

THE
TRUMPET BRAY

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY

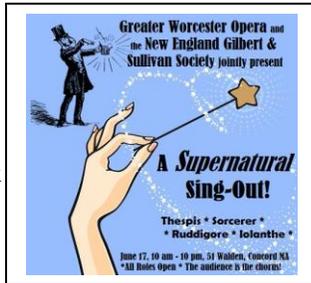


NEGASS EVENT

A "One-Day Mini Supernatural Sing-Out" to feature four comic operas planned by NEGASS and GWO

The New England Gilbert & Sullivan Society and Greater Worcester Opera are very proud to announce a One Day Mini Supernatural Sing-Out on June 17, 2017.

Join us at 51 Walden in Concord MA for an all-day extravaganza of four shows to be performed back to back. The day will start at 10am with a performance of



Thespis. The morning then continues with a performance of *The Sorcerer*. After a break for lunch, *Ruddigore* will be presented. Following a dinner break, the day will conclude with *Iolanthe*!

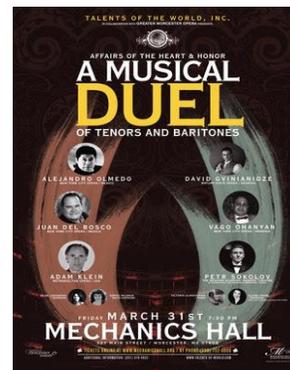
The audience is the chorus, we perform without rehearsal, and all roles are open! Would you like to perform a role or roles in these fabulous shows? To request roles and perform, all you will need is a current NEGASS membership: if you don't have one, it's easy to sign up! Our nominal \$25 membership fee is the easiest way for us to help cover the costs of the event, and while a NEGASS membership gets you access to fun stuff throughout the year, you can always request not to receive any emails from us about anything but the Sing-Out.

This event is free for the audience with a suggested donation at the door. Mark your calendars, and we can't wait to see you all in Concord next June!

G&S EVENTS

Greater Worcester Opera's concert version of *Pirates* will be previewed at Talents of the World "Musical Duel"

Greater Worcester Opera is presenting a fully staged and costumed concert version of Gilbert & Sullivan's rollicking tale of pirates, constables, wards and generals in June 2017 at any of five different performance venues. *Pirates* will be previewed first on March 31 at a Talents of the World concert titled "A Musical Duel of Tenors and Baritones" at Worcester's world-renowned



Mechanics Hall. This concert will feature world-famous tenors and baritones as they engage in a

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 NEGASS Events
- 1 G&S Events
- 4 G&S NEWS
- 4 A Puzzlement
- 5 Book Review
- 6 Other News
- 6 First Contact
- 7 Solicitations
- 8 Calendar

FOCUS ON OUR ENSEMBLE GROUPS

NEGASS Ensemble singers and musicians can be heard in theatrical productions and concerts throughout New England. For more information or to bring The New England Gilbert & Sullivan Society Ensemble to your concert hall, please contact angela@negass.org.



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

David DeVries – editor@negass.org

ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF

Kaori Emery, design manager – kaori@negass.org
Martha Birnbaum, webmistress – web@negass.org
Martha Birnbaum, membership – memb@negass.org

NEGASS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Angela Jajko, president – pres@negass.org
Connell Benn, vice president – vicepres@negass.org
Lisa Pierce-Goldstein, treasurer – treas@negass.org
Kate Meifert, program chair – progchair@negass.org
Martha Birnbaum, secretary – sec@negass.org
Elaine Crane, member-at-large – elaine@negass.org
Kaori Emery, member-at-large and hospitality chair - kaori@negass.org
Susan Larson, member-at-large and education chair -susan@negass.org
Shannon Lebron, member-at-large
Christine Petkus, member-at-large - christine@negass.org
Carolyn Schwartz, member-at-large and publicity chair – carolyn@negass.org

THE TRUMPET BRAY is published six times a year on the 1st day of February, April, June, August, October, and December by the New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society (NEGASS), 28 Royal St., Waltham MA 02452.

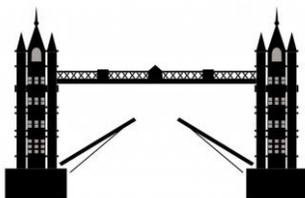
GENERAL NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS AND REVIEWS may be sent to editor@negass.org.

