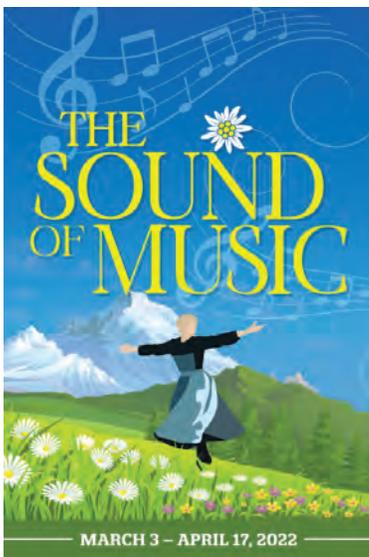


The Flame

NOV 2021

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS AND FRIENDS



THE HILLS ARE ALIVE!

Seventy years ago, in Austria, a young postulant from the Nonnberg Abbey was sent to the home of a retired submarine commander to serve as governess to his seven children. A simple tale indeed. But little did she know that her tale would become one of the most beloved stories in history spawning a mega hit Broadway musical, an Academy Award winning movie, and hundreds of millions of fans worldwide.

The postulant was Maria Ranier, the submarine officer was Georg Von Trapp, and their story became the basis of Rodgers and Hammerstein's last and arguably greatest musical, THE SOUND OF MUSIC.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC is a story filled with faith, courage, adventure, humor, and love. And music!! Some of the best known and best loved of all the Broadway songs are in its delightful and moving score.

I've been fortunate to have produced and directed six productions of THE SOUND OF MUSIC. When you've been around as long as I have you end up doing many shows multiple times.

Sometimes the shows get old and tired the more times you do them. Other times the shows get better, more exciting, more meaningful every time you direct them. THE SOUND OF MUSIC is one of those shows. Every time I get the chance to do it I am once again enchanted and transported. So it's no surprise that I am looking forward to the production we'll be doing in March.

It doesn't matter how many times you see it, THE SOUND OF MUSIC is a magical experience. Plus, its message of hope and optimism is a message we can all use right now.

Continued on page 2 . . .

“ . . . Rodgers and Hammerstein's last and arguably greatest musical . . . ”

– Ed Flesch



THE SOUND OF MUSIC ... CONTINUED!

Remember the inspiration of "Climb Every Mountain," the joy of "My Favorite Things," the charm of "So Long, Farewell," and the romance of "Sixteen Going on Seventeen?" Whichever is your favorite song, we're pleased to have such a wonderful show to kick off our exciting 2022 season which is chock full of favorites.

Here are a few pictures from the last time we presented THE SOUND OF MUSIC to jog your memory and get you excited about enjoying it again. We'll see you in the Spring!

Ed Flavel



Scenes from The Fireside's 2009 production of THE SOUND OF MUSIC.



THE INSIDE SCOOP



Janet and her husband, Frank on their Rhine River Cruise, Cologne, Germany.

An interview with Janet Johnson, National Exchange Bank & Trust in Fond du Lac, WI

LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

As a high school student, Janet Johnson thought she wanted to teach Home Economics, but a summer job at National Exchange Bank & Trust derailed those plans. She enjoyed her work so much she's stayed for 48 years, and counting!

Janet began as a messenger, then a teller position and worked her way through various departments on her way to becoming the Programs and Events Manager. Likewise, the bank started with one location and now has 32 offices throughout central Wisconsin.

This year, the Golden Years Club (GYC as its known in the region) celebrated 35 years of travel. We are honored that over the last 34 of those years their itinerary list has included 115 trips to The Fireside. Just this week Janet added one more. "The New Year's Eve trip is among our group's favorite things," Janet said. "They can go in the afternoon, be home at night, but still feel like they celebrated New Year's Eve in style with a Steak & Lobster dinner."

Running a travel program is very much a team effort and Janet's team includes

an administrator, a back-up for escorting tours, and two more who work on the brochures and newsletters. She was also quick to thank the bank's management for their support of both the program and her own growth and development over the years. She was able to work part time when her children were young and felt that they really understood the importance of work-life balance. She in turn supports the bank's mission with a "banking moment" on each tour. While they're a captive audience on the motor coach Janet educates club members on financial issues such as fraud, scams, and new bank products or technology. She's proud that they're still locally owned (since 1933!) and provide such great customer service.

