

PACTBILL

PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY THEATRE

A NARADA RADIO COMPANY PRODUCTION

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

A LIVE RADIO PLAY

DEC. 14 – 22, 2023



THE CRAZY CAJUN



Seafood & Cajun Specialties!

Serving Port Aransas & The Coastal Bend Since 1987
Fun Family Atmosphere! Large Parties Welcome!

303 Beach St. • Port Aransas • (361) 749-5069

Always Fresh

MISS



BISTRO & CATERING

EST. 2007

DINE-IN • TAKE OUT

1726 State Highway 361, Ste I, Port Aransas, TX • (361) 749-7776



PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY THEATRE

presents



A NARADA RADIO COMPANY PRODUCTION

of

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

LIVE RADIO PLAY

DECEMBER 14 - 22, 2023

Adapted for Live Performance and Directed by PETE LUTZ

PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY THEATRE
2327 State Highway 361, Port Aransas, TX
(361) 749-6036 • portaransascommunitytheatre.com

BURGERS · SEAFOOD · ISLAND COCKTAILS



SUNSET & DOLPHIN CRUISES
361-749-5597



SCARLETLADYDOLPHINCRUISE.COM

Thank You

From the PACT Board of Directors

On behalf of the PACT Board of Directors, I want to wish you a joyous holiday and thank you for being at our production and supporting live theatre. Thank you to my fellow volunteer board members for their dedication and hard work throughout this season. I'd be remiss not to recognize others who make us so successful — Annette Berksan, who brilliantly handles our social media and continues to help build our brand, Alex Berksan, who has become our in-house photographer — and the dozens of others who help with concessions, tickets and so much more. PACT couldn't continue this tradition of excellence without their dedication. I deeply appreciate each and every one of them. Overseeing this effort on a day-to-day basis is our theatre manager, Su-z Kleinhans, who takes care of too many things to mention. As a retired educator, there's no better place for her to be than around a bunch of folks who act like kids.

PACT is excited to be collaborating once again with Pete Lutz and the Narada Radio Company to host the stage presentation recreating the live radio broadcast of the heartwarming holiday story of George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*. You'll be amazed how a few actors can play all the characters, do their own sound effects and make you think you're right in the middle of Bedford Falls.

Please don't forget to check out the upcoming 2024 season and other upcoming events as we continue to secure and produce some of the best live shows and concerts in the Coastal Bend. If you like what you see, please tell everyone, give us a Google or Trip Advisor review (QR Codes are in the lobby) and share on your social media platforms. You have no idea how much that helps us. Have a wonderful holiday season and come back to see us.

Rick Adams, President, PACT Board of Directors

EVACUATIONS: In the event of an evacuation, DO NOT RUN. Walk to the emergency exit nearest you. **NO SMOKING:** Smoking of any kind, including the use of E-cigarettes, is not permitted in any area of the theatre. Patrons who wish to smoke may do so outside the building. **REFRESHMENTS:** Outside food and beverages are not permitted inside the building during performances and events.

SEAFOOD & STEAKS • SANDWICHES • BURGERS • FULL BAR

Open Every Day 11 a.m. – 2 a.m.

(kitchen closes at 1 a.m.)



The PERFECT place to go after the show!

2034 State Hwy 361, Port Aransas, TX
(361) 749-TACO (8226) • kodyrestaurant.com



PILLAR
ENGINEERING
Windstorm, Civil and Structural Engineering

(361) 960-4515 • kyle@pillarengineers.com • pillarengineers.com

RAINMAN
IRRIGATION

Lic. #13051

\$\$\$ Interested in saving 1/3
off your water bill due to
your irrigation system? \$\$\$

Call (361) 717-4261

Landscape Lighting Installation
Lawn Sprinkler Installation & Repair

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Season's Greetings and WELCOME to our fifth live production of IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE — and our third at the PACT! If you joined us here for last year's production, you know what's in store. But for you first-timers, we're going to be doing something very special. The people you will see on stage are going to be creating, with nothing but words, music and sounds, a beautiful, slow-forming thing: As you hear the performance, a part of your brain will switch on and start making pictures of all the things you're listening to — creating, in effect, a movie in your mind. You won't be able to help yourself!

