

THE BRANSON INSIDER

SEASON 2024

Welcome
to



JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! HOLIDAY SHOWS, ATTRACTIONS, SHOPPING & **FUN!**



LET'S
HAVE
SOME
HOLIDAY
MAGIC!

— P 14

ILLUSIONIST
RICK THOMAS

**HUGHES CHRISTMAS
EXTRAVAGANZA!**

— P 17



**50 SINGERS, DANCERS & MUSICIANS
ALL IN THE FAMILY!**

WELCOME HOME!



Branson's
VETERANS HOMECOMING!
Nov 5-11 — P 3

CATCH THE



**SPIRIT
OF '76!**

— P 29

Inside:

■ **HOLIDAY
GUEST STARS**

Plus

■ **HAPPY NEW YEAR
FUN!**



AT KING'S CASTLE THEATRE — P 7



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**THE STUFF OF
CHRISTMAS DREAMS!
SEE. RELIVE. SHOP.**



— P 8-11

**AWARDS SHOW
Galas!**

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

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Stuff Happens

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER



November/December

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

Nov-Jan 7 Ozark Mountain Christmas!

The festive time of year when all Branson gets magically transformed into a Christmas wonderland of holiday shows, dazzling lights, Christmas trees, Christmas treats and a shopper's dream! And it all includes honoring "the reason for the season!" Acclaimed by *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal* and the *A&E Network* as one of America's top holiday destinations! Events include several in Branson's historic downtown.

Nov 2—Dec 30

An Old Time Christmas® at Silver Dollar City, Branson's award-winning 1880s theme park! Celebrate the true meaning of this magical season amid the glow of over 6.5 million dazzling lights, including the awe-inspiring *Christmas in Midtown Light Spectacular* and a nightly *"Rudolph's Holly Jolly™ Christmas Light Parade"* with musical lighted floats and dozens of costumed characters! Voted the #1 **Best Theme Park Holiday Event in America** in *USA Today* readers choice poll!

Thru Jan 7

- **Let There Be Lights! Christmas Drive Thru Display & More!** At Branson's Promised Land Zoo. Get close to the animals and enjoy the Christmas spirit! 2751 Shepherd of the Hills Expy 417-337-9453
- **Shepherd of the Hills Trail of Lights A festive drive-thru celebrating its 30th year of holiday fun!** Millions of multi-colored lights, themed and animated displaces. Free hot chocolate afterwards at the outside Snack Shack! (Single axle vehicles only.)



VETERANS HOMECOMING! NOV 5-11

- **Thru Jan 5: Lights of Joy!** All over Branson! lightsofjoydrivethru.com
- **Thru Dec 31 Branson Limousine Christmas Light Tour** Celebrate with a Christmas light tour of beautiful Branson! Sit back and enjoy some of your favorite Christmas music all in one of our warm and luxurious limousines, Executive Vans, sedans or SUV's. (417)-331-1316

Thru Nov 11

Freedom Journey Show Through live patriotic and gospel music, this amazing show explores the struggle of tyranny, faith and freedom resulting in America's founding documents. (*See story on pg. 29*)

Nov 3 & Dec 1

Branson's Jammin for Jesus Concert (benefiting MO Veterans Home) Free Admission with donation of postage stamps and full size personal care items. (Separate love offering will be taken.) Performing: a full cast of Branson entertainers. 2pm show. At Hughes Brothers Theatre 417-231-4999 bransonjamminforjesus.com

Thru Mar 9

Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel: The Exhibition® Showcasing the awe and wonder of arguably one of mankind's greatest artistic achievements. On Gretna Rd. (323) 935-6000 chapelsistine.com/exhibits/branson

Nov 16-Dec 28

North Pole Adventure at Shepherd of the Hills. A magical walk through experience through thousands of twinkling lights. Visit Santa and his reindeer, head up to the Inspiration Tower, ride on Rudolph's Hayride, and much more. A Family Adventure! Tickets: 417-334-4191

continued on page 15

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.*

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

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

Nov 1-2,4-6,8-9,11-13,15-16 Daniel O'Donnell *The Mansion Thtr.*

Nov 1 Asleep at the Wheel *Clay Cooper Thtr*

Nov 4 Veterans Show *Clay Cooper Thtr.*

Nov 8 An Evening with Barry Corbin *The Mansion Thtr.*

Nov 8 The Commodores *Star Concert Hall*

Nov 9,23 Gene Watson Jimmy Fortune *The Mansion Thtr*

Nov 9 Great White & Slaughter *Star Concert Hall*

Nov 10 Lee Greenwood Honoring All Military Personnel Past & Present

The Mansion Thtr

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

Nov 15, Dec 13 Terry Bradshaw *Clay Cooper Thtr*

Nov 22 The Bellamy Brothers *The Mansion Thtr*

Nov 22 Little Texas/Christopher Shayne *Star Concert Hall*

Nov 23 John Waite/Lost Hearts *Star Concert Hall*

Nov 29 Dailey & Vincent *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 6 Crystal Gayle Christmas Show *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 7 Home Free "Any Kind of Christmas" *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 13 Vicki Lawrence & Mama: A Two Woman Show *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 14 Lorrie Morgan Enchanted Christmas *The Mansion Thtr.*

Dec 14 Neal McCoy Christmas Show *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 19 Peabo Bryson Ruben Studdard & Hailey Reinart Christmas Show *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 22 Taylorville *Star Concert Hall*

Dec 27 Hinder/Drew Cagle & The Reputation *Star Concert Hall*

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

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

Nov 5-11 Veterans Homecoming Week

■ **For more information**, go to www.bransonveterans.com Although Branson honors Veterans every day of the year, Veterans Homecoming Week is a special annual event for service members and their families. The week includes mini reunions, memorials, a military ball and the Veteran's Day Parade. **Nov 4 Veterans Show**, Clay Cooper Theatre, 10:am Tickets (417) 879-6060 **Nov 5-10 Veterans Village** gathering area at Ballparks of America, Bldgs 2 & 3, 9:00 am – 4:00pm **Nov 5 Opening Ceremonies at Branson Veterans Task Force** America 913, Patriots Park, College of the Ozarks, 10:00am Branson Veterans Task Force, Shanghai Theatre, 3455 W 76 Country Blvd, 2pm. Free, **Opening Ceremonies Americana Thtr** 5pm-6:30pm **Nov 6 Vietnam Veterans Reunion**, Americlbn by Wydham,

275 Tanger Blvd, 11am-epm. Hot meal, entertainment, door prizes, and Special Guest, author and Wolfhound's Army Veteran John Quintrell. RSVP Dee at 870-421-3511 **Nov 7, Sandbox Party** at Mel's Hard Luck Diner, Grand Village. Breakfast for Vets from Gulf War or after. No admittance charge. RSVP Dee at 870-421-3511 **Homefront Hero's (Spouses) Salute**, Americanlbn by Wyndham, Noon-3pm Entertainment, door prizes and hot meal. www.bransonveteransshow.com **Pizza Ranch Branson Fundraiser**, State Hwy 248, 4pm-8:30pm All tips and 10% os sales benefit the POW Network to pay for all our events and activities for Veterans Homecoming. **Nov 8 POW/MIA Service of Remembrance**, College of the Ozarks.

continued on page 15

That's the Spirit

Theo N. Cider

Local expert, part-time preacher.

GOOD NEWS!

That's what you came here for, right? So even with all that sorry news out there in TV land and on them tweeter phones and computer outfits of you'uns, I promise to give y'all a little tad of that Christmassy comfort and joy you come here for. Or at least try to give you some.

Let's start by blowin' the dust off that Bible of you'uns. This is God's Word from Heaven to us, so we'd be dumb as rocks to not take what He says to us seriously, so here goes:

In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world.

—John 16:33 *MEV

"How can a feller rough around the edges believe all them wild and crazy Bible tales?"

But wait a minute! (I can almost hear you all say!) After some of us get clobbered in this ol' world about ever' day, what's there to get all cheerful about?

Well, folks, thank God our Heavenly Father's got all the answers we'll ever need if we just take the time to know Him, spend time with Him, talk, listen, ask questions, spend time in His Word and, well, spend time to just be with Him. (And of course repent of our ornery ways as we ask Him to help us boot'em all out the door!)

It's all well and good some of us believers and doers get that ticket to the Promised Land, so to speak, but what about all them Bible characters that got throwed into jail cells and tossed into them lion's dens to entertain them rowdy Romans? And what about all the good folks and Bible-believin' folks that got hit by just about anything?

I'm glad you asked. Ever one of

us, I'm sure, has got good, Bible-believin' loved ones we've lost due to God-knows-what before gettin' elderly. But even if we do make it to elderly years, the old body gets so wore out it just begins to feel about time to go fly away to our Heavenly home! And that happens even if we keep prayin' to keep stayin'!

Well, let's see what The Lord is tellin' us in that Word He sent to us and put on the pages of that Bible book we blew dust off of.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

—Psalm 34:19 MEV

Finally, my brothers, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your waist girded with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, having your feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace, and above all taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the fiery arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit always with all kinds of prayer and supplication.

—Ephesians 6:10-18 MEV

So there's a peek at how we get some victory in this wild and crazy world. We got weapons. We got

Continued on page 21

INSIDER Revelations

Richard Freihofer

Wisdom & knowledge from His Majesty
the Editor & Publisher

Ozark Mountain Christmas



That Christmas spirit sure seems to pack a wallop the minute any of us begin our cruise along the streets of this Ozark Mountain Christmas village of Branson, Missouri! The sights and sounds all around certainly declare it. And in the shows, attractions and even in the lodgings, restaurants and stores—we can even feel it!

Whether landing in town the day after Halloween or on Happy New Year's day, that Christmas spirit is tangibly upon us!

Yet it's certainly no accident. In spite of those sights and sounds being all around, there's more to this story—that “more” being the feeling we get here that might be different than elsewhere.


That feeling comes because this town is pretty much all on the same page, as they say. Besides songs and décor about everything else, the dominant music and décor here is a celebration of the One this season is really all about. And being in that kind of place is the ticket to enjoying a truly Merry Christmas.

So shop for your holiday fun throughout these festive pages as we wish (and pray) you have a merry one, as well as a happy (plus joyful and blessed) New Year! ♦

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New Year's Eve Shows!



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HOLIDAY STAR REVUE: LEGENDARY SUPERSTARS AT THE MANSION

The Mansion Theatre is home for a wide range of shows and performances for all! Whether it's the kids experiencing holiday shows, or family and friends enjoying some classic country music — all are coming to the right place! Stay tuned for upcoming shows at TheMansionTheatre.com!



Jimmy Fortune
Nov
Select Dates!

