



# THE Marquee

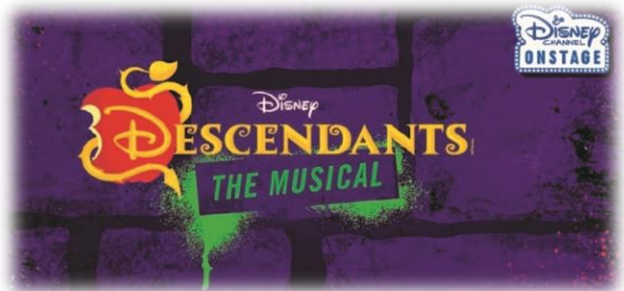
From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director

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**Theatre Spotlight!** In 1925, Topeka businessman E.H. Crosby had a dream to build Topeka's first deluxe motion picture palace. On August 16, 1926, that dream became reality with the grand opening of the Jayhawk Theatre. Architect Thomas W. Williamson worked with the famed brothers, Carl and Robert Boller of Kansas City. They are credited with the design of nearly 100 classic theatres. The Jayhawk Theatre auditorium design, born from these visionary men, was such a success that the Boller Brothers used it as a model for future theatres (including the Colonial Fox). Topeka's citizens flocked to the Jayhawk for silent (and later sound) movies, touring vaudeville entertainers, as well as local and national entertainers. Early performers included Bob Hope, George Burns, Gypsy Rose Lee and Marilyn Maye.



**Pittsburg Community Theatre presents Disney's Descendants: The Musical.** Based on the popular Disney Channel Original Movies, Disney's Descendants: The Musical is a brand-new musical jam-packed with comedy, adventure, Disney characters, and hit songs from the films! Imprisoned on the Isle of the Lost – home of the most infamous villains who ever lived – the teenaged children of Maleficent, the Evil Queen, Jafar, and Cruella De Vil have never ventured off the island... until now. When the four troublemakers are sent to attend prep school alongside the children of beloved Disney heroes, they have a difficult choice to make: should they follow in their parents' wicked footsteps or learn to be good? Showings starting on July 21<sup>st</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Purchase your tickets at <https://www.pittks.org/memorial/>.



**Historic Tile Brought Back to Life!** Replication of the historic tile gracing our entrance was fraught with frustration. After working for over a year with a manufacturer who was not up to the task, we approached North Prairie Tileworks in Minnesota. Roger Mayland and his staff are careful about the jobs they accept, Roger explained. “We are very selective. We may take one project a month. It takes a lot of expertise in order to do a project like this and we only take the projects that we feel we can match and where we can have a positive impact.” Their process to



accurately replicate our historic tiles started with forensic observation of the original tiles. Knowing in what year the tiles were produced, as well as what materials were used, is crucial to a successful outcome. Production methods and materials used in the early 1900s are either no longer available or prohibited in today’s tile work industry. Therefore, tile manufacturers must be well versed in ways to achieve the historic look with current technology. North Prairie Tileworks took great pride in successfully replicating the Theatre’s historic tile. “It’s heartwarming when we hear that a group of people care enough about an older building to put a lot of heart and soul into restoring it. It’s always a pleasure to be able to do our part in that process,” said Mayland.

**Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival!** Pittsburg Parks & Recreation is proud to hold the annual 4th of July Festival each year to celebrate Independence Day. Activities include live performances, music, kid-friendly activities, amusement park rides, food vendors, and our grand finale – the fireworks show! This festival takes place on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 from 8:00 am to dusk at Lincoln Park.



**Did you know?** The First United Methodist Church in Hutchinson was built in 1874 during the time of the grasshopper plagues. As a result, thousands of grasshoppers are mixed into the foundation.

#### QUESTIONS?

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The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.