

HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE

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ONLY THREE MORE CHANCES TO SEE "A CHRISTMAS STORY"

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania—November 28, 2006 – Each holiday season, the question on everyone's mind is "what am I getting for Christmas?" If you know Ralphie Parker, you know what he REALLY wants: a Red Ryder 200-shot carbine action range model air rifle. The tale of Ralphie's quest is as timely a Christmas story as that other one about Scrooge and Tiny Tim.

Hershey Area Playhouse launched its eighth season with the holiday classic, "A Christmas Story" to a sold-out crowd last Friday night. Based on the 1983 film, "A Christmas Story" by Jean Shepherd, the play by Philip Grecian is presented by Hershey Area Playhouse in cooperation with The Outlets at Hershey.

"Audiences are telling us how much they enjoy this production through their laughter, applause and the buzz in the theater," says Tom Curry, Director. "We're off to a tremendous start with this great American holiday tale."

According to audience member Harry Menear of Hershey, "The show was wonderful – it brought back memories of my youth when my own parents wouldn't let me have a BB gun! Despite Ralphie's conniving, he ultimately had respect for the authority of his parents." Harry's wife Lois went on to say "I thought it was a great family-oriented show that's fun for adults as well as kids."

Performances are being held in the former Mikasa store at The Outlets at Hershey, just off Hersheypark Drive. Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8 pm and the Sunday matinee at 2 pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for children (12 and under) and can be ordered by visiting www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com.

As a special holiday treat, Hershey Area Playhouse is inviting kids of all ages to meet Santa with Ralphie and his friends. This special event will be held at the former Mikasa store at The Outlets at Hershey on Saturday, December 2 from 6 'til 7 pm. The cost is \$10 for kids, and adults are free (when accompanied by a child). A limited number of tickets are available by contacting Bonnie Johnson at 717.533.1212 or davidandbonnie@mac.com.

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