Jimmy Fortune toured, sang and performed with the legendary Statler brothers for 21 years. He joined them first as a temporary replacement for Lew DeWitt, after DeWitt heard him singing at a ski resort and recommended him. Due to the debilitating effects of Crohn's Disease, Lew was unable to return to the stage with the Statlers and Jimmy was hired as a permanent replacement in August of 1982.



Daniel O'Donnell
Nov
Select Dates!

Irish singing sensation, PBS star and a legendary Branson favorite, Daniel O'Donnell performs our favorite Irish, American, and international classics in a heart-stirring holiday show that has become a traditional gathering of his multitudes of fans—(whose numbers never stop growing!)



An Evening with Barry Corbin Nov 8

He has appeared in literally hundreds of movies and TV shows over the past 40 years. Fans remember him early on in **Urban Cowboy**, **Lonesome Dove** and **Northern Exposure**. His career is still going strong with roles in recent years on **The Ranch**, **Yellowstone**, **Tulsa Kings** and he's in the new **Martin Scorsese** movie **Killers of the Flower Moon**. For An Evening with Barry Corbin, the skillful storyteller has put together a presentation which is a celebration of his personal and professional life. It includes photos from some of his most cherished moments on set and off. The event is highly interactive with Corbin taking questions from a moderator and the audience. He'll also take photos and sign autographs afterwards. Now that would be a Christmas present!

One of the most masterful voices in country music today, Gene Watson still sings in the same key as 30 years ago and continues to prove why he is rightly referred to as "The Singer's Singer". His powerful voice and multi-octave range allows him to sing some of the most challenging songs with ease that comes from pure, natural talent as well as from his many years performing onstage!

Gene Watson Nov 9,23



Throughout his expansive career, international country music icon Lee Greenwood has earned multiple CMA and ACM Awards, a Grammy® Award for Top Male Vocal Performance on I.O.U. in 1985, and a multitude of other prestigious award nominations. His discography includes 22 studio albums, 7 compilation albums, 7 #1 hits and 38 singles, including songs like **It Turns Me Inside Out**, **Ring On Her Finger**, **Time on Her Hand** and so many more. But not one of us can forget his legendary **God Bless the USA**, the song which has been in the top 5 on the country singles charts 3 times, (1991, 2002 and 2003), giving it the distinction of being the only song in any genre of music to achieve that feat. For a song that honors all military personnel past and present, God Bless the USA is that song!



Lee Greenwood
Honoring All Military Personnel Past & Present
Nov 10

The Gatlin Brothers Country & Christmas

NOV 15



Larry, Steve & Rudy: The Gatlin Brothers are Grammy® award-winners who have dazzled audiences for more than 65 years! They have accrued a lifetime of noteworthy achievements in their storybook career, including a **Grammy® for Best Country Song (Broken Lady)**, three ACM awards for **Single of the Year (All The Gold In California)**, **Album of the Year (Straight Ahead)** and **Male Vocalist of the Year**, along with five nominations for CMA Vocal Group of the Year, Single Album. The brothers have accumulated eight #1 singles, 30 Top 40 records; 24 studio albums, and five BMI Million Air Awards. For the music of "Country" and "Christmas"—here's our ticket!

She is undeniably one of the most eloquently emotive vocalists of modern times. Lorrie Morgan, the first woman in her genre to begin her career with three consecutive Platinum albums, is back in the studio with award-winning producer Richard Landis, working on a new album. It is sure to be yet another collection showcasing the rainbow of emotions, from dearest heartache to bright, shiny humor that is the hallmark of Morgan's range.

Lorrie Morgan
Dec 14



The Rose Parade - New Year's Day 2025!

Honestly, when we saw The Mansion Theatre's glorious float on national TV in last year's Rose Parade on New Year's Day—well, that gave most of us in Branson Nation some New Year's Day goosebumps! So on our upcoming New Year's Day, don't miss **The Tournament of Roses** in Pasadena, California, when **The Mansion Entertainment Group** makes it's appearance in **The Rose Parade** as the **2025 Grand Finale Sponsor**!

(CALL & MAKE
PLANS NOW!)

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IT'S A STAR-STUDDED OPENING SEASON AT THE NEW

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Nov 8

THE COMMODORES



Nov 9

GREAT WHITE & SLAUGHTER



Nov 22

LITTLE TEXAS & Special Guest
CHRISTOPHER SHAYNE



Nov 23

JOHN WAITE with Special Guest
LOST HEARTS



Nov 29

DAILEY & VINCENT



Dec 6

CRYSTAL GAYLE CHRISTMAS SHOW



Dec 7

HOME FREE
"Any Kind of Christmas"



Dec 13

VICKI LAWRENCE & MAMA:
A Two woman Show



Dec 14

NEAL MCCOY CHRISTMAS SHOW



Dec 15

BRANSON CHRISTMAS BASH



Dec 19

PEABO BRYSON, RUBEN STUDDARD &
HALEY REINHART CHRISTMAS SHOW



Dec 22

TAYLORVILLE



Dec 27

HINDER with Special Guest
DREW CAGLE & THE REPUTATION



Dec 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE ROCKIN'
MIDNIGHT CELEBRATION!

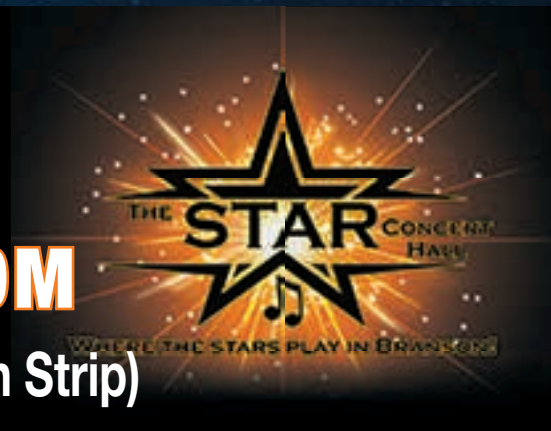


TICKETS

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Star Concert Hall 3750 W 76 (The Branson Strip)





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BRANSON'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY TRADITION



No yuletide trip to Branson would be complete without seeing Branson's Christmas Wonderland, one of Branson's largest holiday productions. A sparkling cast of singers and dancers takes you on an unforgettable and magical sleigh ride to a grand Christmas extravaganza. Don't miss this perennial favorite, which rings in the spirit of the Christmas season with high-energy dance, elaborate costumes, beautiful scenery, gorgeous production numbers and the highest-kicking chorus girls this side of the North Pole!



"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.



New Jersey Nights is a true celebration of the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. This show takes the audience on a nostalgic musical journey through the career of one of the biggest selling groups of all time. Packed with incredible production numbers, this vibrant production show features all of The Four Seasons' greatest hits, including timeless classics like "Sherry," "Rag Doll," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," and "Walk Like a Man."

DUBLIN'S IRISH TENORS & THE CELTIC LADIES

A Celtic Christmas

A CELTIC CHRISTMAS is filled with songs that'll bring joy and the true spirit of Christmas to your holiday season. Listen in amazement as these talented singers take you on a breathtaking uplifting musical journey of traditional Irish Classics, as well as covering Christmas favorites like, *Christmas in Killarney*, *Mary Did You Know*, *O' Holy Night*, *What Child is This*, *O Come All Ye Faithful*, and *Ave Maria*.



Follow us



@KingsCastleTheatre



AND THE WIN

20th Annual Star Showcase
September 8, 2024
Pierce Arrow Theatre

To be honest, the real answer to that headline's question is this—we are. The audience. *We're the winners. We're the lucky ones who get to enjoy the performances Branson entertainers try so hard to entertain us with—performances designed to make us all reach the point of leaving theaters absolutely dazzled, amazed and hungry for more!* So let's have some fun with these paparazzi pics of all the glitz and glam, the entertainment, (obviously), the dramatic, nailbiter unveiling of this year's recipients—and the event's relaxing "afterglow" on this starry night in Branson!

NOW... ON WITH THE SHOW!

What better stress reliever can there be in between awards announcements than for entertainers to put on a show for their fellow entertainers! Actually, entertainers are so busy entertaining on a daily basis, they rarely have an opportunity to take in a fellow entertainer's Branson show! Until nights like this. So, while they're wondering if their name will be announced and they are called to mount the stage, accept their award, and nervously recite that acceptance speech they've been practicing all afternoon—kicking back to be entertained for a few minutes is a stress reliever for them, while being a SUPER SHOW of Branson entertainment for the rest of us!

SHOW HOSTS



Michael Wackerly, (Left) son of the charitable scholarship event's founder, the late Gary Richard Wackerly. Beside Michael is event co-host and co-owner **James Kast**.

STEVIE LEE ROCKS!



Technically, Stevie's show is described as "where country meets rock 'n roll," so yeah, he rocks, as we see here, but he also countrys!



And as seen here, Stevie is not above leaping from the stage and rocking into the audience! (And the cameras go crazy!)

Theater namesakes and stars of the venue **Pierce Arrow** fires up the Branson Show Awards with some seriously hot country!



VENUE STARS

AND THE WINNER IS...



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

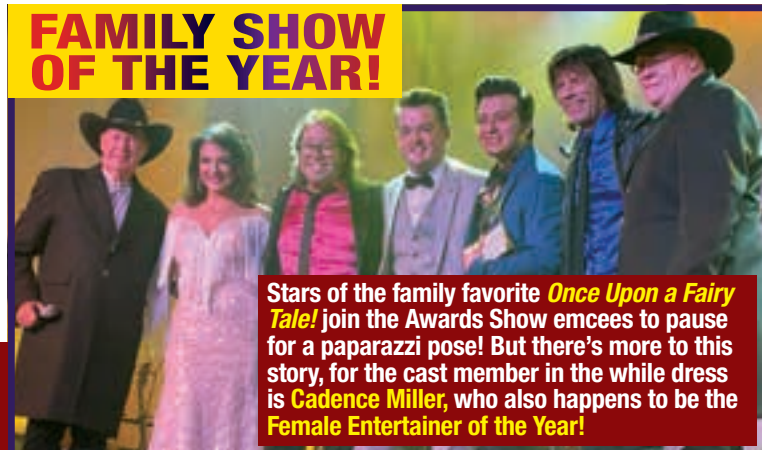
Elvis cousin **Jerry Presley**, star of **Elvis LIVE! in Concert**, **Elvis LIVE! Aloha from Hawaii**, **Elvis LIVE! Madison Square Garden Concert** and **Elvis LIVE! Christmas Show**: all playing at Branson's iconic **Jerry Presley's God & Country Theatre!**



ILLUSIONIST OF THE YEAR!

