

Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

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Strand Weekly Newsletter 6/22/2018

Written by David on June, 22 2018

KENNY JAMES and RAVE ON - BUDDY HOLLY TRIBUTE, Saturday night! Plenty of tickets are available for this outstanding show.

Last Friday night we had a surprise. Downtown was packed with everyone for the Wine Walk. We had Friday Night Frights. The Strand has the largest FNF audience this year! Amazing how that works. Several patrons from the Wine Walk ventured down to the theater to see if we were hosting a winery. We gave them all free popcorn for their effort! It was a fun night for everyone.

We continued the fun on Saturday night with TODD McCOMAS and JEFF VIBBERT. They recorded their performance for a comedy CD and broadcast on Sirius XM. Sound engineer Allan set up an array of microphones to catch the crowd reaction to the jokes. Stage and auditorium videographers captured the images. The comics were funny! Everyone had a great time. Thank you to Todd and Jeff for using the Strand for this fun event.

Our Festival Film Series continues on July 10th with the David Mamet drama GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. According to educator M.P. Ossa "The similarities between Death of a Salesman and Glengarry Glen Ross are quite evident in the setting (the everyday life of a salesman), the problem of the story (the need to be on top and enjoy a life of economic freedom in search of the American Dream, the atmosphere (hard times, tough competition), and the sad ending in both stories." This is a movie that isn't seen often on the big screen, but is an icon of American Literature. David Mamet won the Pulitzer Prize for this play in 1984.

The Shelby County Players present RADIUM GIRLS in July. In 1926, radium was a miracle cure. Madame Curie was an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage - until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, RADIUM GIRLS traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court. Her chief adversary is her former employer, Arthur Roeder, and idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees. As the case goes, however, Grace finds herself battling not just with the U.S. Radium Corporations, but with her own family and friends who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire.

Written with warmth and humor, RADIUM GIRLS is a fast-moving and highly theatrical. Called a "powerful" and "engrossing" drama by critics, Radium Girls offers a wry, unflinching look at the peculiarly American obsessions with health, wealth, and the commercialization of science.

We were terrified last Friday. (Warning, tech talk ahead). Horror Express was not the cause. We came to the theater to prepare for our event and our house lights would not come on. After some investigation we found that our 30 year old dimmer pack that operates our stage and house lights had failed. No lights, no show. A quick email among board members and we were at the theater trying to fix the problem. Cody V. and David F. checked to make sure the DMX signal from our light board was good. They installed a new DMX splitter in the projection booth and it indeed verified a good connections. It also provided an alternate 3 pin to 5 pin conversion to check the adaptor. They then took out the DMX card from the dimmer pack. It was carefully cleaned. Cody reseated the IC circuits, something that is very delicate. The dimmer rack was reassembled and power was applied. After the boot up sequence, all the lights worked perfectly. The entire rack will be taken apart and cleaned in the next few weeks. If corrosion was the cause, we want to nip it in the bud. Thankfully it worked perfectly the rest of the weekend. We are working for an alternate solution that is more permanent. It is things like this that keep cardiologists in business!

Strand Fun Fact: Did you know our main lighting dimmer racks were manufactured in 1989? They were manufactured by Electronics Diversified Industries, often referred to as ED boards. The dimmers are great with stage lights, rock solid, but sadly not compatible with LED. That is OK, as our stage lighting is all tungston halogen.

TRAFFIC UPDATE: Road work continues. Milestone, the contractor for the project, informed the Strand the traffic on State Road 9 in front of the theater will switch next Wednesday or Thursday. They will be working on the middle lane of SR 9.

Because of this traffic will be southbound only from Broadway Street to Mickey's T-Mart. This portion of the project is anticipated to take 15 days. As with all work outside, the schedule is dependent on weather.

The Shelby County Fair is right around the corner from July 3-7. This year the Strand will be at the Brinson Building with all our other arts partners. Stop by and visit us! There is plenty of live entertainment all week at the fair. We love that. Thank you for your support. Our goal is always to keep you "in the know." We have no secrets and the Strand is for everyone. See you at the Strand!

Images on this post:

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