National Exchange Bank offers a full range of tours from one-day outings in Wisconsin to a few days farther out and even longer international trips. This year as they re-started their tours she took 18 trips including South Dakota, Iceland, and a Rhine River cruise. "I'm so fortunate," Janet exclaimed. "I've seen places I never thought I'd see thanks to customer suggestions. She's known for

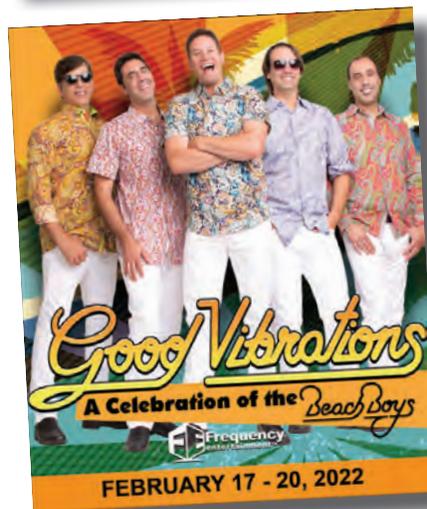
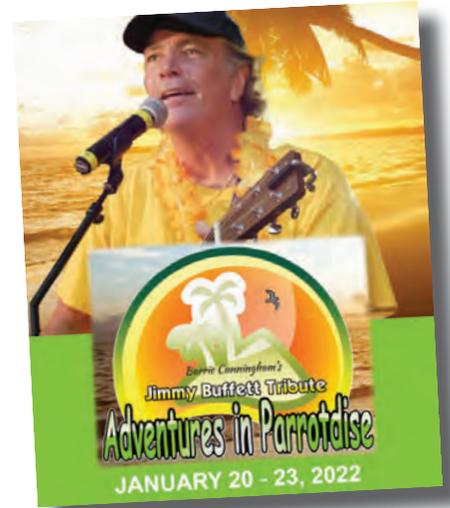
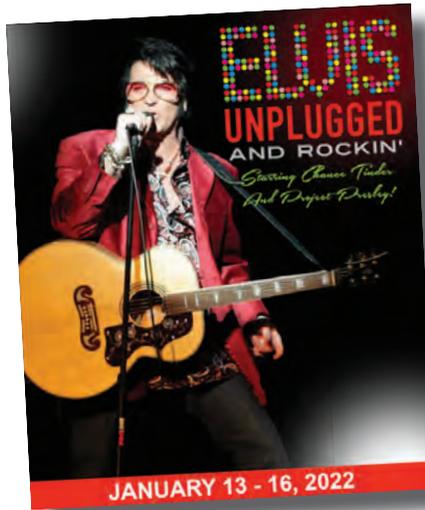
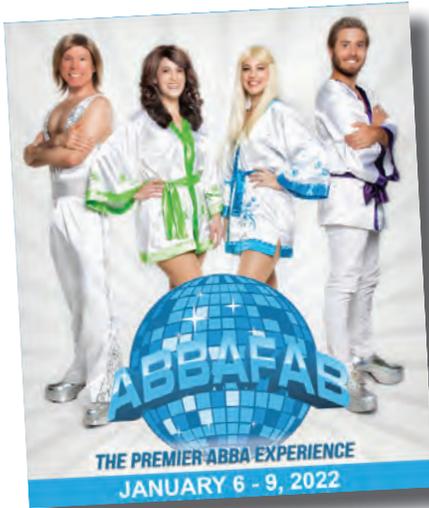
"I love life, and life is about constantly learning. Share your stories and experiences and learn from each other!"

planning innovative local tours, including "Backyard Brews" which took in a Distillery, Cidery, Craft Brewery, Winery, and Bourbon maker all in one day within 50 miles of home. Her favorite trips, though, were back when Midwest Express operated out of Milwaukee and she could run a one-day jaunt to cities such as New York, D.C., and Toronto!

Janet escorts about 99% of their tours herself, and when they fly her retired husband, Frank, is her back-up. He also joins her on scouting trips to check out new attractions and came to check out how we were handling Covid protocols during the pandemic. She wanted to be able to offer a first-hand report to travelers wanting to come on their own when she wasn't running a tour. When she's not running a tour, you'll likely find her watching one of her eight grandchildren playing hockey, soccer, softball, or other sports. It's a full life, and this dynamic, talented, outgoing lady wouldn't have it any other way!

KNOW
WHAT'S
NEW!

OUR 2022 CONCERT SERIES!



Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings; Saturday and Sunday Matinees for each concert. Group price for 18 or more for the dinner theatre package with three entree choices, selected in advance, is \$69.95 per person plus tax and bar drinks.

Group Bookings Available Now!