Rick Thomas, star of **Illusionist Rick Thomas: Mansion of Dreams!** (Rick is seen here with the show's dancing star **Tara**, (a.k.a. Rick's wife and leading lady!)

FAMILY SHOW OF THE YEAR!

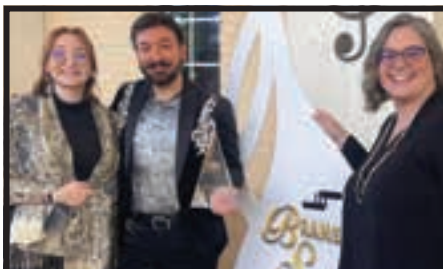


Stars of the family favorite **Once Upon a Fairy Tale!** join the Awards Show emcees to pause for a paparazzi pose! But there's more to this story, for the cast member in the white dress is **Cadence Miller**, who also happens to be the **Female Entertainer of the Year!**

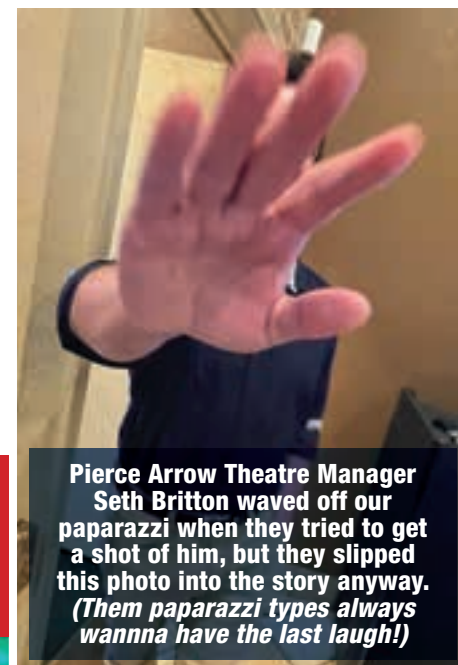
NEWS ARE...

AFTER SHOW AFTERGLOW!

Elvis, er-Jerry Presley and Cheri May show us his iconic award depicting his induction in The Branson Show Awards Hall of Fame. The text of the award is a tad hard to read here, but we're sure the award is on display at the Jerry Presley God and Country Theatre so let's just all go there and read all about it!



The Michael Frost family gives us a newsworthy photo as they pose with Michael's **Gospel Show of the Year** Award while standing beside the award show's logo. *(That's what they call the "money shot" in the PR biz)*



Pierce Arrow Theatre Manager Seth Britton waved off our paparazzi when they tried to get a shot of him, but they slipped this photo into the story anyway. *(Them paparazzi types always wannna have the last laugh!)*



Branson stars nice enough to smile for our camera are George Strait tribute artist Tim Hadler, star of **Strait to Branson**, **CJ Newsome's Classic Country and Comedy** star CJ Newsome (obviously), and Adrianna Fine, star of **Once Upon a Fairy Tale**.

Johnny Cash tribute artist Dan Wagner and **Nashville Roadhouse Live!** star Stevie Lee Woods strike a paparazzi pose for us star stalkers in the after show afterglow. Good Show!

AWARDS SWEEPS!

GOSPEL SHOW OF THE YEAR!



Southern Gospel Sundays, starring Michael J. Frost and family!



One show—THREE iconic awards: NEW SHOW OF THE YEAR, TRIBUTE SHOW OF THE YEAR, and DANCE SHOW OF THE YEAR—all for the acclaimed **MJ: the Illusion: Reliving the King of Pop**. Seen here holding the award is iconic Michael Jackson tribute artist Michael Knight and his amazing dance captain (and wife) Rhaenyx. *(Those crutches are just temporary, as we learned).* But wait: THREE awards all in just ONE awards show? Honestly, you just can't Beat it! *(Small joke. Or Michael Jackson pun maybe. Anyway, we try.)*

Congrats to The Branson Show Awards, and of course congrats to all nominees and award recipients being recognized in this community of amazing entertainers! Well done!

EVENING SHOW OF THE YEAR!

Nashville Roadhouse Live, starring Stevie Lee Woods!

46th ANNUAL BRANS

Sunday, September 29, 2024, Hughes Brothers Theatre

Photos by Jennifer Grant

It's an awards show which began back in 1977, making the one this year, (according to our smartie phone calculator)—the 46th one! It began as a joke, when **Fort Worth DJ Terry Beene** caught an awards show on TV and decided to announce on his radio show a Terry Awards Show of his own. That announcement threw the radio station and the venue where he said it would happen in an absolute tizzy! After being flooded with calls for tickets, both contacted Terry immediately, begging him to call off the joke! Terry humbly apologized for the joke, then delightedly went right back at it the next day! Which ended up turning into a real event! One which became legendary. Due to his love for the music industry and his love for Branson, Mr. Beene, (who today lives way down yonder in Georgia), eventually brought the industry event to us here in Branson and re-named it *The Branson Terry Music Awards!* Lucky us! And with that big move came Terry's big agenda—to raise money for **charities** dear to his heart.

As for Terry's love for the music industry, that's no joke. Besides spending four years in the **United States Navy**, he also spent several years as a professional drummer, traveling America and drumming for the likes of **Jerry Lee Lewis, Tammy Wynette, Faron Young** and even our own **Barbara Fairchild**, (just to name a few!) But then things started to take a turn for the worse. Fortunately, however, the sad story of that turn resulted in a transformed life that Terry celebrates today wherever he goes. It's even celebrated on the cover of the **Branson Terry Awards program** handed out to all attendees. Front and center, big and bold are the words "**Serve the Lord with Gladness: His presence with singing.** —Psalm 100:2 Read a tad more about Terry's amazing story on page 28.

RED CARPET ROYALTY!



Branson Mayor Larry Milton and First Lady Lianne graciously pose for a red carpet photo op as they arrive to lend their support and to bestow honors to Branson's entertainment community. But according to our reporters, these two also came because The Terry Awards Show, for them, (and the rest of us)—is *fun!*

HUGHES CREWS!

A small sampling of Hughes Nation poses for paparazzi as they attempt to enter The Hughes Brothers Theatre, the venue for The Terry Awards. Whether they appear in *The Hughes Music Show*, *The Hughes Brothers Country Show*, *The Hughes Family Christmas Show* or *Re-Vibe*, these few Hugheses do appear in some or all. Actually, sharp eyes will detect three of the original Hughes Brothers here; those being Jason, Ryan, and first Hughes Brother Marty. (For any help identifying The Brothers, refer to pg. 16-17. Better yet, just go see all the Hughes shows!)



NRL HAS ARRIVED!

Multi-award winning star **Stevie Lee Woods** and members of his **Nashville Roadhouse LIVE!** posse high-five paparazzi as they hit the red carpet!

MONEY SHOT!

That's what those media types call it when stars pose for those snoopy members of the press! So when it comes to a paparazzi pose, these stars are pros! Behold cast members of **MJ: The Illusion: Reliving the King of Pop**. (More on pages 11 and 28)



FASH

No, Elvis has *not* left the building! Elvis's cousin (& multi-award winning Elvis tribute artist) **Jerry Presley** and his date **Cheri May** definitely bring some festive style to the red carpet as they make their grand entrance.

ON TERRY MUSIC AWARDS!

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

Who gets an award? Who doesn't? Not gonna lie, there's some tension in the room. That is—until in-between announcements—there's entertainment, which fast breaks tension to smithereens! Like we keep saying, entertainers rarely get the chance to behold the performances of other entertainers, so seeing each other perform is pretty much off-the-charts fun!



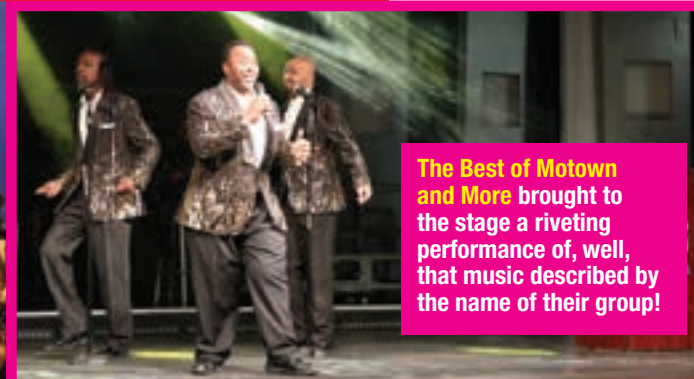
RE-VIBE!

Hughes youth's dazzling performance electrified the Terry Awards audience of their fellow entertainers Applause literally rocked the house!



THRILLER!

MJ and his spooky crew tore up the stage with amazing moonwalking and monster dancing that got the whole place movin' and groovin' to that legendary Michael Jackson hit!



The Best of Motown and More brought to the stage a riveting performance of, well, that music described by the name of their group!

AND THE 2024 AWARDS GO TO...
continued on page 28

ION STATEMENT!



NEIL AND KAREN!

Yes, that's **Neil Diamond** and **Karen Carpenter**. Sorta. In reality, it's actually award-winning tribute artists Keith and Diana Allyn. (Hope we're not too confusing here.)



MOTHER/DAUGHTER DUO!

Co-stars **Kristy McConnell** and daughter **Irielle** strike a red carpet pose. Presently appearing in **The Morace Family's Listen to the Music Show**, their heavenly voices and Irielle's out-of-this-world gift to make music with drums is nothing less than an amazing experience to behold! (More about their show on page 27.)

LIVING LEGEND!

No two words can better describe the life and storied career of internationally renowned Gospel pianist **Dino Kartsonakis**. Charting over 50 Gospel albums, traveling the world with legendary Gospel evangelists, Dino's illustrious career has included service in the US Army, performing at New York's famed Carnegie Hall, and being honored with the 1998 Grammy® Award. His performances in Branson, (his home to this day,) remain legendary to all who experienced them. Although Dino and his wife Cheryl lost their home and possessions in Branson's 2011 flood, their lives continue to be devoted entirely to ministry and charitable works. But as seen in our photo, Dino's heart, never changing, is to give God all the glory.



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

BRANSON'S FAMOUS
BALDKNOBBERS

Now Performing At

BRANSON'S FAMOUS BALDKNOBBERS

Christmas Show!

Here it is in a nutshell: Award winning musicians, vocalists and comedy, plus huge new production enhancements of sound, lights and whiz-bang special effects!

THE FIRST HALF:

Top country hits, traditional country favorites, southern rock, gospel, patriotic salutes, hilarious side-splitting comedy and more—the “more” being about the hottest musicians, vocalists and country comedy in this particular galaxy! Expect some of that “outlaw country” with “attitude”, some bluegrass, and even some classic rock!



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

THEN COMES CHRISTMAS!

