

The Thief River Falls Community Arts Council presents



June 18-20, 25-27
Northland College Theater

Produced by arrangement with the Rodgers and Hammerstein Theatre Library

Made possible in part by a grant provided by the Northwest Regional Arts Council through funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Minnesota State Legislature.

Irving Berlin's **Annie Get Your Gun**

MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Prologue: The Big Top (the year is 1888)

“There’s No Business Like Show Business”.....Frank and the Company

Scene 1: The Front Lawn of the Wilson Arms Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio

“Doin What Comes Natur’lly”.....Annie, Wilson and the Kids

“The Girl That I Marry”.....Frank and Annie

“You Can’t Get A Man With A Gun”.....Annie

“Show Business” (Reprise 1).....Frank, Buffalo Bill, Charlie and Annie

Scene 2: A Pullman Car on the Overland Steam Train

“Moonshine Lullaby”.....Annie, Kids and Cowgirl Trio

Scene 3: The Main Tent on the Minneapolis Fair Grounds

“Show Business” (Reprise 2).....Annie

“They Say It’s Wonderful”.....Annie and Frank

“My Defenses Are Down”.....Frank

Scene 4: Annie’s Dressing Tent

“You Can’t Get A Man With A Gun” (Reprise).....Annie

20 MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

Scene 1: The Upper Deck of a Cattle Boat

“I Got Lost In His Arms”.....Annie

Scene 2: The Ballroom at the Hotel Brevoort in New York City

“Who Do You Love, I Hope”.....Winnie and Tommy

“I Got the Sun in the Morning”.....Annie and the Ensemble

“An Old Fashioned Wedding”.....Annie and Frank

“The Girl That I Marry” (Reprise).....Frank

Scene 3: The Property Room

Scene 4: The Shooting Match

“Anything You Can Do”.....Annie and Frank

“They Say It’s Wonderful” (Reprise)...Annie, Frank and the Company

BEHIND THE SCENES

BACKSTAGE CREW.....Max Anderson

Brian Ario

Brady Skallet

SET PAINTER.....Karen Jensen

ORCHESTRA.....Amanda Rodahl—Piano/Music Director

Phil McKenzie – Music Coordinator

Dana Dyrud – Flute/Piccolo

Lacie Hovland – Clarinet/Flute/Alto Sax

Brian Kays – Trombone

Jon Kays – Drums

Mark Lehrer – Trumpet

Nicole Mosloff – String Bass

Allison Scott – Violin

THE CAST



MICHELE CHRISTENSEN (Eagle Feather/Chorus) is a familiar face in the TRFCAC productions. She has performed in *Anything Goes*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Pippin*, *Annie*, and *Titus Andronicus*. This July she will also be performing in *The House of Blue Leaves*. Michele is employed at Arctic Cat and would like to say “Thanks everyone, it was a lot of fun.”

DANE FROILAND (Frank Butler) recently graduated from UND as a music major. Dane has been active in Lincoln High School productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He has also performed in the TRFCAC’s production of *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Dane just finished directing the revival of *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown* at LHS. Dane says “After finishing college, it is great to return to Thief River Falls and be in a community that is supportive of the arts. It has been fun to be back on stage to perform in shows again. It’s a great use of my music degree and has been a fun experience.”



JUDI HELGELAND (Running Doe/Chorus) is no rookie to the stage. She has been in the TRFCAC productions of *A Christmas Carol*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Quilters*. Other productions in Byron, MN include *On Golden Pond*, *Babes in Toyland*, *the Yuletide Feast*, *Robin Hood*, *Annie*, *The Smoking Gun*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Music Man*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She has also co-directed productions at Franklin Middle School. Judi, a retired pastry chef, comments “This is one of my favorite shows and it’s really been a kick to be part of it. Last year, I was too busy with graduation, so I had no time to do any theater. I really missed it. Now I have time again, Hoorah!”



