WE START OUR 2019 SEASON, MY 41ST SEASON AT THE FIRESIDE, WITH AN EXCITING NEW SHOW BROUGHT TO US BY THE PEOPLE WHO CREATED LEGENDS IN CONCERT. IT’S CALLED LEGENDS OF COUNTRY AND IT STARS SEVEN TALENTED TRIBUTE ARTISTS RECREATING SIX OF THE GREATEST COUNTRY ACTS OF ALL TIME - REBA MCINTYRE, SHANIA TWAIN, TIM MCGRAW, BROOKS AND DUNN, DOLLY PARTON, AND THE GREAT JOHNNY CASH.

What exactly is a tribute artist?

You might just call them impersonators, but they are so much more than that!

Many years ago, I saw one of America's premier actors, Hal Holbrook, in a one man show on Broadway called MARK TWAIN TONIGHT. For almost three hours Holbrook played Mark Twain giving a lecture and reading from his work. It was one of the most thrilling nights I’ve ever spent in a theatre. He wasn’t just an actor playing a part. He totally became Mark Twain – the sound of his voice, every movement, every nuance.

That is a tribute artist!

The six multi-gifted performers who make up the cast of LEGENDS OF COUNTRY don’t just sing the songs, wear the clothes, and imitate the style of these legendary performers. They truly embody them in every way. They capture their essence, their humanity, and their spirit. Our advertising claims that you will swear you are watching the actual artists themselves. That’s a tall order and a bit of a cliché. But a cliché becomes a cliché because it is based in truth.

These tribute artists – and artists they are – present an exciting, mesmerizing, dynamic performance that is filled with reverence and respect for those iconic entertainers they portray.

Believe me, country fans, you will be treated by these performers to an unforgettable, one of a kind experience that will transport you to the great concert stages of Nashville, Las Vegas, New York, and Los Angeles. And it will have you talking to friends and reliving the experience for days, weeks, months, even years to come.

“You might just call them impersonators, but they are so much more than that!”

– Ed Flesch
One of your favorites, I’m sure, will be Shawn Barker as Johnny Cash. Shawn was born and raised in the St. Louis area where, like most entertainers, his first experience with music was attending church with his family. From singing in church, playing drums in the school marching band or singing in cover bands and coffee houses, music and entertainment has always been in Shawn’s blood.

In 2004, Shawn auditioned for the part of Elvis Presley in the Broadway production of MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET. The Director, Floyd Mutrux, recognized Shawn’s unique talent and requested Shawn submit an audition for the part of Johnny Cash. Shawn agreed and was instantly cast in the part. Mutrux remarked, “We have 100 people who can play Elvis, but we only have one that can play Johnny Cash.”

Since then, Shawn has performed his unmatchable tribute to Johnny Cash all over the world, touring in Australia, Europe, Canada, and across the United States.

You’ll find information on the rest of the cast on page four. We look forward to seeing you in January or February to enjoy all of the LEGENDS OF COUNTRY!
Denise Jacob was born and raised in Kenosha, graduated from UW Parkside, met her husband and raised her family there, and now serves the 55 plus population in a spectacular way. As Program Director for the Kenosha Senior Citizens Center Denise cares for 1,400 members with everything from weekday lunches, bingo, driver safety programs, computer classes, to day trips to museums, sporting events, and theatre throughout the region - including, of course, The Fireside. The group has been attending since 1983 and it's one of the many activities Denise continues from the previous director. Nine years into the position, she's still careful to strike a balance between honoring their past traditions and embracing new activities.

As a college Psychology major, Denise worked an internship at the Kenosha center while researching gerontology and really enjoyed her time there. She began her career working in Human Resources, then ran her own recreation consulting business while also being a stay-at-home mom, and did further work in recreation after that. Somewhere along the way she attended a seminar that stressed the concept of "Love what you do and do what you love." Fond memories of her internship prompted her to inquire about work opportunities at the Kenosha Senior Citizens Center. Several years later when she was ready for a job change, the opportunity to manage the center's programming opened up and she knew it was her destiny!

The Kenosha Senior Citizens Center is affiliated with the school district but their funding comes from separate tax monies. They are grateful to rent a facility from the city for a nominal fee in return for handling any maintenance or remodeling. They operate as a non-profit organization and are able to maintain programming with membership fees and some donations, without a big emphasis on fund-raising. Denise is thrilled to be filling motorcoaches with trips priced just to cover costs.

Denise was quick to credit the other two members of the center's staff for all they do and the wonderful people that visit the center on a regular basis. She knows their membership isn't just about being a member, it's about the opportunities like art classes, yoga, aerobics, and the tours. She encourages use of the suggestion box because she knows programming isn't one-size-fits-all. "Too often people lump seniors into one group," she remarked, "but that isn't right. They're not all the same at all. Some want to do everything they can to stay active and others just want to socialize. It's important to treat each one as an individual."

