



McCOY'S GRAND
EST. 1927

BACKSTAGE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HARDY COUNTY'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

JANUARY 2025



McCOY'S GRAND
EST. 1927

Concert Series

RICH FOLLETT



THE JANUARY CONCERT

RICH FOLLETT KICKS OFF THE SPRING CONCERT SERIES JANUARY 25

MCCOY'S GRAND SPRING CONCERT SERIES begins with a special concert from Rich Follett and runs all thru April with an exciting array of artists performing at McCoy's Grand. All shows begin at 7pm and you can purchase a special pass for all the shows - getting one show free along with reserved seats. Just hit the ticket link below to secure your Spring Concert Pass. And we look forward to seeing you on January 25th with Rich Follett - The January Concert!

Settle into the new year with this new concert by Rich Follett. Rich performs easy-on-the-ears acoustic folk music. His original compositions offer insightful lyrics and inviting melodies you will want to hear over and over again. Rich takes the stage on January 25th at 7pm. Rich has been a featured performer at the Kennedy Center, the White House Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, Nashville's famed Bluebird Café, the Maryland Renaissance Festival, the prestigious Kerville Folk Festival, and numerous local, regional, national, and international acoustic music venues. He has released five CD's of original contemporary folk music - Heart of Glass, Modern Day Minstrel, A Place in the Circle, Christmas in My Heart, and Somewhere in the Stars. Check out the interview below on what audiences can expect from Rich Follett.

www.richfollett.com

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN PERFORMING AND PLAYING?

I have been singing since before I could talk - used to spend hours in the woods near my home singing to the trees! I began playing the guitar at age 13 after my mother bought me a John Denver LP and, later, a second-hand guitar..

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST ENJOYABLE ABOUT WRITING YOUR OWN SONGS?

People often tell me in person or by email that this one or that one of my songs is their favorite, and their favorites are almost always different - makes me feel like I am connecting across a wide range of the human experience. That is very rewarding!

DO YOU HAVE ANY ARTISTS THAT ARE AN INSPIRATION TO YOU?

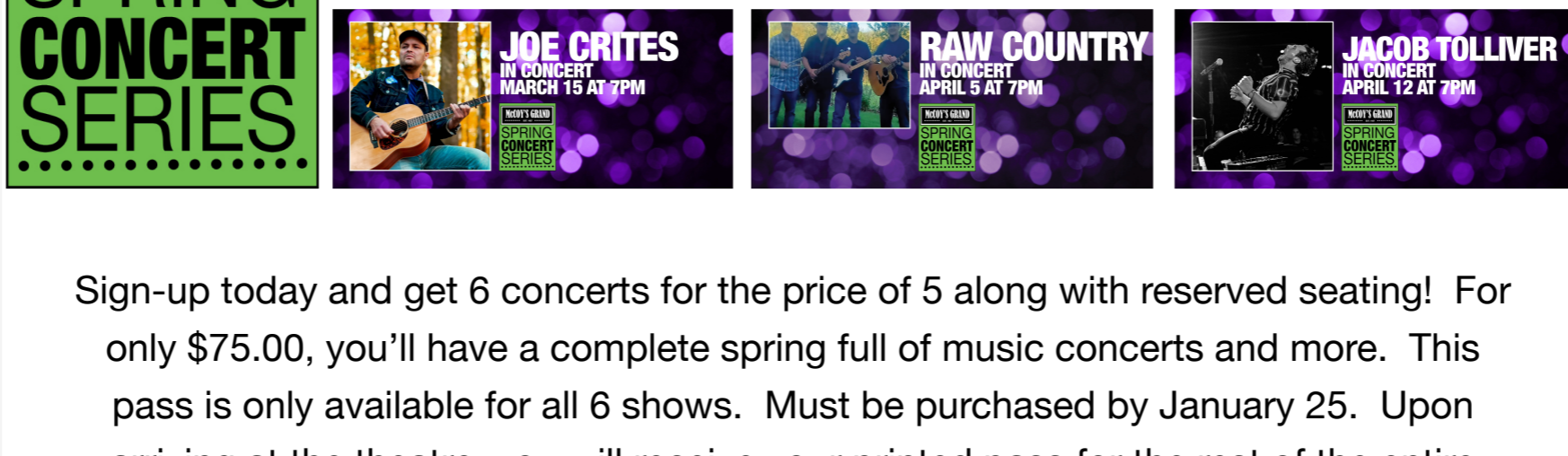
Oh, my - so many! John Denver, Harry Chapin, Joni Mitchell, Joan Baez, Dan Fogelberg, Eva Cassidy, Dolly Parton, and a host of others ... I love any genre as long as it is approached with commitment and artistic integrity.

