DIRECTED BY
ELIZABETH
RUDDELL

CARMEL COMMUNITY PLAYERS

PRESENTS

THE CAT
254 VETERANS WAY,
CARMEL, IN 46032

A PLAY BY BILLY VAN ZANDT & JANE MILMORE

DROP DEAD!

POSTER ART + DESIGN BY MODEN

"Drop Dead!" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. | concordtheatricals.com

2:30 PM ON SUNDAYS
& 2ND SATURDAY

DEC 4-13

7:30 PM ON THURSDAY,
FRIDAYS & 1ST SATURDAY

TICKETS: $20 (FRI, SAT, SUN) | $15 (THURS)

SCAN FOR TICKETS

CARMELPLAYERS.ORG
317-815-9387

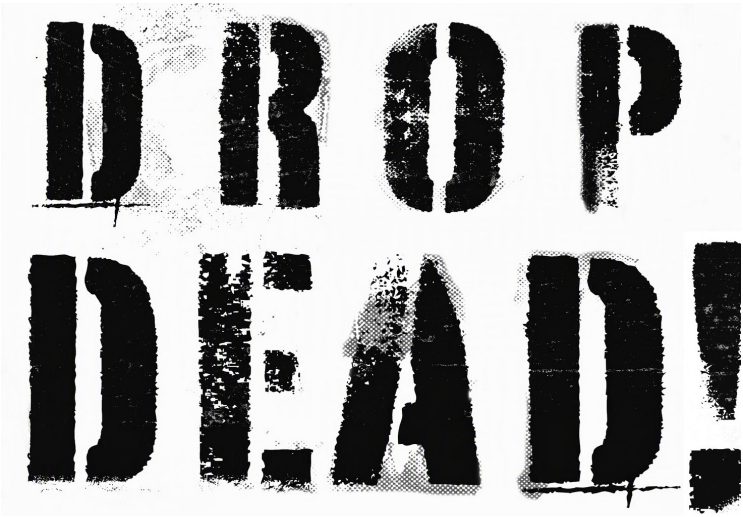
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Carmel Community Players

Proudly Presents



By Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore

Directed by Elizabeth Ruddell

Produced by Desiree Black

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Drop Dead is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com
Concord Theatricals, 250 W 57th St, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10107-0102

Carmel Community Players
For reservations, call (317) 815-9387 or see the link at our website:
www.carmelplayers.org

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Cast of *Drop Dead!*

Chaz Looney. . . . . Jacob Schwartz
Candy Apples. . . . . .Halle Throgmorton
Brent Reynolds. . . . . .Tristan Stecenko
Dick Scorsese. . . . . .Kent Phillips
Mona Monet. . . . . .Amanda Falcone
Victor Le Pewe. . . . . Jurrell Spencer
P.G. "Piggy" Banks. . . . . Grant Bowen
Phillip. . . . . Jericho Frank
Constance Crawford. . . . . Debbie Underwood
Alabama Miller. . . . . .Wendy Brown

Production Crew of *Drop Dead!*

Producer. . . . . Desiree Black
Director. . . . . .Elizabeth Ruddell
Stage Manager. . . . . .Samantha Kelly
Light Design. . . . . .Bill Miller, Samantha Kelly
Sound Design. . . . . .Samantha Kelly
Light/Sound Operator. . . . . .Samantha Kelly
Costume Design. . . . . Elizabeth Ruddell
Properties. . . . . .Nicole Amsler
Hair / Makeup. . . . . .Elizabeth Ruddell
Set Design. . . . . .Elizabeth Ruddell, Charles Hanover, Dave Muse
Set Construction. . . . . .Charlie Hanover, Dave Muse
Set Decoration. . . . . .Elizabeth Ruddell, Samantha Kelly
Headshots. . . . . Charlie Hanover
Webmaster . . . . . Daniel Smith
Poster . . . . . Moden Thibodeau
Social Media Manager . . . . . .Hannah Janowicz
Program Coordinator . . . . . .Kat Watson
Programs and Graphics. . . . . Bill Miller

Drop Dead! Synopsis

An odd-ball cast of has-been actors attempt to revive their careers in a potboiler murder mystery; unfortunately, the director is trying to recover from a flop, the playwright is a little… off, the producer is filthy rich, and the stage manager has one too many things on his plate. As dress rehearsals result in disaster, the cast finds themselves amid a real murder! The remaining thespians must attempt to save their careers, solve the mystery, and stay alive for curtain call; a non-stop physical comedy that turns the world of theatre on its head!

