

**THANK YOU  
FOR  
COMING  
TONIGHT**

**YOUR SUPPORT  
MAKES A DIFFERENCE  
IN OUR LIVES**

Just when you thought it was safe  
to go out.....

THE  
**SECOND  
STEP  
PLAYERS**



present

**OUR  
SECOND ANNUAL  
BENEFIT SHOW**



June 17 & 18 at 7:30 p.m.  
EUGENE O'NEILL THEATRE  
Waterford, CT

# We'll Cater To You!

In fact, we've always catered to you ...The minute you walk through our doors we are here to serve you. And now J.P. Daniel's fine cuisine may be enjoyed at *either our place or yours!* Call us for small group gatherings or large festive celebrations, enjoy full staff service or menu selections to go.

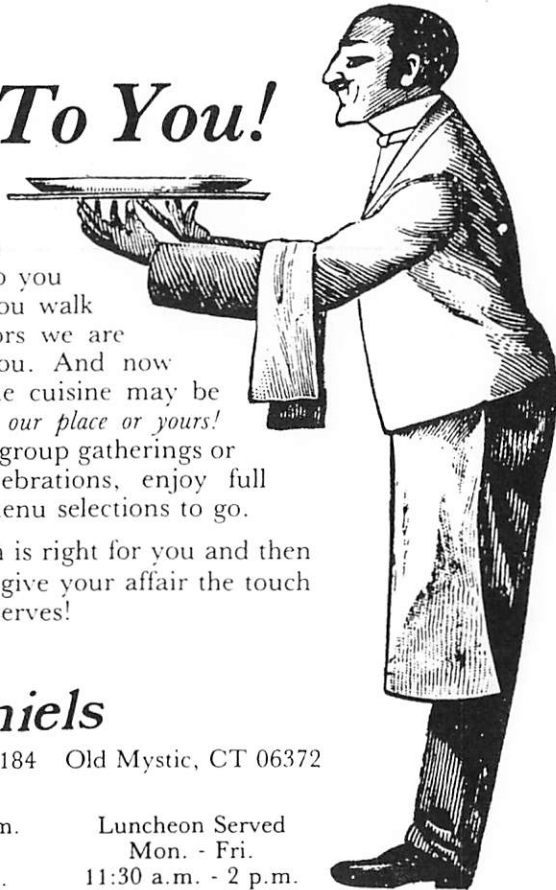
Just tell us which is right for you and then let J.P. Daniel's give your affair the touch of elegance it deserves!

## J.P. Daniels

572-9564 Route 184 Old Mystic, CT 06372

Dinners from 5 p.m.  
Sunday Brunch  
11:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Luncheon Served  
Mon. - Fri.  
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.



**Break a leg, Second Step Players!!**

## Famiglia Pizzeria

Groton Square Shopping Center  
Route 12  
Groton, CT  
445-1242

## Biographies

JOHN BALCHUNAS is a craftsperson and painter and painted several of the title boards seen on stage tonight. He has studied at Silvermine College of Art in Connecticut and Academia Di Belle Art Brera in Milan, Italy. Currently, he lives in Norwich and is working on various hand crafts rendered in wood.

MARSHALL ROBISHAW has been a faithful member of the stage and technical crew for every Second Step Players production to date. He has done it all, from adjusting sound to moving scenery. Tonight our jack-of-all-trades is at it again and though hidden behind the scenes most of the time, no show would work without him.



All the businesses that have advertised in tonight's program have supported The Second Step Players and Artreach. Please support them.

## Biographies

performing career at age 7 in an Irish Step Dancing recital and has never recovered. Other larger-than-life gigs included dressing as a large yellow duck (we won't say why) and performing as lead chorus member in the Avery Point Players production "Hold That Tiger". She currently embarrasses her 3 children as a singing telegram deliverer.

**RUSTY DYKEMA** is our most righteous rock 'n roller and debuts tonight with The Players in an all-out rendition of Blue Suede Shoes. He currently lives on the beach in Niantic and works on a fishing boat by day (where he rolls) and in a record store at night (where he rocks).

**BOB KRIPPS** volunteered to perform with The Players and The Beasts in "A Chagall Circus" and continues tonight in "The Inner Revolution of Marc Chagall". Bob has an unflagging energy that all who work with him find inspirational and he is always willing to give the impossible a try.

