

THE BRANSON INSIDER™

SEASON 2024

FUN FOR ALL AGES!
HUGHES YOUTH'S
HIT SHOW MAKES IT ALL **HAPPEN!** —P 10

GOOD NEWS: THE FUN'S ALL HERE!



"EPIC!"
New York Times -
BROADWAY

MANSION & DREAMS

**JUST BACK FROM
WORLD TOURS!** —P 6

INTRODUCING

CIRQUE

ELECTRIC DREAMS



Acrobatic Performance by
OFF AXIS

—P 5



STARS ON THE MOVE!

**NASHVILLE
ROADHOUSE LIVE!** —P 20

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BALDKNOBBERS!** —P 8

**HEY KIDS!
COME RELIVE
YOUR
TOY STORY!**



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HOW'S ABOUT WE



COZY UP

—P 24

CATCH THE



**SPIRIT
OF '76!**

—P 12

SHOW GUIDE • MAP • FOOD • SHOPPING • **FUN!**

BRANSON'S FAMOUS
BALDKNOBBERS

NOW CELEBRATING

Branson's FIRST....Branson's BEST

64 YEARS!

THE SHOW THAT STARTED IT ALL!



So what are you waiting for?

~ New country hits
~ Traditional country
favorites

~ Classic Rock
~ Soulful gospel music
~ Patriotic salutes

~ Hilarious comedy
and MORE!

**BOOK YOUR
TICKETS NOW!**
417-231-4999
www.baldknobbers.com

Stuff Happens

July/August

July 1-July 5

Independence Day Events!

- **July 1 Treasure Lake Fireworks Display** (at the Independence stage (in the mini golf parking lot) 1 Treasure Lake Rd.
- **July 2 Fireburst** Near the Kimberling City Bridge A local tradition since 1984!
 - **Chateau on the Lake Fireworks Display**
- **July 3 Branson Landing's 17th Annual Liberty Light Up Concert & Fireworks**
 - Featuring Damsel (6:30pm) & The Dirty Saints (8pm-10:30pm). 100 Branson Landing Blvd. Beer Garden opens at 5:30pm. Bring lawn chairs and blankets! (No coolers allowed) (417) 239-3002 bransonlanding.com/events
- **July 4 Firecracker 5000 Run** 100 Branson Landing Blvd. Starting and finishing at the middle fountains on Branson Landing in a 5K or 10K road race. Awards include fireworks, medals, trophies (and at the Finish Line) Ice cream treats! BOOK NOW! (417)-239-3002 runsingup.com/Race/MO/Branson/15THANNUALFIRECRACKER5000
 - **Top of the Rock Fireworks Display** A great view of the fireworks over the lake from Top of the Rock. (\$25 parking fee)
- **July 4-5 Thunder Ridge Airshow** Featuring the US Air Force F-22 Raptor Demo Team & musical performance by

A Tribute to Taylor Swift! (Legends' Version) Calling all Swifties! This one-only show features the incredible talents of Christiana Shaw! Experience the music and magic of this global superstar, joined by a dynamic live band and dancers! 2pm Show At the Pepsi Legends Thtr. Tickets (417)-339-3003 legendsinconcert.com



Branson's Jammin for Jesus First Sunday of each month. Charity event featuring a loaded showcard of Branson stars. Free with donation of canned good or paper goods. 2pm at The Hughes Brothers Theater, 3425 W 76 Country Blvd. Phone: 800-422-0076 bransonjamminforjesus.com

Silver Dollar City Events Upcoming festivals at Branson's award-winning

Retromania Live! August 21-25 A 5 Day 80's Music Vacation!

Experience the ultimate 80s throwback! This festival is a celebration of everything 80s, featuring 11 Bands, 1 Comedian, 2 80's Cover Bands, and 5 Celebrities! Join us for VIP parties and meet and greets! Let's rock the retro together! This 5 Day 80's Music Vacation Package also features: 9 included Branson Attractions, 2 VIP Parties & many 80's Events! Celebs: **Tommy London, Tami Erin, Jimmy Hart, Andy Dick, Johnny Venokur, Jamison Newlander, Zack, Ward!** Headliners: **Vince Neil, Bobby Brown, Night Ranger, Cinderella's Tom Keifer Band, Starship, Lou Gramm, the original voice of Foreigner, Stephen Percy, the voice of RATT, Tiffany, Quiet Riot, Jesus Jones, Steve Augeri, Journey former lead vocalist, Pauly Shore** Bands – **Eyebolt, Dirty Saints, Strange Love, Quiet Riot, Vince Neil the Voice of Motley Crue, "Members Only" 80s tribute band, KC and the Sunshine Band.** At The Mansion Theater. Tickets: 417-251-6474 Retromanialive.com

Austin Snell. Heart-pounding aviation thrills from America's most skilled aviators, plus USAF veteran and rising country music star Austin Snell! Also: a spectacular drone light show! Tickets: thunderridgeairshow.org

Veterans Observances and Events For a complete calendar of events, contact the Branson Veterans Task Force (417)-337-8387 BransonVeterans.com

1880s theme park: Voted one of America's Best Amusement Parks by USA Today 10 Best readers, Silver Dollar City also offers a special lineup of limited-time Spring entertainment, award-winning restaurants and so much more! silverdollarcity.com

■ **Thru-Aug 4 Ozark Mountain Summer Celebration** Presented by Arvest The

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2024 Guest Star Dates!

Not only does Branson sport over 100 live shows of our own during the regular season—we're the "go to" place for these stars! Here are the stars booked so far here in Branson for Season 2024!

Thru Dec

- The Kendalls (Every 3rd weekend of the month) *Pierce Arrow Thtr.*
- The Grand Ladies of Country Music: Leona Williams, Mary Lou Turner and Barbara Fairchild (every 4th weekend of the month) *Pierce Arrow Thtr.*

July-Dec (Select Dates) Matt Gumm & Company *Clay Cooper Thtr.*

July 13 Brett Young with special guest Mackenzie Porter *Black Oak Amphitheater*

July 13-14 Branson Steel Guitar Showcase *Wrangler's Honky Tonk*

July 21 A Tribute to Taylor Swift *Pepsi Legends Thtr*

July 27 Luke Bryan with special guest stars Larry Fleet, Chase Matthew and Alana Springsteen *Thunder Ridge Nature Arena*

July 27-28 Kids Roc *Clay Cooper Thtr.*

Aug 3 Aaron Lewis: The American Patriot Tour *Black Oak Amphitheater*

Aug 10 Flo Rida featuring DJ Skribble and Nic Danger *Black Oak Amphitheater*

Aug 16 Josh Turner, Tracy Lawrence *Black Oak Amphitheatre*

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Stay tuned for more announcements by keeping up with **THE BRANSON INSIDER** on **FACEBOOK!**

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27 Total Concerts and Events!

12 National Bands
1 National Comedian
9 Included Attractions
2 VIP parties
Three 80's Cover Bands
6 Celebrities
Many other events!



Branson, MO.
August 21-25, 2024

The Ultimate 80's Music Vacation!

WWW.RETROMANIALIVE.COM

That's the Spirit

Theo N. Cider

Local expert, part-time preacher.



I GIVE UP

You're here for a sermon 'cause you want to do the right thing to make the Good Lord happy instead of mad for all the ornery shenanigans you probably did—some you kinda sorta know about, some only He knows about. Either way, you know you're a tad rough around the edges, or even worthy of a little trip to the woodshed, so to speak.

So by takin' yer time to sit down and listen to this good Word from the Good Lord you're aimin' for turning over a new leaf. Amen? Hopefully, that will get enough mercy to keep Our Heavenly Father from rolling His eyes and shakin'

His head. Then maybe, just maybe—He might could even break into some kind of a little smile. Prayers, of course, that it be so.

Yet when the sermon's over, it's back to the world for another week, which pretty much is waitin to beat us up even before we get outta the church parkin lot! Pretty tough to make it til next sermon before jumpin' the rails a time or two. One can only pray that the day we leave this ol' world is a day close enough to Sunday church day that we haven't yet gone off the rails—which means we could still get let into our Heavenly Home. That, instead of bein' left out in outer darkness where there ain't nothin' but *"weeping and gnashing of teeth,"* as The Good Book sayeth. Friends, that be a thought too dark to even let ourselves think of.

But here's what I'm trying to start preachin what I came here to say. I know I'm the preacher and you

INSIDER

Revelations

Richard Freihofer

Wisdom & knowledge from His Majesty
the Editor & Publisher

SHOW OF SHOWS!

If you haven't been here before—these pages should give you control of the choices you've got for some mighty good times!

But if you *have* been here before, yet not for awhile—like maybe not even since before winter—*can you believe what they've done with the place?*

Old things have either gone off into the sunset, gotten shiny new facelifts, or have been transforming into new stuff for fun! Not only that—a brand new crop of spectacular eye-poppers and jaw-droppers have already sprung up all over!

What we've got going on here is something like that foreign word from our history books that they taught us back in grade school—a *renaissance*, which translates about the same as that Bible notion "born again!"

But let's not panic. 'Tho much has changed—for the better, we should

add)—the main things many folks have always appreciated about this place remain alive and well today. What we speak of are the values celebrated here—be they celebrated on stage with music, song and dance, or expressed everywhere folks eat, shop, stay or play. Of course it's those Great American values of faith, family and flag that we're referring to here. At times like these, that's the breath of fresh air we all need—that extra boost not even the lovely surrounding mountains, lakes and outdoor fun can provide alone—but the boost that breathes extra life into it *all!*

To summarize—each one of us here have landed in a wonderful place to recharge our human batteries—a place that provides a full buffet of excitement and fun, a setting for relaxation and rejuvenation—and even a heart-stirring boost of *inspiration!*

That all being said, browse these pages. Obviously, there's too much fun here to do all in one trip. You'll have to come back. But for now, just choose your fun, kick back—and *enjoy the show!* ♦

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respect that. I know you know I walk the walk instead of just talk the talk. But this may surprise you—I know that you know that one or two know that I been seen or heard doin' or sayin' somethin' not too holy. At

to go to—ain't all entirely what he's cracked up to be!

Yes, even I know them things you think you know about me. But to help clear things up a bit, let me tell you a bit of my story.

"No matter what I prayed, I'd bumble and stumble over some silly thing that seemed to knock me out of the saddle."

least that's what you heard. Now I know you all are glad to come to me for prayer or for help or to see if me and the Good Lord can untangle whatever mess you find yourself in the middle of—but at the same time you know that even I, your preacher

Once upon a time, as many of you all well know, I was one sorry feller. I was even known to have more than a taste for the bottle. That little devil got me into fist fights, face down in mud puddles, a jail cell a time or

Continued on page 23

WORLD'S GREATEST LIVE TRIBUTE SHOW

Legends in Concert

2024 LINEUP

Tributes to:

SPRING Feb. 2 - May 31 Elvis (GI Blues) The Temptations The Blues Brothers™ Elvis	SUMMER June 1 - June 30 Liverpool Legends (as The Beatles) The Blues Brothers™ Elvis SUMMER July 1 - Sept. 3 The Judds Pat Benatar The Blues Brothers™ Elvis	FALL Sept. 5 - Oct. 31 The Judds Marilyn Monroe Conway Twitty The Blues Brothers™ Elvis	A MERRY COUNTRY CHRISTMAS Nov. 1 - Jan. 4, 2025 Dolly Parton Alan Jackson Garth Brooks The Blues Brothers™ Elvis Gospel
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*Lineup subject to change.

Alcoholic beverages are available for purchase.
"The Blues Brothers" is a registered trademark owned by "Don Arford and Judy Belushi".

Please call our box office for exact lineup.
417.339.3003
LEGENDSINCONCERT.COM
LEGENDS THEATER
1600 W 76 Country Blvd. Branson



LIMITED ENGAGEMENT: May 24 - September 1

CIRQUE - ELECTRIC DREAMS brings together a talented ensemble of performers and artists, blending their exceptional skills with innovative choreography and stunning visuals.

From the exhilarating trampoline wall to the death-defying teeterboard, each act in this show is designed to challenge the limits of the human body and imagination.

There's a breathtaking contortionist whose body weaves in and out of seemingly impossible positions and a mesmerizing Cyr wheel artist spinning effortlessly across the stage. Imagine numerous hoops spun in unison on multiple limbs, a juggler using mind-body coordination skills daring gravity with props, and an acrobatic aerialists using silks to dance mid-air in a hypnotic spectacle to keep you on the edge of your seat. You'll witness all of these and so much more.