SEE
WHAT'S
COOKING



INSIDE
CHEF MIKE'S
Kitchen

Greetings from The Fireside Kitchens! We hope you've had a chance to get back to The Fireside this fall for either JOSEPH or HOLIDAY INN and I know you're looking forward to THE SOUND OF MUSIC.

During the concert series that we ran in 2020 and early 2021 to limited audiences, we had the opportunity to experiment with some new ideas. One of the things we had thought about doing was to offer more than one entree choice with our Featured Menus. So we gave it a try - and our guests really seemed to like it.

Having the menus selected as tickets were purchased meant we would still know how many of each to prepare and the restaurant staff could easily handle getting the right dinners to the right guests. Now you have the opportunity to offer all three menu choices to your travelers, as well as a vegetarian option. That makes a win-win for everyone!

For THE SOUND OF MUSIC, we'll start your meal with our popular Cream of Shiitake Mushroom Soup, then your choice of Chicken Alfredo, Atlantic Salmon, or Sliced Roast Beef Tenderloin. For dessert, you'll be treated to a traditional Austrian Nuss Schnitten, which directly translated means Nut Slices but is so much more wonderful than that sounds. It's a Walnut Sponge Cake layered with Raspberry jam, topped with Meringue and drizzled with Chocolate. Just wait 'til you taste it! Yumm!!! Yumm!!!

Michael Scott
Executive Chef



FEATURED MENU

*Choices for Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday Matinees,
Saturday Evenings* and Sunday MIDDAY*

Cream of Shiitake Mushroom Soup *Freshly Baked Breads from our Artisan Bakery*

Chicken Alfredo with Linguine

Skinless Breast of Chicken dipped in egg, lightly breaded and sautéed to a golden brown. Served on a bed of Linguine with our homemade Alfredo Sauce and Steamed Broccoli.

Atlantic Salmon

Steamed and served with Tarragon Sauce, Garlic Parmesan Orzo, and Steamed Broccoli

Sliced Roast Beef Tenderloin

Chef Carved Medallions of Roast Beef Tenderloin glazed with a Red Wine Sauce. Served with Garlic Parmesan Orzo and Steamed Broccoli

Nuss Schnitten

Traditional Austrian Walnut Sponge Cake with a layer of Raspberry Jam, topped with Meringue and drizzled with Chocolate Ganache.

Coffee, Tea and Milk

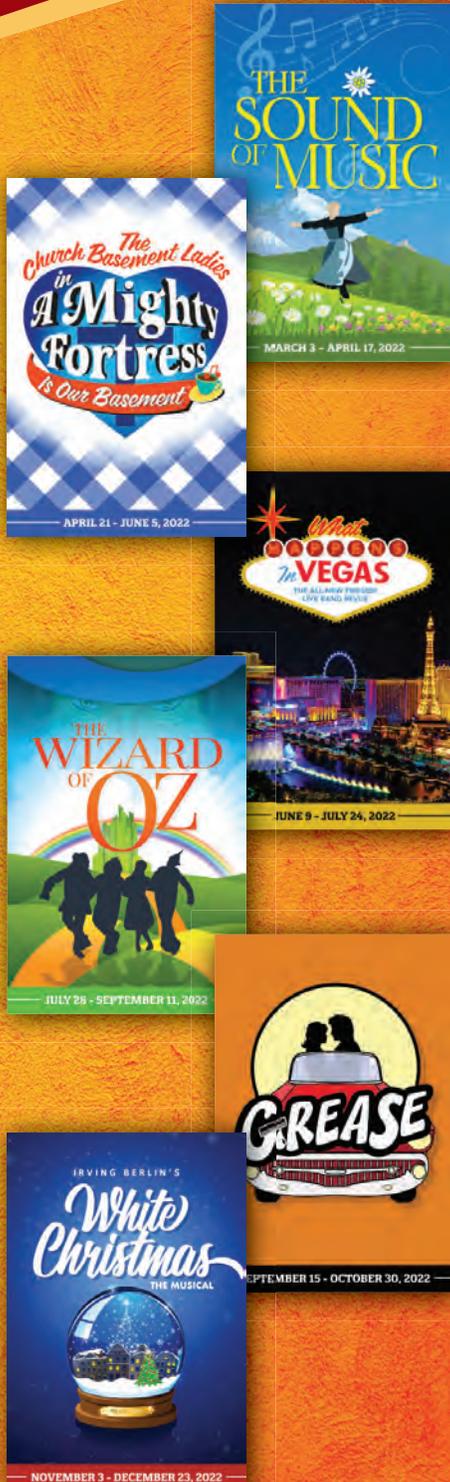
The Thursday Evening Signature Buffet begins with our Signature Salad topped with Papaya Chutney Dressing and served with Freshly Baked Breads. Enjoy two special entrée selections in addition to Beef Tenderloin and Roast Turkey from the Carving Station, Barbecued Pork Back Ribs, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura 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 Steamed Farm Fresh Vegetables. Nuss Schnitten 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 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, Scrambled Eggs, 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 dish, and Steamed Farm Fresh Vegetables. Nuss Schnitten for dessert plus coffee, tea and milk are included.