WHAT CAN PEOPLE EXPECT FROM YOUR UPCOMING CONCERT?

A pure singer/songwriter vibe, positive energy, real-life anecdotes, and genuine gratitude for the opportunity to share my music.

[RICH FOLLETT TICKETS](#)

GET A SPRING CONCERT PASS AND GET ONE CONCERT FREE!



Sign-up today and get 6 concerts for the price of 5 along with reserved seating! For only \$75.00, you'll have a complete spring full of music concerts and more. This pass is only available for all 6 shows. Must be purchased by January 25. Upon arriving at the theatre, you will receive your printed pass for the rest of the entire season along with reserved seating. No need to rush to get there early, as we'll have your seats waiting for you once you arrive. And you end up getting a concert for free as well! To reserve your pass, visit the website at mccoysgrand.org and you can purchase the pass there or hit the button below to purchase your pass today!

JANUARY 25 at 7pm

RICH FOLLETT

Settle into the new year with this new concert by Rich Follett. Rich performs easy-on-the-ears acoustic folk music. His original compositions offer insightful lyrics and inviting melodies you will want to hear over and over again. He has released five CD's of original contemporary folk music - Heart of Glass, Modern Day Minstrel, A Place in the Circle, Christmas in My Heart, and Somewhere in the Stars.

www.richfollett.com

FEBRUARY 8 at 7PM

JIMMY LEE

Jimmy Lee is an experienced artist who covers three decades of music & multiple genres. Jimmy specializes in getting the crowd involved & connecting with his audience to make each event a truly enjoyable experience. It's a little bit of everything!

FEBRUARY 22 at 7pm

BUTTERSCOTCH JUKEBOX

From the '60s through today, Butterscotch Jukebox plays #MusicForEveryone. They'll have you dancing in the aisles of McCoy's Grand for a great evening of music.

MARCH 15 at 7pm

JOE CRITES

Country rock comes to McCoy's as we welcome Joe Crites to the stage! A country artist from Petersburg, West Virginia, Joe brings music rooted in traditional country that branches out into the future of country music. He also composes his own songs as well to give you a whole spectrum of country. www.joecrites.com