You'll be swept away as you enter a world where the impossible becomes possible, where dreams take flight, and where your imagination knows no bounds. **CIRQUE - ELECTRIC DREAMS** invites you to believe in the extraordinary and dream with your eyes wide open.

Get ready to be transported to a world of dreams and fantasy. Secure your tickets now for an unforgettable experience with Cirque - Electric Dreams!



"The Biggest Rock Party in Branson" showcases the number one Hits from the most famous bands of the 20th century, including *Queen*, *The Beatles*, *The Rolling Stones*, *Bon Jovi*, *Led Zeppelin*, *Journey*, *Aerosmith*, and many more. Songs include, "Don't Stop Believing", "Another One Bites the Dust", "Dream On", "Jump", and "Hotel California" among others, in this exciting high-energy production that will have you dancing and singing along to the greatest Rock hits of all time in this magnificent Rock experience.



Celebrating its 9th blockbuster season in Branson! A Broadway hit and award-winning movie (*Jersey Boys*) introduced new generations to the group that stole the hearts of nearly all who came of age in the 1950s and '60s! Backed up by incredible production numbers, the legendary crooners bring us *Sherry*, *Rag Doll*, *Big Girls Don't Cry*, *Can't Take My Eyes Off of You*, *Walk Like a Man* and so much more.



An Irish fusion of song and dance hits the stage, as the **DUBLIN'S IRISH TENORS & THE CELTIC LADIES** welcome a heart pounding ensemble of Irish Dance Stars from Spirit of the Dance! Wonderful harmonies and lilting melodies will fill the air, as you listen in amazement as these talented singers take you on a breathtaking musical journey covering Irish Classics, Opera, Pop and Jazz. Add to that the frenzied skill and military precision of Irish dancers bringing a burst of raw energy to the show.



Experience the wonder and magic of King's Castle Theatre with your whole family. A family pass (2 adults/2 children) is available for just \$99, making it an accessible and affordable option for audiences of all ages to enjoy these extraordinary shows.

Good for ALL shows at King's Castle Theatre.

MAGIC'S GLOBAL MAESTRO!



Magicians all over the world know it, so we'll just go ahead and say it here—**Illusionist Rick Thomas** is an absolute master of performing that art and craft we like to call magic!

What is most obvious to all, is Rick's absolutely unique way of combining his mind-blowing illusions with his brilliant performance of dance. Adding to that is his absolutely delightful comedy, his knack for having fun with his audience—and his amazing gift to take his audience on a sweeping journey of heart-stirring, often breathtaking emotions—all which lead to a grand finale of pure inspiration!

After years of world travels and reigning as the top family show in the history of Las Vegas, **Master Illusionist Rick Thomas** premiered **Mansion of Dreams**

at Branson's iconic Andy Williams Moon River Theater. Having labored on Mansion of Dreams for over twenty-five years, it's appropriate that Rick calls the production his "show of a lifetime".

Audience reactions? Pretty much what one Las Vegas critic wrote: "Wow. Wow! WOW!"

**PHOTO OPS!
MEET RICK, CAST &
DOG STARS!
BACKSTAGE DURING
INTERMISSION!
DETAILS AT BOX
OFFICE!**

The curtain opens. Immediately, things happen. Jaws drop. Reality is suspended. We are stupefied, as one unbelievable event transforms into

another at almost breakneck speed. Special effects are astounding. The music, the dancing and theatrics are spectacular. Rick is a world champion ballroom dancer, and it shows, especially when he takes the hand of the show's lead dancer; **international ballet star Tara**, his dancing (and marriage) partner. The performance is mesmerizing. Then, something happens that is downright shocking.

THE SHOCK!

The music stops. Rick breaks character. He grins. Turns around and looks at the stage, then shrugs, looking almost bewildered. "Wow," he says. "That was pretty cool."

We laugh. Then we see the other side of

AWARDED BY HIS PEERS: THE MAGIC WORLD'S HIGHEST HONORS!

ILLUSIONIST OF THE WORLD!
World Magic Awards
KEYS TO THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS!

THE TOP FAMILY SHOW IN THE HISTORY OF LAS VEGAS!
STAGE MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR!
Hollywood's Magic Castle

BRANSON AWARDS
Entertainer of the Year!
Magic Show of the Year!
Production Show of the Year!

Rick. He's a fun guy. He makes us laugh. He's relaxed. He plays with our heads. He asks for willing volunteers. Every kid's hand goes up. They love this guy!

Then it happens again—Rick the spectacular illusionist reappears, complete with mind-bending illusions, the music, the dancers, the theatrics. Once again, jaws drop, reality blurs, sometimes becoming surreal, sometimes dreamlike, sometimes funny, sometimes eye-popping, astounding—and other times just absolutely beautiful.

We are told by those who know that there is nothing like Mansion of Dreams—not here, not in Vegas, not anywhere else in this world. We believe it, for not only are we being entertained by one of the world's most celebrated magicians of our lifetime—many of us may discover, upon leaving The Mansion of Dreams, something else. Due to the show's theme, and to things said and performed for our entertainment, long-forgotten dreams of the heart can very well be awakened anew—almost as if by magic. ♦

WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

Answer: Rick—until he makes his 140 lbs. Great Pyrenees celebrities become the incredible shrinking dogs! Trust us, the end result will "wow" the entire family!

About Rick Thomas

Awarded Magician of the World!
World Magic Award

Headlined in Las Vegas for 15 years!
Tropicana, Bally's, Planet Hollywood, Mandalay Bay, Mirage, Bellagio, Orleans, SunCoast, Sahara, Stardust!

5 World Tours in over 50 countries!
5 Continents!

About Tara

Rick's wife and leading lady! Lead Dancer, Mansion of Dreams!
Raised in the country of Zimbabwe, Tara has been trained in ballet since the age

2-Time Branson Entertainer of the Year!

Awarded Stage Magician of the Year!
Entertainer of the Year!

As Seen on TV!
ABC, CBS, NBC, Discovery Channel, MTV, Animal Planet, Hallmark, History Channel and many more!

of 5, earning her the prestigious honor of being Senior Member of the National Ballet and Tambuka Dance Company Her dancing career took her to stages and cruise ships throughout the world.

FROM ZIMBABWE—

Tara, world renown star of dance—plus Mom to the magical couple's son Preston!



"Epic!"
New York Times
"Stunning!"
LA Times
"Fabulous Entertainment for the Entire Family"
Chicago Tribune

2023 ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR! BRANSON TERRY MUSIC AWARDS



PRESS POSE: Rick faces the cameras with members of his cast, his wife and leading lady **Tara**, and the magical duo's son **Preston**, custodian of the award.

Rick sure did this for those Aussies this winter, then smashed it yet again in **Vegas** before coming back to us adoring Branson fans for Season 2024!



Stuff Happens

Continued from page 3

streets of Silver Dollar City are filled with summer adventures from the Rainmaker and picture-perfect canopy skies to oversized family games and so much more! Now's our chance to enjoy the zany comedy of the **Silver Dollar Saloon** gals and guys that never stop pulling families into the act! We also get to enjoy **The Rivertown Ramblers** for the red hot sounds of Dixieland Jazz (with a unique twist!) Summer fun also includes non stop live entertainment featuring **Bluegrass, Folk & More:** more being just about every other kind of music that's fun!

■ **July 13-Aug 4 Summer Nights** Late-night dance parties, rides into the night during extended ride hours and a nightly fireworks spectacular! Ride late into the night and catch performances like **Big Blitz**, a high-energy saxophone and drum trio, **ABBA Tribute: Dancing Dream**, and the **Magic of Peter Gossamer!** Each night will end with a spectacular fireworks show over The City!

■ Upcoming Events at Silver Dollar City

- **August 5-18** Season Pass Appreciation
- **August 22-Sept 2** Southern Gospel Picnic Presented by Humana
- **Sept 6-8** Country Music Days Presented by Midwest Ford Dealers
- **Sept 13-Oct 26** Harvest Festival Presented by Humana featuring Artisans, Crafts, special entertainment & Pumpkins in The City
- **Nov 2-Dec 30** An Old Time Christmas

July 12

Barn Dance at Hartwood Barn! Enjoy another barn dance at the ranch! Also: a little dance instruction of some Texas two-step, swing, line dancin' and more! All ages welcome! Kids Ages 2 & under: Free! At Sycamore creek Family Ranch (417) 278-6675 sycamorecreekfamilyranch.com

July 12-13

Branson Market Days Shop 125 boots

inside the Branson Convention Center at this annual event! 200 Sycamore St (406) 513-3200 bransonmarketdays.com

Aug 16-19

Camp Fritz No age limit, just drop the kids off or join them at this fun camp! 1425 W 76 Country Blvd (417) 320-6138

Thru Aug

Branson Landing Summer Concert Series

July 3 Branson Landing 17th Annual Liberty Light Up Concert & Fireworks featuring both **Damsel & The Dirty Saints**. 5:30pm to 10:30pm. **Aug 3** The Mixtapes w/Jukebox Winos 7:30pm, **Aug 31** Bad Mojo w/The Table Rockers, opening 7:30 pm. On Lake Tanycomo, downtown Branson.

Thru-Aug 16

2024 Summer EdVenture Camps Hosted by Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife.

These world-class camps present a hands-on experience with a wide variety of activities and themes to choose from. Edventure camps include kids K thru 12. Subjects include science, engineering, art and recreation. Kid themes include, Into the Swamp, Pirates and Mermaids, Keeper in Training, WOW Culinary Creators and Oceanography. Camps are held at Dogwood Canyon, Finley Farms and the Ozark Mill in nearby Ozark, and Wonders of Wildlife in nearby Springfield. **Registration deadlines May 19** Phone (417) 225-1163 wondersofwildlife.org/education/camps/#events

Thru Sept 20

Immersive Disney Animation An innovative celebration that takes you inside some of the greatest films of Walt Disney Animation Studios. 3300 N. Gretna Rd.

Thru Oct 29

Farmers Market Tuesdays 3pm-7pm thru October 100 Branson Landing Blvd. loveyourfarmer.com ♦

2024 Guest Star Dates!

Continued from page 3

Aug 21-25 Retromania Live! 5 day 80's Music Vacation *The Mansion Thtr.* (See lineup in "Stuff Happens" section)

Aug 31 Hairball w/Special Guest Paralandra *Black Oak Amphitheater*

Sept 12 An Evening with: Casting Crowns *Black Oak Amphitheater*

Sept 27 Jimmy Fortune *The Mansion Thtr*

Oct 6 ZZ Top: The Elevation Tour *Black Oak Amphitheater*

Oct 10 Jimmy Fortune *The Mansion Thtr*

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IT'S A HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEASON 65 FOR BRANSON'S FIRST SHOW!

BRANSON'S FAMOUS
BALDKNOBBERS

Now Performing At

Way back yonder in 1959 (65 years ago), when them tourist folks were pouring into Branson, Missouri to enjoy the mountains, lakes and fun spots here for swimming,

fishing, boating and mountaineering, there honestly wasn't much to do for fun after the sun went down. That's when this talented Mabe family thought to put a show together and entertain those needy folks with some good ol' mountain music from these Ozarks, some hillbilly comedy, and some of the heart and soul of these parts—that being faith in God, love of family and devotion to our Star Spangled Banner!!

Every 65th season since—this show has clung to all that. But here's the catch: the family values of this entertaining Mabe family have included striving to top themselves every season, and even every performance! That's why generations of us folks have never stopped coming back to this show—well, since many of us even showed up on this earth! Yes, each show satisfies our traditional leanings, yet it never stops dazzling us by raising the bar with the music and comedy of these entertaining times

we live in today!

The fact that a live show performing to audiences almost every night, almost every month, almost every year for an unprecedented **sixty-five years** is an accomplishment that in the world of show business is absolutely, positively and historically—well, like we've already said—it's unprecedented! Not even the legendary **Sons of the Pioneers**, nor **The Rockettes of New York's Radio City Music Hall** have kept

up with The Baldknobbers schedule, even though they too have endured for decades!

Now we begin to understand why Branson's Famous Baldknobbers were enshrined in an historic display at **The Smithsonian Museum**, the keeper of our national treasures in Washington, DC! (Those treasures include The Wright Brothers' first aeroplane, Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis*, George Washington's uniform and Dorothy's ruby slippers from *The Wizard of Oz*, to name a few!)

