wichita	
Scene 4:	Backstage and Onstage, Wichita, Philadelphia, an	
	Gypsy Routine: Let Me Entertain You	Louise
Scene 5:	Louise's Dressing Room, Minsky's Burlesque	
Scene 6:	Backstage	

RUNNING TIME – 2 HOURS and 40 MINUTES WITH ONE INTERMISSION

Rose's Turn .....

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY IS NOT PERMITTED

#### **GYPSY CAST BIOS**

#### Deborah Gibbons - Mama Rose

From the age of four, I knew what I wanted to do with my life. I wanted to dance and sing. My family was heavily involved with the community theater groups which helped fuel my passion. My first professional job was with The Auburn Lane Dinner Theatre in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; where I was their in-house Choreographer and a member of their core actors. I met my husband Garry there in the Musical Godspell. We traveled for many years to Dinner Theatres around the country. A few of my favorite roles were: Sally Bowles in Cabaret, Annie in Annie Get Your Gun, and Aldonza in Man of La Mancha. After retiring and moving to the Villages four years ago, I never thought I'd get back involved with my passion especially at my age. I have been blessed to work for SMASH productions as Morticia in The Adams Family, Violet Newstead in 9 to 5, and now as Mama Rose in Gypsy. I will be the Wicked Stepmother in their Production of Cinderella next spring. I performed with KC Productions as Muriel in Dirty Rotten Scoundrels and with the Villages Musical Theatre Company. In Spamalot, I was a co-choreographer, ensemble member and Ni-Knight. I thank God that I can still remember my lines, but I am mostly thankful that I get to work with incredibly talented artists who live right here in the Villages and to be able to say they have become part of my Theatre Family.

#### Pinky Bigley - Louise / Gypsy Rose Lee

Pinky hails from Connecticut, where she began her career performing with the Connecticut Grand Opera Company and in various regional theatre productions. Most recently, she starred as Judy Bernly in the SMASH production of 9 to 5 the Musical. Other standout roles with SMASH include Wednesday Addams in The Addams Family, Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, and Maria in The Sound of Music. She will appear as Cinderella next year and in A Heroes Tribute on the Savannah Stage with SMASH. Her national and international credits include the Broadway National Tour of Les Misérables (Eponine/Cosette) and a European tour of Evita, where she portrayed Eva Perón. Additional leading roles include Peggy Sawyer in 42nd Street, Maria in West Side Story, and the title role of Annie in Annie. In The Villages, Pinky is best known for her high-energy one-woman show, Divas Through the Decades. She has also performed with Music in Motion, Sounds of Legends, Pro-Am Productions, and KC Productions. With the Village Musical Theatre, she took on the beloved role of Belle in Beauty and the Beast. A former member of the New York City USO Troupe, Pinky continues to lend her voice to local charities and community events. Stay tuned for her upcoming concerts and learn more at www.pinkysings.com.Pinky extends heartfelt thanks to all who support her journey—especially her biggest fan, her husband Ollie.

#### Garry Gibbons - Herbie

Garry has been seen on stage at the Savannah Center in *Addams Family*, 9 to 5, *Spamalot*, *Grumpy Old Men*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *Heroes and Villains*. He has performed with MIMO and spent 20 years traveling the country with his wife, Deborah performing in Dinner Theatre. He has directed extensively and produced in The Baton

Rouge Dinner playhouse. He was managing director for the Grand County Theatre Association in Winter Park and Grand Lake Colorado and will soon be seen as Lancelot in *Camelot* next spring here at the Savannah Center. Always an honor to be with SMASH Productions and perform with these wonderful friends.

#### Dawn DiNome Wetzel - Dainty June

Dawn has been living and entertaining in the area since 2009. She is originally from NY, where she graduated from Five Towns College with a B.F.A. in musical theatre. Some of her regional credits include, *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeney), *Sweet Charity* (Charity), *Crazy For You* (Polly), *Evita* (Eva Peron), *West Side Story* (Anita). Dawn made her debut with SMASH as Roz in 9 to 5. Currently, she is the Musical Director at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Wildwood, where she sings for most of the masses and conducts the choir. She also continues to be a featured vocalist in various productions throughout The Villages.