There will be a 15 minute intermission between acts.



We would like to humbly thank the following people and groups who were kind enough to assist in creating this production.

Bill Ruddell

Tom Falcone

David J. Barker - Barker Law

The Current

The Hamilton County Reporter

The City of Carmel



GRANT BOWEN (P.G. "Piggy" Banks)
Grant is super excited to be working with Elizabeth Ruddell again after being in her production of *Moon Over Buffalo* back in 2023. He's also thrilled to be working with his best friends Sam Kelly and Desiree Black, who he has shared many wonderful memories working with on several shows. "No disrespect to Batman and Robin, but Sam and Desiree are the one true dynamic duo!" After recently being the Foreman in Buck Creek's production of *Twelve Angry Men*, Grant is happy to be in a show where he can just be silly and have the secret intention of making the cast and crew break out into laughter. As always, Grant would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support, Elizabeth, Sam, and Desiree for taking a chance on him, and the amazing cast consisting of his friends from past shows Amanda, Wendy, and Jericho as well as his new friends Jacob, Halle, Tristan, Kent, Jurrell, and Debbie. Enjoy the show!



WENDY BROWN (Alabama Miller)
Wendy reentered theatre following thirty-eight years in the thoroughbred industry. She's enjoyed roles with Indianapolis Civic Theatre, Epilogue Theatre, Westfield Playhouse, Hendricks Civic Theatre, Center Stage, Buck Creek Players, Theatre Unchained, Catalyst, Indy Fringe, Diva Fest, Femme Fest, American Lives Theatre, Carmel Community Players, Clerical Error Productions and Southbank Theatre. She serves on the board of Friends of Ferdinand, a thoroughbred aftercare organization. In addition to playing on stage and riding horses, she loves losing herself through the lens of her camera. Thanks to Elizabeth Ruddell and CCP for the opportunity to play with this great group of thespians!



AMANDA FALCONE (Mona Monet)
Amanda is thrilled to be back on the CCP stage! She was recently seen in *4 Weddings and an Elvis* and as Mrs. Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Favorite roles include Tina in *Tony n' Tina's Wedding*, Violet in *9-5 the Musical*, Ado Annie in *Oklahoma*!, and Winnifred in *Once Upon A Mattress*. A huge shout-out to her husband and son for their love and support...and she assures them that any suspicious behavior at home is strictly in character.



JERICHO FRANK (Phillip)
Jericho Frank is honored to make his Carmel Community Players debut with this fantastic cast. Jericho has spent the past few years exploring theatrical companies throughout the Indianapolis area, beginning with playing Paris in *Romeo and Juliet* at the Alley Theatre, and most recently appearing as a featured ensemble member in Footlite Musicals' *Funny Girl*. Other favorite past roles include ensemble parts in *Sweeney Todd* (Main Street Productions) and *White Christmas* (Civic Theatre), Charlie Wykeham in *Charlie's Aunt* (The Alley Theatre Company), Will Nothnagel in *The Book Club Play* (Buck Creek Players), and George Gibbs in *Our Town* (Epilogue Players).



KENT PHILLIPS (Dick Scorsese)
Kent Phillips is honored to be making his return with Carmel Community Players at the Cat. After taking a break from performing to be a dad and co-found Illumine Coffee, he returned to the stage last fall as Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Kent can currently be seen performing Improv locally at the Wit Theater with ComedySportz as well as other long form improv shows. Kent holds a BA in Theatre and has studied the Meisner technique of acting as well as Improv Comedy.