THE 2024 PRODUCTION

Heading up the show is **Brandon Mabe**, son and grandson of the family that "started it all". At Brandon's side is his lovely wife, leading lady, and **Branson's 2021 Female Vocalist of the Year Megan Mabe!**

Backing up this dynamic duo is a posse of multi-award-winning musicians and vocalists, plus a hilarious country comedian! Topping it all off is the show's huge new production enhancements of sound, lights and whiz-bang special effects!

Expect top country hits, (including some of that "outlaw country" with "attitude"), traditional country favorites, southern rock, soft rock, old time rock n' roll, bluegrass,



Award-winning singing stars: 3rd Generation Baldknobber Brandon Mabe and Brandon's lovely wife and leading lady Megan!

Branson's NEWEST &
MOST TALKED ABOUT
Funny Man!
MAYHAM



Ashley Dawn!



Gospel singer, Nashville recording artist & star vocalist with the MO Natl Guard's 135th Army Band!

Shane!



From Nashville: a heart-stealing voice of Country and Gospel!

Terry Awards *And The Awards go to...*

MEGAN!

MORE BALDKNOBBER STARS!

The 2022 Branson Terry Music Awards
2022 FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR!
Ashley Dawn Stanton!
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers!

2021 Female Vocalist of the Year
Megan Mabe,
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers!

2022 MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR!
Shane Van Camp!
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers!

gospel, patriotic salutes, hilarious side-splitting comedy and more—the “more” being about the hottest musicians, vocalists and country comedy in this particular galaxy!

THE TAKE-AWAY

It's unheard of for a show to stay popular for over 60 years. That is an historical fact. But this isn't just a show with a history. Whenever the curtain rises, this show aims to *make* history! ♦



THE VINTAGE BALDKNOBBERS SHOW

WOW! Original songs, music, comedy and even **COSTUMES** and **SETS** from vintage versions of Branson's first show—all the way from the 60s, 70s thru the 90s! We're talkin' sequins, shoulder pads, fringe—the works! Plus of course, the country classics and funny business that sparked the Branson explosion that turned our small Ozarks village into the Showtown we see today!

Here's our big chance to experience the spark that blew up into a national and even international sensation! For The Baldknobbers cast, this show is the joy of their lives. “I grew up with this show,” says Brandon Mabe, fourth generation member of the family that “started it all”. “This is a tribute to my family. I'm doing two



songs from my late Uncle **Dennis (Mabe)** who I adored growing up. Everything in this show is a tribute to all those who came before us. It's what helped shape

us to who and what we are. It's our attempt to pay respects to that. It's what started everything we see in Branson today.”

“Our passion is to carry on what was handed down to us. The history, how it evolved—for us it's paying tribute and honoring all the Baldknobbers performers who came before us. Even though we weren't there in 1959 or 1989, we want to make sure people see how special it is, as we help carry it on and hopefully hand it to someone else to carry on further.” ♦

My Voice
 by Megan McCombs Mabe

Star of Branson's Famous Baldknobbers and TV's Branson Famous!

BACK TO THE FUTURE!

Every Spring, I get a little homesick. I grew up in Pella, Iowa. It's a storybook town, full of Dutch culture and rich tradition. There are bakeries, meat markets, windmills and Dutch architecture lining every brick street. Each Spring, the entire town is painted in the beauty of thousands of tulips and prepares itself for a three day festival—*Tulip Time*—where the entire community dresses in Dutch attire and wooden shoes. As its official tagline describes, Pella is “a touch of Holland.”

I had always been a Pella girl, if I left, what would I be?

I didn't want to leave the town I loved, but I loved my parents more. Furthermore, let's be real, I didn't have a job or a place to live. I had a diploma and a packed-up dorm room. So, I made the tearful drive to Missouri—my English and journalism degree in tow—vowing to hate everything about my new home before I even arrived.

When my parents suggested that I audition for a show in Branson, I rolled my eyes. Branson was full of

“God had to take me out of my storybook town so that I could create a Hallmark movie of my own.”

Pella was always my identity. My family is Dutch. My grandparents spoke Dutch. I was a Pella girl through and through. It was home, and I never envisioned living in any other area code. I grew up in my own version of a Hallmark movie—why would I want to leave?

Well, this is where God took over.

After I graduated from Central College—located in the heart of Pella—my parents informed me that the company for which they worked—Pella Windows and Doors—was moving them to Missouri. To say I was not thrilled would be an understatement. I may or may not have momentarily regressed to a high school maturity level with an accompanying toddler-like temper tantrum.

hillbillies, “like the buck teeth guys on those Baldknobbers' billboards.” I remember saying those very words. I was an educated college graduate with a degree, and words like “Baldknobbers” just didn't fit into my sophisticated vocabulary.

God has quite the sense of humor.

I ended up auditioning, on a whim, for the Shoji Tabuchi Show, and somehow, with zero experience and complete naivety, I got the job. What a blessing. The minute I started, I knew I was doing what I was meant to do. Music has always been my love. I always wanted to be a singer. But those are dreams, and for an Iowa girl, stages for a singing career don't exist. Had I stayed in Pella, being a singer would have remained

Continued on page 27

**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
OF MAKING GREAT MUSIC IN BRANSON!**

HUGHES Music Show

**30 YEARS
IN BRANSON**

HUGHES BROTHERS THEATRE.COM 800-422-0076
3425 W 76 COUNTRY BLVD. BRANSON, MO

HUGHES YOUTH'S BRILLIANT PRODUCTION!

Alert to all generations of show-goers:

EXPECT A MASTERFUL PERFORMANCE OF VOCALS, DANCE AND MUSICIANSHIP THAT WILL NO DOUBT TAP INTO THE MUSIC OF YOUR LIFE. YES, EVEN YOUR LIFE!

Can't help sayin' it—if you saw it last season—*Surprise!* This year's amazing production is a complete renaissance!

Here's another surprise: if you "like" Re-Vibe on Facebook, you've got a "voice"! The group posts new songs almost weekly. Songs that get the most "likes" just may get approved to appear in the show! Depends on you!

Spanning the ages from 14 to 23, Re-Vibe's troupe of brilliant entertainers brings to the stage a full buffet of music adored by a multitude of generations, be it music falling into genres such as Pop, Soul, Disco, Doo-wop, 40's Swing, Jazz, R&B, Country, Rock n' Roll, (50s, 60s, 70s & beyond), Hip-Hop, Tap, Drums, Guitars, Fiddles,—*whew!* What are we missing?



Oh yeah, let's add this: Amazing choreography; (translation: dazzling dancing!), hilarious comedy, marvelous harmonies, fun costuming, incredible lighting artistry and great sound that is music to our ears. For real. ♦

**Check out their
awesome 80s medley
shot at New York's
Times Square!**

(Go to Re-Vibe on Facebook, then scroll down to the March 31 post!)

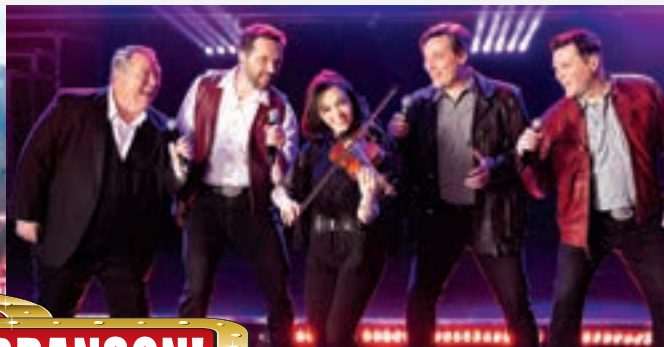
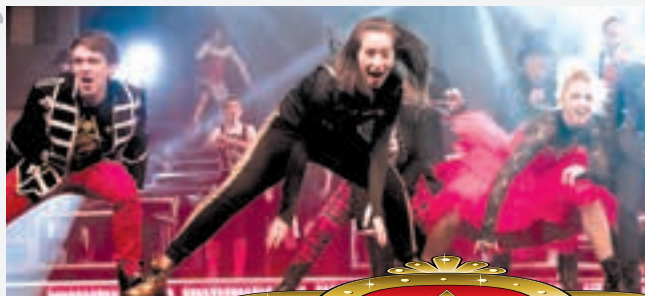


KIDS FREE!

Hughes News

The Latest News From The World's Largest Performing Family!

Season 2024



30TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN BRANSON!

THE SHOW YOU NEVER SAW BEFORE!

It's true. This Season 2024 **The Hughes Music Show** is over 50% music, dance, comedy *and more* that we've never even witnessed before!

In the new mix comes yet more absolutely off-the-charts, full-blown production numbers and show segments—including an all-new Broadway revue of music and dance, an 80s medley of pop and rock, and a pretty much all new extravaganza of every genre of music that has captured the hearts of us all, no matter the age!

UNHEARD OF

Where else can you experience a performance from what **USA Today** calls "the world's largest

performing family"? That newsflash refers to one particular family of four brothers and a cast of their wives, children, their children's spouses and even their children's children! Together, this outfit performs a music and dance extravaganza—over fifty of them being musicians, dancers and singers who have been studying and performing music and dance together the better part of their entire lives! Pretty unheard of, right? One exception—right here at Branson's **Hughes Family Theatre!**

Now about that **Hughes Music Show**, the masterpiece production of Hughes Family Nation which has reigned in Branson for over **30 years** and received just about every award in Showtown! As fans all know, this show is way more than just a show of music! Yes, this huge Hughes entourage of performers spanning the ages from babyhood to adulthood are brilliant music makers—(violins, guitars, drums, woodwinds, keyboards and on and on)—but they are also amazing singers, dancers, acrobats and slapstick comedians!

NEW THIS SEASON: Celebrity Dinner Show!

So what can one expect? This: off-the-charts musicianship, dancemanship—and a full assortment of Pop, Country, Hollywood, Broadway, Forties throwback—oh, we give up! Expect anything and everything from this cast of little kids, big kids, Moms & Dads, teens, young adults, babies, and yes, the legendary **Hughes Brothers themselves!** ♦

THE THROWBACK SHOW

We speak of the new **Hughes Brothers Country Show** which has already

kicked up a cyclone of high praises! Yes, it's new, yet only kinda sorta, since Country Music is what originally stole the hearts of Branson audiences back in the day and made this outfit a showbiz legend! Yet with all the changing whims of us audience types, The Hughes boys expanded into all our musical

cravings—but their country roots have always remained.

So here we are, back in the saddle again! Expect Country Music past, present and way cool, plus a whole lotta "horsein' around". In other words, this ain't just no concert—it's a fun fest that's a hoot, helped along by some of the Hughes youngsters singin', pickin' and grinnin'! ♦

CHOW AT THE CHUCKWAGON!

Can you believe it? It's available at every country show, both afternoon or evening! We're talkin' pulled pork sandwich

with pickles and onions, home-made BBQ sauce, fresh coleslaw, baked beans and pork chunks and plenty of cool water! (Other beverages available). Meals can be et at tables before the show, or served during!



But we're saving the best for last, so here it is—The harmonies of this band of brothers, these country crooner Hughes Brothers, is a treasure richer than all the gold in California, for brotherly voices in harmony for a lifetime is an experience to behold. ♦



ADD A MEAL AT THE HUGHES MUSIC SHOW

Celebrity Dinner Theatre

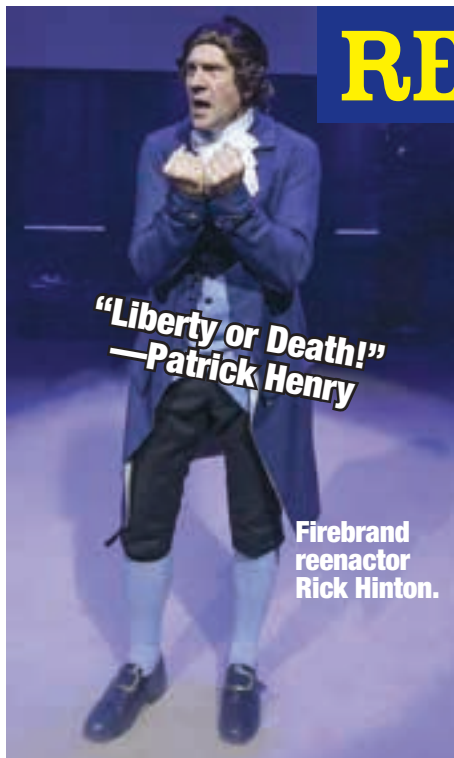
Save time, avoid traffic and stress—and enjoy a relaxing gourmet dinner before the show—prepared by acclaimed Swedish chef Reggie Regnal! We will cite the dessert entrée to help paint a picture: luxurious dark chocolate mousse topped with a heavenly light whipped cream & fresh raspberries. Oh Yum. (See ad on opposite page.)