MEMBERSHIP NEGASS membership dues are \$25. Please join NEGASS online at www.negass.org, or contact memb@negass.org.

THE TRUMPET BRAY Members receive the Bray as a PDF email attachment. All editions including the current one are available at www.negass.org.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL: 15th of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

www.negass.org



“friendly competition of jesting, laughter, and banter.” Artists will be coming from New York, Mexico, Australia, Cuba, and Russia.

The GWO’s exceptional cast of *Pirates* (many of whom will be at the Mechanics Hall preview) will include:

Pirate King – **Kyle Carlson** (cover **Stuart Cabral**)
General Stanley – **Ben Morse**
Frederic – **Matthew Hennek**
Mabel – **Lydian De Vere Yard** (cover **Lisa Tierney**)
Ruth – **Angela Jajko**
Sergeant of Police – **Frank Walker**
Edith – **Elaine Crane**
Kate – **Carolyn Schwartz**
Isabel – **Lisa Tierney**
Samuel – **Brad Amidon**

Pirates and Police: **Preston Arnold, Stuart Cabral, Ned Cheesman, Bob Datz, Mike Gorman, Rick Kimball, George Oliver and Alan Rohwer.**

General Stanley's Wards: **LaDelle Arnold, Alice Ball, Ginny Bailey, Lydia Barrett, Betsey Fiedler, Greta Koenig, Amanda Lauricella, Patrice Metcalf, Kathleen Meyer, Kirstin Olson, Christine Petkus, Lindsey Soboleski, and Lori Stevenson.**

Performance dates are June 9, 2017 at the Eagle Hill Cultural Center, Hardwick June 10 & 11 at New Players Theatre Guild Fitchburg, June 16 at Southgate in Shrewsbury, and June 23-25 at Briarwood Community Center, Worcester.

Sudbury Savoyards announces cast list for their April production of *The Mikado*

Courtesy of Sudbury Savoyards

Sudbury Savoyards has announced the cast list for their April production of *The Mikado*. Playing in major roles will be several returning favorites as



Left, **Tim Daughters** (*Pish-Tush*). right, **Susan Beckett and Stephen Im** (*Nanki-Poo*). (Photos by Sue Flint courtesy Sudbury Savoyards.)

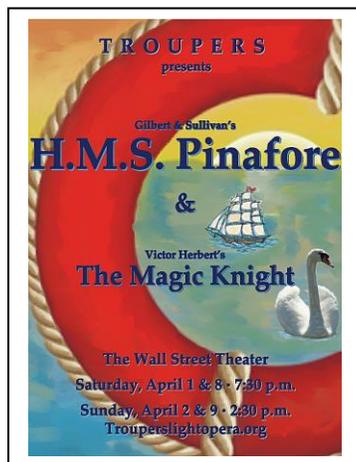
well as some “wonderful” new voices including: **Ben Morse** as Ko-Ko, **Tim Daughters** as Pish-Tush, **Matt Tragert** as Pooh-Bah, **Randy Glidden** as The Mikado, **Stephen Im** as Nanki-Poo, **Lindsey Soboleski** as Yum-Yum, **Katrina Skidmore** as Peep-Bo, **Pamela Ryba** as Pitti-Sing and Carolyn Schwartz as Katisha.

Performances are scheduled for April 22-29 in their new performance venue at the Maynard High School at 1 Tiger Drive in Maynard, Mass. Boasting a large auditorium with wonderful acoustics, this auditorium has amazing sight lines and the most modern of technical facilities.

The senior production team for this production consists of Producer Brendon Chetwynd, Stage Director James Ravan, Music Director Craig Tata, Assistant Music Director Matt Tragert, and Technical Director Tom Powers.

Troupers Light Opera to present double-bill of *Pinafore* and *The Magic Knight*

Troupers Light Opera Company will be teaming up *H.M.S Pinafore* with Victor Herbert’s *The Magic Knight* at the Wall Street Theater in Norwalk, Connecticut on April 1-9, 2017.