JACOB SCHWARTZ (Chaz Looney)
Jacob is excited to be making his Carmel Community Players debut in *DROP DEAD!* Prior to this production, Jacob was Hal Carter in *Picnic* and other experience includes being an extra in film and television, with appearances in *Superman* and *Chicago PD*. When he isn't on stage, Jacob works in organizing and enjoys staying active, spending time with friends, and watching the best worst movies he can find. Thank you for coming out to support community theater!



JURRELL SPENCER (Victor Le Pewe)
Jurrell is excited to make his return to the CCP stage. Some of his recent performances include *The Crucible* (Thomas Putnam), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Tom Robinson), and *4'XMAS*. Off stage, Jurrell enjoys watching football, spending time with his dogs, and playing video games with friends. He would like to thank all of his friends, family, and audience in attendance.



TRISTAN STECENKO (Brent Reynolds)
Tristan is thrilled to be a part of this production and grateful for the opportunity to bring another story to life on stage! His past theater experiences include *Almost, Maine* and *Picnic* (Alan Seymour). Outside of theater, he enjoys working alongside his dad at their family restaurant, where every day feels a little like being on another stage with its own characters, stories, and unexpected moments. He is excited to share this experience with everyone and can't wait for what's to come!



HALLE THROGMORTON (Candy Apples)
Halle is thrilled to make her return to the stage as Candy Apples in *Drop Dead*! after an 11-year hiatus. Her previous theatrical credits include Lady Capulet (*Romeo and Juliet*), The Mother (*Drugs Are Bad*), Templeton (*Charlotte's Web*), and ensemble (*Legally Blonde*). After spending over a decade away from the spotlight, she couldn't be more excited to dust off her acting shoes and jump back into the wonderfully chaotic world of theater! She is grateful for the opportunity to rediscover her love of performing alongside such a talented cast and crew.



DEBBIE UNDERWOOD (Constance Crawford)
Debbie is excited to be back on stage at CCP. Some of her favorite roles are Ellie Banks (*Father of the Bride)*, Norma (*The Diviners*), M'Lynn (*Steel Magnolias*), and Bea Pomeroy (*Don't Talk to the Actors*). Thanks to her husband and children, Meredie and Craig, for their support. Enjoy the show!

CREW BIOS



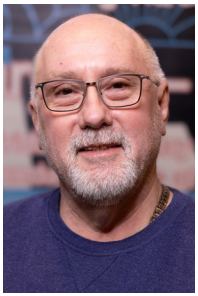
DESIREE BLACK (Producer)
Desiree can usually be seen on stage (*Bad Seed, Men on Boats, Pride and Prejudice*), but lately she has been dabbling in working off stage as a director (*Rumors)*, stage manager (*How the Other Half Lives*), and producer (*DROP DEAD!*). She has been on the CCP Board of Directors since February of this year and has really enjoyed seeing a different side of community theater. She thanks her husband, Gage, for his endless support and hopes you enjoy this fun comedy!



ELIZABETH RUDDELL (Director)
Elizabeth is very excited to direct *DROP DEAD!*. In the past she has directed *Moon* Over Buffalo and *Steel Magnolias* for CCP. Elizabeth has directed, costumed and/or produced shows for Epilogue Players, Westfield's Main Street Productions, Zionsville OMSP, AMT, Artists Studio, Carmel Repertory, Footlite Musicals and for 5 years she directed the musicals and plays for Zionsville Community High School. Elizabeth has a B.A. degree in Theatre-Smith College, is an Encore Award winning actress and has performed and directed professionally. She would like to thank the cast and staff of *DROP DEAD!* for sharing their talent and creativity and her family for their love and support.