KIDS FREE!

Yeah!
ATTENTION
All Huge Hughes Fans:
Adam Is Back!
Kristina Is Back!
Dallin Is Back!
Yay!



REVOLUTIONARY PRODUCTIONS!



**"Liberty or Death!"
—Patrick Henry**

**Firebrand
reenactor
Rick Hinton.**

Homecoming Week in seasons past, then be advised: you are about to witness a never-before-seen production this Season 2024 at **The Freedom Encounter Theatre!** Briefly described, The Freedom Journey Show is a combination of live music, storytelling, laughs, and multi-media. But folks, that's not all! Appearing live, on stage and in person—are thrilling performances by legendary patriots **Patrick Henry, Benjamin Franklin**, and more!

EXPERIENCE NUMBER 2

This Season 2024 is yet *another* riveting production: this one being called **The Freedom Journey Experience!** This all takes place in an area soon to be visible while entering the grand, (and *inspiring*) theater lobby, where all eyes will immediately see a new one-room schoolhouse, the scene of a colonial church and a smaller theater. Here, a new show will include interactive experiences and living history performers in person. This shorter production will be performed during the day and can even be scheduled for groups. (Both shows can be purchased in a discounted combo ticket).

Sometimes, there are just no words. Before you read any further, see if you can pull out that smart phone of yours and take 2 minutes and 39 seconds of your valuable time to watch a short video that we predict, could very well inspire your Great American heart to the point of tears. Be prepared. Within seconds, you may find yourself awakened, challenged, moved, thankful and energized with a renewed hope—almost all at once! Here goes: freedomfocus.us When you get to the website, scroll down for the video.

LIVE ON STAGE!

That video should give you a glimpse of **The Freedom Journey Show**—a live stage production that for many seasons has roared into towns across America like a modern day Paul Revere! If you've seen the show during Branson's Veterans



FREEDOM ENCOUNTER THEATER



A musical retelling of the classic book **The Pilgrim's Progress** by John Bunyan! Follow Christian on his journey from the City of Destruction to the Celestial city, encountering life's trials along the way with the King always by his side. The physical world and the spiritual world collide on the stage through music and dance as this captivating show draws audiences to think about the deeper questions of life!

**Scene from PILGRIM:
The Musical**



PERSONAL APPEARANCES!

Freedom Journey's patriots regularly speak at churches and at venues as various as patriotic and public events, public schools, colleges, club meetings and more. For **BOOKING INFO OR DONATIONS:** Call (417) 544-0372 OR go to FreedomEncounter.com

LIVE ON STAGE!

THE EMOTIONALLY CHARGED SHOW THAT IS WOWING AMERICA!

FREEDOM JOURNEY

OUR CAUSE. OUR CRISES. OUR HOPE.

Live Music • Powerful Multi-Media • And One Truly Incredible Story!

FREE TICKETS FOR VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS, KIDS 12 & UNDER PLUS SENIOR DISCOUNTS!

TICKETS

ONLINE: FreedomJourneyShow.com
PHONE: 417-544-0372

SPECIAL FREE TICKETS
(SEE BELOW)

FREEDOM ENCOUNTER THEATER

(Formerly Tony Orlando's
Yellow Ribbon Theater)

3220 FALLS PARKWAY, BRANSON, MO

2024: A LEGENDARY SEASON OF SUPERSTARS!



Produced in Las Vegas, **Legends in Concert** is a dazzling extravaganza of the world's top tribute artists—all appearing live on stage at the iconic **Dick Clark's American Bandstand Theatre** right in the heart of the Branson strip! (W. Hwy 76, Country Music Blvd!) **Refer to ad on page 19**

Backing up these superstar legends is a smokin' live band of all-star musicians and a stellar cast of backup singers and amazing dancers!

During evening performances, guests can add to the fun by opting for dinner and cocktails. Now *that's* entertainment!

Legendary Eats!

Concession include such goodies as Johnsonville Brats, Chili-Cheese Dogs, Ham & Turkey Croissants, Fresh-out-of-the-oven Gourmet Cookies and Chocolate Covered Bananas! Mmmm!

Upstairs Lounge!

Enjoy craft beers, champagne and a variety of fine wines, (before the show or during intermission)—all in a relaxing lounge decorated with Dick Clark's priceless memorabilia. Guests can also choose the VIP balcony, where drinks can be served during the show!

THRU SEPT 3!

THE JUDDS!

The world of country music was literally taken by storm when this mother and daughter singing duo from Ashland, Kentucky burst upon the scene—an event which quickly sent a string of hits to the top of the charts, making that twosome one of the most

successful acts in country music history!

Recipients of **5 Grammy Awards, 9 CMA Awards**, charting over **20 Billboard singles**, (14 being #1,) **Naomi Judd** and her guitar-

strumming fellow vocalist (and daughter) **Wynona** literally ruled and reigned on the country music charts. And now we get to experience that very music which captured the hearts of generations—once again performed live, on stage, and so brilliantly recreating the Mother/daughter duo that made country music history. To this day, as we re-discover, it's music that still resonates in the hearts of us all..

And about those songs—the ones we still know so many words to—songs like ***Love Can Build a Bridge, Mama, He's Crazy, Have Mercy, Change of Heart, Grandpa (Tell Me "Bout the Good Ol' Days", Young Love,***



(Strong Love), With mother Naomi, daughter Wynona, and Wynona's movie star sister Ashley, The Judds have entertained us all for years, And they still do

PAT BENATAR!

The powerhouse female vocalist who burst upon the scene to dominate the 80's and beyond has finally, (as of November 22, 2022) gained her long-awaited entrance into **The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**—and for good reason! Her Rock, Hard Rock and Pop Rock classics became one of the top female voices of her generation. From ***Heartbreaker*** and ***We Live for Love*** to ***Fire and Ice*** and ***Love is a Battlefield***, from her spandex outfits and hard-edged performances to her status as an International Superstar—lady rocker Pat Benatar literally channeled the emotions of an era. She was one of the first stars of **MTV**. Her album ***Crimes of Passion*** and its classic ***Hit Me With Your Best***

Shot was the beginning of her long list of hits, some being ***Fire and Ice, Shadows of the Night, Wide Awake Dreamland, All Fired Up*** and ***Invincible***—all being song titles that reflect the sometimes tough, but always heartfelt passion of her music. The resulting live performances rocked the world stage—and now continues to rock the one here at Branson's Legends in Concert!



THE BLUES BROTHERS!

Of course back by eternally popular demand are those furiously dancing and soulfully singing hipsters from Chicago—the fabulous **Blues Brothers**! Honestly, who can resist getting goosebumps at seeing the almost rubber-like moves this dancing duo channels while singing their signature hits: ***Soul Man, Sweet Home Chicago, Rawhide*** and ***Gimmie Some Lovin'!***

ELVIS!

Folks, you can feel it, that showbiz earthquake the moment this recreated performance of The Legend of Legends hits the stage! Yes it's Elvis himself, not just some of Elvis, but glimpses of all of Elvis—Elvis from the 50s, from the movies, from Vegas—all leading up to the ultimate Elvis—from ***Dixie, The Battle Hymn of the Republic*** to Gospel and beyond—it's all here. And for the grand finale, we can almost guarantee, Elvis will thank you, *thank you very much!* ♦



TICKETS: 417-339-3003 1600 W. Hwy 76

More Stars coming throughout 2024!

SEPT 5-OCT 31 • The Judds • Marilyn Monroe • Conway Twitty • Blues Brothers™ • Elvis

NOV 1-JAN 4: A MERRY COUNTRY CHRISTMAS! • Dolly Parton • Alan Jackson • Garth Brooks • Blues Brothers™ • Elvis Gospel

CIRQUE

ELECTRIC DREAMS

Save!
\$15.00
Use Promo Code:
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Acrobatic Performance by
CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

To Reserve Tickets: **417-334-2500**
KingsCastleTheatre.com

*For Use Only Through Box Office or Online at KingsCastleTheatre .com

THE BIGGEST ROCK PARTY IN BRANSON !

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday @ 8 pm

\$10.00 off

With Promo Code: BRN24*



It's Show Time!

To Reserve Tickets:
417-334-2500
KingsCastleTheatre.com

*For Use Only Through Box Office or Online at KingsCastleTheatre .com

KING'S CASTLE THEATRE

2024 BRANSON SHOW GUIDE

Shows appearing in **THE BRANSON INSIDER** are listed in **RED!**
*MEAL GUIDE: B (BREAKFAST), L (LUNCH), D (DINNER), A (ALCOHOL AVAILABLE)

Please See Theatre Website for Show Times		Map Grid	See Pages	Show Season	Meal Avail*
The Americana Theater 2905 W Hwy 76 • 417-544-8700	americanatheatre.com	E-6			
CJ Newsom's Classic Country & Comedy	patsyclineandfriends.com			APR-OCT	
CJ Newsom's Classic Country & Comedy Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	
America's Top Country Hits	americanatheatre.com			THRU DEC	
Awesome 80's	americanatheatre.com			THRU DEC	
The Best of Motown & More				APR-DEC	
British Invasion	americanatheatre.com			SEP-DEC	
Broadway to Buble: George Dyer				MAY-JUN AUG-DEC	
Elvis: Story of The King	americanatheatre.com			THRU DEC	
Once Upon a Fairytale	onceuponafairytalebranson.com			MAY-OCT	
Southern Gospel Sundays: The Frosts	frostrio.com			THRU DEC 8	
Andy Williams Moon River Theatre 2905 W Hwy 76	Closed	E-8			
Branson Hot Hits Theatre 206 South Commercial St • 417-337-7426	bransonhothits.com	F-13			
Motown Downtown				THRU DEC	
Doo Wop & More				THRU DEC	
Patsy to Patsy Music of Patsy Cline				THRU DEC	
Platters & Golden Sounds of the 50's				THRU DEC	
Queens of Soul				THRU DEC	
Best of Dean Martin				APR-DEC	
Stevie Wonder & More Soul				APR-DEC	
Branson Magic Theater 2527 State Hwy 248	elmagopop.com	E-8			
El Mago Pop: Antonio Diaz				MAY	
Clay Cooper Theatre 3216 W. Hwy 76 • 888-222-8910	claycoopertheatre.com	E-5			
Clay Cooper's Country Express				THRU OCT	
Clay Cooper's Country Express: Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	
#1 Hits of the 60's (& 50's too)!	1hitsofthe60s.com			THRU OCT	
#1 Hits of the 60's Christmas Show	1hitsofthe60s.com			NOV-DEC	
Dean Z - The Ultimate Elvis				THRU OCT	
Dean Z's- The Ultimate Elvis Christmas				NOV-DEC	
The Haygoods				THRU OCT	
The Haygoods Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	
Hot Rods & High Heels (Fabulous 50s!)				APR-OCT	
Hot Rods & High Heels Christmas Show!				NOV-DEC	
Special Shows and Events (See website for info)				THRU DEC	
Matt Gumm & Company				MAY-SEP	
Dolly Parton's Stampede 1525 W. Hwy 76 • 417-336-3000	dpstampede.com	E-10		THRU OCT	L,D
Dolly Parton's Stampede				THRU OCT	L,D
Dolly Parton's Stampede Christmas				NOV-DEC	L,D
The Dutton Family Theatre 3454 W Hwy 76 • 417-332-2772	theduttons.com	E3			
The Duttons				APR-OCT	
The Duttons Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	