The Magic Knight, was composed by **Victor Herbert** and features a libretto by Edgar Smith. It is a one-act musical parody of Wagner’s *Lohengrin*. When it opened in New York, it ran for just shy of three months and is now rarely performed.

A brief outline of the show finds that Godfrey has mysteriously disappeared and his sister, Elsa, is accused of murdering him. Elsa however, is only guilty of an excessive liking of singing arias. Elsa’s fiancé instead marries the enchantress Ortrud who turns Godfrey into a swan. Elsa asks the magic knight to save her by defeating Frederick in combat. On the back of a swan, the magic knight arrives, defeats Frederick and turns the swan back into Godfrey who then asks Elsa to marry him. When she asks his name, the spell is broken and he

must return to fairyland. Elsa, now alone, consoles herself by singing her arias.

This has the flavor of a topsy-turvy plot we have come to know all too well.

Simsbury (CT) Light Opera Company announces cast for April *Iolanthe*

The Simsbury (CT) Light Opera Company (SLOCO) recently announced their cast for the upcoming production of *Iolanthe*. Singing the principal roles will be: **Rachel Abrams** (Iolanthe), **Julie Rumbold** (Fairy Queen), **Hal Chernoff** (Lord Chancellor), **Jessica Cain** (Phyllis), **Ralph Sherman** (Strepthon), **Mark McNally** (Lord Mountararat), **Sierra Manning** (Celia), **Chelsea Derby**, (Leila), **Jay Wolman** (Private Willis), and **Erin Aldrich** (Fleta). The role of Lord Tolloller is yet to be cast.

Iolanthe will be staged in The Eno Memorial Hall, 854 Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury, Connecticut. Performance dates are April 1-9, 2017.

Did you mark your calendars for this summer’s sizzling shows in Falmouth?

Courtesy of CLOC

Mark Pearson, the artistic director of the College Light Opera Company in Falmouth, Massachusetts, reminds us that they will be producing a double bill of *Trial by Jury* by Gilbert and Sullivan and *The Zoo* by Sullivan and Bolton Rowe (aka B.C. Stephenson). The performance dates for this event will be June 27 through July 1, 2017.



A pre-matinee picnic on the Highfield Theatre patio. (Courtesy of CLOC.)

Patience will be performed on July 25-29. James Mills, the patterman of the New York Gilbert and

Sullivan Players, is the stage director of this production. In the three weeks between these Gilbert and Sullivan-oriented shows are *Anything Goes*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Bells are Ringing* Complete details can be found on their website www.collegelightopera.com.

All performances are staged in the historic Highfield Theatre on Depot Street which is off Route 25 just north of the main street in Falmouth. Any performance at the Highfield can be made into a unique experience. Patrons frequently arrive early to enjoy refreshments and conversations on the patio prior to the shows. Some matinee attendees even pack a picnic lunch. A visit to CLOC is an event worth making the time for.

NY Gilbert and Sullivan Players will be casting flowers at the feet of Bunthorne

The New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players will be casting flowers at the feet of Reginald Bunthorne when the curtain goes up on *Patience* on April 29, 2017. Performances continue with a matinee on April 30. The Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College on 68th Street (between Park and Lexington Avenues) in New York City is the venue for this G&S comic opera. Seventy five minutes before curtain time there will be a musical introduction and plot summary called a "Family Overture." This is designed to make the performance more entertaining for the entire family.

G&S NEWS



VLO hosts *The Gondoliers* "pub sing" after annual meeting

The Valley Light Opera of Amherst, Massachusetts hosted a Pub Sing of *The Gondoliers* at the Mi Tierra Restaurant in Hadley. The sing followed the group's annual meeting. VLO provided the principals and the audience was invited to become

part of the chorus! **Bill Venman** was the musical director and accompaniment was provided by **Glen Gordon** and **Diana Peelle**.