SAMANTHA KELLY (Stage Manager
(Lighting and Sound Design / Boards Operator)
Samantha is so excited to be back with CCP! She recently directed *Men on Boats* this last season for and serves as the Resident Stage Manager and Technical Director for CCP. She has worked as Stage Manager/Assistant Director for a few of her favorites like *Steel Magnolias* (CCP), *Moon Over Buffalo* (CCP) and *Murder on the Orient Express* (CCP). She holds a BA in Theatre from Albion College with an emphasis in Acting and Costume Design. When not involved in a theatre production, she works as an Instructional Assistant for Special Education at the middle school level. She would like to thank her family for understanding her constant crazy schedule and her friends for always showing up no matter the show! She would also like to thank the cast and creatives for being part of an amazing production! Enjoy!



BILL MILLER (Lighting Design)
Bill has been involved in sound design, audio engineering, lighting design, graphic design, and theatrical production since the mid-1980s. Throughout his theatre career, Bill has worked onstage and backstage, as a producer, director, designer, booth operator, and technician for numerous theaters across Central Indiana. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Carmel Community Players and is honored to be a judge for several theatre organizations across the region. Recently, Bill co-directed *Almost, Maine!* at Basile Westfield Playhouse alongside Kathy Watson. Some of his favorite onstage credits include Hello, Dolly!, M*A*S*H, Beauty and the Beast, Willy Wonka, *Fiddler on the Roof,* and *A Few Good Men.* Memorable technical productions include *A Streetcar Named Desire, The Spitfire Grill, Noises Off, Squabbles, Rent, The Bad Seed*, and *Sleepy Hollow*. Bill thanks you for joining us today and hopes you enjoy the extraordinary work of this talented cast and production team.

We greatly appreciate generous contributions from supporters like you!

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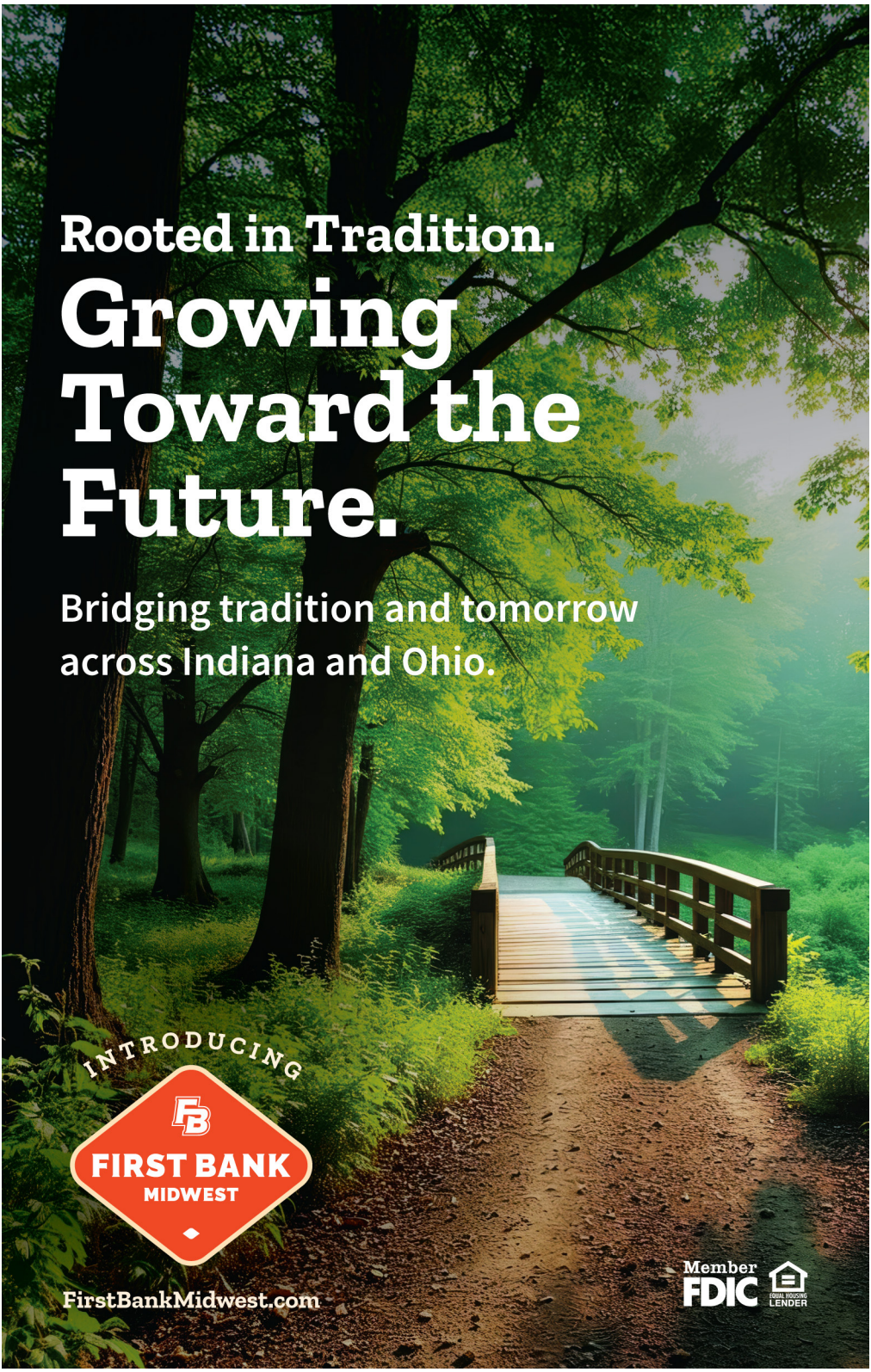
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CARMEL COMMUNITY PLAYERS
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THE SWITCH THEATRE
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BLOOD BROTHERS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals | concordtheatricals.com