2024 BRANSON SHOW GUIDE

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Please See Theatre Website for Show Times		Map Grid	See Pages	Show Season	Meal Avail*
Freedom Encounter Theatre 3220 Falls Parkway • 417-544-0372	FreedomJourneyShow.com	G-5	1, 12	Nov	
The Freedom Journey Show			1, 12	THRU DEC	
Pilgrim: The Musical			1, 12	CALL THTR	
Grand Country Music Hall 1945 W Hwy 76 • 417-335-2484	GrandCountry.com	E-10			
Branson Country USA live TV Broadcast				THRU DEC	
Comedy Jamboree				THRU DEC	
Down Home Country				APR-MAY SEP-DEC	
Grand Jubilee				THRU DEC	
New South Gospel				THRU DEC	
Ozarks Gospel				THRU DEC	
Ozarks Country				THRU DEC	
Hamner's Variety Theater 3090 Shep. of the Hills Expy • 417-334-4363	hamnersunbelievable.com	C-6		SEE WEBSITE	
Hamner's Unbelievable Variety Show				THRU OCT	
Hamner's Unbelievable Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	
Abba Tribute: Thank You For the Music	abbatributebranson.com			THRU DEC	
Beach Boys "California Dreamin"	beachboysbranson.com			THRU DEC	
Back to the BeeGees	backtothebeegees.com			THRU DEC	
Mike Walker: Lasting Impressions	mikewalkermth.com			THRU DEC	
Simon & Garfunkel				SEPT-DEC	
Statler Brothers Revisited				CALL THTR	
The Hughes Brothers Theatre 3425 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-0076	Hughes-Brothers.com	E-4			
The Hughes Music Show			10,11	THRU OCT	L, D
The Hughes Family Christmas Show			10,11	NOV-JAN	L, D
Hughes Brothers Country			10,11	THRU OCT, DEC	L, D
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers	Baldknobbers.com		1,2,8,9	THRU-OCT	L, D
Vintage Baldknobbers Show	Baldknobbers.com		1,2,8,9	APR-OCT	L, D
Vintage Baldknobbers Chirstmas Show	Baldknobbers.com		1,2,8,9	NOV-DEC	L, D
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers Christmas	Baldknobbers.com		1,2,8,9	NOV-DEC	L, D
Escape Reality Magic starring Garry Carson	www.escape realitymagic.com			THRU DEC	L, D
Country Evolution starring Dalena Ditto	countryevolution.net			APR-DEC	L
Re-Vibe!	Hughes-Brothers.com		1,10	DEC	L, D
Branson's IMAX™ Little Opry Theatre 3562 Shep. of the Hills Exp • 417-335-4832	bransonimax.com	B-4		SEE WEBSITE	
Absolutely Country, Definitely Gospel				APR- DEC	
George Jones, Haggard & Friends				THRU JUL SEP-DEC	
Smoke on the Mountain				THRU OCT	
Sanders Family Christmas				NOV-DEC	
The Petersens: American Roots Music				THRU OCT	
The Petersens Christmas				NOV-DEC	
Sons of Britches				THRU DEC	
Rick McEwen Presents "The Gambler"				APR- DEC	
Todd Oliver & Irving the Talking Dog				THRU DEC	

Continued on page 18

ILLUSIONIST

RICK THOMAS

BRANSON'S ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR
THE TERRY AWARDS

VOTED #1 SHOW FOR ALL AGES

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SCAN FOR BEST SEATS

PHONE: 417.336.0888

3455 W 76 COUNTRY BLVD. • RICKTHOMAS.COM



2024 BRANSON SHOW GUIDE

2024 BRANSON SHOW GUIDE

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Please See Theatre Website for Show Times		Map Grid	See Pages	Show Season	Meal Avail*
Jerry Presley's God and Country Theatre 1840 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-6806		GodandCountryTheaters.com	E-10	19	SEE WEBSITE
Elvis LIVE: In Concert-starring Jerry Presley				19	APR-NOV
Elvis LIVE: Aloha from Hawaii starring Jerry Presley				19	APR-DEC
Elvis LIVE: Madison Square Garden Concert starring Jerry Presley				19	APR-OCT
ELVIS LIVE: Christmas Show starring Jerry Presley				19	NOV-DEC
Cowboy Church				19	THRU DEC
Neil Diamond Tribute		aneildiamondtribute.com			APR-JUN AUG-OCT
A Neil Diamond Christmas		aneildiamondtribute.com			NOV-DEC
Carpenters Once More		backtothe70stributes.com			APR-JUN AUG-OCT
Carpenters Christmas Once More		backtothe70stributes.com			NOV-DEC
Country Classics: The Early Years				19	APR-DEC
Garth: A Musical Tribute				19	APR-DEC
George Strait: Strait to Branson				19	APR-DEC
Johnny Cash & Friends Tribute				19	APR-DEC
John Denver Songbook				19	THRU DEC
The Morace Family: Listen to the Music		moracefamilyshow.com		17	APR-OCT
The Morace Family: Listen to the Music Christmas Show				17	NOV-DEC
Sounds of Sinatra & Friends				19	APR-DEC
King's Castle Theater 2701 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-2500		kingscastletheatre.com	E-8		
Anthems of Rock				5,14	THRU DEC
CIRQUE <i>Electric Dreams</i>				1,5,14	MAY-AUG
The Ultimate 70's Show				5	THRU MAY SEP-OCT
Dublin's Irish Tenors & Celtic Ladies				5	THRU-DEC
New Jersey Nights: Music of The Four Seasons				5	THRU DEC
Branson's Christmas Wonderland				5	NOV-DEC
Majestic Theatre 2849 Gretna Rd. • 417-231-2420			C-7		
Branson Murdery Mystery • 417-849-8331		bransonmurdermystery.com			THRU DEC
Branson Murdery Mystery Christmas Dinner Show • 417-849-8331		bransonmurdermystery.com			NOV-DEC
The Mansion Theatre 189 Expressway Lane • 417-385-1118		themansiontheatre.com	B-9		
Guest Stars					THRU DEC
Special Events					THRU DEC
Mickey Gilley Grand Shanghai Theatre 3455 W Hwy 76 • 417-336-0888			D-3		
Shanghai Circus		amazingacrobats.com			THRU JAN 1
Johnny Lee					CALL THTR
Rick Thomas, Illusionist: Mansion of Dreams		rickthomas.com		1,6,7,15	THRU DEC
The Texas Tenors					APR-MAY SEP-OCT
Texas Tenors Deep in the Heart of Christmas					NOV
Pepsi Legends Theatre 1600 W. Hwy 76 • 417-339-3003		legendsinconcert.com/Branson	E-10		
Legends in Concert				4,13	THRU OCT
					L, D

Please See Theatre Website for Show Times		Map Grid	See Pages	Show Season	Meal Avail*
Legends of Country			13	THRU OCT	L, D
Legends Christmas Spectacular Show			13	Nov-DEC	L, D
Legends A Merry Country Christmas			13	Nov-DEC	L, D
The Man in Black A Tribute to Johnny Cash				JUN-AUG Nov-DEC	
SIX	thesixshow.com			THRU OCT	
SIX Christmas				Nov-DEC	
Pierce Arrow Theatre 3069 Shep. of the Hills Expy • 417-336-8742		piercearrowtheater.com	C-5		
Pierce Arrow Country				THRU DEC	
Pierce Arrow Presents Decades				THRU DEC	
Nashville Roadhouse Live starring Stevie Lee Woods & NRL Band		nashvilleroadhouse.com	1,20	THRU DEC	
Presleys' Country Jubilee 2920 W. Hwy 76 • 800-336-4874		presleys.com	E-6	THRU DEC	
REZA LIVE Theatre 645 Hwy 165 • 417-404-3434		rezalivetheatre.com	F-4		
Reza: Edge of Illusion				THRU OCT	
Ozark Mountain Christmas Spectacular				Nov-DEC	
The Doug Gabriel Ultimate Variety Show				THRU OCT	
The Doug Gabriel Christmas Show				Nov-DEC	
Phil Dalton: Theatre of Illusion				THRU-DEC	
Buckets N Boards				JUN-AUG DEC	
Dustin Tavella: Winner: America's Got Talent		DustinTavella.com		THRU DEC	
MJ The Illusion: Reliving the King of Pop				APR-DEC	
Aaron Wayne's Comedy Hypnosis Show		CleanComedyHypnosis.com		THRU DEC	
Sight & Sound Theatres 1001 Shep. of the Hills Expy • 800-377-1277		sight-sound.com	B-8		
Queen Esther				THRU OCT	
Miracle of Christmas				Nov-DEC	
Shepherd of the Hills Outdoor Thtr. 13260 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-7469		ShepherdoftheHills.com	A-3	SEE WEBSITE	
Shepherd of the Hills Outdoor Drama				MAY-OCT	D
Buck's BBQ & Bluegrass Pre-Show Dinner Bash				MAY-OCT	D
Great American Chuchwagon Dinner Show				MAY-OCT	
Great American Chuckwagon Christmas Show				MAY-DEC	
Million Dollar Quartet				APR-OCT	
WhoDunnit Hoedown-Murder Mystery Dinner Show				THRU DEC	D
Goldwing Express Morning Show				SEP-OCT	
A Christmas Story Dinner Show				Nov	D
A Shepherds Christmas Carol Dinner Show				Nov	D
Shepherds Wild West Murder Mystery Outdoor Show				JUN-AUG	D
Showboat Branson Belle 4800 W. Hwy 76 • 800-475-9370		bransonsilverdollarcity.com	J-3	THRU DEC	L,D
Yakov Theatre 470 St. Hwy 248 • 417-336-3838		yakov.com	B-12		
Comedy Star Yakov Smirnoff				APR-DEC	

Come back November/December for
Ozark Mountain Christmas!

The Show of Their Lifetimes!

MORACE FAMILY LISTEN TO THE MUSIC!

NOW AT JERRY PRESLEY'S GOD & COUNTRY THEATER!

Good News: Now Branson gets a family show that has been captivating audiences of all ages ever since the show's founders became a family—or technically, since the founders found each other, got married, started a family and became a traveling family show!

For years, this family who hails from South Louisiana—would pack up their reportedly “gigantic” family van and hit the road to perform in churches, public events, recording studios, TV programs, music festivals and more. Then on Sunday nights, the fam would head for home to be back in time for the daughters to wake up and head to school after a good night's sleep in their cozy van home! But a few years back, this performing family discovered Branson, which they fell in love with on day one. And the rest is history.

Now we get to experience what much of America has been treated to for decades—an entire season of **The Morace Family's Listen to the Music Show**—live and in person right here at **Jerry Presley's God and Country Theater!**

SHOW STOPPERS!

When it comes to what “the biz” calls “show stoppers”, well, about every piece of music this production performs



qualifies. No matter the age, (child, teen, young adult, older adult, or even way older adult) music here is going to tap into “the music of your life” as they say. And wow, what a performance!

For starters, the voices of a family singing in harmony sound amazingly angelic. But wait—it gets even better, for this group fluently switches their parts, alternating between soprano, alto, and both high and low tenor! The results are pretty much this:



ALL IN THE FAMILY!

Left to right are Morace Family stars Bethany, Leisa (a.k.a. “Mom”), Tristan, Robert, (a.k.a. “Dad”) and Somer.

they can sing anything and make it sound heavenly.

Then come the instruments, (a live band), the accompanying performers, the comedy, (hilarious) the veterans tribute, and a show segment of pure inspiration.

To help paint a musical picture you can almost hear (if not see) we can drop a few hints by drawing from the show's song list: There's *Dream* by the Everly Brothers, *Love Can Build a Bridge* by the Judds, there are instrumentals from the likes of John Tesh, There's *Danny's Song*, *Walkin' on*

Sunshine, *Boondocks*—or simply put, it's a show that includes music we all love, plus a heart stirring patriotic segment and an inspirational Gospel finale. Audience reactions? A pretty much unanimous “thumbs up”!

THEIR STORY

Music in the Morace family began, well, pretty much at the *beginning*. **Robert**, the husband and Dad of the group, started playing piano in church at the age of 3. Since then, his talent has never stopped growing.

Leisa, Robert's wife (and the Mom in the group), also began her career as a child singing in church, (located in a small Louisiana town just a few miles from young Robert's.)

Like Robert, Leisa's talent and her love for singing never stopped.

The two met when a group Robert was performing in was in need of a female vocalist. Since the girl trying out for that role lived in a small town that was

on Robert's way to his rehearsal, he was charged with picking up the applicant for her audition. The two immediately hit it off. The girl, (Leisa) got the job (of course). Then came love, then came marriage, then came children—and the music never stopped.

Tristan gets double-smooched.



Variety of
**COUNTRY • GOSPEL
POP • PATRIOTIC
& MORE!**

Both of the Morace daughters, without any pressure from the parents, wanted to sing with their family from the very “git-go” (as they say in Louisiana). What fast became apparent, was the amazing vocal gifts both girls had. It wasn't long before the family became a family singing group. They began in church, travelled to other churches, then performed at events, festivals, shows, and on TV. In-between, they would hit the recording studios in Nashville to produce their latest album.