AMANDA JESME (Winnie Tate) began her theatre experience with the Middle River Children’s Theatre in *The Tale of the Country Mouse*, *The Pale Pink Dragon*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Charlotte’s Web*, and *Pocahontas*. She has performed with the TRFCAC in *A Christmas Carol*, *Bye, Bye Birdie*, and *Quilters*. Also, NCTC’s *All Shook Up*, as well as many school productions. When Amanda is not on stage, you’ll find her at Jesme’s Daycare. She would like to say “Thanks to everyone who has inspired me to do theater in the past: my Mom, Grandma, Barb and Brianna Geer, KayDell Super, Janine Peterson, Cookie Melby, Vanessa Martell and Linda Samuelson. You’ve all been great mentors! Thanks to this whole cast! You are wonderful!”



SHERRY KNOTT (Annie Oakley) is a music teacher of both piano and voice at St. Joseph Catholic School in Red Lake Falls. She performed in both TRFCAC’s productions last summer, *Anything Goes*, and *The Odd Couple*. We are thrilled to welcome Sherry back! She has also been extremely active on stage in RLF in *Brigadoon*, *Mame*, *A Bad Year for Tomatoes*, *Love Thy Neighbor*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Sherry comments “Thank you TRF Community Arts Council for making it possible to put on such great shows! Steven, I’m so glad that you love theatre – I am so proud of you! I am so honored to be a part of this wonderful production!”



EMMA ANDERSON (Chorus) is the youngest member of the company. At age 8, she has just completed 2nd grade. Emma made her debut as Gretl in *The Sound of Music*. Last summer she performed in the Safari Theatre’s production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Emma has taken 2 years of classical, jazz, and tap dance classes through community education. She comments “I like this play and I hope to be an actress someday.”

MAX ANDERSON (Ballroom Announcer/Backstage Crew) age 12, has just finished grade 6 and is quickly becoming invaluable to the TRFCAC’s productions. He has performed as Friedrich in *The Sound of Music*, *Free to Be... You and Me*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Anything Goes*. Max says “I have worked back stage in shows such as *The Odd Couple* and *Shirley Valentine* and I really like it.”



KATELYN ARIO (Jessie, Annie’s Little Sister) is performing for the first time with the TRF Community Arts Council. At age 13, she has just finished grade 7 and has been in many skits, as well as *The Fisherman and His Wife*. Katelyn says “Thanks to Mom and my family for allowing me to do this. Thanks to all the people that made it possible to put on this production. Especially, thanks to my sister for helping me with lines and encouraging me.”

MICKAYLA ARIO (Chorus) age 14 and finished with 9th grade has joined the TRFCAC’s stage for the first time. She has performed in *The Fisherman and His Wife* and has been involved with many skits and plays for church. Mickayla adds “This has been a very helpful and very fun experience and I want to thank everyone who has made it that way.”



ROGER BLANK (Chief Sitting Bull) is a newcomer to the TRF Community Arts Council’s productions. Roger works as a locomotive engineer with the railroad, when he’s not on stage. His past productions include *Babes in Toyland* and *Damn Yankees*. Roger says “Thank you, everyone, for all your help. It has been a lot of fun when you have fun people to be with in a play.”

EMILIE BUBOLZ (Mrs. Potter-Porter/Cowgirl Trio/Chorus) is making her debut with the TRF Community Arts Council. She has recently graduated from NCTC’s Nursing program and is working as a caregiver at Greenleaf Assisted Living Facility. Emilie wants to say “Thank you to my parents for their unconditional love, encouragement, and support.”