The story of George Bailey, a man with giant dreams and a huge heart, but mired down by great responsibility and a sense of duty, is timeless. Haven't we all had moments of self-doubt, wondering what to do with our lives, wondering what would happen if we had taken a path different from the one we are currently on? As apprentice-angel Clarence tells him, George is given an awesome gift — the ability to see what the world would be like if he had never been born. I like to think that most of us make the kind of positive daily difference that George Bailey made, without even realizing it, and without any sense of entitlement or expectation of reward.

The Narada Radio Company boasts between 80-90 regular members, most of whom live in the Corpus Christi area; but thanks to the miracle of modern technology, other members of the troupe hail from various parts of the United States, plus Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Germany and the United Kingdom. Several members of our cast have been part of the show for many years, and some are new this year — but nearly all are long-standing members of the Company. I'm proud to say that our production is becoming an annual tradition for the Coastal Bend — and something truly different from the holiday fare at other area venues.

Live theatre and radio drama have been part of my psyche for the better part of my life. Thanks to my actor parents, I got bitten by "the bug" early on. I'd fallen in love with the concept of radio drama after hearing recordings of *The War of the Worlds* and other old-time radio shows as a boy. I produced my first live mock radio show in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1989; my second in 2001 at Harbor Playhouse; and since 2013, I have been podcasting audio plays on a regular basis. (In 2021 and '22, for example, I produced a total of 47 individual productions, and our total so far this year is 18!)

If you enjoyed our presentation, please let us know. Find past episodes of my various audio drama series, plus new episodes on a regular basis, in addition to recordings of our live shows, on all popular podcast providers by searching *Narada Radio Company*, or online at naradaradio.libsyn.com. If you're an actor interested in joining in on the fun, reach out to me at f6point3@gmail.com. ENJOY THE SHOW!

CAST

MICHELE BARNETT *Clarence, Mom*
 DR. ROSS C. BERNHARDT *Pop Bailey, Ed, Horace, Mr. Carter, Quintet, Zip Doodah*
 AILEEN CORPOS *Mr. Gower, Cousin Tilly, Dr. Campbell, Mr. Welch, Charlie, Mrs. Snagwaris, Boy 2*
 PETE LUTZ *Joe, Annie, Uncle Billy, Ernie, Mr. Martini, Nick, Bert The Cop, Announcer 3, Commercial Announcer, Philboyd Studge*
 LISA ESPINOZA MCGREW *Joseph, Mrs. Hatch, Bank Employee, Bridge Keeper, Clerk*
 TRE MINOR *George Bailey, Announcer 1*
 MERILEE ROBINSON *Boy, Eustace, Pete Bailey, Quintet, Teenager, Crying Kid*
 RICHARD ROBINSON *Franklin, Harry, Sam, Randall, Quintet, Boy 1*
 DAWN ROBERTSON *Boy, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Thompson, Janie Bailey, Announcer 2*
 JESSICA VALDEZ *Mary Bailey, Zuzu, Quintet, Girl*
 CHUCK WILSON *Mr. Potter, Old Man Collins, The Sheriff, Dog, Quintet, Santa Claus*

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director PETE LUTZ
 Music Director DR. ROSS C. BERNHARDT

Join us during intermission for sing-alongs and trivia to win some cool swag!



The use of any audio or video recording device or the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. As a courtesy to others, please turn off all electronic devices, such as cell phones, and refrain from texting during the performance.