As generations of Baldknobbers fans have known ever since 1959, something always happens to this wild bunch at this time of year. And it happens right before our eyes!

After a full blown funfest of music, laughs and Baldknobbers just being Baldknobbers, the Christmas Spirit suddenly descends on these outfits—first, with a holly, jolly North Pole Revue, then, with words and music that leads all hearts and minds to a starry night, to a holy land, to a tiny village, then to a stable, where inside, in a manger built for animals to feed, there lay a child who would change the world that was, the world that is, and the world that is to be—forever. Feel it. Experience it. Right here. Where it comes alive, and where the comfort, the joy and the “reason for the season remains long after the curtain closes.

THE 2024 PRODUCTION

Step inside the completely revamped and remodeled theater lobby. That should tell you something.

Now for the show. 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 bona fide comedy legend! 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, 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! ♦



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!

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



MEGAN!

**MORE
BALDKNOBBER
STARS!**

The 2022 Branson Terry Music Awards
2022 FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR!

Ashley Dawn Stanton!

Branson's Famous Baldknobbers!

2022 LEAD GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR!

Grant Moody!

Branson's Famous Baldknobbers!

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

DAD!

NATHAN!

Steel Player of the Year Greg Moody, Branson's Famous Baldknobbers—seen here receiving his award from multi-award winning Baldknobbers's lead guitarist Grant Moody. (Greg's son!)

Fiddle Player of the Year Nathan Agdeppa, (right) Branson's Famous Baldknobbers! (Presented by fellow fiddler Wayne Massengale, of Grand Country.)

THE VINTAGE BALDKNOBBERS SHOW

WOW! Original songs, Christmas 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."

Says Megan, Branson's wife and co-star, "I'm going to sing two Dolly Parton songs—two

which **Joy Bilyeu** sang back in the day. I would be far more nervous singing those two songs in front of Joy than if I had to sing in front of Dolly! Even though Dolly is an idol, those people like Baldknobbers stars **Joy, Dennis, Gene Dove, Bob Leftridge** and all the rest—those folks are **our** idols.

"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!

THIS CHRISTMAS

God is beginning His magic! He's brushing the leaves with colorful strokes of artistic genius on His unique canvas of our Ozark Mountains! He is creating the picturesque backdrop of autumn! Many will find themselves knee deep in "IT'S FALL, Y'ALL" décor of falling leaves, pumpkins, chilly mornings and harvest moons.

When I see the first kiss of fall's colors, I hear sleigh bells. As an entertainer in Branson, Christmas begins in late September, and by the first of November we are in full merry-making mode!

present was opened—a longing to rewind and do it all over again.

Simply put...

It isn't what it used to be.

We hear this same phrase from some of our Branson guests. "Branson just isn't what it used to be." "It isn't how I remember it." "We loved the show, but it has changed."

I used to labor my thoughts attempting to understand and find some sort of solution to these feelings. It hasn't been until recently that I realized there really isn't one. Just as I feel the melancholy of the change in my own family's

When I see the first kiss of fall's colors, I hear sleigh bells

I love Christmas. I always have. I have my tree set up before the last pumpkin and flowerless mum has been thrown out. I love all the smells, the lights, the music. It's undeniable magic. Yet, as I have grown older, Christmas has become a bittersweet holiday for me.

With the changing of life's seasons, it too has evolved and slowly morphed from what once was. The magic is still there, but it's different. The canvas around me is painted with new and sometimes unfamiliar colors and designs. Certain special faces are no longer with me. Once beloved traditions no longer take place. New people have entered into our family and added their own Christmas flair. The excitement and anticipation is still sprinkled with glitter and topped with bows, yet I am left with that feeling I had as a child after the last

Christmas itinerary, so too are some of our guests feeling that same sadness with the changed experience of their Branson tradition. The change, however, is not so much the destination, but the faces in the photographs taken there.

What makes Christmas special—"the way it used to be"—is the people with whom we share it. What creates the memories is the magic of how it feels to be in that moment in time and life with those special people. Memories experienced by families during their Branson vacations are no different. As children grow and as family members leave us, the experience changes.

The fun and excitement of vacation doesn't go away. The shows are still full of the same talent and quality entertainment guests have always

Continued on page 23

MAGIC'S GLOBAL MAESTRO!

ILLUSIONIST
**RICK
THOMAS**

**STUNNING MAGIC. EXTREME
COMEDY. EXQUISITE DANCERS.
& BREATHTAKING MOMENTS
OF PURE INSPIRATION!**

**MANSION
DREAMS**

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!

Audience reactions?

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

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.

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

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 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,

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!

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!

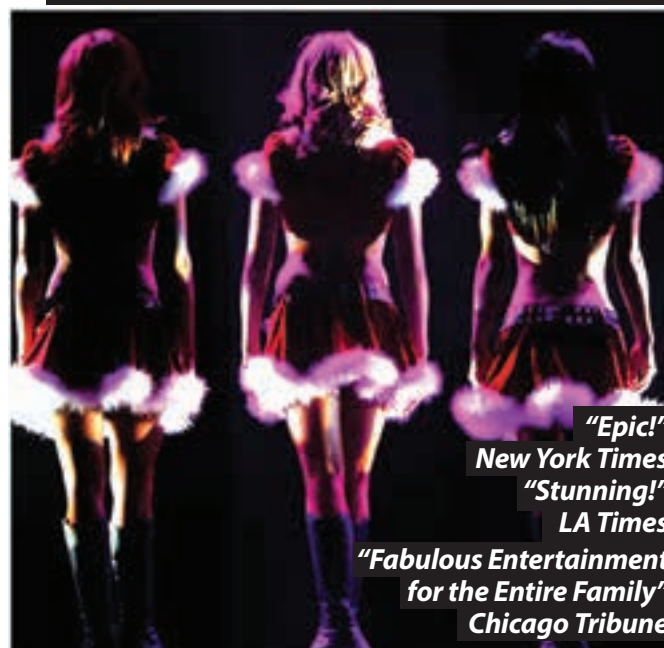
As Seen on TV!
ABC, CBS, NBC, Discovery Channel, MTV, Animal Planet, Hallmark, History Channel and many more!

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.

Nov 22-23

Branson Market Days Holiday Market The downtown convention center turns into a trendy craft show loaded with amazing finds! Bransonmarketdays.com/events

Nov 28

Hughes Brothers Thanksgiving Show – We're Thankful for YOU! A special Holiday show at 10:00 am. Kids 12 and under are FREE! (You'll be thankful you came!) Hughes Brothers Theatre (800)-422-0076

Thru Dec 13

Barn Dance at Hartwood Barn!—Dance at the ranch! Instead of having a barn dance instructor, the DJ will play the music for guests to dance to! Open to guests of all ages. Pizza Food Truck will be open. Admission \$13.00, ages 3-11 \$7 Sycamore Creek Family Ranch, Hollister 417-278-6675 sycamorecreekfamilyranch.com

Thru Dec 13

Gingerbread Houses at Chateau on the Lake 417-334-1161 An edible village of beautiful gingerbread houses many hours in the making. Some buildings over three feet tall—many with storefronts, and yes, there's even a church, (which alone took 50 hours to create!)!

Dec 5-15

(Thur thru Sun) **Irving Berlin's White Christmas: The Musical** Historic Owen

Theatre, downtown Branson.

Dec 8

Adoration Parade Celebrating the true meaning of Christmas, the parade features performances by local high school marching bands, a variety of floats created by community organizations from several states, and an appearance from St Nick himself! Begins at 5pm in the Branson Convention Center Parking lot, goes through historic downtown Branson. And finishes along Branson Landing Boulevard.

Dec 15

Branson's Christmas Bash Great food and drinks, incredible entertainment, and prizes! Star Concert Hall 417-544-0349 tickets. starconcerthall.com/event

Dec 22

Christmas Day Brunch at Chateau on the Lake Reservations, 417-243-1777

Dec 25

Hughes Brothers Christmas Show on Christmas Day! Hughes Brothers Theatre (800) 422-0076.

Dec 31-Jan 7

New Year's Week in Branson! Special shows, parties, fireworks and more! Many shows, attractions museums, shops and accommodations are open for your special getaway. Start the new year with a fun New Year's Week! ♦

*New Year's Eve Shows—
All over Branson! Happy 2025!*

Stuff Happens Veterans Week

Continued from page 3.

8:00am. **Women Veterans Rose Petal Ceremony**, Stone Castle, Green Mountain Dr. Noon. Women vets free. Adults \$12, Children 4-12 \$6 **WWII and Korean War Veterans Mini Reunion**, AmericInn by Wyndham, 2pm-4pm. **Nov 9 15th Annual Walmart Tribute to the Veterans Show**, Mansion Thtr, Expressway Lane. 8:30am-11am. Co-hosted by the incredibly talented Barbara Fairchild and Roy Morris. Special Guest Speaker, Author and Army retiree, Lt Col Kurt Carlson, former TWA Flight 847 Hostage in 1985. **Walmart Tribute Lunch** at Branson Meadows on N. Gretna Rd, 11:30 am-1:30pm. **Medics, Nurses and Combat Vets Mini Reunion**, Grand Pavilion at the Westgate

resort. 2pm-4pm. Free and open to the public. **Nov 10 Sunday Worship Service with Barbara Fairchild**, Clay Cooper Thtr. 10am **12th Annual Navy Memorial Service**, Grand Pavilion at Westgate Resort 8:30 am. Coffee and entertainment followed by the service. **28th Annual Military Gala & Banquet** Chateau on the Lake 5pm-11pm. All branches, all wars welcome. Public invited. Dinner, DJ/Dancing, fireworks, entertainment. Business attire, after 5, Uniforms, Mess Dress, formal wear. Reservations required. 417-336-4232 Tickets \$69 each. **Nov 11 Veterans Day Sunrise Service**, College of the Ozarks 7:00am. **Annual Veterans Day Parade**, Historic Downtown Branson. 11 am ♦

BRANSON'S MOST AWARDED
CHRISTMAS SHOW!

HUGHES BROTHERS

CHRISTMAS SHOW



17X AWARDED
BEST
CHRISTMAS
SHOW

2022 WINNER
THE BEST OF BRANSON

2024 WINNER
THE BEST OF BRANSON

2023 WINNER
THE BEST OF BRANSON

800-422-0076 • HughesBrothersTheatre.com
3425 West 76 Country Blvd. Branson, MO 65616

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,60s70s & 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!