Then comes the show's superstar, (a title every parent and grandparent would likewise declare of their own.) He's the Morace grandson **Tristan**, (ten year-old son of Bethany.) Tristan sings, plays keyboards and—well, as seen here, can even endure kisses! (*Tough gig!*)

Finally, this family story (and show) has a happy ending. It comes when the show's Gospel music finale sings us the good news that today, even today—can be a new beginning. ♦

EXTENDED



FAMILY!

Amazing vocalist and drummer Irielle McConnell joins amazing vocalist Kristy McConnell, (a.k.a. her Mom) for harmonies nothing less than *angelic!*

TICKETS
JERRY PRESLEY'S GOD & COUNTRY THEATER
(417) 230-7361
Or: (417) 334-6806

FIND OUT MORE AT
MoraceFamilyShow.com!

T-SHIRT HEAVEN!

(& SOUVENIR PARADISE!)

Yeah, that headline pretty much explains **Ozark Mountain T-Shirt Co.**, which is quite the eye-catcher on the Branson “strip”, (right across the street from Grand Country and next door to that big Duck Boat)! (See ad below)

FUN FOR ALL!

True statement! Fun for guys and gals, kiddos and Grandfolks—the whole *enchilada* (so to speak). That’s obvious the minute one steps inside this fun spot put together by some of Branson’s most popular locals, who’ve been providing shopping fun in Branson since who knows when!

THE T-SHIRT HEAVEN

Pick any size or color, then pick from a zillion awesome designs (plus entertaining images and statements to appear on them)) or have something made personal—then watch while your T-shirt or sweatshirt is created right in front of you within minutes!



Have fun shopping with these famous fun sisters; owner Jennifer Grant, (right) and Sister Tina Sisco!



**T-SHIRTS
3 FOR \$10!**



CLOTHES!
(His, Hers, Kiddos, Babies!)



EARRINGS!



ZILLIONS OF DESIGNS!



HATS!



JAMS & SAUCES!



As for designs—like we’ve said, *zillions* to choose from! **Custom made or ordered in bulk!** But that’s just the *beginning* of this vacation shopping attraction!

THE ULTIMATE SOUVENIR SHOP!

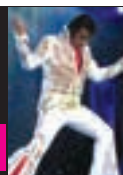
Wow, where do we begin? Before we describe the insides, please note that in the midst of having fun, there are refreshments of snacks and sweets to take care of you. That should add some relaxation to your shopping fun!

So let’s paint a picture here: lots of men’s, women’s, kid’s and baby’s clothing: vacation clothing and more. (Hoodies, jackets, shorts, swimsuits all kinds of stuff!) **Note: Those Kansas City Chiefs tumblers are made here. You won’t find them anywhere else. Just sayin’.**

Obviously we can’t share all the store insides right here, but some of these pictures might offer some clues. So check out the ad next door, then just go and have yourself some fun—cause you’re on *vacation* here, right? ♦

ELVIS LIVE! Starring Elvis' Cousin JERRY PRESLEY & THE TCB GROUP*!

(The Only Elvis Performer encouraged by Elvis himself!)



Wow! Three full-blown productions of authentic Elvis shows—complete with the Elvis entourage of keyboards, horns, electrics, percussion—and of course his legendary Gospel backup group! Anyone of any generation who never knew how insanely awesome an Elvis concert was—here's your ticket to rock 'n roll heaven! The most common reaction (and quote) from fans "in the know" is this: "It's the most authentic Elvis show I've ever seen!"

What other Elvis performer is related to Elvis three ways, hung out with Elvis, was encouraged by Elvis, attended over a dozen Elvis concerts and even served in the Army



like Elvis? But folks, that's not all! Like Elvis—Cousin Jerry even has a twin brother!

Says Jerry, "I'm not an impersonator. I'm a family member doing the songs of Elvis and I try to keep it as authentic as I can. You will never see me do things that Elvis didn't do."

Elvis couldn't have found a better guy to carry on his legacy. A devout Christian, Jerry's life hasn't suffered the turbulence that befell Elvis—yet the kindness, respect, generosity and even heart for God that Elvis was known for—is alive and well in cousin Jerry Presley—the one we believe to be very much the keeper of flame. ♦

Elvis & Jerry

- Jerry is related to Elvis 3 ways • He was one of the first Elvis tribute artists out there • Elvis's Manager Colonel Parker disapproved of Jerry • Elvis came to Jerry's rescue, encouraging him • Jerry attended over 13 Elvis

- concerts • He met Elvis at Graceland • He treasures several gifts Elvis gave him • He met briefly with Elvis backstage in June of '77 • In August, he received a note from Elvis apologizing for the short meeting and inviting him back to Graceland • Days later, Elvis died • At Graceland after the funeral, Jerry ran into Elvis's Dad Vester sitting on the stairs. "I

guess it will never be the same around here anymore," said Jerry. With tears in his eyes, Vester answered, "No, Son, I guess it never will be." • "Elvis was a humble guy," says Jerry. "He didn't put himself up on a pedestal. He loved people. He was such a giving person. There will never be another Elvis."

Tribute Shows APPEARING LIVE AT GOD & COUNTRY!



Jerry and Elvis

- Jerry is the only authentic relative of Elvis, (2nd Cousin) who is performing Elvis shows.
- Jerry launched Branson's first Elvis show in 1984, building his own theater and naming it "The King's Mansion", designing the front of the building to look like Elvis's home Graceland.
- Jerry is the only Elvis performer who, in a period of over 26 years, has traveled and performed with Elvis' original backup singers **The Jordanaires, The Stamps Quartet and The Blackwoods!**
- After the untimely passing of Elvis, Jerry, being part of Elvis' extended family, acquired a vast collection of Elvis's personal possessions, some of which appear on display in Jerry Presley's God & Country Theater. Among those possessions are personal letters to Jerry from Elvis.
- Jerry is the only Elvis performer who has been with Elvis, had conversations with Elvis, received personal letters from Elvis—and, well—is *family!*

Jerry Presleys GOD AND COUNTRY THEATERS

Branson's LIVE Showplace for The Music You Love!



ELVIS LIVE!

ALOHA FROM HAWAII CONCERT
Starring Elvis Cousin Jerry Presley!

THE LAST CONCERT
Starring Elvis Cousin Jerry Presley!

**MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
CONCERT**
Starring Elvis Cousin Jerry Presley!

ELVIS LIVE: In Concert!

PLUS:

**JOHNNY CASH &
FRIENDS TRIBUTE
COUNTRY CLASSICS**

**GEORGE STRAIT:
STRAIT TO BRANSON**

**GARTH: A MUSICAL TRIBUTE
SOUNDS OF SINATRA & FRIENDS**

**JOHN DENVER
SONGBOOK**

**THE MORACE FAMILY
LISTEN TO THE MUSIC**

417-334-6806

1840 W. Hwy 76
www.GodandCountryTheaters.com

At The Pierce Arrow Theatre

WHERE COUNTRY MEETS ROCK-N-ROLL!

**NASHVILLE
RoadHouse**



**STEVIE
& HIS
ALL-STAR
CREW!**

NRL star Stevie Lee Woods is seen here surrounded by the NRL Band, NRL Dancers, and featured star vocalists Kristy McConnell and Michael Cole

of **Lorrie Morgan, Martina McBride, Brooks & Dunn, Diamond Rio** and just about everyone in-between. On stage, he's explosive—consuming it like a hybrid of **Mick Jagger, Garth Brooks** and maybe even **Brooks & Dunn**.

Much of this comes from the fact that Stevie's showbiz roots run deep. His Dad played guitar with the legendary **Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs**, then later with fellow legend **Eddy Arnold**. In fact, Stevie's whole family is in the music world. Besides charting country hits, Stevie also hosted **Today's Hot Country** on TV's **Nashville Network**.

Looks like the wheel is coming full circle. ♦

• **Nashville Roadhouse Live's** new TV show **GOES GLOBAL!**

Branson Show Awards

- Entertainers of the Year!
- Band of the Year!
- Steel player of the Year—**Michael Hermsmeyer**

Terry Music Awards

- Keyboard player of the year!—**Lyman Clark**

2022 Telly awards

2022 Grammy nomination!

- **Stevie Lee Woods & The Nashville Roadhouse Band** "Something about the way you look tonight"

Get ready. If you saw this show last season—or never did, then prepare yourself for—(how shall we say it here?)—maybe for something like an *earthquake!*

Yup. It's that earth-shaking! The music, the dancing, the incredible showmanship, the spectacular lighting, sound, stage sets—this production, trust us here, is about as elaborate as a Hollywood spectacle, a sold-out arena, or a Super Bowl halftime show! Yet we get to experience it *up close and personal!*

In a nutshell, this production, friends, is an overwhelmingly awesome experience NOT to be missed! (Just stating the obvious here.)

Every singer and musician on stage has a boatload of awards—yet they make what they do look so easy! Not only are they fluently brilliant—they are completely

into entertaining us! Every second all are absolutely *dialed* in to having fun with us audience types!

And now for our take on the powerhouse stage performance of the show's front and center star—**Mr. Stevie Lee Woods!** Yes, he channels the music with everything he's got—his voice, his moves, his ownership of the stage, yet here's the thing—it never looks exaggerated or "put on". This man's *got the music in'em!* He's relaxed, he flows with the music, makes it visual, yet it never looks like an act—it just looks like music that's a delight to watch while we listen and actually feel the moves and grooves ourselves out here in Audience-land!



As for the music, yes it's Country meeting Rock 'N Roll—but it's also mind-blowing musicianship, incredible vocals and a visual feast of dance that includes boot-scootin-cowgirls, poodle-skirt Rock 'N Rollers and stunning ballet that literally takes the breath away!

Honestly, this show doesn't skip a beat! It gets us laughing, it gets us inspired, and, well, there's this guitar solo that is so powerful it can even make a feller *tear up!* (Just reporting the news, here.)

ABOUT STEVIE LEE WOODS

His career in both Country and Rock n' Roll music charted hits all the way to #1 (**Is there anything left?**) for example—and for years had him on the road opening for the likes



UNBELIEVABLY TRUE! AT THIS AMAZING SHOPPING ATTRACTION EVERYTHING IS

★★★★ **MADE IN THE
USA!** ★★★★★



Forget imports. What better time is there to BUY AMERICAN than during these pandemically, politically, and economically challenging times? The answer is: there is no better time to buy American than TODAY! But wait—this is no charity appeal! An old timey styled General Store right here in Branson, Missouri offers a bona-fide shopper's wonderland loaded with just about everything you can think of—and here's the catch—every item, repeat, every item is made right here in the Good Ol' USA! Hard to believe, but it's true!

To see for yourself, go directly to **Made in the USA General Store**, inside **The Shoppes at Branson Meadows**! Upon arriving you will no doubt be amazed as you discover here a full buffet of incredible merchandise! And here's an added treat: if you drop everything and head there right now, bargains will await you, as well as a vast treasure trove of awesome items you'd be lucky to find back home! ♦

★ MUSIC TO A HOMEMAKER'S EARS! ★

One item in particular is a genuine **star attraction** in this shopper's dream! It's also been selling like hotcakes ever since our Branson visitors first got wind of it! So far, over **25,000** of these have been sold here!—probably because nobody has reported seeing them anywhere else! We're talking about a colorful collection of cotton dish cloths and dish towels which **NEVER** sour, mildew or stink—attributes which, going by the expressions seen on many faces, are music to a homemaker's ears! Most want at



Brian shows us his star attraction.

least two, or three, or a handful! Need a gift idea? *Voila'!*

★ A SHOCKER FOR ★

★ VETERANS & PATRIOTS ★

When was the last time you saw veterans' merchandise, Americana items, or even American flags that were actually MADE IN THE USA? Well, you will here! We're gonna even shout out a shocking statement: **THIS IS THE LARGEST SELECTION OF AMERICAN MADE MILITARY THEMED MERCH ANYWHERE!**

**A shock for
VETERANS! and all
Patriots!
SEE BELOW!**



Bed, Bath...



...and Everything Else!

★ THE MERCHANDISE ★

Folks like you will also enjoy perusing the Men's, Women's & Children's clothing, the kitchen department's high-grade cast iron cookware, the bed and bath area, the home décor, the Christian themed area, the vast toy department, the tools, the old timey candies, spices, gourmet food, gifts, jams, jellies...the old time ice-cream parlor & soda shop and—wow, where do we stop?

★ MAN ON A MISSION ★

Made in the USA's owner Brian Karn aims to do his part to bring back American manufacturing and create new jobs in our good ol' USA! To that idea, we throw in a hearty "Amen!"