APRIL 5 at 7pm

RAW COUNTRY

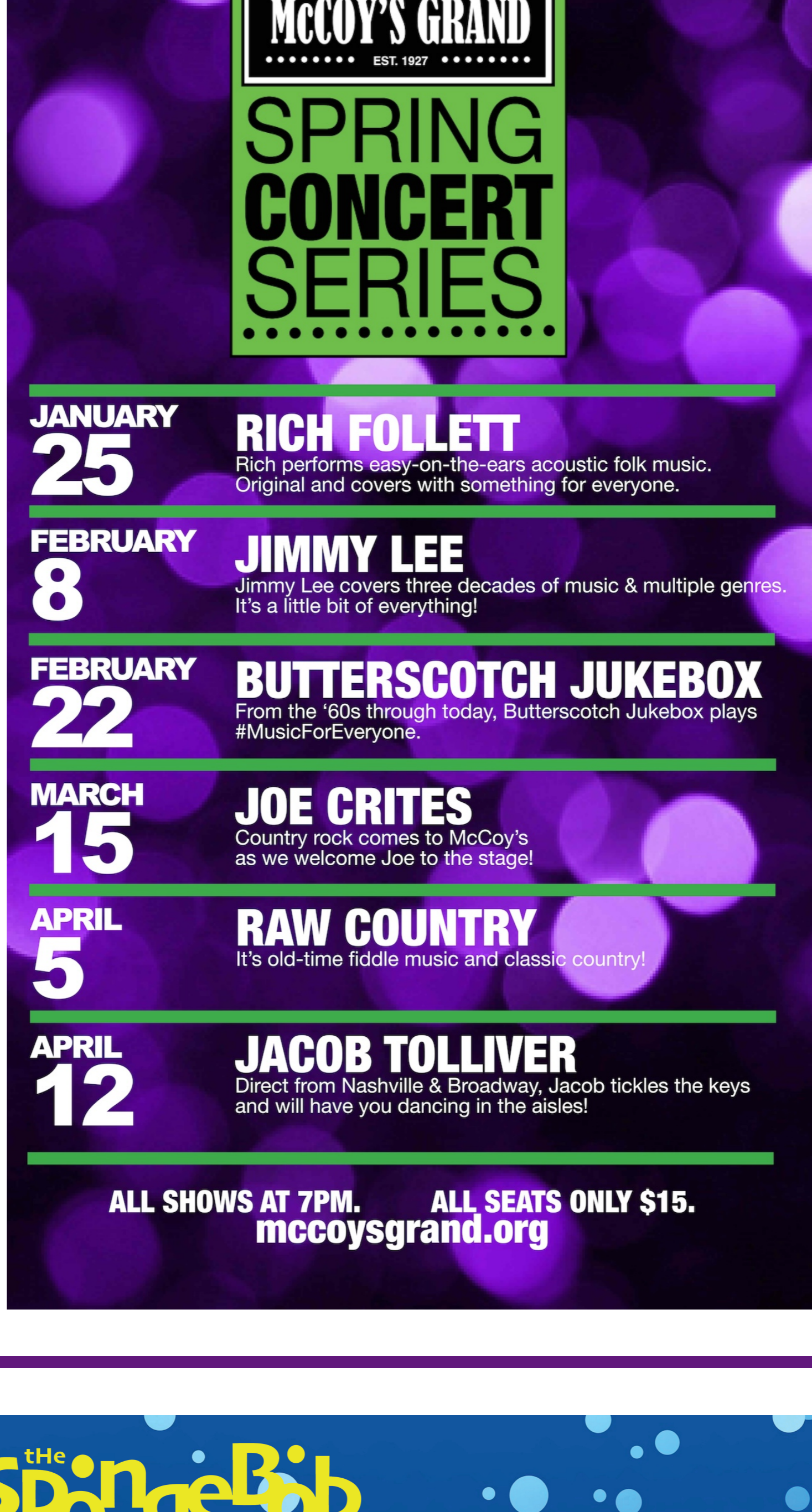
It's old-time fiddle music and classic country! From Petersburg, WVA, Raw Country will folks line dancing down the aisle as they bring the classics to life along with a little fiddling as well!

APRIL 12 at 7pm

JACOB TOLLIVER

Jacob Tolliver is an American singer, songwriter, and pianist known for his energetic performances and genre-blending musical style. Hailing from Portsmouth, Ohio, Tolliver's early mastery of the piano and love for classic rock 'n' roll shaped his artistic identity. Tolliver first gained widespread recognition in the Las Vegas production of "Million Dollar Quartet," where his high-octane piano skills and dynamic stage presence made him a standout. Following this success, he had the rare opportunity to open on the road for Jerry Lee Lewis, further honing his craft and deepening his connection to the roots of rock 'n' roll. Now, Tolliver is moving in an exciting new direction, focusing on his original music. His upcoming work blends the raw energy of rock with contemporary influences, creating a sound that is both nostalgic and forward-thinking. Tolliver's genre-meshing style incorporates elements of pop, country, and blues, pushing the boundaries of traditional rock. As he continues to evolve as an artist, Tolliver is set to make a significant impact with his fresh take on classic sounds, carving out a unique place in the modern music scene. Jacob comes to McCoy's from Nashville, Tennessee! Keep up with his antics at jacobtolliver.com.