CAST



Michele Barnett



Dr. Ross C. Bernhardt



Aileen Corpos



Pete Lutz



Lisa Espinoza McGrew



Tre Minor



Merilee Robinson



Richard Robinson



Dawn Robertson



Jessica Valdez



Chuck Wilson



COQUINA DANCE JEWELRY



Handcrafted in Port Aransas | FREE Delivery in Port Aransas
coquinadance.com | Use Code PACT15 for 15% off

Fire It! Ceramics

611 S. Alister St. • Port Aransas, TX • (361) 749-7967 • fireitceramics.com



STAY INFORMED, STAY CONNECTED, STAY INVOLVED

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter



@PACT.theatre



@pacttheatre1



@PACTtheatre



Subscribe to our eNewsletter at:
portaransascommunitytheatre.com

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

MICHELE BARNETT (*Clarence, Mom*) is happy to be back on the PACT stage. Her last appearance here was this past spring as Mother Superior in *Drinking Habits*. She has appeared in 30 productions in five Coastal Bend theaters since 1998 when the acting bug bit her deeply. Since she lives in Bishop, she has mostly been at Harbor Playhouse and The Aurora Arts Theatre, but, obviously, she is willing to travel for an interesting and/or beloved challenge! Michele is honored and pleased to be a member of the Narada Radio Company, and is delighted to reprise her role (for the fifth time) as Clarence, Angel Second Class. Outside of acting, she would like to thank her loving husband, Rick, for his support and encouragement. Mostly, she thanks Pete Lutz for resurrecting this wonderful acting medium and including her in his collection of wild, wacky, fun-loving and highly talented radio actors!

ROSS BERNHARDT, MUSIC DIRECTOR (*Pop Bailey, Ed, Horace, Mr. Carter, Quintet, Zip Doodah*) is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. He is an internationally recognized composer and has written scores for numerous audio drama podcasts in addition to live productions. Ross is the musical director and accompanist for all Narada Radio Company live performances. When not overworking, he enjoys genealogy, bike riding and combating fascism.

AILEEN CORPOS (*Mr. Gower, Cousin Tilly, Dr. Campbell, Mr. Welch, Charlie, Mrs. Snagwaris, Boy 2*) has been seen onstage

in many roles around the Coastal Bend. She played Miss Hannigan in *Annie* at PACT, where she was nominated for Best Supporting Actress. Other performances include *Roosters* and *A Piece of My Heart* at Harbor Playhouse, where she was nominated for Best Actress for both productions; and on the Aurora stage in *Real Women Have Curves*. Aileen enjoys performing in audio dramas with the Narada Radio Company and joined the troupe in 2015. Her most recent effort with Narada was in the horror audio play, *The Uncooperative Corpse*, in October 2020. She has appeared in several films, including *All She Can*, which premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. Aileen has two amazing children who support her in all of her acting endeavors. She is represented by The Blanco Agency.

PETE LUTZ, DIRECTOR (*Joe, Annie, Uncle Billy, Ernie, Mr. Martini, Nick, Bert The Cop, Announcer 3, Commercial Announcer, Philboyd Studge*) is the son and grandson of community theatre actors. Pete founded the Narada Radio Company acting troupe in 2001 for his very first audio dramas, performed at Harbor Playhouse that year. He re-formed the Company in 2013 when he started making audio dramas for podcast. Since then he has created about 150 full-cast productions and has no plans to slow down. Pete boasts a stable of highly talented actors from Texas and elsewhere in the U.S., and has recruited from such faraway places as Canada, the U.K., Germany, and Australia. He writes, directs, produces and sometimes acts in these

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

productions, and has recently signed a distribution contract with an audio company. A book of 13 of his original audio plays was published earlier this year. Pete got married shortly before he retired from the U.S. Navy and settled in Corpus Christi. He and his wife Stephanie have a grown son and three cats.