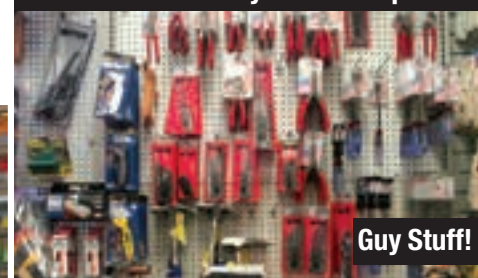


YUM ALERT!

Brian serves up all-American treats at the store's old timey ice cream parlor!



TOYS
GALORE!



Guy Stuff!



The old Candy Shop!

MADE IN THE USA GENERAL STORE

Clothing • Housewares • Bed & Bath
Kitchen • Military • Gifts • Jellies
Candies Toys & Much Much More!

MERCHANDISE

100% MADE IN THE USA!

NEW EXPANDED LOCATION!

4270 N. Gretna Rd.

Visit us at www.mitusageneralstore.com

AT THE SHOPPES AT BRANSON MEADOWS 417-336-USA (8721)

THE BECK MUSEUMS OF BRANSON PRESENT THE WORLD'S LARGEST TOY MUSEUM PLUS:

If you haven't been there lately, then you haven't been there. Giant new add-ons to this mega attraction have been rolling out over the last few months faster than a 1925 Lionel freight train!

Let's get one thing straight—yes it truly is the **World's Largest Toy Museum**, (over 1 million toys), but don't get stuck on that word "museum". This isn't just some relic show. For most folks, a trip here turns into one of the funnest experiences ever—whether the folks be Moms and Dads with the kids in tow, the grandfolks—or even (no kidding) newlyweds! Yes, you heard right—*newlyweds!* Seems toys spark memories that the newbies begin to vocalize—pretty much a giant leap in their new life of getting to know each other!

Fun Stuff Galore!

The minute you step inside this monster attraction comprised of six different inside pavilions, you'll feel more like you've walked into a lively theme park than some still-life-of-a museum!



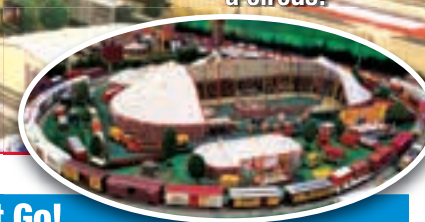
The family of Doug and Andrea Fritz from Lakeland, Florida gazes excitedly at the attraction's 37 foot long HO gauge train complex. Four year-old Julia looks particularly fascinated, while little one-year-old Olivia appears borderline mesmerized! The exciting "show" includes switchyards running three main lines, freight loading, tunnels through mountains and valleys, and of course the sounds of those chugging locomotives and those "lonesome" whistles!

Among all the pleasant background noises of toys and games both mechanical and electronic, you are likely to hear shrieks

of delight, giggling kiddos—and the unmistakable soundtrack of voices telling the stories this place so magically inspires!

**FAMILY PASSES
VETERANS DISCOUNTS
Kids 5 & under FREE!**

Miniature Towns,
trains, and even
a circus!

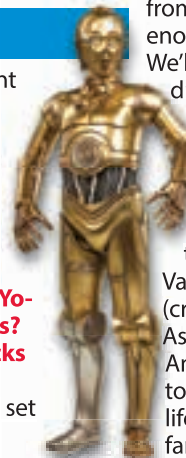


Just Go!

Just so you know, this is not just old stuff from flea markets or garage sales. These are enormous collections gathered from all over. We'll explain that later. First, a little name-dropping here to help paint a picture of what you can expect to see—a giant Star Wars Collection, Star Trek, Marvel, Barbie, TV Westerns from the 1950s, GI-Joes wearing just about every uniform in history, the most spectacular model train set up ever, courtesy of The Roark Valley Modular Railroad Club, model circuses (created by The Circus Model Builders Association), sports memorabilia, Native American artifacts, bicycles, cap guns, car toys, (probably more than you'll see in your lifetime,) planes toys, pedal toys, models, farm toys, firemen toys, police toys, Care

The Inside Scoop

Let's take a look around. To orient ourselves in this huge toyland, know that there are six distinct areas located in three adjoined buildings on three levels, each with amazing gift shops that you're going to love. (A set of chattering teeth, anyone? How about some **Pez? Hot Wheels? Yo-yos? Tinker Toys? Retro Barbies? Lincoln Logs?** Some **magic tricks** the store hosts will be glad to demonstrate for you? Perhaps a set of **ball and jacks**, or a **Daisy BB gun?**



Says longtime museum host Ron Howard, (not the Opie guy), "We've got lots of nostalgia items you won't find anywhere else. Some don't have buttons or screens or batteries," he laughs,—"so kids today sometimes don't know what to do with them!"

RETRO FUN!



Neil and Karen Bruner of Little Rock, Arkansas help the kiddos discover the fascinating world of tinker toys and legos at one of the museum's interactive play areas. 8 year-old Gavin seems to be building upwards while 4 yr. old Gabby works on a new set of wheels.

Experience the **ONE AND ONLY...**

WORLD'S LARGEST TOY MUSEUM COMPLEX

SEE OVER 1 MILLION TOYS!

Over 30,000 sq. ft.
2 Buildings / 3 Areas

2 HUGE GIFT SHOPS!

- Toys, Antiques & Memorabilia
- The National BB Gun Museum
- Roark Valley Modular Railroad Club scale model trains running daily
- 1800's General Store
- Classic Military Toys
- Western Toys, 4,000+ Dolls
- Antique Cars, Tractors, Bicycles

3409 W. Hwy 76 • Branson, MO 64616 | Kids 6 & under Free. Passes good all day. Open Mon.-Sat.

417-332-1499 | OPEN ALL YEAR!

www.worldslargesttoymuseum.com

8 MUSEUMS: 1 PRICE!

- HAROLD BELL WRIGHT HISTORICAL MUSEUM!
- NATIONAL BB GUN MUSEUM!
- STEARNSY BEAR MUSEUM
- MEMORY BARN MUSEUM
- PAUL HARVEY Jr. '50s MUSEUM
- WORLD OF CHECKERS MUSEUM
- DUSTY BARN FINDS MUSEUM!



Bears, Trolls, Shirley Temple, metal toys, cast iron toys, Red Ryder, Stearnsy Bears—Disney, and then there's big stuff, like a real stagecoach, a real car used by Queen Elizabeth II—the toy collection from the household of legendary broadcaster Paul Harvey—oh, we give up! There's no way to describe this place! Just go!

Massive doll collections and doll houses spanning the centuries!



Then there are these other kinds of toys! The parents and Grandparents would especially like this Royal Rolls Royce which was actually used by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain!



Former kids Michael and Rhonda Springer from Lavaca, Arkansas admire the Roy Rogers & Dale Evans wing adjacent to the National BB Gun Museum.

3 NOSTALGIA TOY SHOPS!



Aisles and aisles of classic toys and games!



Doll house collectibles! And everything else!



Decades of collectable Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Ertl, Tonka and much, much more! (Cars, trucks, airplanes, trains, fire engines, police cars, tractors, antique vehicles—oh, where do we stop? Y'all just come see for yourselves!

Here's a shopper's golden opportunity to show the youngsters how fun toys used to be back before all the modern techno gadgets began hypnotizing their attention spans! It's a one stop shoppers dream for retro toys galore!

Peruse 3 different gift shops in the biggest Toyland this side of the North Pole! PLUS: browse some fun apparel and gift items even Mom and Dad will enjoy! *

That's the Spirit
Theo N. Cider

Continued from page 4

two, and even into fightin' words with my dear, sweet Better Half. But come a day, like most of you know, I gave up on myself, threw my life before the Lord, and asked Him to take this ornery piece of work and give it a new life.

I hear them "Amens" from you all and I thank you for 'em. But I ain't finished.

Now it's true, friends, that I did throw my whole ornery life before the Lord and that I did ask Him into my heart. Then from then on, I asked Him to make me a new person. And He did. I knew that I knew that I knew that He was my Heavenly Father and I was His son forever.

Then I went to work turnin' over a new leaf. I started reading that big ol' dusty Bible on the coffee table. I went to church to hear preachers. I prayed to Our Heavenly Father about ever'thing. I talked to Him all day long. And He was changin' me. The wife saw it. Folks like you saw it. But I knew and He knew that somethin' wasn't quite right. No matter what I prayed, I'd bumble and stumble over some silly thing that seemed to knock me out of the saddle.

After many weeks and months of this never-ending battle, I couldn't go on. It came to the point where I just ended up telling Our Good Lord the truth of the matter. What I told

Him was this: "I give up. No matter how I try, I just can't be right. All I end up doin' is keep comin' back begging for forgiveness. Why can't I ever get things right?"

That's when I heard the voice of The Lord speak so loudly in the inside of me that I could almost hear Him with my ears when He said, "Did you love your children?"

Friends, that voice broke me. I couldn't even answer with my own voice. All I could do was nod as my eyes started filling with tears.

"Were they perfect?" He asked me.

I shook my head "no."

"Are they perfect now?"

And them questions kept comin'.

"Are your Grandchildren perfect?"

Do you love them? Is your wife perfect? Do you love Her?"

And that friends, was the day that I truly began to know that God loves me. Nothing, and I mean nothing—has ever made me love Him more.

It was also the day I began to see you the way He sees me. And yes, that's when I started, just started—to truly have His kind of love for you ornery outfits!

You want a perfect preacher? Well, then I'm here to tell you, I give up. The Good Lord's perfect. I ain't. But I do aim to not stop tryin' to be like Him—so help me God!

We're all in this together. But we're growing, and our Good Lord ain't ashamed to use each and ever one of us to help us all grow to be like Him. Amen?

All right. Here's your scriptures to help you make sense of all this. ♦

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

—1 John 1: 6-10 (MEV)

So now abide faith, hope and love, these three.

But the greatest of these is love.

—1 Corinthians 13:13 (MEV)

A WHOLE NEW WORLD! AT BRANSON'S WILD WORLD!

Whether you've been there before, or never before—Season 2024 is a whole new world at **Branson's Wild World!**

Expect new adventures, stunning new attractions, amazing background music that makes us feel like we're in an epic wildlife adventure, (which, of course actually we *are!*)—and once again, experience a **transformed shopping area** whose specialty gifts, toys and education items fulfill us animal lovers' wildest dreams!

Oh, and one more thing—expect new wildlife. *Much* new wildlife!

HANDS ON

Feed sharks. Real sharks. Get eyeball to eyeball with howling wolves, mountain lions, living dinosaurs—all returning stares mere inches away! Hold a boa. Pet dingos. Enter an undersea world and try a round of mini-golf, while sea creatures swim among you. Or just watch you.

ANOTHER WORLD!

As you will quickly discover during your website investigation, Branson's Wild World is no typical zoo and aquarium attraction. Here, wild animals are not hiding under rocks or snoozing in the dark shadows of some faraway corner. Instead, they inhabit beautifully crafted habitat that keeps them comfortable, active and happy while you visit their spaces—up close. Very up close.

NEW STUFF!

The Abyss: The Search for The Lost City of Atlantis! More crazy-looking sea creatures, like that 20' giant eel, or those 16' manta rays, or that "gulp" monster croc! Lots of new wild and crazy wildlife. Lots of new giant animatronics. Sort of a Disney gone wild. (Our words, not theirs.)

YeeeeEEESH!

SHARK TANK!



Mini-golf the Wild Abyss under the sea, as real creatures swim among you, (real and unreal)—or just watch.

WORLD CHANGERS

All winter long Branson's Wild World transformed the environment of this amazing attraction into an all-encompassing, immersive experience. As far as the scenery and theatrical effects, you might at first feel like you've entered a Disney creation. That notion soon evaporates, as the sights, sounds, and atmospheres transport you beyond the realm of fantasy and imagination and into the very worlds where those wild things dwell—a world you can feel, and even touch.

CREATING ATTRACTIONS WORLDWIDE

The designer, owner and operator of Branson's Wild World is known throughout our wild world as a leading expert in the design of tourist attractions. After creating over 300 different attractions in over thirty countries, St. Louis native **James Kelly and his wife Lisa** have decided to call Branson home and make Branson's Wild World their labor of love.

A creative visionary much like **Disney**, James seems to be constantly adding new animals and new attractions to Branson's Wild World. As we studiously observed, he seems very "hands on" and "24-7". We couldn't resist asking him—what's the motivation? More visitors? More money? More fame? More *anything*?

Snake Hugs!