[SPRING CONCERT PASS TICKET](#)



McCOY'S GRAND
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SPRING CONCERT SERIES

JANUARY 25 **RICH FOLLETT**
Rich performs easy-on-the-ears acoustic folk music. Original and covers with something for everyone.

FEBRUARY 8 **JIMMY LEE**
Jimmy Lee covers three decades of music & multiple genres. It's a little bit of everything!

FEBRUARY 22 **BUTTERSCOTCH JUKEBOX**
From the '60s through today, Butterscotch Jukebox plays #MusicForEveryone.

MARCH 15 **JOE CRITES**
Country rock comes to McCoy's as we welcome Joe to the stage!

APRIL 5 **RAW COUNTRY**
It's old-time fiddle music and classic country!

APRIL 12 **JACOB TOLLIVER**
Direct from Nashville & Broadway, Jacob tickles the keys and will have you dancing in the aisles!

ALL SHOWS AT 7PM. ALL SEATS ONLY \$15.
mccoysgrand.org



the **SpongeBob Musical** JULY 18-20 & JULY 25-27, 2025

Start preparing for Auditions for **THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL!**
AUDITIONS - Friday, April 11 at 6:00pm; Saturday, April 12 at 10:00am and Sunday April 13 at 2:00pm. We hope to see you there!



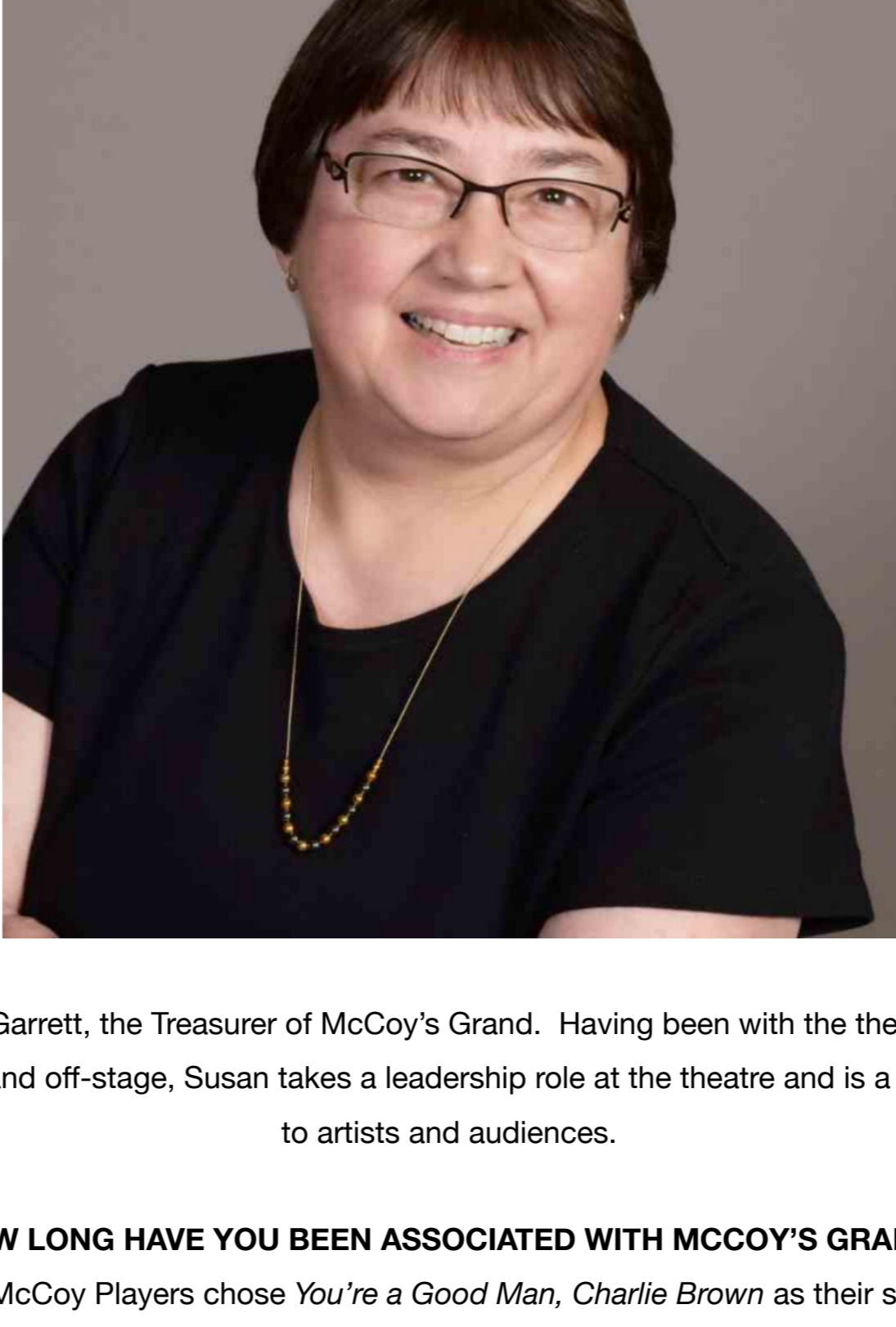
McCOY'S GRAND
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FALLFEST OPEN HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE! OCTOBER 25!