Members of the cast list included:

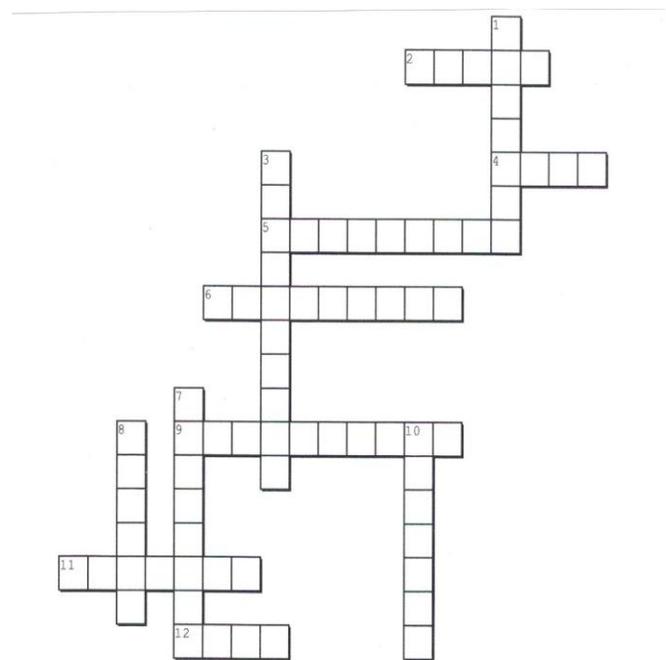
- Casilda: **Mimi Goodman**
- Don Alhambra, Grand Inquisitor: **Michael Budnick**
- Duchess of Plaza Toro: **Louise Krieger**
- Duke of Plaza Toro: **Graham Christian**
- Gianetta, Fiametta: **Heather Williams**
- Giuseppe Palmieri, Antonio: **Robin Parsons**
- Inez: **Connie Cappelli**
- Luiz: **Steven Williams**
- Marco Palmieri, Francesco, Giorgio: **Jack Stebbins**
- Tessa, Vittoria: **Donna Griffin**
- Giulia: **Diana Peelle**

A PUZZLEMENT

From the pages of *The Trumpet Bray*

Complete the crossword puzzle below. (It may help to print this page out.)

Answers are on a following page.



Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Generator](http://TheTeachersCorner.net)

Horizontal

- 2. First UK "electrified" theatre
- 4. G&S conductor lived on Cape
- 5. Show's Act II set in a gallery
- 6. Home of Sir William
- 9. U.S. jurist who was a G&S fan
- 11. D'Oyly Carte artist who is Now an author
- 12. Last name of a fire captain Honored in *Iolanthe*

Vertical

- 1. Lyricist's favorite plot
- 3. Government body satirized
- 7. Conn. G&S Company
- 8. Son of Richard D'Oyly Carte
- 10. National Public Radio show that featured NEGASS artists

A Sixty-Second Book Review: Gilbert and Sullivan's "Respectable Capers"

By Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

The subtitle of this academic study is *Class, Respectability and the Savoy Operas, 1877-1909*. It is based on the author's doctoral dissertation, which I had the pleasure of reading several years before this publication in an academic press in the U.K. last year. (Michael Goron, the author, is now a lecturer at the Universities of Winchester and Southampton Solent in the United Kingdom.)

Professor Goron sets out his goal early on: ". . . the fundamental intention of this book is to examine ways in which late Victorian attitudes influenced the development and work of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, and the early production and performance of this organization's most important product, the Gilbert and Sullivan operas."

W. S. Gilbert admitted that he targeted his stage work to the average theatregoer, but Mr. Goron discusses the "many various ways" in which *each* member of the Savoy triumvirate (Gilbert, Sullivan, and D'Oyly Carte) worked to tailor their productions to please "respectable" theatregoers, and thus maximize their success (not to say profit).

In addition to the works themselves, the ethos of the Savoy Theatre was characterized by respectability at a time when such a word was often not associated with those in the theatrical profession.

Grounded in solid research into the theatrical practice, management, and artists of this era, and illustrated with a few well-chosen images (including floor plans of the Savoy Theatre illustrating the separation of the genders backstage), this book offers interesting insights into the reasons for the success of the Savoy operas in the nineteenth century—the same reasons that are responsible, I think, for their continuing success over a century later.