Christmas Issue: November, December 2024



HUGHES REVIEWS: THE HUGHES FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW

Here's what our show critic has to say about **The Hughes Brothers Christmas Show**: "The show's 50-plus member cast does *everything*! They sing angelically, play instruments brilliantly, they dance magnificently, they do comedy hilariously and they fill the heart with such comfort and joy that around here, Christmas just wouldn't be the same without them! They've also been voted **"Best Christmas Show"** 7 times! And speaking of the holidays, this band of brothers has also scheduled special performances (with holiday eats) for **Thanksgiving Day and New Years Eve!** For New Years, expect noisemakers, balloons, and a dance party with the stars after midnight! (And folks, as our reporters testify: Hughes Nation *really* knows how to party!)



it all comes from one amazing family of over 50 brilliant entertainers! Put all that together, and you've got a whole lot more than a Christmas show—you have a Christmas experience to cherish for a lifetime!

Where else can you find a family of over fifty Moms, Dads and young people of all ages perform heart-stirring Christmas classics in a massive bell choir? Or present the Nativity in a heavenly ballet? Or perform dreamlike renditions of Christmas classics in grand pageantries of singers, dancers, musicians—and angels!

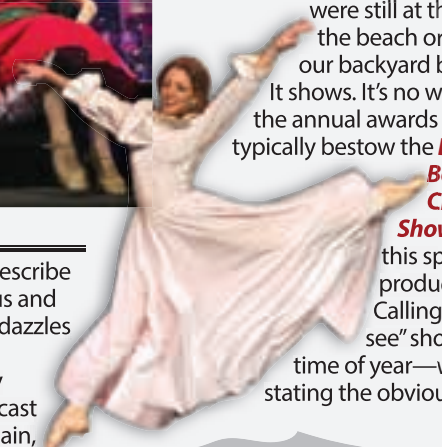
The Hughes family has been rehearsing this Christmas show ever since August, when some of us were still at the lake, at the beach or planning our backyard barbecues.

It shows. It's no wonder that the annual awards shows typically bestow the **Branson's Best Christmas Show** title to this spectacular production.

Calling it a "must see" show at this time of year—well, that's stating the obvious! ♦

BREATHTAKING!

With what other word can you describe a brilliant, magnificent, glorious and grand Christmas production that dazzles the senses with music, dance and comedy performed by a cast of all ages? Again,



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'! ♦

FREE CHOW AT THE CHUCKWAGON!

Can you believe it? It comes with 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! Fresh garden salad, sliced chicken breast topped with homemade vegetable ratatouille, pork loin topped with homemade balsamic dressing (everybody wants the recipe),— baby roasted potatoes, fresh green beans sauteed in garlic and sea salt, plus beverages of course. 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 p. 15)

KIDS FREE!



Let's get real. If you want the “real deal” in your search for a Country Music Show that serves up everything from classic country all the way up to hot country 2024—this is your show!

But if you also want laughs, then when it comes to laugh-out-loud hilariousness, THIS one is the “show of shows”!

The unbelievably good news is that we get a “two-fer”, all in one supershow starring multi-award-winning country singer (and one who channels Patsy Cline like no other) **CJ Newsom**!

And just for laughs, you also get hall-of-fame, multi-award-winning comedy legend (and **Hee-Haw** TV veteran) Terry

Wayne Sanders—all in the same show!

So if you like country, Hall-of-fame comedy, and if you like an inspiring patriotic segment—then you are sure to like a classic Branson show. This one, for example. The real deal.

Comedy Legend Terry Wayne Sanders as “Grandma Beulah”.

BUY ONE TICKET, GET ONE 50% OFF TO ANY OTHER SHOW AT THE AMERICANA THEATRE!
See page 20 PLUS all Americana shows listed on pg. 18



Yeah, the 80s were awesome. Totally. Dude, compared to the music of the 80's, everything today is all bogus. (Kidding, of course.) Some say the 80s was the best decade of music for launching songs that both kids and adults still know and love. Well, dudes and dudettes, this show take us on a **Journey** of the groups that will make a body wanna **Jump** out of its “rad” seat! **Every Breath You Take**, you will be **Livin’ on a Prayer** as you recall the **Glory Days** of **R.O.C.K. in the USA!** Our recommendation: **Don’t stop Believing** because **Who You Gonna Call** to get tickets? Answer: Call the number you see here!

TICKETS: BOTH SHOWS!
THE AMERICANA THEATRE 2905 W Hwy. 76 Branson
Phone: **417-544-8700**

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	18,20		
CJ Newsom's Classic Country & Comedy Christmas Show	patsyclineandfriends.com		9,18	Nov-Dec	
America's Top Country Hits	americanatheatre.com		20	THRU DEC	
Awesome 80's	americanatheatre.com		18	THRU DEC	
The Best of Motown & More				THRU-DEC	
British Invasion	americanatheatre.com			SEP-DEC	
Broadway to Buble: George Dyer				AUG-DEC	
Elvis: Story of The King	americanatheatre.com		20	THRU DEC	
Once Upon a Fairytale	onceuponafairytalebranson.com			THRU-OCT	
Southern Gospel Sundays: The Frosts	frostmusic.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				TBA	
The Cabaret 3292 Shep. Of the Hills Expy • 417-230-7798		C-5			
Garry & Janine Comedy Magic Dinner Show					D
Clay Cooper Theatre 3216 W. Hwy 76 • 888-222-8910	claycoopertheatre.com	E-5			
Clay Cooper's Country Express: Christmas Show				Nov-Dec	
#1 Hits of the 60's Christmas Show	1hitsofthe60s.com			Nov-Dec	
Dean Z's- The Ultimate Elvis Christmas				Nov-Dec	
The Haygoods Christmas Show				Nov-Dec	
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 Christmas				Nov-Dec	L,D
The Dutton Family Theatre 3454 W Hwy 76 • 417-332-2772	theduttons.com	E3			
The Duttons Christmas Show				Nov-Dec	
Freedom Encounter Theatre 3220 Falls Parkway • 417-544-0372	FreedomJourneyShow.com	G-5	29	Nov	
The Freedom Journey Show			29	THRU DEC	
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	

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*
Down Home Country				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 Christmas Show				NOV-DEC	
Abba Tribute: Thank You For the Music	abbattributionbranson.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	10		
The Hughes Family Christmas Show			1,16,17	NOV-JAN	L, D
Hughes Brothers Country			16,17	THRU OCT, DEC	L, D
Vintage Baldknobbers Chirstmas Show	Baldknobbers.com		2,12	NOV-DEC	L, D
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers Christmas	Baldknobbers.com		2,12	NOV-DEC	L, D
Escape Reality Magic starring Garry Carson	www.escapearealitymagic.com			THRU DEC	L, D
Country Evolution starring Dalena Ditto	countryrevolution.net			APR-DEC	L
Re-Vibe!	Hughes-Brothers.com		11,16	THRU 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				SEP-DEC	
Sanders Family Christmas				NOV-DEC	
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	
Jerry Presley's God and Country Theatre 1840 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-6806	GodandCountryTheaters.com	E-10	8,9,10,26	SEE WEBSITE	
Elvis LIVE: In Concert-starring Jerry Presley			8,9,10,26	APR-NOV	
Elvis LIVE: Aloha from Hawaii starring Jerry Presley			8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	
Elvis LIVE: Madison Square Garden Concert starring Jerry Presley			8,9,10,26	APR-OCT	
ELVIS LIVE: Christmas Show starring Jerry Presley			8,9,10,26	NOV-DEC	
Cowboy Church			8,9,10,26	THRU DEC	
A Neil Diamond Christmas	aneildiamondtribute.com		11,25	NOV-DEC	
Carpenters Christmas Once More	backtothe70stributes.com		11,24	NOV-DEC	
Country Classics: The Early Years			8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	
Garth: A Musical Tribute			8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	
George Strait: Strait to Branson			8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	

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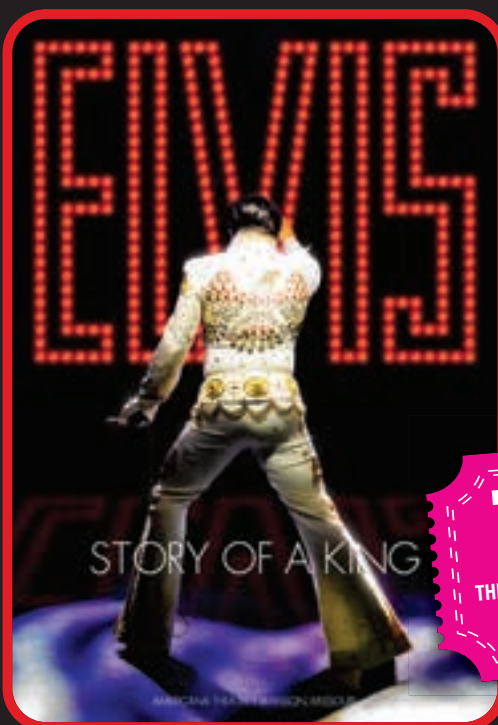
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See page 18 PLUS all Americana shows listed on pg 20



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Please See Theatre Website for Show Times

Map Grid	See Pages	Show Season	Meal Avail*
	8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	
	8,9,10,26	THRU DEC	
	27	NOV-DEC	
	8,9,10,26	APR-DEC	
King's Castle Theater 2701 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-2500	kingscastletheatre.com	E-8	7
Anthems of Rock		21	THRU DEC
Dublin's Irish Tenors & Celtic Ladies		21	THRU-DEC
New Jersey Nights: Music of The Four Seasons		21	THRU DEC
Branson's Christmas Wonderland		1	NOV-DEC
Majestic Theatre 2849 Gretna Rd. • 417-231-2420		C-7	
Branson Murdery Mystery • 417-849-8331	bransonmurderymystery.com		THRU DEC D,A
Branson Murdery Mystery Christmas Dinner Show • 417-849-8331	bransonmurderymystery.com		NOV-DEC D,A
The Mansion Theatre 189 Expressway Lane • 417-385-1118	themansiontheatre.com	B-9	5,23
Guest Stars		5,23	THRU DEC
Special Events		5,23	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	1,8,14,19	THRU DEC
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 Christmas Spectacular Show		22	NOV-DEC L, D
Legends A Merry Country Christmas		22	NOV-DEC L, D
The Man in Black A Tribute to Johnny Cash			NOV-DEC
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	1,8,9,10	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 DEC
Ozark Mountain Christmas Spectacular			NOV-DEC
The Doug Gabriel Christmas Show			NOV-DEC
Phil Dalton: Theatre of Illusion			THRU-DEC
Buckets N Boards			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

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Sight & Sound Theatres 1001 Shep. of the Hills Expy • 800-377-1277	sight-sound.com	B-8			
Miracle of Christmas				Nov-Dec	
Shepherd of the Hills Outdoor Thtr. 13260 W. Hwy 76 • 417-334-7469	ShepherdoftheHills.com	A-3		SEE WEBSITE	
Great American Chuckwagon Christmas Show				MAY-DEC	
WhoDunnit Hoedown-Murder Mystery Dinner Show				THRU DEC	D
A Christmas Story Dinner Show				Nov	D
A Shepherds Christmas Carol Dinner Show				Nov	D
Showboat Branson Belle 4800 W. Hwy 76 • 800-475-9370	bransonsilverdollarcity.com	J-3		THRU DEC	L,D
Star Concert Hall 3750 Shep. of the Hills Expy • 417-544-0349		C-4	6		
Guest Stars			6	THRU DEC	
Yakov Theatre 470 St. Hwy 248 • 417-336-3838	yakov.com	B-12			
Comedy Star Yakov Smirnoff				THRU-DEC	

That's the Spirit
Theo N. Cider
Continued from page 4

a sword, which is the Word of God. But before them “fiery arrows” come at us, it’s best to get ahead of the game by gettin’ ready. That comes by just being with our Lord, spending some time with Him, praising Him and thanking Him. And when we say thanking Him, I don’t mean just thanking Him just to be thankful like some robot—it’s remembering the works of the Lord (Psalm 77:11-12) That’s what we oughter be thankful for!

