

KIDS' SUMMER GUIDE INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

# The Sachse News

Shining on the community, events and people of Sachse

Wylie, Texas

Thursday, March 28, 2013

C&S Media Publications

4 Sections,

## GSM announces 2013 season

By Patty Montagno, Staff Writer | [pmontagno@sachsenews.com](mailto:pmontagno@sachsenews.com)

*"There's no business like show business  
Like no business I know; Everything about it is appealing  
Everything the traffic will allow ..."* Irving Berlin

Audiences will find themselves dancing in the streets and humming the memorable songs after seeing the shows produced by the Garland Summer Musicals.

The 2013 season will feature the beloved musical comedy "Singin' in the Rain" in June. Opening in July will be the rollicking "9 to 5 The Musical"

Both musicals will be under the helm of former Broadway director/choreographer/performer and Wylie resident Buff Shurr who is returning for his 30th season.

Patty Granville is the producer of the Garland Summer Mu-

sicals. Granville has been the director of the Garland Center for the Performing Arts since its opening in 1982. She is a well-known, accomplished stage and television performer. In 2003 the Garland City Council renamed the Garland Arts Center the Patty Granville Arts Center in her honor.

Joe Murdock is master carpenter for the musicals. He is the technical theater director at Sachse High School. He said a lot of the technical crew for both shows will be comprised of SHS students.

See **THERE'S** page 3A



Photo by Patty Montagno

Garland Summer Musicals Director Buff Shurr, left, Producer Patty Granville and Master Carpenter Joe Murdock appear ready for a shower of good reviews for the June musical "Singin' in the Rain."

# 'There's no people like show people'

continued from page 1A

"Producing a musical of the caliber of our productions takes an incredible amount of time, work and dedication," Granville said. "Actually the process is almost ongoing as our board of directors are already discussing shows for 2014."

"Singin' in the Rain" gives a comic view of Hollywood as it transitions from silent film to "talkies."

Granville describes the leading man, Don Lockwood, as a popular silent film star with humble roots as a singer, dancer and stuntman. "He barely tolerates his vapid, shallow leading lady, Lina Lamont, though their studio, Monumental Pictures, links them romantically to increase their popularity," she said. "When talking pictures and a young actress enter the scene, it brings new opportunities for a career and love."

The stage version of the musical was adapted from the famous 1952 movie starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds, with a book by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, lyrics by Arthur Freed and music by Nacio Herb Brown. The score includes the classics "Good Morning," "Make 'em Laugh," "Moses Supposes" and "Singin' in the Rain."

Granville promises that the

famous dancing scene in the rain will feature real rain coming down on the actors as they dance up and down the rain-soaked street.

"9 to 5: The Musical" is a hilarious story of friendship and revenge. The show is based on the hit movie and features Dolly Parton's original hit title song along with her Tony Award- and Grammy-nominated score. The book is by Patricia Resnick. The show tells the story of three unlikely friends who conspire to take control of their company and learn there's nothing they can't do - even in a man's world.

Reviews of the show call it "an outrageous, hilarious, thought-provoking tale of teaming up and taking care of business."

Granville said GSM conducted surveys with the audiences from last summer's performances, the GSM board of directors and the GSM Guild.

"From those surveys, 'Singin' in the Rain' and '9 to 5: The Musical' emerged as the top choices," she said. "It is very, very important for GSM shows to feature a lot of dancing and be popular musicals with our audience. Ticket sales make up two thirds of our budget so we have to pick shows that will sell well."

Granville said the advance ticket sales have been excellent

for the season.

"We always have the GSM board of directors very involved in the show selection," she said. "We have several meetings where we discuss possible shows and give them a chance to express their feelings about various productions."

Granville bragged that the GSM technical staff "is one of the finest anywhere."

"They are all professionals who may very busy in the Dallas-Fort Worth area," she said. "They are part of our wonderful GSM family. Of course Buff Shurr has been with us since the inception of the Garland Summer Musicals, and of course Master Carpenter Joe Mardack did his first production with GSM in 1999 as an intern from Tarrant State and has been with GSM ever since."

Granville said this year staff is very excited to have Scott Eckert return as musical director for "9 to 5: The Musical."

"Scott was with GSM for many years during the 1990s," she said. "Mark Mullino is returning as musical director for 'Singin' in the Rain.' Mark is also very active in Dallas and is the director of the DVA GSM Summer Camp Productions. Joseph Jones and Kelly McCain have been performing and choreographing with GSM for many seasons. Kelly Cox our scenic designer has been with

GSM for the past ten seasons. Michael Robinson with Dallas Costume Shoppe has been associated with GSM since 1986.

"Lighting Designer Susan White has been with us for 11 seasons. Prop Designer Lynn Maslkin first started working with GSM in 1992."

Granville said she believes that the Dallas-Fort Worth area has one of the best talent pools in the country; that is why so many casting directors for films and musicals come to Dallas, she noted.

Audition dates are April 6 and 7. Staff is looking for performers who have a strong background in dance and vocal performance. Age is not always a factor. Experience is very important factor.

All performances are held in the main auditorium of the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth St. in downtown Garland. Tickets are available at the Arts Center Box Office or by calling 972-205-2700.

*"There's no people  
like show people  
They smile when they are low  
Even with a melody that  
you know will fold  
You may be stranded  
out in the cold  
But you wouldn't trade  
it for a sack o' gold  
Let's go on with the show!"*