ISAIAH BURKEL (Chorus/Indian) is twelve years old and just completed 6th grade. Isaiah first performed with the Thief River Falls Community Arts Council’s production of *A Christmas Carol*. Since then he has been in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Free to be... You and Me* and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Isaiah says “I love being on stage”.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Frank Butler.....Dane Froiland
 Buffalo Bill Cody.....Scott Pream
 Dolly Tate.....Jean Larson
 Tommy Keeler.....Tyson Panek
 Winnie Tate.....Amanda Jesme
 Charlie Davenport..... Al Rogalla
 Foster WilsonPaul Tandberg
 Chief Sitting Bull.....Roger Blank
 Annie Oakley.....Sherry Knott
 Jessie, Annie's Little Sister.....Katelyn Ario
 Nellie, Annie's Other Sister.....Brenna Skallet
 Little Jake, Annie's Little Brother.....Tyler Sele
 Running Doe/Chorus.....Judi Helgeland
 Eagle Feather/Chorus.....Michele Christensen
 Waiter/Porter/Messenger/Chorus.....Steven Knott
 Trio/Mrs. Sylvia Potter-Porter/Chorus.....Emilie Bubolz
 Trio/Mrs. Schuyler Adams/Chorus.....Denise Yonke
 Trio/Chorus.....Kristi Rood
 Pawnee Bill.....Matthew Smith
 Ballroom Announcer.....Max Anderson
 Chorus.....Emma Anderson
 Mickayla Ario
 Isaiah Burkel
 Desiree Umber



DESIREE UMBER (Chorus) at sweet 16, has just completed 10th grade at Marshall County Central in Newfolden, where she has performed in *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie* and *Grease*. This is her first TRFCAC production. Desiree writes “This has been an enjoyable cast to work with. Thanks for the memories!”



DENISE YONKE (Mrs. Schuyler Adams/Cowgirl Trio/Chorus) works at Wells Fargo as a Personal Banker during the day. She has performed in *The King and I* before joining the TRFCAC in this, her first production. Denise states “I have had a blast with this great group of actors! Thanks!”

THE CREW



JEN ARIO (Stage Manager/Props) is a wonderful addition to the TRFCAC, keeping us organized. She is the efficient office secretary at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Jen played Henrietta in *All Shook Up*. Last summer she was a stage hand for the TRFCAC's *Anything Goes* production and this July, Jen will be the stage manager for *The House of Blue Leaves*. She adds “I want to thank my husband, Brian, ‘my right hand man’, who has helped me backstage, and my children for putting up with me. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with this talented bunch of actors and production crew. You made my job backstage easy due to your energy and helpfulness. Break a leg!”



JONATHAN DENT (Technical Director) Refer to the summer program booklet for Bio.



AMANDA K. RODAHL (Accompanist/Music Director) is a Preschool teacher by day, as well as a patient piano teacher. She is gifted at keeping the cast on the right key. Her first TRFCAC production was years ago in *Peter Pan*. Mandi was recently involved in the LHS production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. She says “It has been a pleasure to work with so many talented and hard working people. Thank you to the TRFCAC for the opportunity to be a part of this show! It has been so much fun! Enjoy the show!”

ANDREA THIBERT (Costume Mistress) is Thibert Theatrical, a hobby/obsession since 1984. A well kept secret, Thibert costumes travel the nation, thanks to the world wide web. Thief River Falls audiences may remember her costumes in *The Sound of Music*, *Mame*, and *Anything Goes*. Andrea states “I am thrilled to costume this attractive cast. A big thank you to the Arts Council for their continued support.”



KRISTI ROOD (Cowgirl Trio/Chorus) joins us for this, her first ever production. Last summer, Kristi mentioned that she might like to get involved with the TRFCAC. A few months later, Kristi became our treasurer and tonight she's a star on stage. So, be careful what you wish for! During the day time, she is the pharmacy bookkeeper at MeritCare TRF SE Clinic. Kristi reports "Thank you to my friends for their support and encouragement."

MATTHEW SMITH (Pawnee Bill) has starred in many shows at the U of M in Crookston and Morris including *Murder at Sunset Lodge*, *Lurking on the Railroad*, *The Word Once Heard*, and more. His previous involvement with the TRFCAC includes *A Christmas Carol*, *The Sound of Music* and *Mame*. Matt reflects "What signifies summer in the Northland? Another outstanding musical! I have had the good fortune of being persuaded into many shows on the NCTC stage. You can blame Scott and Jean. Now form your own kick line and remember to bend at the knees. Plz!"



BRENNA SKALLET (Nellie, Annie's Other Little Sister) is 14 and just completed 8th grade at Franklin Middle School where she played Baloo in *The Jungle Book* and Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*. Brenna also performed in the TRFCAC's production of *Free to be... You and Me*. She writes "I'd love to thank my friends and family that are in the audience tonight. You gave me all of the support I need and that means a lot to me. Hope you enjoy the show!"