LISA ESPINOZA MCGREW (*Joseph, Mrs. Hatch, Bank Employee, Bridge Keeper, Clerk*) has been acting in community theatre for thirty years. She has performed onstage at the Harbor Playhouse, Aurora Arts Theatre and the Rialto Theater — and this will be her second time onstage here at the Port Aransas Community Theatre. Lisa joined the Narada Radio Company about nine years ago and has appeared in a number of audio dramas, both live and for podcast. She is a full time teacher of English Language Arts at Incarnate Word Academy Middle Level eighth grade, as well as the Assistant Swim Team Coach for the IWA Angels. She has no spare time but does make time to take care of her family, which consists of her husband (Mike), her son (Ryan), her father (Art Espinoza), two cats and two dogs. May all of you here enjoy your “Wonderful Life” and Merry Christmas!

TRE MINOR (*George Bailey, Announcer 1*) has performed with PACT for the last eight years. This is his second production of *It's A Wonderful Life* and his first playing George Bailey. In between these stage performances, he has participated in the annual Sonic Summerstock Playhouse Festival,

performed in Pete Lutz's productions of *You Can't Take It With You* (as Donald) and *The Petrified Forest* (as Slim). You can be certain that he'll be featured in many more Narada productions in the future. Tre is excited to have another go with this talented cast.

MERILEE ROBINSON (*Boy, Eustace, Pete Bailey, Quintet, Teenager, Crying Kid*) and **RICHARD ROBINSON** (*Franklin, Harry, Sam, Randall, Quintet, Boy 1*) are veterans of the musical theater. Richard served as Music Director for more than 50 productions in local (California) community theater and school productions, with Merilee acting as Scenic Designer. Merilee has acted in numerous productions. Her favorite roles were Widow Corney in *Oliver* and Pick-a-Little Lady in *The Music Man*. Richard is most proud of his school productions of *Oliver* and *Peter Pan* and community theater production of *Fiddler On the Roof*. Richard was the accompanist for Sierra Vocal Arts Ensemble, a community choir in which Merilee was a singer. Joining the Corpus Christi Chorale after moving to Texas in 2013, they had the incredible good fortune to make the acquaintance of Pete Lutz, fellow chorale member and President of the Chorale Board. They learned that Pete was the impresario of a local audio drama troupe called The Narada Radio Company. Richard had never actually performed on stage until Pete cast him in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at Harbor Playhouse in 2017. Richard and Merilee are very happy to be appearing together in this production.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

DAWN ROBERTSON (*Boy, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Thompson, Janie Bailey, Announcer 2*) is pleased to appear in her sixth live production with NRC, appearing first in 2018, in *The Pinup Murder Mystery/ Sunset Boulevard* at Rockport Little Theatre, *Othello* at PACT and several iterations of *It's A Wonderful Life* at the Rialto and PACT. She has performed in a number of Narada audio drama podcasts as well, including *White Zombie, The Second Helping* and *A Miracle for Christmas*. Originally from Chicago, Dawn exhibited an interest in comedy and improv early, and studied at Second City and Player's Workshop of the Second City. She is happy to be again voicing characters from one of her two favorite Christmas movies.

JESSICA VALDEZ (*Mary Bailey, Zuzu, Quintet, Girl*) is the newest member of the Narada Radio Company and this is her very first experience with live audio drama. She is pursuing a Music Education degree at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and is both an Islander Voices Scholar and a Choral Scholar at First United Methodist Church. Passionate about both learning

and supporting others in their musical pursuits, Jessica offers private voice lessons to students aiming to enhance their vocal techniques. Her notable accomplishments include participation in TMEA Mixed Choir and the SWACDA 2022 Collegiate Honor Choir (in Arkansas); and achieving Finalist status in NATs 2023. Jessica aims to expand her education through Choral/Vocal Summer Master Programs and Graduate Schools.