It’s that love for Him and for His creations that makes us feel cozy enough to call on Him to help us take up that sword of the Spirit, which is The Word of God, and start believin’ it enough to start usin’ its’promises as we pray against every problem on this ol’ earth!

We are in the world, yet with God as our Heavenly Father, we are not of this world. We live in the Kingdom, a Kingdom that is forever!

But here’s the tough question. How can a feller rough around the edges believe all them wild and crazy Bible tales?

And here’s the answer: when we lay our lives down before Him, that “Him” being Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and as we ask Him into our hearts and choose to love Him and serve Him forever, just like we do when we say those words down here at our earthly marriage altars—He shows up. Our hearts both know it and feel it! And if anybody doesn’t believe in forever, we oughter just ask them to go outside at night and look up at the sky. Then tell ‘em, “There it is!”

All this good news happens because of that little baby born in that manger in Bethlehem. Not just a Christmas story—but the story of Him coming to earth to pay for our sins so that those of us who choose to believe in Him and love Him enough to follow Him will live with Him forever. He’s our rock, even in these crazy times. That good news is what we all need to never stop hearing. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I will remember the works of the Lord; surely I will remember Your wonders of old, I will meditate also on all Your work, and ponder on Your mighty deeds. Psalm 77:11-12 ♦

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THE HOLIDAYS AT LEGENDS!



A MERRY COUNTRY CHRISTMAS!

Legends

in Concert

live on
Stage!

THRU Dec 31

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 20

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!

A MERRY COUNTRY CHRISTMAS!

Celebrate the magic of the season with **Legends in Concert's** legendary holiday cast! This year, we get to enjoy a **Merry Country Christmas** with the stars! Each of these illustrious tribute artists will be performing their star's favorite Christmas songs along with the hits that made them famous! But that's not all! We even get to ring in the New Year with these entertainment legends!

GARTH BROOKS

Some weeks back when the real Garth Brooks showed up for two live outdoor concerts, it resulted in traffic lined up all the way from here to almost nowhere! Which demonstrates the effect this performer has on us humanoids. Well, now we get to see a performance of him up close, which is about as real as it gets without being Garth for real! This is the guy who shook up the music world by giving country music a little shot of pop, a little spike of rock, and a whole lot of onstage theatrics that resulted in packed out arenas all over the globe!

DOLLY PARTON

Just a few words here to describe just about one of the most famous persons on the planet at this point in history! No use detailing what

we already know. Yes, her Dixie Stampede is just across the street, yet at Legends we get to witness live, on stage, a recreation of a legendary performance of a legendary star performing her legendary hits! Just to name names, **Jolene, I Will Always Love You, Coat of Many Colors, 9 to 5** and on and on. And her movies, her TV specials, her Dollywood Theme Park—and her awards—11 Grammys, (plus 50 nominations), the Lifetime Achievement Award, 10 CMA Awards including Entertainer of the Year, 4 People's Choice Awards, and way too many more to list here! To witness a spot-on recreation of a Dolly Parton performance—well, that would be an experience nothing less than *legendary*!

ALAN JACKSON

When it comes to today's "hot country", the name Alan Jackson pretty quick comes to mind. One of the best-selling music artists all time, a resident of the Country Music Hall of Fame, Alan's songs like **Chattahoochee**,

Where Were You (When the World Stopped Turning), **Remember When**, **Little Bitt**, are just some of the many which are never far from many a heart and mind! Mr. Jackson has recorded 16 studio albums, has written many of his own songs, has released two gospel albums and yes, two Christmas albums. Obviously, Alan Jackson is a perfect fit for a merry **country** Christmas at Legends!

THE BLUES BROTHERS™

Of course back by eternally popular demand are those furiously dancing and soulfully singing hipsters from Chicago—the fabulous Blues Brothers!

ELVIS GOSPEL!

Elvis; the superstar whose popularity has transcended the generations. There's just something about that voice—the moves. Then there's the side of Elvis that not everyone saw, or even knew about. With friends, or sometimes even alone, he sang the music that gripped his heart throughout his entire lifetime. It was music that was found on his record player upon his passing. It was the music of his life. You can feel it in his voice, or during heart-stirring visits to Graceland. Expect to feel it in this show, especially at this time of year ♦



Holiday fun with those "soul men" from "Sweet Home Chicago!"—the fabulous Blues Brothers!

Rockin' New Year's Eve Show!

Dec 31 9:30pm



Since hindsight is 2020, (or technically, 2023), it would be best not to miss the New Year's Festivities at Legends in Concert, where the Legends guest stars will ring in 2025 with a fun fest surely to be long remembered! Pretty cool, that we get to party with **Garth, Carrie, Alan**, those **Blues Brothers**—and yes, even **Elvis**! Happy 2025! Party on!

 **LEGENDS THEATER**

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

found in Branson. The go-karts run just as fast. The mini golf courses are just as infuriating with their clever bumps, twists and turns.

The change is in the twinge of sadness parents feel as toddlers turn into teenagers, less eager to vacation with Mom and Dad. Or there's the change in parents aging and now no longer able to travel. The family ticket count declining can even result in family members feeling an almost unbearable weight of loss.

The hand of time cannot be stopped and it is often cruel. It robs us of the "what used to be" in life.

BUT, in all its Christmas glory, there is the silver lining! When we look at the generation behind us, we must realize we are major characters in the chapters of their

memories. We are carrying on their traditions. We are their "remember when". We are their future "what used to be".

We are still part of the magic! It may feel different. It may not be what it once was. Our hearts may ache for the past and the loved ones we can't get back. We can, however, look at the canvas and see the beauty of new colors and the joy it will bring to the next ones in line. We can appreciate the new and unfamiliar because every generation's "what once was" comes from another generation's new. We have a responsibility to carry on the magic. Our eyes must be set on the joy of new traditions and finding the beauty in today, for today is all we really have. ♦

"Mankind is a great, immense family. This is proved by what we feel in our hearts at Christmas."-Pope John XXIII

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DANIEL O'DONNELL
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AN EVENING WITH BARRY CORBIN
Nov 8

GENE WATSON
Nov 9 • Nov 23

THE GATLIN BROTHERS
Nov 15

THE BELLAMY BROTHERS
Nov 22

LEE GREENWOOD
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Gene Watson

The Bellamy Brothers

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BEFORE IT'S BACK
"ON THE ROAD AGAIN!"

CARPENTERS CHRISTMAS ONCE MORE MUSIC, AND A LIFE, THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING!

It's Christmas time! If we stop and listen to the music serenading us these days, whether it be on the radio, at the shopping mall, the hair salon or on earphones plugged into whatever they're plugged into—we will no doubt hear an awful lot of **The Carpenters** once more. To this day, The Carpenters remain prominent on the soundtrack of our lives, ever popular, and ever-uplifting. Bringing to life this music that generations of us all love is multi-award winning singing star **Diana Lynn**.

About The Carpenters

You might not remember her name, but trust us, you know her hit songs and you know her story—one which frankly, changed history.

Unusually, **Karen Carpenter** was both a singer and a drummer. She and her brother **Richard**, (**The Carpenters**) used their own

voices to create multi-track masterpieces that dominate the airwaves even to this day. That innovation literally changed the world of music. A few examples: (**They Long To Be Close to You**, **We've Only Just Begun**, **Top of the World**, **Hurting Each Other**, **Merry Christmas Darling**, and so many more.

The Shock!

When Karen's young life succumbed to the effects of **anorexia nervosa** at the tender age of 33, the world was shocked. Until then, the eating disorder, (**anorexic**) was largely unheard of among the general public. But that was then and this is now. It was the tragic loss of Karen Carpenter that educated us all. It literally changed the world. As Diana reminisces, "You know how when a star passes, you remember exactly where you were? When I learned of Karen's passing on February 4, 1983, I was at home

listening to the Carpenters Christmas Album and writing my Carpenters Once More tribute production. I was devastated." Yet Diana's sorrow, thankfully, turned into a living tribute helping to keep Karen's legacy very much alive.

We've Only Just Begun!

The show begins with a gentleman taking a seat at the piano to portray Karen's brother **Richard Carpenter**. He begins to play. Then we hear the real **Karen Carpenter** begin to sing. Diana suddenly appears and Karen's voice becomes hers. It's seamless. It's the voice, the stage presence and the captivating personality that draws us into the talent of Karen Carpenter channeled by the amazing talent of Diana Lynn!

The Dream

Diana grew up in a family of entertainers



and has been an entertainer all her life, (even during those years as a registered nurse, but we digress, for that's *another* amazing story.) Her showbiz experience comes across the moment she takes the stage, for her sunny personality, both warm and upbeat, is literally contagious. Audiences love her. Throughout her life, Diana has performed in shows of every kind. But her lifelong inspiration, was Karen Carpenter. She and Karen both share the same vocal range. Says Diana, "I always say, I was taught by Karen Carpenter. And I've always dreamed of performing her music."

It's obvious, Karen was taught good. And some dreams do come true. ♦

THE AMAZING CAST!



WES LARSON - (aka **Richard Carpenter**) **Keyboard & Vocals** Wes has been an actor, musician and a well-rounded entertainer for many years. He has also produced several stage productions- **Two from Galilee**, **Passion plays**, **patriotic productions** and many more. He also loves to teach vocal, keyboard, guitar and bass guitar lessons. Check out **WES LARSON VOCAL COACH** to get started today!