***Saturday Evening's menu also includes an Appetizer course.**

Coming Shows!

We look forward to helping you promote your trips to The Fireside. Promotional materials can be ordered for any of our upcoming shows through Group Sales or on our website.



GROUP SALES CORNER



The holidays are almost here and the new year won't be far behind. We're so excited about our 2022 season and getting a fresh start with all these fabulous shows!

For personal help with any of your bookings, call me at 800-477-9505 or email groupsales@firesidetheatre.com.

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR BASEMENT and WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS have been on sale since 2019 and delayed a couple of times. **You're finally going to get to see them this year!** If you let your booking go when the pandemic hit and are now ready to travel, please give me a call so we can get you re-booked along with the rest of the new season.

Travel is on the rise!

We understand that each group has to decide for itself when they're ready to venture out, and to what types of facilities. Here at The Fireside we continue to do all we can to make you feel comfortable. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's THE SOUND OF MUSIC is a favorite for people of all ages no matter how many times you've seen it. It's definitely one to consider running as a grandparent tour and for school groups.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Hopefully you read Chef Mike's column on the previous page about the new entree choices available to both individual parties and group tours starting in 2022. So far most groups are choosing to offer their travelers the full array of choices and just keeping track of what everyone wants. We'll want a pretty close count when you give us your final numbers, and then your final choice count with your payment. If you prefer, you can choose any one of the entrees to be served to everyone in your group.

Now it's time to debut my new name and signature as I recently married my long time love, Chad Elmore. We had a destination wedding in North Carolina where we love to visit and could have some dear friends with us. Life is grand!



This Thanksgiving, I hope you are well, feeling blessed, and surrounded by those you love. Make it a great day!

Franki Elmore, Group Sales
groupsales@firesidetheatre.com

GIFT SHOP SPOTLIGHT



Shop online anytime at www.firesidetheatre.com

OH, YES INDEED - THERE ARE SPRINGTIME GNOMES!

Let's hear it for gnomes year-round! These cheery little fellows are a new sign of Spring and a sure way to brighten any home or garden. Won't you let a few of them into your life?



Look for Spring gnomes on garden flags, mugs, and figurines of every shape and size. Scatter them around your home and garden just to bring a smile to your face.

The undeniable allure of having quiet helpers in the garden has a long history back to the second century AD, with a resurgence in the 18th century and again after the 1937 debut of "Snow White," plus several more times before their current swell in popularity.

Check out our selection both in-store and online at www.firesidetheatre.com.

Gnomes are no newcomers to home decor. They were first mass produced in Germany in 1872.



CONTACT US TODAY AND SAVE!

CALL 800-477-9505

EMAIL groupsales@firesidetheatre.com

ONLINE FiresideTheatre.com

GROUPS ARE OUR SPECIALTY - SPECIAL DISCOUNTS APPLY!

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 four 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 and cars. The Fireside is accessible to guests with disabilities; just let us know what special needs you have when making reservations.

- Save up to \$11.00 per person over individual ticket prices when you book a group of 18 or more. **Please see our menu page for more information on the new menu choice options for groups in 2022.**
- The three-course dinner and show for groups of 18 or more in 2022 is \$81.50 (\$77.25 tax exempt) per person.
- The Premier Group Rate offers an additional discount of \$3.00 per person when your group attends a performance of THE SOUND OF MUSIC from March 3 - 27, 2022.
- 2022 Premier Group Rate is \$78.33 (\$74.25 tax exempt) per person.
- The four-course Saturday Night Group rate is now the same price as the other shows. For rates on optional premium entrée selections, please call Group Sales.
- 2022 Youth Group Rates for ages 14 and under with the youth meal are offered at \$58.29 (\$55.25 tax exempt) per youth.
- 2022 School Group Rates are available for Mid-Week matinees as low as \$71.25 tax exempt rate per student. Chaperones qualify for the Group Rate.