CHUCK WILSON (*Mr. Potter, Old Man Collins, The Sheriff, Dog, Quintet, Santa Claus*) is appearing in this really keen show AND is thoroughly excited about doing this show for the fifth time. Chuck has been a loyal Naradan for several years, but has known director Pete Lutz for more than 20. He has appeared with him in *My Fair Lady, Fiddler on the Roof* and *Godspell* at Harbor Playhouse. He has lent his voice to a number of recent Narada productions, including in 2023 alone — *Of Mice and Men, The Petrified Forest* and four episodes of *The Cellar* horror series. Chuck loves the stage and has been in countless productions over several decades.



Whitten Real Estate

Selling Port A since 1978



136 S. Cut Off Rd. | Port Aransas
(361) 749-0001 | whittenrealestate.com



Monday – Sunday
8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

(361) 800-2183
info@peytonsbearcarts.com

Beach carts with Bluetooth for
your enjoyment and delivery to
your location for your ease.



TODD GROSECLOSE

4531 Ayers Street, Suite #108
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 994-4816

Serving Corpus Christi, Flour Bluff,
North Padre Island and Port Aransas

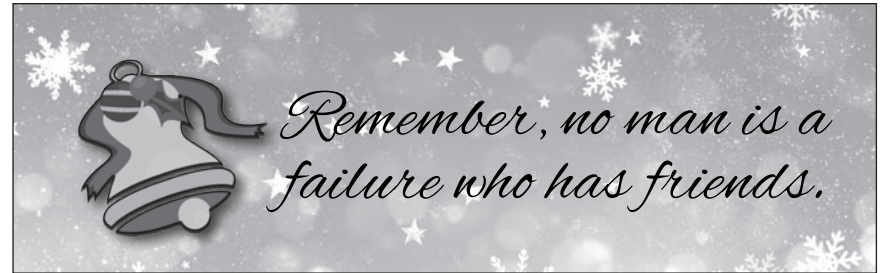
Thank you



for supporting PACT



April 19 – 21, 2024
texassandfest.org



BECOME A PACT VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are needed for each production to sell concessions, pass out playbills, serve as ushers inside the theatre and sell tickets in the box office. As a thank you, volunteers are invited to stay and enjoy the performance at no cost.



Email portaransascommunitytheatre@gmail.com to volunteer.



ON STAGE IN THE COASTAL BEND

The Coastal Bend is home to several wonderful theatres. Book your seats today.



Aransas Repertory Theatre
99 N. Austin, St., Rockport, TX
(361) 423-0152
aransas-rep.com

AURORA ARTS THEATRE



Aurora Arts Theatre
5635 Everhart Rd
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 851-9700
auroraartstheatre.com



**Harbor Playhouse
Community Theatre**
1802 North Chaparral
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 888-SHOW (7469)
harborplayhouse.com



NARADA RADIO COMPANY

Narada Radio Company
Audio Dramas
Corpus Christi, TX
Download and listen:
naradaradio.libsyn.com



Rockport Little Theatre
99 N Austin St, Rockport, Texas
(361) 450-1465
rockportlittletheatre.com

FINE CUISINE PREPARED ON-SITE

At your home, vacation rental, or business.

Let our "Personal Chef" do the cooking!

Cooking Classes Available

361.402.5507

5thFlavor
5thFlavor.com



SERVICE SALES INSTALLATION

EST. 1976

(800) 899-8116 • highlandac.com • TACLB29839E

Casa Bella Salon

1023 State Highway 361, Ste D, Port Aransas, TX
(361) 749-2272



PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY THEATRE

UP NEXT

Elvis Presley

VINCE KING
ELVIS TRIBUTE

JAN. 5 & 6, 2024

Tickets Selling Fast



Jan. 5 & 6, 2024: Vince King Elvis Tribute
Feb. 1 – 25, 2024: The Play That Goes Wrong
April 11 – 28, 2024: Steel Magnolias
July 11 – Aug. 4, 2024: TBD
Oct. 10 – 27, 2024: The Addams Family

For tickets, SCAN,
call (361) 749-6036 or visit
portaransascommunitytheatre.com

TICKETS