TYLER JEFFREY SELE (Little Jake, Annie's Little Brother) has kept the entire cast entertained and on their toes. At age 9 and finished with 3rd grade, he has been very active in 4-H "Share the Fun" plays, advancing to the MN State Fair level. Tyler has also participated in 4-H speech contests. He has an innate acting ability – whether on a school, church or community stage. The cast can attest to his character – both on and off the stage. We welcome Tyler for his first performance with the TRFCAC. By the way, Tyler loves karaoke singing and fishing at the lake.



PAUL TANDBERG (Foster Wilson) in real life is a Newfolden farmer, not a hotel proprietor. However, he ably masters both jobs! Previous performances with the TRFCAC include: the Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Eli Whitney in *Anything Goes*. He also played the Irish Cop in *Radio Days*. Paul has been a regular with the Middle River and Stephen Community Theaters, performing in "a whole bunch of them". Paul remarks "I would like to thank you, the audience, for supporting this wonderful theater company. And I would like to thank my lovely, supportive, and patient wife, Charlene. (I should be able to get the lawn mowed by next week, Hon. Maybe.)"



STEVEN KNOTT (Porter/Waiter/Messenger/Mac/Cowboy/Chorus) is back for his second TRFCAC's musical, appearing last summer as a sailor in *Anything Goes*. He has also performed in *Crenshaw Family Reunion*, *Exit*, and *Brother's Grimm Spectaculathon*. Steven, 14, has just completed the 8th grade in RLF and states "It's been so much fun being part of the show. It's been wonderful working with such talented people."

JEAN LARSON (Dolly Tate) is a familiar face (wrinkles and all) to the TRFCAC's audiences. She has performed in *Anything Goes*, *Mame*, *The Sound of Music*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Music Man*. Jean's love for live theatre developed when she was in musical productions at Warren High School. She enjoyed taking the TRFCAC's Acting Workshop held this past winter. Jean offers "The costumes, the scenery, the make-up, the props; the audience that lifts you when you're down.... the opening when your heart beats like a drum. Yes, there's no business like show business. So, let's go on with the show! Thanks, gals and guys, for your upbeat attitudes. You've been real troopers!"



TYSON PANEK (Tommy Keeler) is the manager at the TRF Dairy Queen when he is not throwing knives around! Tyson has just finished his AA degree at NCTC. Lucky for us, he is still around this summer! His past productions include *The King and I*, *All Shook Up*, and *Moby Dick: the Musical*. Tyson says "Thank you for the experience and the fun memories!"

SCOTT PREAM (Buffalo Bill) couldn't be better suited for his role in tonight's performance! He is a natural on stage, appearing in many TRFCAC's productions including: *Anything Goes*, *The Odd Couple*, *Mame*, *The Sound of Music*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *My Fair Lady*, *Gypsy*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *On Golden Pond*. Other productions include: *Something's Afoot*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Triangle Fire/Man with Bogart's Face*, *Gap in Generations* and numerous church productions. When Scott isn't on stage, you'll find him at Arctic Cat in Material Control. He adds "I have always wanted to play Buffalo Bill, now here is my chance. Thanks for coming, and I hope you enjoy this great musical production."



AL ROGALLA (Charlie Davenport) during the day has a lead role as our Pennington County Attorney. Al has been extremely active in productions with the TRFCAC, including: *Peter Pan*, *Saving the Old Homestead*, *Madrigal Dinners*, *The Sound of Music*, *Song of Mark*, *The Music Man*, *The King and I*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Oklahoma*, *Annie*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*. He has also performed in RLF's *The Nerd* and numerous religious plays. We give a warm welcome back to Al and thank him for finding time to play! Al says "Thanks to Kelly for 25 great years of marriage. Thanks to my kids, Robert, Alyssa and Lauren for being good kids. What a fun cast!"