BLOOD BROTHERS



A MUSICAL BY WILLY RUSSELL

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7:30 PM ON THURSDAY, FRIDAYS & 1ST SATURDAY

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by Laura Wade
Directed by Nicole Amsler

After losing a job, Judy has reinvented herself as the perfect 1950's housewife in a modern world. How long can she keep up this vintage facade? A dark comedy exploring identity, marriage, balancing fantasy and reality.

Sep 25 - Oct 4, 2026
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254 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032



DROP DEAD!

by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore
Directed by Elizabeth Ruddell

A cast of has-been actors plan to revive their careers in a murder mystery, only for the scripted events to become a bit too real. A non-stop physical comedy with everyone dying to solve the mystery.

December 4-13, 2026
The Cat
254 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032



BLOOD BROTHERS

book, lyrics, and music by Willy Russell
Directed by Kathleen Clarke Horrigan

Twin brothers were separated at birth, raised in different social classes, and grow up to be friends. A haunting rags-to-riches musical exploring nature vs. nurture, and the real cost of separation.

March 12 - 21, 2027
The Switch Theatre
10029 126th St D
Fishers, IN 46038



THE BOOK OF WILL

by Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Glenn Dobbs

After the death of Shakespeare, two actors borrow, beg, and band together to preserve the Bard's immortal words. An unforgettable story of love, loss, and laughter, shedding new light on a man you may think you know.

April 16 - 25, 2027
The Cat
254 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032



AND A CHILD SHALL LEAD *Rising Star Production*

by Michael Slade
Directed by Amber K. Roth

In the face of a World War, the children of Terezin, "The Jewish City," ignite hope by studying, making art, and writing an underground newspaper. A fast-paced, poetic drama about finding a light in the darkness.

June 11 - 20, 2027
The Cat
254 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032



ON THE VERGE

by Eric Overmyer
Directed by Samantha Kelly

Three Victorian-era female explorers, in search of Terra Incognita, land in a surreal, time-bending landscape with some unlikely allies. Part sci-fi adventure, part hilarious romp, a witty exploration of discovery and adventure.

July 30 - Aug 8, 2027
The Cat
254 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032