**BOB KREUTZBERG** was also a compatriot in "A Chagall Circus" at the Lyme Art Academy. He put in a most memorable performance as a large, black fly and tonight wows us with an appearance as a towering Marc Chagall. Though brand new to any kind of performing, he has fit in quickly and is a valued member of The Second Step Players.

## THE SECOND STEP PLAYERS



The Second Step Players has been in existence since November of 1985. This is the third performance that we have had the privilege of presenting at the Eugene O'Neill Theater. We have also performed at the New London Convalescent Home, New London Senior Center, Norwich State Hospital, and with The Mystic Paper Beasts at the Lyme Academy of Fine Arts.

Our dream for the next year is to be able to tour our special brand of theater to various Connecticut theaters, mental health agencies, and professional conventions. The proceeds from this production will provide the financial groundwork for that dream.

The performance you see tonight is the culmination of six months of work by most of the participants. A certain flexibility is required for a Second Step Players production. There may be last minute substitutions in cast or rearrangement of acts.

We hope you like our show.

The Businesses of  
**RELIANCE HOUSE, INC.**

**IRON SKILLET**

42 BROADWAY

NORWICH, CT

Serving freshly made  
 soups, sandwiches,  
 and desserts

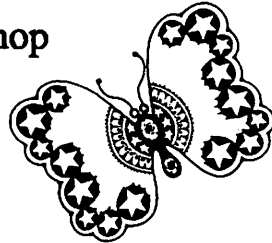


ALL MADE  
 ON THE PREMISES  
 OPEN DAILY 9:30 - 2:30

**Second Time Around Thrift Shop**

THE CLEANEST, MOST STYLISH  
 CLOTHING IN TOWN!

38 BROADWAY NORWICH, CT

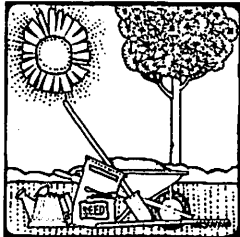


**Reliance Enterprises**

SPECIALIZING IN SEASONAL TASKS  
 LAWN MAINTENANCE, SNOW SHOVELING,  
 HAULING, MOVING, LIFTING, AND LOADING

No Job Too Small - We Do It All

CALL BILLY SHEA 887-8536



**Broadway Laundromat**

COMPLETE LAUNDRY SERVICE  
 WITH A SMILE FOR \$.75/POUND

SELF SERVICE FACILITIES

ALSO AVAILABLE

Across from the  
 Dime Savings Bank in Norwich



**Biographies**

participant in "The Inner Revolution of Marc Chagall". She also performed recently with The Mystic Paper Beasts in "A Chagall Circus" at the Lyme Academy of Fine Arts. In earlier years, Joy performed anti-war street theater and played with a folk trio called Androgyny and tonight she proves that her creative energy is charged as ever.

REYNALDO CRUZ has contributed the following about himself: In tonight's performance I wish to dig into the minds of others, burying what I am - communicating that I do exist and wish to be recognised as an integral part of humanity - developing into a mature, beautiful, and relatable person.....to keep on working as a pursuer of the "free spirit", but also touching back to basic truths in my nature. My nature is to shine the light on you because you are the true star in my life - which is the fire, feeling and inspiration which keeps me going.

DAN POTTER is the creator and driving force of The Mystic Paper Beasts. He currently is making plans to collaborate with The Players on a "neo-primitive bug" piece entitled "The Divining Comedies" during which audience members will be given dousing rods resembling various punctuation marks....it can happen!!

BARBARA SAVAGE-ANDERSON began her

**THAMES CROCKERY**  
RESTAURANT SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

42 BANK STREET  
NEW LONDON, CT 06320

(203) 443-4216

**WESTGATE**  **CLEANERS**  
**AND LAUNDERERS**

425 WEST MAIN STREET NORWICH, CT 06360  
887-0460



*At the Beach*

Tanning, Nail, and Beauty Salon

103 BROAD STREET  
NEW LONDON, CT 06320  
(203) 442-9818

Present this coupon for a GEL NAILS DISCOUNT  
A \$60 value for only \$40!!



**jan mallett**

99 main street  
norwich, connecticut 06360



homes, etc.  
an independent member broker

office: 889-6533  
residence: 889-5031

*Artreach*  
BECAUSE CREATIVITY HEALS...