#### Aven Wood - Baby June

Aven (Age 11) is a 5th grader at The Villages Charter Elementary School at Buffalo Ridge. She is excited to make her debut with SMASH Productions! Aven has previously appeared as July in Annie Jr. and as a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* with the Orlando Family Stage summer camp series at The Sharon. She is in her 7th year as a competitive dancer with In His Steps Dance Company, where she has earned multiple regional and national awards in tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, and hip hop. Her vocal performances include Change the World with The Villages Elementary School Children's Ensemble. Beyond the stage, Aven is entering her sixth year as a Girl Scout and proudly earned the Bronze Award last year. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor adventures—especially hiking—and spending time with friends. She is grateful for this opportunity and for everything she has learned from this talented cast!

#### Sofia Sallee - Young Louise

Sofia (Age 11) is enjoying sixth grade, especially math. Her debut with SMASH Productions was as Marta in *Sound of Music* when she was seven. She looks forward to performing in the drama camps at the Sharon each summer. When Sofia is not on stage, her favorite things include playing softball, spending time with her family and friends, and going on adventures with her Girl Scout Troop. When she grows up, she wants to be an actress. Sofia will appear with SMASH in *Cinderella* in *Spring* 2026.

#### Mark Kirschenbaum - Tulsa

Mark is thrilled to be joining SMASH Productions for the 4th time. He has been in the theatre business for over 35 years. Mark has worked as an actor, singer, dancer, director and educator in over 45 countries. Most recently he was seen as Jesus in *Godspell*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, *SMASH Heroes and Villains*, Freddy in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and Lucas in Addams Family at the Savannah Center. Mark will play the Prince in the upcoming Cinderella. All the love and thanks to mom, dad, Brian, Gigi, Kayli, Chase and God.

#### Sherry Mistler - Tessie Tura

Sherry has been a resident of The Villages for five years since moving from New Jersey. Past credits in theater include Susan-*Company*, Ensemble-*Les Miserables and Godspell*. In addition, Sherry also sings in and around The Villages as part of the duo, Pat and Sherry. She made her debut with SMASH Productions as Sister Bertha in *The Sound of Music*, and has been a street urchin in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Alice in *The Addams Family* and Doralee in *9 to 5*. She will play the Fairy Godmother in Cinderella.

#### Janet Maloney - Mazeppa

Janet Maloney was a National Credit Manager before coming to the Villages and happily jumped into entertainment ventures. She has performed in all three Village Squares and The Savannah Center and worked for SMASH Productions, Villages Musical Theater, KC Productions and many more. Janet was named as the 1st Runner Up in the 2023 "Ms. Senior Florida" pageant using a Reba song as her talent. Some of her roles include Alice and Trixie in *The Honeymooners*, The Governess in *The Sound of Music*, Ms. Lynch in *Grease* to name a few. She is now thrilled to be playing the part of Miss Mazeppa in SMASH's version of *Gypsy*. Playing this "over the hill stripper" is just a blast. Watch for Janet in SMASH Production's *Cinderella* in April 2026. She has worked with SMASH since the first USO Show!

#### Marlene Caplis - Electra

Marlene is delighted to repeat the fun role of Electra in *Gypsy* after playing her 10 years ago. Her last role with SMASH Productions was Crystal in Little Shop of Horrors. She has also played Fraulein Kost in *Cabaret*, Ermengarde in *Hello Dolly*, Trudy in *Social Security*, and has performed in many variety shows and murder mysteries. She has sung in the Stetson University Community Chorus and currently sings with The Villages Pops Chorus.

#### Tony Oteri - Uncle Jocko / Cigar

Tony is a 37-year veteran of Community Theater and has performed in several musicals, dramas, and comedies for many theater companies. Some favorite roles include Sir Wilfred in *Witness for the Prosecution*, Colonel Parker *in Judgement at Nurenberg* and Arnold in *Send Me No Flowers*, His favorite gig is as a kooky character that generates laughs. He is very grateful to SMASH for allowing him to portray such roles as Uncle Jocko and Cigar alongside this talented cast.

#### Bob Petrucelli - Georgie / Mr. Goldstone/Phil

Bobby has performed with many theater groups in The Villages including: Broadway Bound Players, B & B Productions, M&M Productions, KC Productions, Lake Miona Theater, Players Theater of Southern Oaks, The Village Theater Company, Shaka Crew Dance Company, The Village Musical Theater, and SMASH Productions. He is a board member of the Village Theater Company and the Villages Musical Theater Company and is looking forward to this SMASH production of *Gypsy* as well as the upcoming *Cinderella* and 1776 Shows next year. As always, he thanks his wife, Mary, for her love and support and for putting up with his antics.