Get ready to celebrate the arts and fall with McCoy's Grand FALLFEST OPEN HOUSE. The day features free concert performances, ticket giveaways, a cornhole tournament, coffeehouse performances, face painting, craft tents and more! The entire day is free to the community!

MEET THE BOARD



Meet Susan Garrett, the Treasurer of McCoy's Grand. Having been with the theatre since 1993 both on and off-stage, Susan takes a leadership role at the theatre and is a welcome faces to artists and audiences.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH MCCOY'S GRAND?

In 1993, the McCoy Players chose *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* as their spring musical, and I was invited to direct. We had a blast, and it was my first time working with a live pit band. I returned in 2008 to direct *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, which I reprised in 2014 with some of the same cast. I've also appeared on stage and behind the scenes over the years. I became a member of the Board of Directors in 2011, have served as secretary, and currently serve as treasurer.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE PRODUCTION AND WHY?

It's difficult to pick a favorite, but I can recall some with fond memories. I enjoyed supporting my son as his stage manager when he directed *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* in 2010. It became a family affair when my husband joined us as part of the cast! Our 2012 production of *Polyanna* has special memories for me because I learned the importance of flexibility. One of my actors became ill and could not perform in the Sunday matinee. I sat in worship services memorizing lines! Luckily, we were a similar size so I could wear her costume. As they say, the show must go on.

WHAT MAKES MCCOY'S SPECIAL?

McCoy's Grand is a unique, historic facility with spaces memorabilia from its original days as a cinema. Movies played Friday and Saturday nights. I remember a date with my soon-to-be husband, a showing of *Doctor Zhivago* in 1980, one of the last films shown before the movie theatre closed. McCoy's also displays items from the McCoy family such as Eunice McCoy's quilt and coverlet collection. The stage and auditorium area have a quaintness that adds charm to our productions and concerts.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT FOR MCCOY'S FUTURE?

I am pleased to see the changes we've made to market to broader audiences. The new Concert Series has brought in both local and regional talent. We have made some interior and exterior improvements to the building, including new stage curtains, upgraded directors, and LED marquee lighting. We're pleased to have some new faces on our Board of Directors. McCoy's Grand is moving in an exciting new direction!

TO SIGN-UP FOR THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO mccoysgrand@icloud.com