JAY DAVERSA **Music Director, Trumpet** Jay has performed on several legendary TV shows -- **The Mary Tyler Moore Show** and **The Bob Newhart Show**, to name a few. But WOW, Jay has also played with such music icons as **Barbara Streisand** and **Elvis!** **THE Elvis!** As a studio musician, he is featured

on numerous albums, including several tunes of **The Carpenters!** Yes, **THE Carpenters!** But one of Jay's most memorable performances is in the theme song of the legendary TV show **The Waltons!**



MARY ANNE DAVERSA **Vocalist** Mary Anne performed with **Andy Williams** for 15 years! She also has performed with **The Texas Tenors**, **The Lennon Sisters**, **Marvin Hamlisch** and **Mary Wilson** besides serving as **Music Coordinator for 6 PBS Specials!**



JAMES MCCALL **Master Percussionist** His storied musical career includes playing with rock legend **Leon Russell**. Currently, James plays for **A Neil Diamond Tribute**, **Chicago Tribute** and several rock bands.



TIM POPE **Music Director, Arranger & Drummer** The Compton, California

native originally played with the legendary **Ray Charles!** (He is also featured in Ray's Coke commercials! Check them out on **youtube!**)



JAY PARKS **Trombone** Jay began his career in the **Army Band at West Point!** He went on to play in **several Army Bands** for over 20 years, as well as with **Bobby Vinton** and the **Glenn Miller Orchestra!**



BOGIE BOHINC **Lead Guitar** **Bogie** came to us from California with **Tony Orlando** and later joined **Andy Williams** at Andy's **Moon River Theater**. He also plays for **A Neil Diamond Tribute** and several traveling shows.



SHANNON KNUDSON **Background Vocals & Percussion** Shannon hails from California and Vegas where she

performed with the **Sweet Adeline's** and **The Merry Ole Carolers**.



TERRY LAIRD **Lead Guitar** Performing in Branson for over 39 years, Terry has been music director for such shows as **The Chicago Tribute** and has worked with **The Lawrence Welk Show**, and **Silver Dollar City**.



ROBERT TERRY **Bass Guitar** Robert has played with **The Osmonds**, **The Lennon Sisters** and currently with **A Neil Diamond Tribute** and **The Hughes Brothers**.



BILL REDER **Flute & Saxophone** Bill was famously a resident musician at Las Vegas's famous **Caesars Palace!** He has played with **Tony Bennett**, **James Brown**, **Lynyrd Skynyrd**, **Johnny Mathis**, **Glen Campbell**, **Liberace**, **Chuck Berry** and many more!

10 PIECE ALL-STAR BAND!

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Christmas

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DIANA LYNN



HIT SHOW RETURNS WITH BAND OF ALL-STARS!

As might be guessed by all genuine Branson Insiders, Keith's return is in the company of his lovely wife **Diana Lynn**, who opens her own award-winning **Carpenters Once More** show at the same power-packed performance venue as her husband—namely, **Jerry Presley's God & Country Theatre!** (More about Diana's show on the previous page)

After packing out performance venues throughout North America for the past two years, **world renown Neil Diamond tribute artist Keith Allyn** has landed once again in the town where adoring fans flocked to his show (**A Neil Diamond Tribute**) for a whopping *ten years straight!*

But wait—*this time*, the fans are in for a surprise, for now Keith is backed up by a band of all-star musicians who, like Keith, are legendary performers in their own right! (More on that a tad later.) But as we probably too often like to say—"folks, that's not all!"



10 PIECE ALL-STAR BAND!

Some in Keith's backup band have played with **Andy Williams**, some with **Ray Charles**, **Tony Orlando**—and the list just goes on and on. In conclusion: these backup A-listers have SO got Keith's back!

WHO'S NEIL DIAMOND?

When you hear the songs he wrote and sang—our guess is that you'll find yourself singing along and knowing the words that you never even knew you knew! Prediction: at the end of this show, you'll be on your feet singing your heart out. And at this particular time in our world, you may have to fight to hold back tears. More on that later. Here are some of Neil's songs which create the soundtrack of our lives: **Cherry, Cherry, Sweet Caroline, I am, I said, Solitary Man, Cracklin' Rosie, Holy, Holy, Shilo, Soolaimon, Brother Love's Traveling Salvation Show, Hello Again, Forever in Bluejeans, Song Sung blue, Pretty Amazing Grace**, and one we are saving for the end of this story. Stay tuned.

WHO'S KEITH ALLYNN?

Besides being an amazing Neil Diamond tribute artist, Keith Allyn is one of the most captivating entertainers you are likely to ever experience. Entertaining is not just his vocation—it's his lifelong passion. He's brilliant, he's warm, he's funny, he's full of mesmerizing Neil Diamond stories, and he literally "owns" not only the stage, but the hearts of most all of us audience types. Example: He recently performed a one-nighter for 5,000 people. No band. Just him and a guitar. The audience was so overwhelmed, the venue pleaded that Keith would stay for another show. Then another. 5,000 packed out each one. That says it all.

END OF STORY

At the show's finale, drums begin pounding. On screen is a flag waving. Keith begins singing—"Far, we've been traveling far, without a home, but now without a star. Free, only want to be free, we huddle close, hang on to a dream. On the boats and on the planes, they're coming to America. Never looking back again, they're coming to America. Home, don't it seem so far away, Oh, we're traveling light today, in the eye of the storm, in the eye of the storm. Freedom's light burning warm. Got a dream to take them there, they're coming to America. Got a dream they've come to share, they're coming to America. My Country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing—"

During these times in which we live, the words, the music, of Neil Diamond's **America**—resonates deep in our heart of hearts. The drums are pounding as the music swells, the audience rising to their feet. Many are wiping away tears. There is scarcely a dry eye in the house. End of story. ♦





A
NEIL DIAMOND
TRIBUTE

aNeilDiamondTribute.com

10 PIECE ALL-STAR BAND!

417-46-4TIXS

Nov 1 - Dec 1

10AM

Tues - Wed & Thurs

ROCKUMENTARY SERIES

CHRISTMAS WITH ELVIS!

Starring Elvis' Cousin JERRY PRESLEY & THE BLACKWOODS!



Wow! It certainly could be a *Blue Christmas* without Elvis! But fret not, the music of Elvis has not left the building for the holidays! Neither has his cousin **Jerry Presley**, nor the Elvis trademark entourage of keyboards horns, electrics, percussion—and to top it all off—Elvis's legendary Gospel backup group **The Blackwoods!** 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 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! And it gets even better, for this season 2023 we get the glorious return of **The Blackwoods**—Elvis's original backup singers! And just to add another zinger—two members of Jerry's current cast, (singer



Denny Yeary and trumpeter **Jay Daversa** also performed with the King himself!

ELVIS, CHRISTMAS AND GOSPEL!

Those three words together are enough to give anyone in the know a fast case of goosebumps! In this show, we get the

music closest to Elvis' heart, all in one blockbuster production! ***Santa Bring My Baby Back to Me, Silver Bells, I'll be Home for Christmas, Silent Night*** and too many more to list without getting emotional! But that's even before we get deeper into that great Elvis heart with a full repertoire of his legendary Gospel favorites—***In the Garden, He Touched Me, How Great Thou Art, Help Me, Rock My Soul, Peace in the Valley, Amazing Grace, Cryin' in the Chapel***—and that's about all we can cite here without cryin' in the chapel ourselves!

KEEPIN' IT REAL!

Elvis couldn't have found a better guy to carry on his legacy. A devout Christian, Jerry's life has not 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 the flame. ♦

Jerry and Elvis

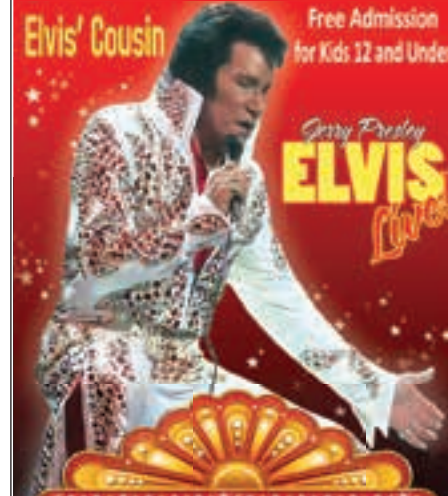
- Jerry is the only authentic relative of Elvis, (2nd Cousin) who is performing Elvis shows.
- Jerry launched Branson's first Elvis show in 1984, building his own theater and naming it "The King's Mansion", designing the front of the building to look like Elvis's home Graceland.
- Jerry is the only Elvis performer who, in a period of over 26 years, has traveled and performed with Elvis' original backup singers **The Jordanares, 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!*

Tribute Shows APPEARING LIVE AT GOD & COUNTRY!



Jerry Presley's 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

The Christmas 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! (Which now, due to music added for the season, can be better described as a family *Christmas* 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. 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 & Country Theatre!**

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: 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. At this time of year, expect many of your treasured Christmas favorites, including the best of the best, which celebrate the

the group, started playing piano in church at the age of 3. Since then, his talent has never stopped growing.

The two met when a group Robert was performing in was in need of a female vocalist. The girl, (**Leisa**) got the job (of course). Then came love, then came marriage, then came children—and the music never stopped.

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.

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. ✦

ALL IN THE FAMILY!

Left to Right (Front) are Tristan and Leisa, (a.k.a. “Mom”), and (Back) Bethany, Robert (a.k.a. “Dad”) and Somer.

true “reason for the season”. But there are other moments where favorites throughout the music catalogue of our lives are also performed beautifully: songs like *Dream* by the Everly Brothers, *Love Can Build a Bridge* by the Judds, *Walkin on Sunshine*—(and many more, including an inspiring patriotic segment.) Here's hoping that kinda paints a picture we can almost hear.

THEIR STORY

Music in the Morace family began, well, pretty much at the *beginning*. **Robert**, the husband and Dad of

Tristan gets double-smooched.



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

FIND OUT MORE AT MoraceFamilyShow.com!

SINGING SISTERS!



Bethany and Somer are definitely dressed for the holidays!

IN THE MOOD!

Looks like there's some Santa music in the house!



Bass man Eric Green rocks out with Irielle McConnell on the drums, who is (no surprise here) absolutely *amazing*!

Continued from page 11

AND THE 2024 AWARDS GO TO...

PIONEER AWARD



TOMMY & JOAN BILYEU

HUMANITARIAN AWARD



JANA KING

FIDDLE AWARD



TINA SIBLEY
Branson's Famous Baldknobbers

STEEL GUITAR AWARD



ROBBIE SPRINGFIELD

FEMALE VOCALIST AWARD



SARAH MARIE LA BEAU
King's Castle Thtr

TRIBUTE SHOW AWARD



MJ: THE ILLUSION

LITTLE BIG SHOW



QUEEN OF SOUL

BAND AWARD



Accepting the Award, Karen Carpenter tribute artist Diana Allyn.