#### Howard Kirschenbaum - Pop

Howard moved to the Villages in 2006, with Susan, his wife, having worked with several theater groups in both onstage and offstage positions. Most recently he was seen in the *Honeymooners*, *Little Shop* with SMASH and, in *Grease* and *Joseph* with KC Productions, Abe in *Beau Jest* with Step-on-a-Stage, in the ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast* with VMTC and in the SMASH Disney Show *When You Wish Upon A Mouse*. He will play the role of Caesar Rodney in the SMASH Production of *1776*.

#### Vic Marsich - Weber

Vic was born in New York City. He was with the USAF for 17 years and 26 years with GE Medical Systems. He moved here in 2006 and his credits include *Carousel*, *Brigadoon*, *Crazy for You* (Harry), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Dexter), *Sweet Charity* (Walter), *Judgment at Nuremberg* (Karl Wiechert), *Jesus Christ*, *Superstar* (James), 1776 (Andrew McNair), *The Producers*, *Spamalot*, *Harvey* (Wayne), *Taming of the Shrew* (Batista), *Afterplay* (Martin), *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Hello Dolly*. *Gypsy* is Vic's first SMASH Show which will be followed by his role as Andrew McNair in 1776. He sends his thanks and love to his wife, Deborah for her patience and support.

#### **Sherry Levin - Miss Cratchitt**

Sherry began acting and singing as a child back in Wisconsin. She first appeared on stage at 13 as Maria in an all-children production of *The Sound of Music*. Since arriving in The Villages, she's had key roles in *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Shalom, A. Fiddler, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Villages*. Sherry joined the SMASH Productions family in *Honeymooners New York to The Villages; A Cat's Meow Murder Mystery and Big Frank Ties the Knot*. Children are her passion and she volunteers in public schools through Tutors for Kids.

#### JoJo Sallee - Balloon Girl

Josephine (7 years) is excited to be in first grade. She has participated for the last two years in the junior drama camps at the Sharon. This is her debut on the big stage with SMASH Productions and she will also appear in *Cinderella*. When JoJo is not performing on stage, she enjoys dancing, spending time with her family and friends, playing with her cats, and anything that includes music. Her career aspirations include being an actress and creating her own show!

#### Maci Natalino - Newsboy / Kid in Kiddie Show / Understudy Young Louise

Maci (11 years) is a sixth grader at The Villages Charter School. She has performed in *Change the World, Change the World 2,* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. This is her debut with SMASH which will be followed by *Cinderella*. She is a creative and energetic young performer who loves gymnastics, singing, reading, and watching musicals, embracing her passion for the arts both on and off the stage.

#### Arianna Ogerio- Newsboy / Kid in Kiddie Show / Understudy Baby June

Arianna (10 years) was declared as a Local Winner, Elementary Class, in the National Piano Audition for the last 3 years. Arianna also received Superior Rating in the National Federation of Junior Festival Piano Solo for 4 consecutive years. She does voice lessons, ballet and contemporary dance at The Villages Charter School and will

perform on May 2026 at The Tracy Performing Arts Center. Arianna loves theater performances and recently performed as a Snow Child in *Carousel* at Dr Philips Performing Arts in Orlando presented by Little Radical Theatrics. She is also one of the Munchkins for the show *Wizard of Oz*.

#### Zada Wood - Understudy Young Louise / Newsboy / Clara the Clarinet Girl

Zada Wood (13 years) is delighted to be making her debut with SMASH Productions. Zada is a 7th grader at the Villages Charter Middle School Middleton. Zada has been performing since the age of 4. Recent credits include Brook/Legally Blonde/VCS Middle School, and Melody/ Hope Lutheran's Christmas Cantata. Zada loves dancing, singing and going to concerts. She is thankful for her parents who take her to all of her rehearsals and have always supported her dreams and her brother who helps her with math homework and attends all the concerts, recitals and shows.

#### Benjamin Keefe - LA (Adult Newsboy) / Bourgeron-Cochon

Benjamin (16 years) is thrilled to be back working with everyone at SMASH Productions. Ben is a Junior at The Villages High School. He started acting at 10 years-old when he played Mowgli in *The Jungle Book Jr*. He then went on to play Eric in *Matilda The Musical* with Ocala Civic Theatre. He most recently appeared as a Protean in SMASH Productions *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and as Pugsley Addams in *The Addams Family*. He also played Ensemble roles in *The Sound of Music* and *Carousel*. He is currently a member of The Villages High School Chamber Singers, and had received an Outstanding Vocalist Award during the Music in the Parks Competition earlier this year in Orlando. He will appear as The Courier in *1776 the Musical* in June 2026, and hopes to see you all there!