Michael Goron, *Gilbert and Sullivan's "Respectable Capers."* Palgrave Studies in British Musical Theatre. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

Lee Goodstone, on-stage performer

The Sudbury Savoyards are sad to announce the passing of **Lee Goodstone** on February 5, 2017 at age 84. Lee was a long-time member of Sudbury United Methodist Church and sang bass in the choir for many years. He joined the chorus for *The Sorcerer* in 1992 and participated onstage through *The Gondoliers* in 2001. Lee, a former Sudbury resident, also pitched in with props, publicity, and especially set construction where he served as Technical Director for *Princess Ida* in 1996. Lee's daughter, Deborah Goss, was responsible for the design of the original Sudbury Savoyards logo that was unveiled on March 28, 1998. According to Lee's 1996 playbill bio "he is a retired airline pilot who now keeps his altitude 'hitting the high notes.'" He was a colonel in the U.S. Air Force and served a tour of duty in Vietnam.



Lee Goodstone



David Baldwin

David Baldwin former Sudbury chorister

The Sudbury Savoyards also mourn the loss of **David Baldwin**, who passed away suddenly on January 16, 2017 at age 63. David joined the chorus for *The Pirates of Penance* in 2004 and participated onstage through *Patience* in 2015, with the exception of 2012 when he married his wife, Jean, in February. He also volunteered behind the scenes with set construction, painting, costume construction, and publicity efforts. A resident of Framingham, David was involved in many community organizations, including the Friends of the Framingham Public Library, Garden in the Woods, and the Danforth Museum. He was also a lifelong world traveler and an enthusiastic member of The Sudbury Savoyards. David was a kind and gentle man who lived life joyfully, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

❧ A PUZZLEMENT ANSWERS ❧
From the pages of *The Trumpet Bray*



Horizontal

2. First UK "electrified" theatre----- SAVOY
4. G&S conductor lived on Cape----- NASH
5. Show's Act II set in a gallery----- RUDDIGORE
6. Home of Sir William----- GRIMSDYKE
9. U.S. jurist who was a G&S fan----- REHNSQUIST
11. D'Oyly Carte artist who is
now an author----- MORRELL
12. Last name of a fire captain
Honored in *Iolanthe*----- SHAW

VERTICAL

1. Lyricist's favorite plot----- LOZENGE
3. Government body satirized----- PARLIAMENT
7. Conn. G&S Company----- TROUPERS
8. Son of Richard D'Oyly Carte----- RUPERT
10. National Public Radio show
that featured NEGASS artists----- SAYSYOU

❧ FIRST CONTACT ❧

Typewriter keys a-clacking as the *Pirates of Penzance* played on the turntable

By David DeVries

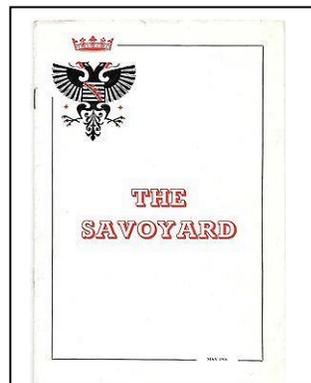
"Time was" when I was a junior in high school I became a Gilbert and Sullivan "fan." Some of my school chums and I put out a monthly neighborhood "newspaper" called *Venture*. During one of our production sessions with typewriter keys clacking and the drum of the mimeograph machine whirling, our host put on a record of the D'Oyly Carte doing *The Pirates of Penzance*. From that moment on, two of my life's interests were cemented in my psyche.

I joined the D'Oyly Carte Opera Trust Ltd and for many years received a small booklet from "The Company" titled *The Savoyard*. I looked forward to each issue to read their latest news and to learn of any North American Tours.

As I was being captivated by G&S, my father also listened to their records. My parents had both been involved with classical music having been members of the Worcester (Mass.) Chorus that sang in the Music Festival and in *The Messiah*. Now a

widower, he took an immediate interest in the G&S comic operas.

My dad especially got a kick out of *The Judge in Trial by Jury*. He was vastly amused about the reference of "a good judge too," and the judge's remarks "I can't sit up here all day, I must surely get away."



We did get away after finding out the "The Company" was stopping in Boston during an American tour. I believe it was in or close to 1968. We immediately ordered our tickets for several performances starting out with *The Pirates of Penzance*. The venue was the Savoy Theater in the heart of the theatre district located in the block between Tremont and Washington Streets.