Denise is proud of the center's partnership with the community and being able to link her members, or anyone who calls them for help, to the services they need. She recommends membership in the Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers for anyone in her kind of position, finding the networking opportunities and information sharing to be a valuable resource. She also noted that organization and pre-planning are keys to a successful program. She announces her activities well in advance so people can choose what they want to do, or plan to attend something on their own if she isn't offering it that year. Trips like The Fireside go on sale two months in advance and happily a popular show like GREASE can sell out right away.

While it was nice to hear Denise's praise for how well The Fireside takes care of her and her travelers, it was clear that she knows what she's doing all by herself. What a great blessing she is to the Kenosha community!
Sherry Gordon’s first dance with the stage was at the age of four. Today she’s a world traveling performer fulfilling her dream “to dazzle audiences with music.” While performing with the Las Vegas Show Band "In the Mood," audiences constantly commented on her resemblance to Dolly Parton. Being an avid fan, she decided to work on a full-blown impression and now dazzles audiences with her tribute to Dolly!

Doug Brewin and Larry Turner met while doing tribute acts as Alan Jackson and George Strait for Legends in Concert in Branson. A friendship was formed and they began working on a tribute to Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn whom they both had great respect for. Now they’re proud to perform as the group who won CMA’s Duo of the Year 14 times!

Stacey Whitton Summers is a Legends in Concert veteran, having worked as a professional tribute artist since 1994. She began harmonizing with her mother at five, trained on the saxophone during her adolescence, and majored in theatre and opera. She has performed tributes to several artists, shared the stage with Dolly Parton, and has even performed Shania Twain FOR Shania Twain!

Corrie Sachs has enjoyed a prolific career spanning stage, television, and radio. She has performed as a headliner in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, and on National Tours. Corrie has performed for the USO throughout the world and has opened for such stars as Bob Hope, Bob Newhart, Debbie Reynolds, and Allen & Rossi. As a native of Las Vegas, Corrie was honored as "Las Vegas Singer of the Year" from the Las Vegas Review Journal. We are thrilled to have her join our cast with her tribute to Reba McEntire!

Born and raised in Nashville, Chad Collins realized at an early age that he had an uncanny gift. He could amaze family and friends with his ability to sing and do impressions of nearly every celebrity. After graduating from high school, Chad got a job at a local recording studio on Music Row where he learned to record and produce music. That led to writing and recording his own songs and soon signed his first publishing deal with Co-Heart Music. While continuing to hone his craft he met a former Elvis impersonator who told him he looked like Tim McGraw. Chad was then hired to perform as McGraw at several casinos around the country. Fifteen years later, Chad will be performing as Tim McGraw for you!
Hello everyone - it’s hard to believe that we’re working on menus for 2019 already. We have a great menu to start out the new year for you!

The first course of this fabulous meal will be our Cream of Potato Soup that will be garnished with Cherrywood Smoked Bacon and Fresh Chives. That's Jones bacon - the best there is, and made right here in Fort Atkinson.

For the entrée, we will feature our signature lean Pork BBQ Ribs that are braised until the meat is so tender it falls off of the bone, and are coated with our own special BBQ Sauce. What is different about this entrée is that it is not served alongside a second meat item like we often do. Instead, you’re getting a double dose of ribs, a half rack instead of a quarter rack -- twice as much and twice as good! We will also introduce a new Macaroni and Cheese side dish made with a Monterey Jack Cheese Sauce which I know will be well received. Finishing off the entrée will be seasoned fresh green beans.

Wow, what a meal, and I haven’t even finished yet. The grand finale will be our very own Georgia Pecan Pie topped with Fresh Whipped Cream and a Myers Rum Caramel Sauce. What a treat this dinner will be. All I can say is that it is going to be YUMMY!!!

LEGENDS OF COUNTRY
Featured Menu - January 3 - February 17, 2019
Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday Matinees, Saturday Evenings*, and Sunday Middays.

Cream of Potato Soup
Garnished with Jones Cherrywood Smoked Bacon and Fresh Chives.

Freshly Baked Breads from our Artisan Bakery

Barbecued Ribs
Our Signature Lean Pork Ribs glazed with our special Barbecue Sauce, slowly roasted until the tender meat falls from the bone. Served with Monterey Jack Macaroni and Cheese and Fresh Green Beans.

Georgia Pecan Pie
Rich, flavorful Custard with Roasted Pecans in a flaky crust, garnished with Fresh Whipped Cream and a Myers Rum Caramel Sauce

Coffee, Tea and Milk

The Thursday Evening Signature Buffet begins with our Signature Salad topped with Papaya Chutney Dressing and served with Freshly Baked Breads. Enjoy two special entree selections in addition to Beef Tenderloin and Roast Turkey from the Carving Station, Barbecued Pork Back Ribs, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura with Brandied Apricot Sauce, Beer Batter Fried Cod, Shrimp and Scallops Fusilli with Tomato Butter Sauce, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Sweet Potato Soufflé, Whipped Idaho Potatoes and Roasted Farm Fresh Vegetables. Georgia Pecan Pie for dessert plus coffee, tea and milk are included.