SPECTRUM
in Carpenters Once More

For a complete list of Award Recipients, visit the [TerryMusicAwards Facebook page](#). From all us Branson Insiders—Congrats to all you amazing Branson entertainers!

THE STORIED LIFE OF TERRY BEENE

We learned the first chapter of his life back on page 10. Now we get the rest of the story!

Branson Terry Music Awards founder and producer **Terry Beene** has lived a storied life. It was a long and winding road of a life before the **Terry Awards** came to Branson some years ago.

Part of that life was lived serving in the **United States Navy** aboard the **USS Roosevelt, USS Kennedy and USS Enterprise**. Then, several years of it were spent traveling the world as a drummer for some of the biggest names in the world of country music, which later led to years of being a legendary record producer, disc jockey and TV show host in Fort Worth, Texas. It was at that point when famously, as we learned back on page 10—he began The Terry Awards as a joke.

But in the midst of it all, was the bad news hinted at in the previous part of this story. Drugs caused Terry's life to spiral into addiction.

The breaking point was when a friend driving a tour bus in the middle of the night spotted him wandering along a Texas freeway, an event Terry doesn't even remember. "It was a God thing," Terry tells us.

But it was one that landed him in rehab, where he ended up living for an entire year. "For some Godly reason, God was lookin' after me" says Terry.

Fortunately, he came out of rehab, even though many of his friends did not, their lives being snuffed out due to the devastation of their addictions. Terry's life had been on its way to a similar sad ending, yet in contrast, his life suddenly became an absolute joy ride!

The title of his speaking engagements is the big clue—"From Drugs to Jesus."

Since that life

transformation, Terry has been on a different track. Although living in Georgia, his love for country music and for people who need the love of God brought him to Branson to continue The Terry Awards, this time for a completely different reason—to raise money for charity.

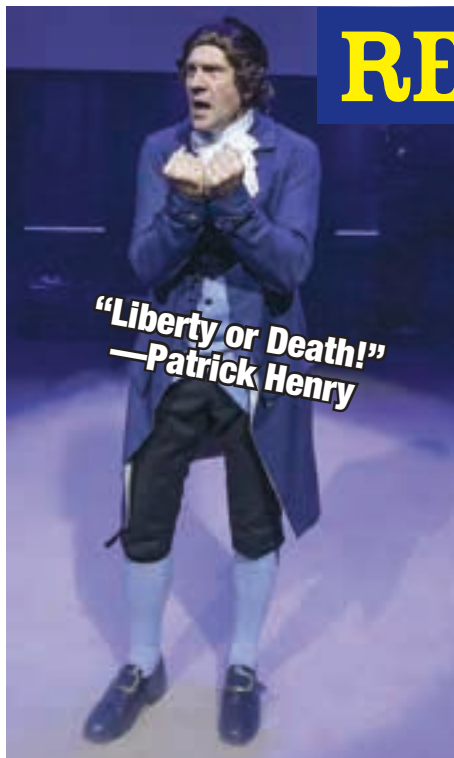
Charities is where the ticket money goes—to musicians who need medical bills paid, or whose children need financial help for their schooling, or for others needing car repairs or having other pressing needs. As Terry tells *The Insider*, "We're not doin' it for the money, we're doin' it out of love for people in need."

All year long, Terry is joyfully laboring to produce Branson's annual extravaganza. To cite a quote from Terry himself, The Branson Terry Awards, in the midst of all the glitz, the glamour and fun—is definitely "a God thing." ♦



Branson Terry Awards Founder Terry Beene and friend Liz Summit pose for paparazzi.

REVOLUTIONARY PRODUCTIONS!



holograms of historic figures like **George Washington** and **William Bradford** giving actual speeches. The show will take you on an amazing journey through time, allowing you to experience man's struggle for freedom, highlighting the faith required in this epic struggle. Included are modern testimonies of immigrants who escaped tyranny to come to America, as well as a tribute to **Veterans, Law Enforcement,** and **First Responders.**

COMING IN 2025

Introducing the **The Freedom Journey Experience!** This will take 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 surround-sound theater. This new show will include interactive experiences and living history performers in person. The shorter production will be performed during the day and can even be scheduled for groups.



FREEDOM ENCOUNTER THEATER

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 stage production that for many seasons has roared into towns across America like a modern day Paul Revere! This production combines live music, powerful videos, and



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!

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FREEDOM JOURNEY

OUR CAUSE. OUR CRISES. OUR HOPE.

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

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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

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!

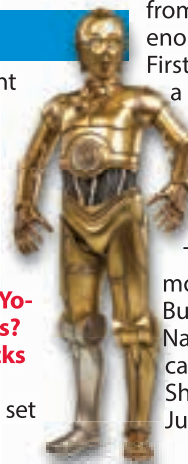
Among all the pleasant background noises of toys and games both mechanical and electronic, you are likely to hear shrieks

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

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!"



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. 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, Marvell, 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, planes toys, farm toys, pedal toys, Shirley Temple, Disney toys – oh we give up! Just GO! ♦



US Army Veteran Tom Beck, owner (and host) of The World's Largest Toy Museum

Miniature Towns, trains, and even a circus!



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!

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- The National BB Gun Museum
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417-332-1499 | OPEN ALL YEAR!

www.worldslargesttoymuseum.com

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.

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

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 *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

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"



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

Whether you've been there before, or never before—Season 2025 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.



WORLD CHANGERS

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.

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.



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?

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! ♦



A Christmas Shopper's

WILDLIFE TOYS, GAMES, STUFFED ANIMALS!

WILDLIFE-THEMED APPAREL, GIFTS AND DÉCOR!





IS LIKE 1980s FUN TO THE MAX!

THE FASHION. THE MUSIC. THE MOVIES. RELIVE THE BEST DECADE EVER!



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 33
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!* ♦

TOTALLY 80's! TOTALLY AWESOME!
Fun for the Whole Family!
www.Retromania.com

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- Arcade
- Escape Game
- Movie Museum
- Theater
- Haunted House
- Karaoke
- Gift Shop

NEW WAVE CAFE
Cat's Go to the Good Coast!

FREE PLAY 80's ARCADE
Featuring Pacman, Frogger, and all the classics!

FREE PLAY Retro Arcade

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HOLIDAY SHOP 'TIL YOU DON'T WANNA STOP!

CUSTOM T-SHIRTS!
CUSTOM TUMBLERS!
LOTSA HOLIDAY CUSTOMS!
BULK ORDERS INCLUDED!

Yeah, you found the fun spot to check off your holiday gift list! Here you get fun stuff at friendly prices that your friends and loved ones will absolutely love and they wouldn't be able to find anywhere else, no matter how hard they shopped!

But here's the vacation surprise—not only is there fun stuff to shop, it's also fun to shop here, thanks to the fun folks who run the place! (Some of Branson's most popular locals!)

So let's have a drumroll as we reveal this fun spot to be **Ozark Mountain T-Shirt Co.**, which, trust is, is way more shopping fun than just T-shirts, (yet T-shirt fun is pretty awesome too).

Look for it right on the Branson strip, across from Grand Country and right next door to that big Duck boat!

Inside you're gonna find T-shirts, (of course), which can be custom made, or ordered in bulk—hundreds of designs to choose from—but you're also gonna find men's women's & kids **clothing, hoodies, gifts, souvenirs**—oh we give up—there's just so much we just gotta paint a picture with some pictures! Check out the ad below, then come have fun shopping for a very merry Christmas! ♦

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



UNBELIEVABLY TRUE! AT THIS AMAZING SHOPPING ATTRACTION EVERYTHING IS

★★★★ **MADE IN THE
USA!** ★★★★★

**ATTENTION CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS:
GREAT STUFF HERE YOU'D BE LUCKY TO FIND BACK HOME!**

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

Brian shows us his star attraction.



★ 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!"

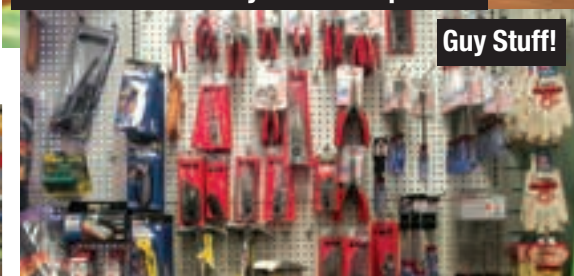


TOYS GALORE!



YUM ALERT!

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



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)

MAP LOCATOR

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

SHOWS

At The Americana Thtr E-6

- CJ Newsom's Classic Country & Comedy
- America's Top Country Hits
- Awesome 80s

At Freedom Encounter Thtr G-5

- Freedom Journey Show
- Pilgrim: The Musical

At The Hughes Family Thtr E-4

- Hughes Brothers Christmas Show
- Hughes Brothers Thanksgiving Day Show
- Hughes Brothers New Year's Eve Show
- Hughes Brothers (Jan 1, 2, 4)
- Hughes Brothers Country (Dec)
- Re-Vibe (Dec 14, 21)
- Branson's Famous Baldknobbers Christmas Show
- Branson's Famous Baldknobbers Vintage Show

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

- ELVIS LIVE! Christmas Special
- ELVIS LIVE! Aloha From Hawaii
- A Neil Diamond Tribute
- Starring Keith Allyn
- Carpenters Christmas Once More
- Starring Diana Allyn
- The Morace Family Christmas
- Johnny Cash & Friends
- Strait to Branson
- A GARTH Tribute
- Sounds of Sinatra & Friends
- John Denver Songbook
- Country Classics: Early Years

At King's Castle Thtr E-8

- Anthems of Rock
- Branson's Christmas Wonderland
- New Jersey Nights:
- New Year's Eve: Anthems of Rock

At The Mansion Thtr B-9

- Guest Stars

At Mickey Gilley Grand Shanghai Thtr B-3

- Illusionist Rick Thomas
- Holiday Magic!
- Mansion of Dreams

At Pepsi Legends Thtr E-10

- Legends Christmas Spectacular
- Legends in Concert
- A Merry Country Christmas
- Legends in Concert
- New Year's Eve Show
- A Tribute to Taylor Swift
- Dec 21

At Pierce Arrow Theatre C-5

- Nashville Roadhouse LIVE!
- Starring Stevie Lee Woods

At The Star Concert Hall C-3

- Guest Stars

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

*Y'all be here New Year's Eve
when we ring in 2025!*

KEEP UP!!

Get the hottest daily news (& deals)

for all things **FUN** in Branson!



Facebook.Com/TheBransonInsider