#### Louie Vassmer - Yonkers (Adult Newsboy) / Pastey / Cow

Louie made his debut in The Villages by appearing in SMASH Productions *Rhapsody in Blue*, followed by *The Honeymooners* and Little *Shop of Horrors*! He then appeared as Cousin It in *The Addams Family*. As a child actor in Chicago in two theater companies, he appeared in numerous musical productions spanning 15 years. Credits also include TV ads for Ritz Crackers and Jiffy. He's worked in creative media advertising, as a cartoonist and as a radio pitchman before his career as a psychologist. Later he was involved in local theater projects in the Chicago area. He was also the pre-production director for a PBS series and directed several short indie films before moving to FL with his dear wife, Sylvia who is always ready to lend a hand. When he isn't rehearsing for SMASH, Music In Motion or a role in a murder mystery; you're most likely to find him somewhere in Walt Disney World.

#### Carter Davenport - Angie, (Adult Newsboy)

Carter Davenport is excited to make his first appearance on the Savannah stage with SMASH. He is playing Angie, an Adult Newsboy and several other parts to support the show. He moved from the Baltimore Area to the Villages to participate in upcoming shows and other opportunities. He was in the choir in elementary school ran track and field and played football in high school. He hopes to use these skills in the future.

#### <u>Liz Albrecht - Waitress / Renee / Cow / Dancer</u>

Elizabeth was born in South Africa and started dancing at age seven. During high school, she performed with a professional ballet company part time and after graduation joined CAPAB ballet company full time. She immigrated to the USA with her husband and two daughters in 1993 and moved to The Villages in 2021. Elizabeth joined Music In Motion and danced with them in 2022 through 2024. She joined SMASH as a Gemini in *Forum* and a dancer/ensemble in 9 to 5.

#### Deb Barkelar - Toreadorable - Agnes / Stage Mother / Dancer

Musical theatre & 'singing to her heart's content' has always been Deb's passion! Moving to The Villages has allowed her to participate in many shows, and also to sing and dance with some of the nicest and most talented people she's ever met. Deb made her SMASH debut in *Sound of Music* and performed roles in *Little Shop*, *Addams Family*, 9 to 5, and now *Gypsy*. She is also part of Villages Pops Chorus.

#### <u>Theresa Kress - Toreadorable - Marjorie May / Stage Mother</u>

Theresa hails from New York City where she retired from a 32 -year career as SVP/Human Resources Director for a global reinsurance corporation. A full-time Villager since 2009, she made her debut performance as Laura Pudney in a production of, *I Bet Your Life*, and was also in the ensembles of *The Music Man, Oklahoma*, and *The Producers*. She performed with The Starlight Players, Off Broadway, *You'll Sing, Doo Wop On The Porch* and in the Showcase of Talent. She made her debut with SMASH in *The Honeymooners* and will be in *Cinderella*.

#### <u>Iris Ziman - Toreadorable - Dolores / Stage Mother / Dancer</u>

Iris relocated from Israel to The Villages in 2022 and quickly found joy in the community's rich performing arts scene. Since then, she's joined several spirited groups, including the Polo Cheerleaders, the International Folk Dancers, and the Sweet & Sassy dance troupe. Her stage journey has taken her from dancing in Dance Synergy to performing in *Fiddler on the Roof*, where she especially cherished the iconic bottle dance. She has also lent her voice to the Temple Shalom Choir, and is thrilled to be stepping into new roles in upcoming productions of *Gypsy, Cats*, and *Cinderella*.

#### <u>Sue Prince – Toreadorable / Stage Mother / Dancer</u>

Sue is presently a dancer with Music in Motion and Evolution Dance companies, the elite Villages Dance Groups. She was in the ensemble of *The Producers* and *The Calendar Girls*. *Gypsy* is her debut with SMASH. She brought joy to The Villages with her Geezer Girls Podcast with Dianne Bolton during the pandemic where they interviewed Villages Actors and Singers.