The Sunday Matinee Brunch begins with an assortment of Quick Breads and Pastries from our Bakery to enjoy with a homemade Fresh Fruit Smoothie. We’ll be carving Jones Hickory Smoked Ham and Roast Turkey Breast along with the buffet of Eggs Benedict on Jones Canadian Bacon, Miniature Individual Quiche, Crisp Bacon, Maple Sausage Links, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura with Brandied Apricot Sauce, Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Buttermilk Pancakes, Breakfast Potatoes, a featured Beef Tenderloin Entree, and Roasted Farm Fresh Vegetables. Georgia Pecan Pie for dessert plus coffee, tea and milk are included.

*Saturday Evening’s menu also includes Appetizer and Salad courses.

New Years Eve has special menus and group rates for matinee and evening shows.
Jean’s Corner of the World

We are always looking for ways to make it easier for you to contact one of us in Group Sales. We are all working different schedules now, so to make it more of a “one stop shop” for you our email has changed.

Instead of emailing us at our personal emails, like jean@firesidetheatre.com, you may now email GroupSales@firesidetheatre.com. This new group email will come to all of us so no matter who is working we can address your email without waiting for that specific person to be back in the office. Any one of us will have the same information. It will work like our Group Voice mail in that we all have access to the voice mails and can respond. With our streamlined staffing, we want to make sure we can provide the best customer service possible. These emails will also now be available for the weekend group staff to access. It is still best to call for any Saturday or Sunday issues though. So please replace all your Fireside emails with GroupSales@firesidetheatre.com as soon as possible. If necessary due to your security set-up, be sure to add us to your contact list so correspondence from us does not end up in the junk mail.

LEGENDS OF COUNTRY - Seven Country Stars in one show! This is a show NOT to miss with stars that appeal to not only country music fans but also fans of music. I am not what one would call a country music fan, but I like certain entertainers. These seven are all on my country listening list! Live music and six of the best country music acts all in one huge show with, of course, another delicious Fireside meal (and dessert!) We are always willing to work with you on weather issues so don’t be afraid to book! This show has it all!

ELF The Musical is on its way!

It seems so wrong to be thinking of snow and Christmas while it is 94 degrees and humid, but it is only a few weeks away. Having problems filling your ELF dates? Feel free to share these YELP comments from ELF on Broadway. Still time to book? Yes! Remember, real elves try to stick to the four main food groups: candy, candy canes, candy corn, and syrup!

"A real holiday treat. It's basically the same plot as the movie, but with some minor differences. You will leave the show full of Christmas spirit. .....If you're looking for a funny and sentimental holiday show, this is it. Definitely go see it if you're a fan of the movie!"

"I took a friend who isn't much of a fan of Broadway shows and we both left happy and with the Christmas spirit! I actually had never seen the movie before seeing the show, and to my surprise, I saw some parts of the movie the other day and thought the show was a whole lot better! Would recommend!"

Box Office and Sales Manager
Whether you're fans of country music or country decor, The Fireside is the place to be in January and February of 2019. You'll find legendary country music performances on stage and a fabulous selection of country decor in our gift shops. Designers are calling it “the modern farmhouse look” and we know you're going to like it!

Lovin' That Modern Farmhouse Look!

Roosters and other metal farm statues can liven up your decor both inside and out. They come in a wide variety of colors, styles, and sizes. You'll also find canvas and wood wall art pieces - including many that light up. Winter is perfect for enjoying puzzles while you pass the time indoors with a cup of coffee in your farm themed mug!

You can also treat yourself to new kitchen towels featuring fun farmhouse art. All this and so much more awaits your arrival, beautifully displayed for your shopping pleasure!
Groups are our specialty - visit early to get the best discount!

What is a group?

At The Fireside, there are many benefits for any group of 18 or more people attending a performance. You can hold seating with a small deposit while you finalize your exact count, due a few weeks before your visit. You’ll also qualify for a discounted ticket price and your meal gratuity is included.

For weekday matinees, 18 paid tickets earns a complimentary package, for all other shows it’s every 21st ticket. There is plenty of safe, free parking on-site for coaches. The Fireside is accessible to guests with disabilities; just let us know what special needs you have when making reservations.

• You can save over 20% with a group booking over individual ticket prices.
• The three-course dinner and show for groups of 18 or more in 2019 is $73.80 ($69.95 tax exempt) per person.
• PREMIER GROUP RATE offers an additional discount of $3.00 per person when your group attends a performance of LEGENDS OF COUNTRY from January 3 - 27, 2019.
• 2019 Premier Group Rate is $70.63 ($66.95 tax exempt) per person.
• The five-course Saturday Night Group rate in 2019 is $78.02 ($73.95 tax exempt) per person. For rates on optional entree selections call Group Sales.
• 2019 Premier Saturday Night Group Rate is $74.85 ($70.95 tax exempt) per person.
• 2019 Youth Group Rates for ages 14 and under with the youth meal are offered at $52.70 ($49.95 tax exempt) per youth.
• 2019 School Group Rates are available for Mid-Week matinees as low as $64.95 tax exempt rate per student. Chaperones qualify for the Group Rate.
• Call for information on our special New Year’s Eve packages, too!