THE REAL ANNIE OAKLEY

Phoebe Annie Oakley Moses (sometimes called Mozee) was born on a run-down farm in Darke County, Ohio, in 1860. Her family was poor and her stepfather died when she was four. Guns were standard equipment on farms in those days and Annie soon learned how to shoot well, despite the fact that on her first attempt, she broke her nose.

As told in ANNIE GET YOUR GUN she helped support her family by shooting local game. Not only did she feed them, but she paid off the mortgage on the farm with the proceeds of the game she was able to sell.

Her prowess with a gun became well-known and when Frank Butler's show came to the area, a shooting contest was arranged between her and Butler to publicize his show – but the targets were not clay pigeons. They were twenty-five live birds to be shot on the wing by each contestant. Annie killed all twenty-five of hers. Frank Butler only scored twenty-four.

Approximately a year later she and Butler were married – an event that was followed soon after by Butler giving up his own career to manage hers.

The mention of Annie Oakley today brings to mind a quiet, shy little girl with a fringe buckskin shirt handling a rifle. Always happy, but never happier than when she was firing her special rifle.

“I was ten,” Annie said, “and torn between my duty to my family and my love for the wild birds and animals; I was forced to kill. In my child mind, I held the gun responsible for what I was doing so I came to hate the gun and all guns.”

“I really think it was my hatred of guns that made me an expert shot. To me the gun was my enemy and fighting against it, I perfected my shooting ability.”

Annie Oakley officially retired in 1901 but gave occasional performances until 1916. She died in 1926 in Dayton, Ohio, where she had finally settled down. Frank Butler died eighteen days later. Annie was reported to have left a tidy \$500,000 to friends, relatives and charities so it may be assumed that she and Butler were good business people as well as good shots.

- The Rogers and Hammerstein Library

THE HISTORY OF THE MUSICAL

On stage, ANNIE GET YOUR GUN proved to be the greatest success for both its star and its composer, Ethel Merman and Irving Berlin. The hit show opened in 1948 in New York and played 1,147 performances.

Irving Berlin's success has been further crowned by the fact that almost all the songs he wrote for the show became hits or standards, plus even an anthem, “There's No Business Like Show Business.”

Interestingly, he was very hesitant about doing the show. Jerome Kern was originally set to write the score, but died before its realization. Mr. Berlin was then approached, but wanted time to think it over for a few days. Fortunately he said yes.

On screen, ANNIE GET YOUR GUN repeated its success for the composer as well as the film's star, Betty Hutton. The production tonight is the 1999 version, slightly revised from the original.

THANK YOU!

NCTC – for hosting the TRFCAC this summer in our favorite theatre

The Beito Foundation— for their generous support

Kezar Music – for being the best ticket sellers this side of the Mississippi

Super One Foods – for donating everything for the root beer float gala

Kari and Ed Mooney – for coordinating the opening night gala

Connie Dorn – for helping with the choreography

Kristin Redd – for taking dress rehearsal photos and gala help

Lacey Simoneau – for opening night gala help

LoriAnn Walseth—for opening night gala help

Murray Anderson – for taking the bio headshots

Linda Samuelson – for coordinating musical equipment

Jean Larson – for publicity and putting together the insert

You, the Audience – for supporting us with your attendance



MEMBERSHIPS

Producer 500+

Mark & Jean Larson

Director 250+

Philip & Eloise-Marie
McKenzie

Brook & Kristin Redd

John & Nancy Tofte

Mark & Becky Yuska

Crew 100+

Diane Drake

Ed & Kari Mooney

Roger & JoAnn Thibert

LoriAnn Walseth

Star 50+

Karen Jenson

Ken & Connie Mehrkens

Duane & Robyn Morey

Dave & Muriel Olin

Yvonne Peterson

Faith Rud

Thief River Glass —
Jim & Jill Dillon

Ernest & Ina Thorsgard

Patron 20+

Daisy Burns

Mary Cullen

Marvin & Susan Field

Dane Jenson

Peggy Mehrkens

Bill & Melba Penning

Warren & Margaret Saetre

If you would like to join this esteemed group of individuals, please fill out the form included in the program booklet. Our membership list will be updated for each summer production, in order to recognize one and all.