GLOBETROTTERS!

World renown attractions designer James Kelly & his wife Lisa.

To that, James shook his head "no."

"I do it 'cause it's fun."

And there you have it: the very reason why this place is so fun! ♦

NEW!

Have some hands-on fun with our rare and exotic Lemours! **Lemurs** (from Latin *lemures* – ghosts or spirits) are mammals native only to the island of Madagascar. They chiefly live in trees and are active at night.

Until shortly after humans arrived on the island around 2,000 years ago, there were lemurs as large as a male gorilla.

Modern studies of lemurs did not begin in earnest until the 1950s and 1960s. Initially hindered by political issues on Madagascar during the mid-1970s, field studies resumed in the 1980s.

Many lemur species have already gone extinct in the last 2000 years due to human activity. Because of these threats and their declining numbers, environmentalist groups consider lemurs to be the world's most endangered mammals, noting that as of 2013 up to 90% of all lemur species confront the threat of extinction in the wild within the next 20 to 25 years. Many efforts try to preserve lemur habitats as well as promote public awareness and appreciation for lemurs.

LEMUR LOVE!



IT'S GOTTEN WAY WILDER AT BRANSON'S WILD WORLD!

Thanks to Wild Valley

**NEW Outside Foot Safari!
Wilder Animals. No Extra Charge!**

**UP CLOSE
& PERSONAL!**

Yes, all of us can get as close to lions and tigers as caretaker Efrain Malagon, who is seen here offering free head massages to two takers—yet alas, a see-through protective shield now keeps the rest of us from offering that service. But we still get to cozy up.

Shocking news: Just now, for no extra charge, we can step into a lovely new outdoor safari at **Branson's Wild World**,—and get face to face and eyeball to eyeball with some lovable lions, tigers, wolves, cougars, jackals, dingoes, arctic foxes and more! **Goosebump alert:** These animals are adorable—until it suddenly dawns on one's self that folks like us, to them, could look kinda delicious!

Welcome to **Wild Valley**—the outdoor world of the indoor **Branson's Wild World**!

Follow us as we step outside of Branson's Wild World and enter a wild valley where we can get inches away from some magnificent beasts. By the time we read this, however, a beast-resistant see-thru super shield will keep our flesh from their paws, claws and jaws. So now we can safely charm them with sweet talk and stare admiringly into their deep, alluring eyes. And watch them stare back. Lock eyes. Lick teeth. Roar. (*Gulp.*)

This place was already one of the price friendliest animal attractions out there. So—with all these exciting new add-ons—are we ready to take a walk on the outdoor *wild side*?

Oh yeah! ♦

A young adventurer poses for his Mom, (plus our paparazzi) while on safari at Branson's Wild World. (Note the curious passenger in the back of the SUV. Yikes.) But fear not, visitors can safely pose for this "money shot" with their ferocious hitchhikers thanks to a sturdy glass barrier. *Whew!*

PHOTO OPS!



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THE INSIDE SCOOP!

Want some fun for all ages? Well, here you go—that totally awesome **Retro Mania** at the hub of The Branson Strip! The outside looks interesting, so let's get you the Inside scoop! ('Tis what we do.)

Right away, our eyes behold a whole new world. Yet many of us are not exactly strangers in a strange land. Many of us have been to this world at other points in time and space—but today, here we are—**back in the 1980s!**

What is unveiled before our eyes is what creative geniuses have built—*fantabulous* entertainment—*awesome* stuff to do,



80's memorabilia everywhere! Killer cuisine! Trust us, you'll want to take a picture of your serving! 80s faves for every taste. (Alcohol also available) And we're saving the best for last, for **karaoke** is on tap, and **live bands playing nothing but 80s hits** appear all season!

(totally), *righteously rad* stuff to see, *bodacious* stuff to eat, and *stellar* 80s stuff to shop through! But people, even *that ain't* all! The attraction's new *bad-to-the-bone* eatery, (**New Wave Café**) will be featuring not only karaoke fun, but **incredible live bands** playing nothing but classic 80s jams! *Woah, dude! That is so fly!*

STUFF TO SEE

Hollywood memorabilia—(like **Mel Gibson's** actual motorcycle from **Lethal Weapon 3**, or that car out front from **RoboCop 2**), boatloads of signed boss movie posters and *rad* record albums (**Madonna**, **Cyndi Lauper**, **Michael Jackson**—and ka-gillions more—corridors of movie scenes, movie characters and iconic pop stars that, interestingly, are the *exact same size* as the celebs in *real life!* Dude, we thought those stars were so *humongous*, but *woah*, they're like regular, or even smaller, like *us!* Trust us, get a picture of you beside some! It's *wicked* true! As for 80s memory triggers, should we name names? Okay. **Top Gun**, **Flash Dance**, **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**, **Batman**, **Star Wars**, **Indiana Jones**, **Terminator**, **Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure**, **Footloose**, **Beetlejuice**,—oh, let's go on to music—**Bon Jovi**, **Van Halen**, **Blondie**, **ACDC**, **U2**, **Prince**, **MC Hammer**, **Bruce Springsteen**, **Whitney Houston**, oh *duh*, this list could go on forever! Just come see it all!

STUFF TO DO

SLASHER'S HAUNTED HOUSE (Gulp), not gonna lie, it's creepy in there! No, nobody's gonna grab you or anything, but

walking into scenes from **Friday the 13th**, or **Michael Meyers Halloween**, or seeing those scenes from **Chucky**—well, y'all have fun in there! It's fun walking into Hollywood movie scenes, as long as you can walk out at any time! We promise, hand on the Bible—you *can*, unless you prefer to just enjoy the creepy stuff as long as you want!

RETRO ROCKER MINI GOLF Play amongst your favorite 80s rock stars, while your ears enjoy a never-ending soundtrack of 80s

"CLICK" TO
PAGE 26
FOR THE
INSIDE SCOOP!



classics. We've said it before—seeing these characters in almost real life standing before you at their exact height, makes them feel—well, almost like real people. Like the rest of us!

TWO ESCAPE GAMES Fun stuff, but not to panic—technically you can escape at any time, but as all non-scaredy cats know, it's more fun to just try and figure it out!

Escape to the future is based on, yeah, you guessed it—that 80s movie franchise **Back to the Future!** The other escape game, **ALIEN ENCOUNTER** is based on, yeah, you guessed it again—**Alien!** **GREMLIN'S MOVIE THEATRE** Grab a bag of popcorn and enjoy an 80s classic—no extra charge. You can even leave and come back to catch a later show—FREE!

FREE PLAY ARCADE 80s Arcades, no coins needed! Which is AWESOME!

GIFT SHOP! Nostalgic fashions, toys, games, fun stuff—it's all here, parachuted in from the 80s!

Good Times! ♦

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2024 Guest Star Dates!

Continued from page 7

Oct 11, Nov 15, Dec 13 The Terry Bradshaw Show *Clay Cooper Thtr.*

Oct 11 Gene Watson *The Mansion Thtr*

Oct 18 Tracy Byrd *The Mansion Thtr*

Oct 19 The Gatlin Brothers
The Mansion Thtr

Oct 25 The Bellamy Brothers
The Mansion Thtr

Oct 26 TOAST The Ultimate Bread Experience *The Mansion Thtr.*

Oct 28-30 PRAISE FEST Fall Retreat
Legacy Five, Endless Highway, Greater Vision, Charles Billingsley, The Hoppers, Inspirational Quartet of TX, Gold City, Joseph Habadank, Tribute Quartet, Triumphant Quartet, Authentic Unlimited, Greater Vision, Jamey Ragle, The Booth Brothers Reunion, Ronnie Booth, Jim & Melissa Brady, Buddy Mullins
The Mansion Thtr

Oct 30 Booth Brothers Reunion
The Mansion Thtr.

Nov 1 Asleep at the Wheel *Clay Cooper Thtr*

Nov 4 Veterans Show *Clay Cooper Thtr.*

Nov 1,7,14,21 Jimmy Fortune
The Mansion Thtr

Nov 8 An Evening with Barry Corbin
The Mansion Thtr.

Nov 9 Gene Watson Jimmy Fortune
The Mansion Thtr

Nov 10 Lee Greenwood Honoring All Military Personnel Past & Present
The Mansion Thtr

Nov 15 The Gatlin Brothers Country & Christmas *The Mansion Thtr.*

Nov 22 The Bellamy Brothers
The Mansion Thtr

Dec 14 Lorrie Morgan Enchanted Christmas
The Mansion Thtr.

Dec 31 New Year's Eve Shows All Over Branson! ♦

My Voice Continued from page 9

just that, a dream. I needed a nudge. God had to take me out of my storybook town so that I could create a Hallmark movie of my own.

My days with Shoji helped to fade the green off my inexperienced resume and give me the confidence to continue singing. It was those days that opened the door for me to audition for the Baldknobbers. The rest is history. I fell in love with my husband, gained four beautiful kiddos and I am now blessed to help carry on a tradition that started Branson sixty-five years ago.

That college grad who thought she was oozing with sophistication was, in hindsight, quite dense. The culture and tradition that I grew up with in Pella is exactly what I stepped into when I joined the Baldknobbers. It just wears cowboy boots instead of wooden shoes.

The pride I feel for my hometown

is what my husband feels for his rich family tradition. I think maybe that's why I understand his deep passion to preserve his family's legacy. For him, Baldknobbers is home. Baldknobbers is his Pella. Perhaps God brought us together for just this reason—a shared understanding that the heart never leaves it's true love, it's home. Perhaps this shared understanding is why each Spring, Brandon comes home with an arrangement of tulips. He has never forgotten that a piece of my heart will always remain in Pella.

Someday, when the glitter and rhinestones are gone and the stage is dark, I believe you may just catch me tiptoeing through the tulips once more, thanking them for painting their beautiful colors on my heart—colors that never fade and are always waiting there, each and every Spring. ♦

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future"—Jeremiah 29:11

MAP LOCATOR

See Map on back page. **KEY:** Listings are followed by their location on the map grid.

SHOWS

At Freedom Encounter Thtr G-5

- Freedom Journey Show
- Pilgrim: The Musical

At The Hughes Family Thtr E-4

- The Hughes Music Show
- Hughes Brothers Country & BBQ
- The Hughes Family Christmas Show
- ReVibe
- Branson's Famous Baldknobbers
- Vintage Baldknobbers Show
- Branson's Famous Baldknobbers Christmas
- Vintage Baldknobbers Christmas
- Escape Reality Magic starring Garry Carson
- Country Evolution starring Dalena Ditto

At Jerry Presley's God & Country Thtr E-10

- Elvis LIVE starring Jerry Presley
- Elvis LIVE Aloha from Hawaii
- Elvis LIVE
Madison Square Garden Concert
- Elvis LIVE Christmas Show!
- Elvis LIVE Gospel Show
- A Neil Diamond Christmas
- A Neil Diamond Tribute
starring Keith Allyn
- Carpenters Once More
starring Diana Allyn
- Carpenters Christmas Once More
- Country Classics
- Cowboy Church
- Garth: A Musical Tribute
- George Strait: Strait to Branson
- Johnny Cash & Friends Tribute

- The Morace Family:
Listen to the Music
- The Morace Family: Listen to the
Music Christmas Show
- Sounds of Sinatra & Friends

At King's Castle Thtr E-8

- Anthems of Rock
- Cirque: *Electric Dreams!*
- The Ultimate 70s Show
- Dublin's Irish Tenors
& The Celtic Ladies
- New Jersey Nights:
The Four Seasons
- Branson's Christmas Wonderland

At Mickey Gilley Grand Shanghai Thtr B-3

- The Magic of Rick Thomas:
Mansion of Dreams

At Pepsi Legends Thtr E-10

- Legends in Concert
- Legends of Country
- Legends Christmas Spectacular

Pierce Arrow Theatre C-5

- Nashville Roadhouse Live
- Pierce Arrow Presents Decades
- Pierce Arrow COUNTRY

ATTRACTIONS

Branson's Wild World F-9

New Wave Café E-5

Retro Mania E-4

World's Largest Toy Museum D-3

SHOPPING

Made in the USA General Store

The Shoppes at Branson Meadows C-9

Ozark Mountain T-Shirt Co E-9

World's Largest Toy Museum D-3

DINING

Hughes Family Theatre E-10

New Wave Café E-4

Pepsi Legends Theatre E-4

COME BACK!

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

OZARK MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS

**CHRISTMAS SHOWS
ATTRACTIONS & SHOPPING FUN!**