Artreach is a private, non-profit agency dedicated to the support of performers, artists, musicians, and writers who have experienced psychiatric, developmental and physical disabilities. It acts both as the funding source and the management for groups such as The Second Step Players.

Some of our current goals are to procure funding to expand the audience for which The Second Step Players perform and to begin a dance/theatrical troupe comprised of performers who have experienced developmental disabilities.

We at Artreach believe that creativity is an integral part of any complete life and that creativity heals.

**WHALING CITY FORD**  
salutes  
The  
**Second Step Players**

**DOHERTY, BEALS & BANKS, P. C.**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

187 WILLIAMS STREET  
NEW LONDON, CT 06320



CONNECTICUT TELEPHONE  
& COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS inc.

"The Phone Company for Your Car"

Cellular Phone Sales  
Installation & Maintenance  
Complete Phone Number Service

365 Broad Street  
New London, CT 06320  
(203) 443-2951

*the*  
**basket mystique.**  
Uniquely Filled Baskets

152 Main Street Norwich, CT (203) 887-5413

## Biographies

are very grateful to have him performing with us.

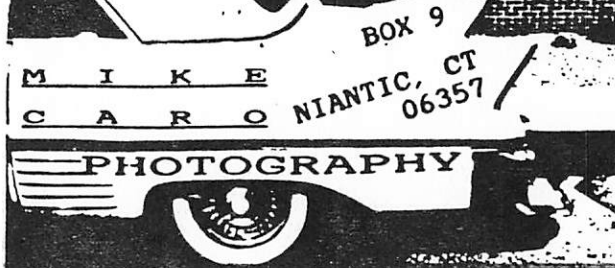
STEVE DARLING is the keyboard player with The Second Step Players House Band. He has played the piano since the age of 8 and among his many musical achievements he boasts a third place trophy in an all-state vocal competition. Tonight he has opted to stay behind the ivories rather than step behind a microphone, but his talented fingers still have a voice all their own.

JONI HARRISON is making her second appearance with us tonight. In both benefit productions she has been a loyal and consistent member of our song and dance ensemble for the closing numbers. And always Joni kept us guessing, for we never knew what hat she'd wear to rehearsal from week to week.

JAN RAPOPORT choreographed tonight's closing number and also performs as a member of that ensemble and in "The Basa Sisters". Throughout she has demonstrated the patience, tact, and creativity of a true professional. Jan has also performed with The Singing Messenger Company of Hartford, with The Pfizer Players in productions of "Can Can" and "South Pacific" and the Renaissance Radio Repertory Company.

JOY FORD is making her debut with us as a

739-4963



## Quick-Pix

Quality Photofinishing

393 Colman Street New London 443-9447

## Sound of Music

1267 South Broad St., Walingford, CT 06492  
365 Broad St., New London, CT 06320

(203) 269-7700

(203) 444-0640

# Goldie's

FAMILY RESTAURANT

566 Colman Street New London, Ct 442-7146

## Acts

### Preshow Music

Rusty Dykema, Edith Sousa

### Opening Number

Reynaldo Cruz, Howard Beatman

### The Basa Sisters

Jan Rapoport, Ronna Keil, SJ Williams, Rusty Dykema

### Act Naturally

Dave Bieri Vocals

SJ Williams Vocals

### Nobody Loves Me Like You Do

Ralph Piscitelli Vocals

Ronna Keil Vocals

### The Inner Revolution of Marc Chagall

The Mystic Paper Beasts

Daniel Potter, Bob Cripps, Bob Kreutzberg, Joy Ford

### **Intermission**

15 minutes. Refreshments on sale in front lobby.

### **Bingo or Bust**

SJ Williams, Barbara Savage-Anderson, Howard Beatman, Leigh Bushnell, Tina Dupont

### **Somewhere Out There**

Dave Bieri        Vocals  
Ronna Keil        Vocals

### **Blue Suede Shoes**

Rusty Dykema                      Vocals  
Alan Winslow, SJ Williams        Backup vocals

### **The Psychiatrist and The Patient**

Howard Beatman, Beverly Gaska, Reynaldo Cruz

### **That's Entertainment**

Barbara Savage-Anderson, Jan Rapoport, Leigh Bushnell, Reynaldo Cruz, SJ Williams, Dave Bieri, Joni Harrison, Howard Beatman

Edith Sousa        Piano  
Jan Rapoport        Choreographer

## **Biographies**

as our wonderful Master of Ceremony in all previous productions. Currently, he lives in Uncasville and spends his free time wowing audiences worldwide with his priceless impersonation of Mel Torme.