#### John Byers-Chauffer

Since moving to The Villages in 2012, John has performed in several musical theater productions with The Villages Musical Theater Company and SMASH Productions including *Brigadoon, Music Man, Crazy for You, The Producers, Love & Marriage, Rhapsody In Rhythm, Honeymooners, The Sound of Music* and 9 to 5. He has also assisted with backstage crew in a multitude of stage performances, and has sung with The Villages Pops Chorus for the past 10 years.

#### PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

#### Susan Feinberg – Producer

Susan grew up in a household filled with music, dance and singing. Professionally, she was an executive for global product development and marketing for major telecom companies where her team developed and rolled out new technology products. She was a pioneer in Digital Quality Audio and Video working with MTV, Nickelodeon, Lucas Films and major Music networks around the globe. She worked with collaborative global showcases where musicians from different continents and cities played together, including the New York Music Festival, Montreux Jazz Festival and Big Help. She supported major music and film studios as they started international production projects where the entertainers, directors and crew could be located anywhere and still work seamlessly together. SMASH Productions was created in 2016 to give Villagers opportunities to participate in high quality stage shows. It just celebrated its 19th major production, with *Gypsy. Cinderella* is coming in Spring of 2026 followed by 1776 on the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Susan thanks her husband Stuart for his support and indulging her love of theater.

#### Bob Stehman - Director

Bob has enjoyed vocal performances and theatrical venues such as The White House, Penn State Summer Theater, as lead singer in the musical group "Signature" and Off-Broadway Regional stages along the East Coast. Favorite roles include The Baker in Into the Woods, El Gallo in The Fantasticks, Captain Corcoran in HMS Pinafore, Albert in Bye Bye Birdie, Daddy Warbucks in Annie and Captain Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*. He also loved the part of Sparky in Forever Plaid and Linus in You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, which to his delightful surprise as a senior citizen was able to reprise 40 years later for KC Productions and The Villages Musical Theater. Other Village roles include Chuck Baxter in Promises, Promises, Vernon Gersch in They're Playing Our Song, Harry in Company, Father Virgil in Nuncrackers, John Dickinson in 1776 and Leo Bloom in The Producers, Lumiere in Beauty and the Beast and Sir Robin in Spanalot. Bob recently has enjoyed performing with the dance company MIMO as an emcee, singer and dancer. Bob is thrilled to take his performance experience and bring his love of acting, singing and dancing as Director to SMASH Productions successful run of Nunsense, Nuncrackers, Nunset Boulevard, The Sound of Music The Addams Family, A New Musical Comedy, and A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum and 9 to 5 The Musical. He looks forward to directing Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical Cinderella in April 2026 and as Producer and reprising his role as John Dickinson in the musical 1776 in June 2026 to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. A huge thank you to his wife Linda, who supports all his theatrical endeavors.

#### Mary Ann Rockenbach -- Music Director

Mary Ann has shared her talents with The Villages Community for over 25 years. Career highlights include musical direction in Holland, Belgium and Germany, eight years of coaching and accompanying at Walt Disney World, and employment with Orlando Opera, Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, SAK Comedy Lab, Valencia Community College and Bergamo's Italian Restaurant. Originally from Burlington, Iowa, she joined SMASH Productions as Music Conductor for Nunset Boulevard and Vocal Coach for Rhapsody and then as Musical Director for *The Sound of Music* and *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum*, 9 to 5 The Musical. Mary Ann is also the Accompanist for Temple Shalom and United Methodist Church in Fruitland Park.

#### Barbara Byers - Choreographer

Barbara has been involved in dance and musical theater for most of her life starting at age 3. She began to choreograph musicals while in high school and college in the Cleveland area. Moving to Tampa she operated her own dance school for 26 years. She also worked in the Entertainment and Education departments at Walt Disney World for 12 years. Since moving to the Villages in 2012, she has performed with Villages Musical Theater in *Brigadoon, The Music Man* and *Crazy for You* and sung with the Villages Pops Chorus. Other SMASH productions she has choreographed include *Nuncrackers, Nunset Boulevard, Rhapsody in Rhythm, The Sound of Music, Little Shop of Horrors, The Addams Family, A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum and 9 to 5. Barb is the current Director of Music in Motion, the New Generation.* 

#### Alex Rae - Assistant Director/ Stage Manager

Since moving to The Villages in 2014, Alex has been able to pursue her love of music by singing in her Temple choir with her mother and joining The Villages Pops Chorus; and musical theater by getting involved behind the scenes in all aspects of a production. Alex has been a dresser on The Producers, props assistant, costume assistant on Sound of Music, props assistant and crew on *Little Shop of Horrors*, production assistant for *Spamalot*, and assistant director on the productions of *The Addams Family*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and added Stage Manager to her resume on 9 to 5 and *Gypsy*. Alex is truly living her dream!