After listening to the Decca records for three years or so, it was now a special treat to see and hear these performers on stage. John Reed, Donald Adams, Kenneth Sanford, Valerie Masterson and all the rest were more than outstanding. For me, they "set the bar" for all future G&S shows I was to see. I looked forward to their next tour.

Shortly after my marriage, it became time to introduce my bride to G&S. After learning that D'Oyly Carte was planning another North American tour in the early 70's, we got our tickets for *The Mikado*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *H.M.S. Pinafore* as soon as they were available.

There were a couple of changes though. First was the venue. "The Company" would now play at the Colonial Theatre on Boylston Street in downtown Boston. The second was the replacement of long-time bass principal Donald Adams with John Alydon who filled the shoes of Mr. Adams rather well.

While my wife and I were having lunch in a small café near the theatre, we noticed some cast members as well as Conductor Royston Nash pass

by the windows. On concluding lunch, we went around the corner and located “the stage door.” This was a great find and we became a part of a small band of “groupies” greeting company members passing through the doors.

It was sad news to learn of the closing of “The Company” in 1982 due to a lack of public and private financial support. Gilbert and Sullivan’s comic operas however continue to endure through excellent local productions which we continue to support – “and we do!”



Fred Sullivan (Arthur’s brother) became the original judge in *Trial by Jury*. (From Gilbert and Sullivan Archive.)

☞ We Have a Little List ☞

We wish to thank those who contributed to this issue of *The Trumpet Bray* including Ralph MacPhail, Jr., The Sudbury Savoyards, and Sue Flint. (Please forgive any omissions!)

☞ SOLICITATIONS ☞

We know that many of our members and readers are very busy with a host of activities be they work or G&S related, but in the off-hand chance that you find yourself with a spare moment, would you consider writing an article that could be published in *The Trumpet Bray*? Your most welcome submissions for the following columns may be sent to: editor@negass.org

FIRST CONTACT

How did you first get introduced to the fun of Gilbert and Sullivan? Share your recollections with other readers of *The Trumpet Bray*.

TOPSY-TURVEY.COM

Dare to share with your friends your original stories of mis-takes, mis-steps, mis-cues or other on-stage (or otherwise) embarrassing or memorable moments.

REVIEWERS REWARDED

Have you ever wanted to comment on your colleagues’ hard work somewhere other than Facebook? Now is your chance! *The Trumpet Bray* seeks peer reviewers for local G&S productions. Plus, write a review that goes to publication, and we’ll refund up to \$25 towards your ticket cost.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

“Where Are They Now?” is an occasional feature spotlighting NEGASS members who have moved away but are still active G & S’ers on stages elsewhere.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the editor are always welcome.

G&S Events

The Sorcerer
Harvard-Radcliffe G&SP

March 24-April 2, 2017
617-496-2222
hrgsp.president@gmail.com

Agassiz Theater
Radcliffe Yard – 5 James Street
Cambridge MA 02138

H.M.S. Pinafore
Troupers Light Opera

April 1-9, 2017
trouperlightopera.org
See article on page 3

Wall Street Theater
71 Wall Street
Norwalk CT 06851

The Mikado
Sudbury Savoyards

April 22-30, 2017
sudburysavoyards.org
See article on page 2

Maynard High School
1 Tiger Drive
Maynard MA 01754

Patience
New York GASP

April 29-30, 2017
nygasp.org
See article on page 4

Kaye Playhouse
Hunter College
E 64th Street (Between Park &
Lexington Avenues, NYC, NY

The Yeomen of the Guard
MITG&SP

May 5-13, 2017
gsp.mit.edu

MIT Student Center
Sala de Puerto Rico 84
Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge MA 02139

The Pirates of Penzance
(Concert Version)
Greater Worcester Opera

June 9-25, 2017
greaterworcesteropera.org
See article on page 1

Various venues

Iolanthe
Simsbury Light Opera Co.

April 1-9, 2017
sloco.org
See article on page 3

Eno Memorial Hall
754 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury CT 06070

Trial by Jury and The Zoo
Patience
College Light Opera Company

June 27-July 1, 2017
July 25-29, 2017
[Collegelightoperacompany.com](http://collegelightoperacompany.com)
See article on page 3

Highfield Theatre
Depot Street (off Rt. 28)
Falmouth MA 02541