EDITH SOUSA first donated her time and talent as our piano accompaniment in our most recent benefit show. The closing number would not be the same without the drive and energy she has brought with her to each of our rehearsals and our performance tonight.

SJ WILLIAMS is the musical director of The Second Step Players and is responsible for the creation of our house band. She is also the Assistant Director of Artreach and has spent some of her sleeping and most of her waking hours during the past six months making this dream a reality.

LEIGH BUSHNELL is one of the originators of "The Psychiatrist and The Patient" comedy vignette presented tonight and her spontaneous Valley Girl monologues were the inspiration for "The Basa Sisters" skit. Tonight her performing talents can be seen as she dances and sings for the second time in a Second Step Players closing number.

DAVE BIERI has become a cornerstone of The Second Step Players. He has expressed himself as



TRUSTED BY MUSICIANS WORLDWIDE FOR OVER 50 YEARS



SOUND REINFORCEMENT  
GUITARS, DRUMS, KEYBOARDS, BAND INSTRUMENTS  
STAGE LIGHTING, RECORDING EQUIPMENT, DIGITAL COMPUTERS

HUGE INVENTORY - WHOLESALE PRICES  
GREAT SERVICE

20 BANK ST., NEW LONDON, CT 06320, U.S.A. 203-442-9600

## Savvy

HAIR DESIGN

127 CAPTAINS WALK NEW LONDON, CT  
442-8842

Looking Good is Your Best Revenge



The store of a million and one items

27 Bank Street New London, CT  
443-8461

A Complete Line of  
STATIONERY AND OFFICE SUPPLIES

## ISLAND DESIGN

TYPOGRAPHY • DESIGN • GRAPHICS

94 Huntington St. • New London, CT 06320  
(203) 444-0448 • FAX (203) 447-9419

Director  
Ronna Keil

House Manager  
Carl J. Merrill

Musical Director  
SJ Williams

The Second Step Players House Band  
(aka Savage Dupont & The Scum Chickens)

Alan Winslow	Guitar
Steve Darling	Keyboards
SJ Williams	Bass
Tina Dupont	Drums

Sound  
Ralph Piscitelli  
Alan Winslow

Stage Hands  
Marshall Robishaw  
Dave Bieri  
Ralph Piscitelli

Lighting  
Carla J. Merrill

### **Video**

Donna Tobias

### **Photography**

Mike Caro

### **Art Boards**

John Balchunas

### **Graphics**

Joe Shea

SJ Williams

### **Advertising & Publicity**

Barbara Savage-Anderson

SJ Williams

Ronna Keil

### **Administrative Assistant**

Carla J. Merrill

### **Make-up**

Leigh Bushnell

Barbara Savage-Anderson

Special thanks to the many folks who donated costumes, Laurie Bellinger for use of Health and Welfare Community Services space, the City of New London for use of the Martin Center stage, the New London Library for additional rehearsal space, Mike Caro for donation of photographic services, Edith Sousa, Dave Burnett and the staff of the Reliance House Group Home, Nicol Wander, Bart P. Roccoberton, Jr., and Sylvia and Charles Traeger and the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.

## **Biographies**

**DOROTHY MAIN** is a newcomer to The Second Step Players but she quickly has made herself indispensable to our productions. The red sequined costume accessories that you will see in the closing song and dance number are her creative contribution.

**CARLA J. MERRILL** is well versed in all aspects of a Second Step Players production. During our rehearsal run she has been a priceless administrative assistant, handling advertising and ticket mailings. Tonight, she not only acts as lighting technician, but is also House Manager.

**RONNA KEIL** is the grateful director of The Second Step Players and Artreach. Though she has worked in the mental health field for a number of years, she considers theater and art her true careers. With the help of SJ Williams and countless others, the dream is beginning to live on evidence instead of blind faith.

**BEVERLY GASKA** has performed in every Second Step Players production to date. Her training has been in vocal music but in this show, she makes a stunning debut as a comedic actress in "The Psychiatrist and The Patient".

**RALPH PISCITELLI** makes his singing debut with The Second Step Players tonight. He is remembered