#### Jeff Jagmin -Technical Director

Jeff is a Multimedia developer and internet professional. He joined SMASH to produce the dream sequence in the Rhapsody performance and is the SMASH Productions Webmaster. He creates our show videos and pictures. In 1984, Jeff created a website featuring videos of his friend Olympic Gold Medalist Dan Jansen. Through the Dan Jansen Foundation, they have helped more than 1000 children and families battling cancer. Current Central Florida projects include simple online steaming videos to full feature HD videos with special effects,

including Interfaith Community Programs, Holocaust Remembrance Observances and other special events. In his spare time Jeff enjoys creating fish theme art using natural Florida materials, ifishtails.com

#### Liza Diana Walters -Producer Assistant

Liza has been working backstage for various theatre productions for the last 10 years. She has been a dresser, a microphone assistant, stage manager (*Young Frankenstein, Sweeney Todd, Evita, My Fair Lady, Man of La Mancha*), program editor and associate producer. Liza joined SMASH Productions as Assistant to the Producer in *The Sound of Music, Little Shop of Horrors, The Addams Family, A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum* and 9 to 5. Liza is also Vice President of Operations for Villages Honor Flight, a 501 C that takes veterans to Washington to see their memorials at no cost to them

#### Brian La Palme -- Makeup and Hair Artist

Brian's first time working with SMASH was for *The Honeymooners* and he continued with *Sound of Music, Little Shop of Horrors, Addams Family* and has worked all SMASH shows since then. Brian graduated from Windham High School in Willimantic CT one month early in order to start his career in show business. Brian had two concurrent careers. Eight months of every year from 1976 to 2018, Brian was Ringmaster/Magician with circuses throughout the U.S. and Canada, and during the remaining four months of every year Brian worked as a theatrical makeup artist for stage shows like *The Wizard of OZ, Phantom of the Opera, Cats,* and hundreds of others. Now that Brian is retired from life on the road, he still performs as a Mentalist from time to time in The Villages, as well as doing makeup for Villages theatrical productions. Whatever he is doing, he embraces the philosophy of "There's No Business like Show Business".

#### **Dianne Bolton – Sounds and Projections**

Dianne worked with SMASH on its first USO Program and then rejoined for *The Honeymooners, Sound of Music, Little Shop of Horrors, The Addams Family, Forum* and 9 to 5. She selects and projects the background slides and the sounds like thunder, car engines, marching and more at the exact right time. This greatly enhances the quality of the productions and she continues this with *Gypsy*.

#### Sammie Brassette - Props Mistress

Sammie's life and career started as a trauma nurse for 40 years. After retiring and moving to The Villages she started working backstage with props in 2011. She had no knowledge of the theater but had a lot of organizational skills to offer. Her first production was Chicago- it was a wonderful experience and she was hooked. Her husband, Lyn, is her backup and makes a lot of props that we use. She has worked with SMASH Productions since the first show in 2016. It's been a great ride!

#### Katherine Grams - Props

This is Kat's second show with SMASH Productions after working as Props Mistress for 9 to 5. She has also worked with Music in Motion since she moved here from Michigan. Thanks to her husband Ron for helping to construct some of the props for the show.

#### Stuart Feinberg – Treasurer and Green Room

Stuart is a founding member of SMASH. He appeared on stage in productions of *Love and Marriage* and our original *Honeymooners*. Stuart concentrates his efforts behind the scenes to keep the company running smoothly as Treasurer, Transportation and Catering for the Green Room. Stuart recently added the role of Advertising Sales Manager. Before moving to The Villages, he was a successful Regional Sales Manager in the clothing business. Weekends will find Stuart and his wife Susan at car shows, Disney and philanthropic events.

#### Pat Carmignani - Specialty Costumes

Pat has been sewing and making costumes for most of her adult life. She enjoys the creative aspect of the process and loves how her finished products look under the lights of the stage. Her previous Villages costume work includes SMASH's Honeymooners, KC's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Grumpy Old Men, and VMT's Fiddler on the Roof. She also is working on the VMT spring production of CATS.





